

to run motor cars and racehorses. That is the position of retail butchers. There are too many in operation. I think the Honorary Minister suggested that bakers should be licensed. There are too many bakers, as well as too many butchers.

Hon. C. F. Baxter: Recently I saw the balance sheet of a small butcher showing a profit of a thousand in this year, this bad year when everybody is going broke!

Member: Some butchers do not make a thousand pence a year!

Hon. G. B. WOOD: There are two or three other points which have been stressed by my friends who support the Bill. However, it has been said that wholesale butchers have paid more than the maximum price for beef. Suppose we accept that statement. Probably the difference is being made up on mutton.

Hon. L. Craig: I did not say I received a higher price since the price of meat was fixed.

Hon. G. B. WOOD: I am not referring to Mr. Craig at all. A man from the North-West who was here the other day told me that for years he had made a loss, but that recently at Robb's Jetty he thought he was going to recoup himself by selling his bullocks at £16 a head. However, he said, he was shot by the Price Fixing Commissioner. That is what I want to stress. Most producers have made losses. All sheep did not go up on the 3rd July last. Only 40 per cent. of the sheep in the yard on that day went 30s. Somebody wrote to the Commissioner complaining about the price of meat, and the Commissioner called into consultation the wholesale butchers, without doing what the Act implies he ought to do. He did not go into the cost of getting the stock to the yard—freight and other costs.

The Chief Secretary: The hon. member admits that the Commissioner has nothing to do with stock after it has been sold?

Hon. G. B. WOOD: Yes. Mr. Craig raised that point. That is provided the meat has had a fair go at auction, without interference by the Price Fixing Commissioner. But if the Commissioner says there must be a price from the wholesaler to the retailer, that is bound to influence prices at Midland Junction. I said in moving the second reading of the Bill that I had not desire to go into that aspect too much, but as the Minister raised that particular question I have had to go further than I originally intended. If the second reading is passed, I shall be

prepared to agree to reasonable amendments in Committee. I may agree to exclude hay. If Mr. Cornell has anything to add to the Bill, I shall be quite willing to consider it.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

House adjourned at 9.20 p.m.

Legislative Assembly.

Tuesday, 3rd September, 1940.

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The DEPUTY SPEAKER took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

QUESTION—ELECTRICITY SUPPLY.

Copper Requirements.

Mr. SAMPSON asked the Minister for Railways: In view of the statements made in the Press that shipments of copper from overseas are expected in Sydney within the next few weeks, and that Australian copper mines and smelters are increasing their output, is it possible to give the House any information regarding electricity extensions now held up because of the need of copper?

The MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS replied: Orders were placed in May last for requirements. Action has been taken through the Department of Supply for early delivery but up to the present no deliveries have been made.

BILL—KALGOORLIE HEALTH AUTHORITY LOAN.

Introduced by the Minister for Health and read a first time.

BILL—FINANCIAL EMERGENCY TAX ASSESSMENT ACT AMENDMENT.

Second Reading.

Debate resumed from the 29th August.

HON. C. G. LATHAM (York) [4.34]: I do not intend to oppose the Bill. Of course the intention is to provide for refunds of money paid in excess of the amount of tax due. At the same time I cannot understand the wording of the measure. On referring to the Financial Emergency Tax Assessment Act, consolidated in 1937, I think the Government will find there all the power it needs.

The Premier: I thought so, too.

Hon. C. G. LATHAM: I suppose the lawyers have found some reason for disagreeing. I do not know whether this measure will apply to an excess payment for income tax purposes.

The Premier: Income tax is paid at the end of the year. Those assessments are right now.

Hon. C. G. LATHAM: I hope they are. As I remarked, this seems to be a strange way of wording legislation to give effect to the intention of making refunds to people who have paid emergency tax in excess of the amount due.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee.

Bill passed through Committee without debate, reported without amendment and the report adopted.

BILL—COAL MINES REGULATION ACT AMENDMENT.

Second Reading.

Debate resumed from the 29th August.

MR. WILSON (Collie) [4.38]: I support the Bill, although it does not go far enough to please me. I listened attentively to the remarks of the Minister for Mines on Thursday last when he gave a very fair statement of the condition of affairs regarding the fund. This Bill is not what was intended many years ago. I was a member of a Royal Commission in Victoria

in 1901 which framed a Coal Mines Regulation Bill and I happened to be very closely identified with one of the sections dealing with the accident fund, and I remember the day when we finished our labours to bring the fund into existence. A coal mines regulation Bill was afterwards introduced into the Victorian Parliament. When presented to the lower House the measure contained a provision for a contribution of one penny per ton by the owners, and sixpence per man per week by the miners. The lower House struck out 1d. and inserted ½d. and then the upper House threw the Bill out.

Members will be surprised to learn that when I came to Western Australia I found that the provision in question, as it appeared in the Victoria measure in 1901, was repeated in the Act of this State except that "Western Australia" had been substituted for "Victoria." However, the halfpenny per ton was inserted when wages amounted to only 7s. per day, when coal was very cheap, and labour also was cheap. In addition, there has been added a provision for helping aged and infirm coal miners. Thus the fund now collected is little more than half the money it was intended to be, and accordingly it will be my task in the near future to try to remedy that matter by getting more money paid into the fund. All consumers of coal in Victoria and in Western Australia pay that halfpenny per ton, but the strongest opponent to the payment is the Railway Department of Western Australia, which says, "We are really a Government concern, and are under no obligation to pay the halfpenny, seeing that the coal-owners pass it on to the price of coal." The Railway Department have the right to pay that halfpenny or more, seeing that it applies to them among other purchasers. I support the Bill, limiting that support, however, to my right to deal further with the subject in the direction I have indicated.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee.

Bill passed through Committee without debate, reported without amendment, and the report adopted.

**BILL—MINE WORKERS' RELIEF
(WAR SERVICE).**

Second Reading.

Debate resumed from the 22nd August.

MR. PATRICK (Greenough) [4.43]: The Bill provides, in effect, that when a mine worker enlists, his contributions to the Mine Workers' Relief Fund shall be suspended while he is away at the war. It also provides that if he applies within six months of his return, he shall be entitled to the benefits of the fund. The measure seems to provide, further, that if he suffers from any disability arising out of the war, the Repatriation Fund will have to bear the cost.

The Minister for Mines: That is as regards tuberculosis only.

Mr. PATRICK: Then I have no objection to the Bill. Presumably the Mine Workers' Relief Fund can bear the expense to which the Bill commits it.

The Minister for Mines: It has been introduced at the request of the Mine Workers' Relief Fund Board.

Mr. PATRICK: Then I have much pleasure in supporting the second reading.

In Committee.

Bill passed through Committee without debate, reported without amendment, and the report adopted.

**BILL—MINE WORKERS' RELIEF
(PAYMENTS AUTHORISATION).**

Second Reading.

Debate resumed from the 22nd August.

MR. PATRICK (Greenough) [4.48]: This Bill also concerns the Mine Workers' Relief Fund, but seems to me to fall in a somewhat different category. In fact, to me it appears to be rather an extraordinary legislative proposal. It concerns payments to the widows of men who have had no claim on the fund.

The Minister for Mines: They have no legal claim.

Mr. PATRICK: There are, of course, instances of this kind every day—for example in connection with the Workers' Compensation Act—where no legislation is brought forward. In connection with that Act there is a provision that if a person

does not claim within a certain time, he or she loses his or her legal right. I do not know whether what is proposed will prove a good system of paying money. It seems to me that it would be better for the payment to be made from the Treasury, instead of setting up a precedent of this sort. However, I do not oppose the Bill.

HON. N. KEENAN (Nedlands) [4.50]: The Bill deals with certain claims. The claims are those which at present are known; but it is quite within bounds that similar claims, not at present known, might be put forward. For my part, I do not favour legislation for the individual, but legislation to deal with a state of affairs as it arises and which is exemplified in the individual. For instance, in this case the Mine Workers' Relief Board has no power to make a payment to the widow of a deceased mine worker within the meaning of the Act, because—although he would have been entitled had he made a claim before his death to get this payment—for some reason, possibly because he did not know he was so seriously ill and so near death, he did not make it. The board has not power at present to deal with claims falling in that category. Therefore legislation is necessary for some named persons. But surely it is far more proper to amend the Act and give the board power to deal with all claims made in similar circumstances as they arise; that is, claims made by the widow of a deceased mine-worker who was entitled in his lifetime immediately before his death to have made a claim.

The Minister for Mines: We amended the Act, but the matter has cropped up again.

Hon. N. KEENAN: That does not meet my objection. We may be faced next year with exactly similar necessity for legislation, because another case might be discovered. If it is right and proper—and I agree that it is—that a widow of a mine-worker who has contributed to a fund and would have been entitled immediately before his death to have made a claim against the fund because of his death being due to causes covered by the insurance provided by the fund—if it is right and proper for the widow to receive the money, it should not be necessary to pass legislation for the purpose. The board should be given power to make payments in such circumstances. I am not opposing the Bill, because to do so would

be to deprive persons, who I think are entitled to certain compensation, of such compensation. I want the Minister to consider the question of bringing down an amending Bill—there should be no difficulty about it—giving this power to the board, thus obviating the necessity for Bills of this kind, which may have to be brought forward from time to time.

HON. C. G. LATHAM (York) [4.54]: I agree with the member for Nedlands (Hon. N. Keenan). I shall not oppose the Bill, because I think the payment is due to the widows. I remember that some three or four years ago the Public Accounts showed payments made to some farmers at Southern Cross who had evidently been excluded from working in the mines. The money on that occasion was paid from the public funds. I object to legislation of this class, especially when an Act provides that persons must make a claim within a fixed period. They do not make such application, hence the necessity for Bills of this kind, which may be called individual Bills, to deal with particular persons. The Minister who introduced the Bill—the matter comes within his department—recently introduced the Dentists Act. That measure provided that dentists should make application for registration within six months. Some dentists failed to make the necessary application; now they come along and ask for an extension of time within which to register.

The Minister for Mines: They failed in their examinations.

Hon. C. G. LATHAM: Not those to whom I am referring. The Dentists Act provides for the registration of two classes of dentists, namely, the dentist and the assistant. The Bill now before the House is really permitting people to disregard the law. No doubt the men concerned had the same opportunity as other workers to come under the Act as it stood. It would be far better, as suggested by the member for Nedlands, to amend the Act in such a way as to give the board latitude in respect of these payments. The amount at present concerned is not great; I think it is £200 or £300.

The Minister for Mines: £187.

Hon. C. G. LATHAM: It is a small amount. The Government should have paid the money from the public funds rather than introduce a measure such as this.

The Minister for Mines: But this is the fund from which it should be paid.

Hon. C. G. LATHAM: Had the Government done so there would have been no necessity to introduce this Bill.

The Minister for Mines: I think the claimants are entitled to payment, but the Solicitor-General says they are not. He knows more about the legal side than I do.

Hon. C. G. LATHAM: Evidently there is some legal objection.

The Minister for Mines: Morally, the people are entitled to the money.

Hon. C. G. LATHAM: Yes; but are we to understand from the Minister's reply that any time a person says, "Oh well, I did not make application within the prescribed time, but I can get the Government to introduce a Bill," the Government will act accordingly? I could imagine the Minister failing to nominate at the proper time on nomination day and coming along and asking Parliament to rectify the omission. That is exactly the type of legislation we might look for. I do not favour this class of legislation and there should be no need for it. It was not worth while to introduce a Bill when so small a sum of money was involved, because we shall have established a precedent. These people are entitled to the money and it ought to be made available to them in some other way.

Mr. Styants: Their claims were not established until after the men died.

Hon. C. G. LATHAM: The husbands did not make application; that is the trouble.

Mr. Styants: They did not know they were entitled to; they died in the meantime.

Hon. C. G. LATHAM: I cannot understand the union secretaries. I know some of them well and I think there are some in this Chamber. They are well acquainted with the Act and I can hardly believe they would be so neglectful of their duties as not to inform the men.

Mr. J. Hegney: They are not infallible.

Hon. C. G. LATHAM: I should think they were, after hearing some of them, as I do sometimes. After all, it is not worth while talking so much about the matter. It is the principle behind the measure that I object to. I do not favour legislation introduced merely to correct carelessness on the part of persons. It is no use fixing a time by Act unless persons observe the law.

The Minister for Mines: But there is no fixed time. The men went to court and got a judgment.

Hon. C. G. LATHAM: So we are going to override the law in that way!

The Minister for Mines: We are giving the six widows what they are morally entitled to receive.

Hon. C. G. LATHAM: Apparently the law is not what we thought it was, and this is an attempt to make it clear. A similar circumstance arose in connection with a Bill introduced a little while ago, the difficulty in that instance being to determine what was meant, a difficulty occasioned by the manner in which the Bill was drafted. However, I do not intend to oppose the Bill because I am anxious that any financial or other assistance required by these widows shall be given to them.

MR. TRIAT (Mt. Magnet) [5.1]: I intend to support the Bill because when these cases were brought under notice I happened to be a member of the Mine Workers' Relief Board. The trouble arose through the fluctuation of the basic wage and a considerable argument occurred as to whether the beneficiaries were entitled to the increased allowance. As the Leader of the Opposition (Hon. C. G. Latham) stated, the secretaries of the unions were interested and had certain viewpoints. Those viewpoints were tested in court and the decision of the court was in favour of the beneficiaries receiving extra money. As has already been pointed out, some of the people who should have had the money died in the interim, and the widows were unable to receive the increase because it was impossible for their husbands to make a claim on account of death intervening. The board considered that the widows were entitled to the money, but information was received from the Crown Law Department to the effect that as the husbands had not made a claim, and it was impossible for the widows to do so, the latter were not entitled to the payment. That may be a very fine point of law; it may be a good law. But it is not a very just law and the suggestion of the member for Nedlands (Hon. N. Kernan) that when there is a very moot point of law, the moral right of the people should be given consideration and that the board should have power to make decisions of that kind is warranted. The Bill will cover only the people referred to. There is no possibility of any further claims being made under this particular section, and the passing of the Bill will definitely clear up the matter

for all time. I am sure no hon. member will vote against the Bill, but an explanation of why the people concerned failed to make claims was required. That explanation having been given, I feel quite sure that the House will see that the Bill is warranted. I am prepared to support an amendment to the Act that would permit the board to have a certain discretion in matters of this sort.

MR. STYANTS (Kalgoorlie) [5.3]: I propose to support the Bill because I believe that these widows have not only a moral but also a legal right to this money.

Hon. C. G. Latham: If they had a legal right, the Bill would not be required.

Mr. STYANTS: The Solicitor General claimed that they had no legal right but had a moral right. I am only a layman but I think that members of this House will agree that even the Crown Solicitor is not infallible. From time to time we find not only the Solicitor General but also the Crown Solicitor at fault, and if these widows had money to contest the case, I feel sure they would win. The position is that when a man is prohibited from working in a mine, the amount of compensation to which he is entitled on account of his disability is assessed on the basic wage. That was done in this instance in 1932. Since then the basic wage has risen and the men whose widows are the subject matter of the Bill submitted their claim for what they were entitled to under the Act. However, the Mine Workers' Relief Board did not interpret the Act in accordance with a decision given later, namely that these men were entitled to an increase in the amount of compensation in accordance with the rise in the basic wage. The men were not dilatory in submitting their claim. Under the provisions of the Mine Workers' Relief Act, when a man is prohibited from working in a mine he makes a claim on a statutory form for what he is entitled to under the Act. My contention—and this is where I differ from the Solicitor General—is that when a man makes a claim for what he considers he is entitled to, and the board pays a lesser amount, that does not mean that the claimants were not entitled to the full amount. After all, they did make a claim for the increase in the first instance. Consequently, not only are these widows morally entitled to this money, but they are also legally entitled to it. Unfortunately, they have not the money to test the case. The men applied for what they were entitled

to but the board interpreted the Act differently. After the death of those men, a test case was conducted, and it was decided that they were entitled to more than they had received. However, because common law rules that a person's right to claim ceases upon his or her death, the widows of these men were debarred from receiving what they were entitled to. That was the ruling of the Solicitor General, but I believe that when persons have made claims—as all these men did when they were prohibited from working in a mine—for benefits to which they are entitled under the Act, their widows still have a legal right to the money even though the board, through a misinterpretation of the Act, did not pay it to the original beneficiaries. The Solicitor General having ruled differently, the Bill has been introduced with a view to giving the widows the amount their husbands were entitled to.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee.

Mr. Withers in the Chair; the Minister for Mines in charge of the Bill.

Clause 1—agreed to.

Clause 2—Mine Workers' Relief Board authorised to make certain payments.

Hon. C. G. LATHAM: By passing this Bill we shall exclude all others who might wish to claim similar compensation.

Mr. Styants: There will not be any others.

Hon. C. G. LATHAM: It is no use saying there are no more. There may be some who died during the period mentioned and whose widows have not made application, and if there are any other claims, another Bill will be necessary. The passing of the Bill will be tantamount to telling the court, in the event of further claims, that this measure is the only authority for the making of such payments, and that therefore other people are excluded.

Mr. STYANTS: I do not think the fears of the Leader of the Opposition will materialise. This matter has caused a good deal of contention on the goldfields for three years, and the Mine Workers' Relief Board has a register of all men who have been prohibited from working in the mines.

Hon. C. G. Latham: From the inception of the Act?

Mr. STYANTS: Yes. If any more men had died, the board would have a record of them. These are the only six widows concerned in this matter. The other men prohibited from working in the mines between the dates specified are alive and have received lump sum payments to compensate them for the amount of money under-paid by the board because of a misinterpretation of the legislation. Therefore no claim can be made by those men.

Clause put and passed.

Schedule, Preamble, Title—agreed to.

Bill reported without amendment and the report adopted.

BILL—PETROLEUM ACT AMENDMENT.

Second Reading.

Debate resumed from the 27th August.

Mr. McDONALD (West Perth) [5.15]: I propose to support the Bill. Its object is to liberalise the conditions upon which, under the Act, petroleum deposit holdings may be obtained. The intention is to make it more attractive for people to come to the State with large amounts of capital, and endeavour to locate and develop our potential oil resources. It is not necessary to stress the vital importance of oil today in the world, not only for industrial purposes, but from considerations of defence. For that reason, legislation to induce the search for oil has been passed in many countries, the United Kingdom, Papua, New Zealand, the States of Australia, and in other parts of the world. This Bill is based upon Acts which have already been passed in other Australian States. I feel, therefore, that the principle is a good one. It will be of the greatest possible importance from every point of view if oil can be discovered in payable quantities in this State.

An immense amount of capital is required to prospect for oil in a State of this size, and we are not likely to get that capital unless we hold out prospects of a return that will induce people to spend a considerable sum in the hope or expectation of recovering something in the shape of payable oil. The Bill was explained to the House in detail, and I do not propose, therefore, to take up

the time of members by going through all that again. I have got into touch with such private people who are interested in petroleum as I have been able to meet, and I therefore have the advantage of their knowledge and experience. So far as the interests of the people are concerned in conserving a potentially valuable asset to the country, that is a responsibility of the Minister, and I have no reason to believe that he has failed in the Bill to safeguard those interests. There are, however, some comments I should like to make. I bring them forward with the object of assisting the Minister to obtain a measure that will fairly meet all the requirements of the situation. Those interested in the industry with whom I have come into contact are pleased with the Bill. They consider it marks a forward advance in the petroleum legislation of Western Australia. In making certain suggestions they do so in no critical spirit, but because there are some factors which they think the Minister might consider. The first matter to which I would refer is the reward lease. Under the Act there is power to grant to the first discoverer of oil a lease comprising 225 square miles. That is an area of exceptional size, for the ordinary petroleum lease is, I think, only 160 acres in extent. It was suggested that the first discoverer of oil should receive a prize of particular value to reward him or the company concerned for the research work and enterprise involved. The Minister proposes to abolish the reward lease, or special lease by way of reward, and to increase the size of the ordinary petroleum lease. The discoverer of petroleum who desires to take up a lease, whether the first or a subsequent discoverer, would therefore be on the same basis so far as lease area is concerned as anyone else. I understand some people are interested in a company that has pioneered the search for petroleum in this State. I refer to the Freney Kimberley Oil Company.

The Minister for Mines: I understand that Oil Search was the first company in the field.

Mr. McDONALD: That may be so, but the Freney Company has for many years pursued the search for oil in this State. The shareholders have shown a great deal of courage in financing the search, and in putting in more money to enable that search to continue. It has been suggested to me that the company in question, which is continu-

ing its search for oil, should not be deprived of the right to the original reward lease in the event of oil being discovered by it. The shareholders have put their money into the search, and were induced to continue the search on the basis of the benefits they would receive under the Act passed in 1936. It would seem—I say this in no derogatory tone—that we might be going back to some extent on the promise we held out by the 1936 Act, if we now abolish the special reward lease and provide only for the first discoverer of oil a lease no more beneficial than that which might be obtained by any subsequent discoverer.

The Minister for Mines: What about companies that came in before the Freney Company?

Mr. Doney: The provisions of the Act would apply.

Mr. McDONALD: What I would say for the consideration of the Minister is that if any company or person is now searching for oil, and has been doing so on the strength of the 1936 Act, such company or person, if desirous of doing so, ought to be entitled to the reward lease that was promised by the 1936 Act.

The Minister for Mines: Suppose this Bill becomes law, and a company under the amended Act finds oil before the Freney Company or any other company finds it, would the Freney Company be entitled to the reward lease if it then found oil?

Mr. McDONALD: If after the passing of the amended Act a company came into the field and found oil, then it would get a lease of the size proposed by the Minister in this Bill.

The Minister for Mines: And the Freney Company would get such a lease also?

Mr. McDONALD: Under the Bill the Freney Company would get a lease of the same size. If that company subsequently discovered oil it would get a lease of exactly the same size as would be given to any other company that commenced the search for oil after this Bill became law. If the Freney Company were the first to discover oil, should we not in all fairness say, "As you have for several years past been searching for oil on the promise of a reward lease of 225 square miles, we will, with regard to you and anyone else who is searching for oil on the basis of the 1936 Act, honour the promise held out by that Act, and give you a special reward lease of 225 square miles."

Other people, whether the first discoverers or not, who commenced the search for oil after the Bill became law, would have undertaken that search with a clear knowledge that even if they were the first discoverers they would get the ordinary lease and no special benefit.

The Minister for Mines: I do not know that there would be any great objection to that.

Mr. McDONALD: No. It would mean only a slight amendment to indicate that as to certain people or companies who have been searching for oil already on the basis of the 1936 Act, they would be entitled to the benefits of the Act if they were the first discoverers of oil.

The Minister for Mines: The Government would like to discover it first, because there is a Commonwealth reward of £20,000 for the first discoverer.

Mr. McDONALD: The Act provides for three classes of holdings—a permit to explore, which is self-explanatory; a license to prospect, which is obtained when exploration has shown a likely area for prospecting for oil; and, finally, there is the petroleum lease which is obtained when oil has been discovered. The object of the Bill is to increase the area of the permit to explore, and to enable people to hold a number of permits to explore and a number of licenses to prospect; and generally to hold out more liberal conditions for those searching for oil so that they will have a larger area of country over which to work, and will be able to get renewals of their holdings on a more generous scale.

My attention has been drawn to the rental charge for a permit to explore. That is £50 for 1,000 square miles, and £50 for every additional 1,000 square miles, with a maximum of £500 which would be the payment for 10,000 square miles. It has been pointed out to me that those terms are rather more onerous than obtain in, say, Papua. Papua has attracted a number of people from the point of view of oil search, and it has some resemblance to Western Australia, because it comprises a large area and the exploratory work there must necessarily be expensive. In Papua a permit to explore may cover 10,000 square miles for a fee of £50, whereas the Bill provides for a charge of £500 for such an area in this State. The Minister might well consider whether we should not come into line with

Papua as to a permit to explore, because that is the first inducement that we hold out to people to search for oil in Western Australia. If we once get them here to explore and put up the capital for exploratory work, we shall have achieved a very considerable advance in the search for oil. It might be worth while for the department to tell people that if they desire a permit to explore they may have it for merely a nominal figure. We certainly do not wish to discourage them at the very outset.

The Minister for Mines: But there is provision for refunding a proportion provided they carry out certain obligations?

Mr. McDONALD: Provision for a refund is made in the Act.

The Minister for Mines: And we have altered only the fees.

Mr. McDONALD: If the provision for a refund that is embodied in the Act covers the point I have mentioned, that is satisfactory. My impression was that the refund provision did not apply to the altered fees. I may be in error there.

The Minister for Mines: We have not altered that.

Mr. McDONALD: Dealing next with the license to prospect, the area to which such a license applies shall not, according to the Bill, exceed 200 square miles. We find that a fee is to be charged amounting to 5s. per square mile of the area covered for the first year and 10s. per square mile for each subsequent year during the currency of the license.

The Minister for Mines: But there is provision for the refund of £45.

Mr. McDONALD: I understand that the Act provides for a refund of £45 out of £50 per year. Perhaps the Minister will explain the position further and relieve any misapprehension on that score. Do I understand that under the Bill £45 out of every £50 will be refunded where the maximum payment is £500?

The Minister for Mines: Provided that the necessary obligations are carried out.

Mr. McDONALD: I see.

The Minister for Mines: The provision has not been altered in that respect.

Mr. McDONALD: I was dealing with the license to prospect and mentioned the annual fees per square mile. I understand that the proposal here is for a fee of 5s. per square mile for the first year, and 10s. per square

mile for subsequent years, whereas I believe legislation in the other States makes provision for a fee of 5s. per square mile per year for the whole term of the lease. While that is not a very big consideration—

Hon. C. G. Latham: I think Ministers have millions in their minds.

The Premier: At any rate, the fee is nothing if the companies are successful.

Mr. McDONALD: The fees chargeable for a permit to explore or for a license to prospect represent a comparatively small part of the capital to be found in order to carry out the actual work of exploration and prospecting. Nevertheless I draw the Minister's attention to the variations in those charges because our main objective is to induce people to come to Western Australia to commence exploring and prospecting. We shall reap all the benefits we want once oil is discovered.

The Minister for Mines: You will notice that there is a maximum of £25 even if a company gets 200 square miles.

Mr. McDONALD: There is a minimum of £25.

The Minister for Mines: No, a maximum.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would remind the member for West Perth that he is not permitted to discuss clauses of the Bill at this stage.

Mr. McDONALD: I have not referred to them numerically, but perhaps I may be allowed to say that the charge is 5s. per square mile per annum for the first year and I think the Bill provides for the minimum of £25.

The Minister for Mines: No, a maximum. That is what we intended—£12 10s. on the 5s. fee and £25 on the 10s. basis.

Mr. McDONALD: I think the Minister will find that the Bill mentions a minimum, but that may be a clerical error.

The Minister for Mines: I will look into that.

Mr. McDONALD: If it is a clerical error, perhaps the Minister will deal with the matter later on. The other provisions of the Bill represent an advance upon existing legislation. The five oil provinces into which the State is divided under the parent Act are to be abolished, and the State is to be made one oilfield. The petroleum lease, if oil is discovered, is to have the same duration as that contemplated in the Act, namely, 21 years, but whereas under the Act only one renewal of the lease can be granted for a further 21 years, the Bill provides

that the Crown shall have power to grant more than one renewal of the lease. That means that a company that has spent hundreds of thousands of pounds on prospecting over a period of years, will now have a much better opportunity to secure a recoup of its outlay and anticipate some profit on its expenditure.

There is only one other aspect of the Bill to which I desire to refer. Under the Act the lessee of a petroleum lease may surrender that lease to the Crown. With regard to a permit to explore and a license to prospect, there is no power to surrender the permit or license before the expiration of the full term. In legislation elsewhere power is included for the surrendering of a permit, a license or a lease, or part of the area covered by any permit, license or lease before the expiration of the full term. I suggest that the Minister should take that phrase into consideration because a company may desire to be relieved of an area on which it has been paying a certain amount of rent or for which it is otherwise responsible, in order to devote its capital and energies to the development of the balance of the area which may represent the really promising portion of the field. If power is provided for the surrender of a petroleum lease, it seems merely reasonable to make similar provision with regard to the permit to explore and the license to prospect.

Apart from the points I have mentioned, the Bill represents a distinct advance on our petroleum legislation and will bring Western Australia into line with the enactments that other countries have found it necessary and prudent to adopt. I believe the Bill will improve our chances of securing exploration and prospecting by people who are prepared to embark the amount of capital that work of this description makes absolutely essential. I therefore propose to support the second reading of the Bill.

On motion by Mr. Lambert, debate adjourned.

ANNUAL ESTIMATES, 1940-41.

Message.

Message from the Lieut.-Governor received and read transmitting the Annual Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the financial year 1940-41, and recommending appropriation.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1940-41.*In Committee of Supply.*

The House resolved into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the year ending the 30th June, 1941, Mr. Withers in the Chair.

PREMIER AND TREASURER (Hon. J. C. Willcock—Geraldton) [5.41]: It is again my privilege to present the Budget covering the financial operations of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the year just closed and the estimates of our receipts and expenditure for the year which we have just entered. This is the second occasion in the memory of hon. members in which the Empire to which we belong has been plunged into the throes of a far-reaching and devastating war. The events of the past few months have been so tremendous and have had the possibilities of such extensive repercussions that to forecast the financial future of a State such as ours is a task so full of uncertainties that one can hardly expect to do so with much confidence.

The War and Everyday Tasks.

Nations with a much more settled economy than ours, and with a greater historical background that ours, have been ruthlessly overrun in the tide of the war's progress, and no one can tell from day to day what catastrophic event will take place which might reshape the destiny of the whole world. We, however, are so sure of the cause for which we are fighting and so certain that in the ultimate issue the right for which we stand must triumph, that, trivial as they may seem in comparison with the momentous events that are taking place on the other side of the world, we must continue to carry out the everyday tasks that are allotted to us, and so make our contribution towards the final victory which, however long it may be deferred, we are certain we will eventually achieve. At this stage no one can foretell what changes will result from the present conflict, and though our present economy has been based on an order that may be revolutionised in a few years, I am sure that our task is to carry on with those forms of production for which nature has endowed us, in the hope that our efforts will be rewarded.

The task which lies ahead of the Commonwealth of Australia may well cause us

to have serious misgivings, but we are convinced that no matter what the sacrifice may be or what toll the war may take of our resources, no price is too heavy to pay for the maintenance of those principles for which we stand. It is inevitable that sacrifices will have to be made and expedients adopted in our war effort, which would be unpalatable and indeed strongly resented in times of peace. The duty of the Commonwealth Government is to utilise the full manpower and material resources of Australia in order to make the greatest contribution it can towards assisting the British Empire. We, in our turn, must enable the Commonwealth Government to obtain full use of those resources by the exercise of economy in expenditure and, as far as possible, leave untouched those fields of taxation which so far have not been tapped by the Commonwealth Government.

As I intimated when introducing the Budget last year, the various State Premiers undertook as a first contribution towards the war effort that, as far as possible, they would achieve balanced budgets. An endeavour was made in this State to come within a reasonable distance of balancing, but on account of the failure to pass the legislation dealing with motor car registration, which it was hoped would result in increased revenue, the desired result was not obtained. As I intimated when announcing the result of last year's transaction, I hope this year to secure the passage of that legislation, and I am hopeful when members hear the explanations for the necessity for this alteration in our methods, they will be satisfied that the best interests of the State generally will be met by the passing of the legislation.

Last Year's Results.

In presenting the story of the transactions for last year, I propose to be brief. I will deal only with the major points which caused variations in the estimated figures, and when I explain the Government's intentions in the Budget for this year I shall deal only in a general way with the figures. A detailed explanation of the activities of the different departments can best be given by the various Ministers when they are submitting their departmental estimates. As opportunities will arise then to obtain further information from the Ministers' statements, I think it would serve no useful pur-

pose if I were to enlarge upon the work of the various departments at this stage.

The estimated deficit for the year just closed was £31,288. The actual deficit was £146,825, an increase of £115,537. This increased deficit was the result of a decrease in revenue of £66,069 and an increase in expenditure of £49,468. Before dealing with the principal items in last year's figures I should like to give members a short statement showing how the revenue is obtained and how it is spent. I can readily realise the difficulty that must be experienced by anyone not closely associated with Government finance in endeavouring to obtain a comprehensive view of the figures. I propose to bring the figures into a few heads representing the main items of receipts and expenditure. Slightly more than half of our total revenue comes from the earnings of public utilities. The first charges against the earnings are the working expenses. The balance is then used to meet debt charges on the capital invested in the concerns, but insofar as earnings fail to meet debt charges the deficiency has to be found out of the other general revenue of the State. I commence, therefore, by showing the other general revenue which for last year consisted of the following:—

| | £ |
|---|-------------------|
| Taxation | £2,998,000 |
| Territorial (that is, land rents, mining lease rents and fees from timber royalties) .. | 316,000 |
| Revenue from the Commonwealth Government (payments under the Financial Agreement and the Special Grant) | 1,068,000 |
| Departmental (fees, interest collections and charges imposed by departments) | 1,078,000 |
| Total | <u>£5,458,000</u> |

The first charge against revenue is for the payment of debt charges, namely interest, sinking fund and exchange first on loan undertakings which produce no revenue, such as public buildings, roads, etc.; then the amount of the debt charges not met by the earnings of public utilities.

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| The charge on revenue for unproductive capital expenditure was | £1,989,000 |
| The deficiency in the earnings of public utilities was | 432,000 |
| and— | |
| The deficiency in the earnings of trading concerns was | <u>21,000</u> |
| Debt charges paid out of this revenue | <u>£2,442,000</u> |

The balance of general revenues available to meet all other government expenditure was .. £3,016,000

This was spent as follows:—

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Social services (that is, education, health, police, charitable relief, etc.) | 1,998,000 |
| Administration (salaries of officers and incidental expenses not included in social services) | 740,500 |
| Legislature (cost of Parliament) | 86,500 |
| All other expenditure | 388,000 |
| A total of | <u>£3,163,000</u> |
| Leaving a deficit of | <u>£147,000</u> |

Review of Revenue.

Reviewing the several heads of revenue, the figures disclose that taxation was £203,354 above the Budget estimate. Income tax was £109,617 above the estimate; Financial Emergency tax £123,700, while gold mining profits tax receipts exceeded anticipations by £32,742.

As against these increases there were some sections of taxation which failed to reach the Budget estimate. Land tax was lower by £12,620, due to the fact that it was not possible to get the assessments out as early as was hoped. The Taxation Department had concentrated on the issue of the income tax assessments and there will be a carry-over of land tax collections into this year.

Hon. C. G. Latham: What amount would that be?

The PREMIER: The amount is £12,600.

Hon. C. G. Latham: We hope the taxation officers will do their work.

The PREMIER: Yes, though we may experience some difficulty because several of the senior taxation officers have enlisted for military service and that will make things rather awkward. There is no desire, however, to prevent anyone from serving his country if he desires to do so.

Stamp duty receipts were lower than the Budget estimate by £14,904, due to war conditions having caused a reduction in the volume of business generally and in sales of land. Probate duty, which it was anticipated would yield £150,000, yielded £122,928, a decline of £27,072. Members will recollect when an amendment of the Administration Act was passed last year that fairly substantial increases were made in the rate of death duties on large estates. Unfortunately the legislation was not passed as early as was hoped. It was in force for only six or seven months. This year it will oper-

ate over the whole twelve months and our estimate should be realised. In any case, this item of receipts is always an uncertain one to estimate.

Entertainment tax showed a slight decrease of £1,278 on the Budget estimate of £100,000. This decrease is a further indication of war conditions and is accounted for by a large increase in the number of non-taxable entertainments carried out for the purpose of raising patriotic funds.

Territorial revenue was lower by £12,295 than the Budget estimate of £328,500. Land revenue was the principal contributor to this decline and was lower than was anticipated by £24,743 due to the difficulties of the producers during last year. At this stage, looking back over the year, it is comforting to consider that the large carry-over in the Australian wheat harvest has been dealt with so satisfactorily as far as finance is concerned. A little earlier than this last year, just before the war started, there was a tremendous quantity of wheat for which there was no sale. Since then, however, comparatively satisfactory arrangements have been made and farmers have had some return for their labours.

Timber Industry.

Revenue from timber was £13,585 above the Budget estimate of £130,000. At the outbreak of the war, owing to the dislocation of shipping, the outlook for the timber industry was somewhat disconcerting. As the year proceeded, persistent representations were made and the position was improved and a satisfactory arrangement concluded for shipping large orders to the United Kingdom. I remember in 1914, immediately war was declared, the whole of the timber industry closed down because there was no demand for timber. The industry was absolutely disorganised and practically no business was done throughout the period of the war. So I think the results so far have been gratifying. The position is due to the efforts of the timber companies, supplemented by the representations of the Government to the Commonwealth Shipping Board and the generous recognition of our difficulties by Sir Thomas Gordon and the representatives on the Shipping Board. In addition to this factor, the sale of sandalwood showed a gratifying rise. Despite the war in China, increased sales of sandalwood to that country were made. At this stage

it is uncertain whether those sales can be maintained. Fortunately we have been able to continue the arrangement we previously had with the South Australian Government by which South Australia and Western Australia do not compete against each other in the export of sandalwood.

Departmental revenue which was estimated to yield £1,030,650 actually yielded £971,047 a decrease of £59,603. Apart from minor variations, the outstanding contributing factor was the Treasury revenue which was £49,124 below the Budget estimate.

As members are aware, the revenue credited to the Treasury Department consists of numerous miscellaneous items. Included in the Budget estimate was an amount of £120,000 expected from motor license fees, to which I have already referred, but as the legislation submitted by the Government was not passed, this item of receipts was lost. As an offset to that substantial loss to revenue, the Agricultural Bank showed an increase in interest payments of £54,601, profits from the Savings Bank yielded £4,392 more than the estimate, and repayments for wire and wire netting advances exceeded the Budget figure by £8,429.

Trading Concerns and Public Utilities.

The transactions of the trading concerns show that the actual figures failed to reach the Budget estimate by £14,088. The receipts would have almost realised the estimate had a profit made by the State Sawmills not been too late for inclusion in last year's figures. That profit, however, will permit of a better showing being made this year. The revenue of public utilities fell short of the Budget estimate by £188,177. War conditions accounted for the decline, the utilities that contributed largely to the failure to reach the estimate having been the Bunbury Harbour Board, £4,500, the Fremantle Harbour Trust £15,667, and the Railways, the major public utility, £182,471. At the 30th June last, we had 528,000 tons of wheat in the country, which was 300,000 tons more than the quantity at the same date of the previous year. Had the 300,000 tons or the greater part of it, been transported by the railways for shipment overseas the railways would have made a much better showing from a revenue point of view. The wheat in the country is likely to remain there for some time. The Minister for Lands told the House recently that, according to his

information, all the wheat from the last harvest will not have been shipped until about June of next year. The receipts from the Electricity Supply also fell short of the Budget estimate by £13,285, but this decline in revenue was more than offset by a saving of £17,105 in the operating expenses.

Mr. Sampson: That is always a profitable department.

The PREMIER: If we could only provide some more extensions!

Mr. Sampson: Yes.

Estimated and Actual Expenditure.

The PREMIER: The figures covering expenditure disclose that whereas the Budget estimate was £11,217,300, the actual expenditure was £11,266,768, an increase of £49,468. I should not be surprised if the Leader of the Opposition chides me about that. Expenditure under special Acts showed little variation, having been £1,523 lower than the Budget estimate of £4,404,386. Interest payable to bondholders in Australia was £7,400 below the estimate, but on the other hand transfers from revenue to the reforestation fund were £2,234 greater than the estimate, due fortunately to increased revenue from timber, as I have already explained. Pensions and retiring allowances exceeded the amount provided by £7,263. When I introduced the Superannuation and Family Benefits Bill, I said I thought we had reached the peak of expenditure under the Act of 1871, but each year the amount seems to increase, although actuarial calculations have indicated that the tendency should be the reverse. I do not know whether longevity of ex-officers is responsible. Some time ago I mentioned that we had three ex-Directors of Education receiving pensions, and I think we have three or four retired Under Treasurers who are receiving pensions. There will not be any more Under Treasurers entitled to a pension under the Act of 1871; the present occupant of the office is not eligible. I think there are two ex-Under Secretaries of the Crown Law who are receiving pensions at present. Various officers who reached high positions in their departments became entitled to large pensions under the 1871 Act. The Government does not like to deny promotion to an officer who has served the State well, but it is embarrassing to have three or four retired officers,

who in turn had held a highly paid position, qualified for pensions under the 1871 Act.

Hon. C. G. Latham: The trouble is the hard-and-fast rule of retirement at 65 when they are capable of carrying on.

The PREMIER: There is much to be said for and against the retirement of officers at the age of 65.

Hon. C. G. Latham: A lot to be said against it.

Mr. Sampson: And some of them get jobs elsewhere.

The PREMIER: The expenditure under the heading of Governmental was £14,908 above the Budget figure, the departments responsible having been the Treasurer's Department, which showed an increase of £15,846, and the North-West Department, which showed an increase of £5,067. In the Treasurer's Department the increase was largely accounted for by the cost of exchange on London remittances, which amount was £16,000 in excess of the estimate.

Hon. C. G. Latham: The exchange rate does not vary.

The PREMIER: We do not know the exact amount to be provided, and the purchases of commodities in England make a difference. We endeavoured to obtain stocks of goods that we knew would be required and might not be available owing to the war and to the dislocation of shipping. We also had to bear our share of the cost of reconditioning the building for the Taxation Department, a sum of £9,000, and we had to provide additional expenditure on behalf of the Mint to the extent of £2,500. These figures were offset by a saving of £13,000 on the item included in last year's Estimates for unforeseen war expenditure. An amount of £7,000 has been charged against this item, representing expenditure incurred in connection with air raid precautions and the employment of special constables at many points. When I presented the Estimates last year, I said that finances would be dislocated and that I could not foresee what expenditure might be incurred as a result of the war.

Expenditure in the Public Works Department was increased by unemployment relief, having been £3,580 above the estimate, and urgent repairs to jetties in the North-West, on which we spent £4,380 more than the amount provided. The expendi-

ture on public utilities, which was estimated at £3,795,000, was actually £3,831,000, an increase of £36,000. This was accounted for by the added cost of the Railway Department, £56,000, offset by savings in the Tramways Department of £7,562 and in the Electricity Supply of £17,105.

Deficit for 1939-40.

Having regard to the conditions that prevailed during the year, I think I might claim that the result was satisfactory. The Budget deficit was estimated at £31,000, but this was in anticipation of receiving an amount of £120,000 from the transfer of motor license fees. Excluding this amount, the Budget deficit would have been £151,000. The actual deficit was slightly less, the amount having been £146,825. As I have stated on previous occasions, this result has not been achieved without an unceasing watch on expenditure. We are constantly scrutinising items of expenditure; in fact, many of the heads consider that the Treasury Department is inquisitorial. This, however, must continue. When the Treasury considers that any item of expenditure is not fully warranted, it endeavours to effect savings.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Thank goodness you will not be able to buy so many new motor cars this year!

The PREMIER: We have not bought many lately.

Hon. C. G. Latham: A big number has been bought, by the Public Works Department particularly.

The PREMIER: They might have been required for the Main Roads Department.

Hon. C. G. Latham: No, not for the Main Roads Department.

The PREMIER: Then for the Water Supply Department.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Yes.

The PREMIER: The Minister for Works will be able to defend his department when dealing with his Estimates. It is unfortunate that such difficult conditions should have existed in the last few years. The State has certainly not had a good spin. There has been a severe drought in the pastoral areas, and when we have had good seasons in the agricultural areas, commodity prices have been low. It is unfortunate, too, that economic conditions should have been such as to preclude my granting requests for assistance which were well

merited and which, if submitted under normal conditions, would be almost irresistible.

Hon. C. G. Latham: The gold mining industry has made up for a lot of that.

The PREMIER: But we cannot deny help to people who are in distress. It seems to be an axiom of public finance that when people make a profit they keep it, but when they make a loss, the Government helps them. Only sheer inability to find the necessary money has compelled me to refuse many deserving requests, and I am grateful to persons and organisations for the spirit in which they have accepted my refusal.

Sitting suspended from 6.15 to 7.30 p.m.

The PREMIER: I had dealt with last year's Budget, and the results which were obtained during that year. I turn now to the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the current year. In my opinion, it will clarify matters if I outline briefly the main adjustments for which I have made provision in order to meet requirements for this year.

Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure.

A very large part of our revenue and expenditure is practically fixed. By that I mean that much of the revenue secured by the Government comes from charges for work done and from fees for services rendered which could not be drastically varied. In the same way most of the expenditure has been fixed by custom, or is subject, as in the case of salaries and wages, to determination by Industrial Courts of Arbitration or other wage-fixing tribunals. A fairly substantial section of expenditure represents payments for social services provided by the Government; and these could not be reduced materially without imposing extreme hardship on the community, and thus might have a detrimental effect far greater than the small gain to be derived by the Consolidated Revenue Fund. On the revenue side it is in the field of taxation that the Government has an avenue for increasing its receipts; and as our severity of taxation up to last year was somewhat above the average of the six Australian States, I think members will agree that to endeavour to extract a large increase through taxation would not be wise economy here.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Of course we have to provide for the Federal expenditure as well.

The PREMIER: Quite so. As members are aware, Parliament last year approved of the Government's proposals to abolish the financial emergency tax and to make provision for collection of income tax by weekly deductions at the source, as regards salary and wage earners. When introducing the Bill for the purpose of providing for these deductions, I intimated that it was the Government's intention to endeavour to raise a somewhat comparable amount from the combined taxes, such an amount as would have been raised if the old income tax and the financial emergency tax had been continued. I shall not at this stage anticipate the Government's proposals regarding taxation, beyond stating that in the estimated receipts from income tax for this year I have provided that we endeavour to raise almost the same amount by this one tax as was raised last year by the income and financial emergency taxes. In the Budget for this year I have provided for two special items of receipt which have not hitherto been included.

Motor License Fees.

In regard to one of these items special legislation will be necessary, and in framing the Budget I have anticipated that this legislation will be passed. I do not know on what grounds I form this anticipation, except possibly the ground that the House will this year pass something which it did not pass last year, in view of the present position of affairs. Hon. members can no doubt guess this item. It concerns the transfer to Consolidated Revenue of the motor car license fees which hitherto, under the Traffic Act, have been paid to the local authorities in the metropolitan area. The revenue anticipated from this source is set down in the Budget at £75,000. I hope that when members hear the arguments which will be submitted for their consideration, they will come to the conclusion that in the present circumstances the proposal is perfectly reasonable. Again I will not attempt to anticipate legislation which is to be submitted, beyond stating that it will be submitted as an emergency measure due to war conditions. I regret, however, that some members have already endeavoured to ascertain the views of local governing bodies in the metropolitan area on this subject—in

an endeavour, it has been suggested in the Press, to know how they are to vote. In my opinion it is derogatory for members to ascertain from outside bodies how they are to vote on proposals not yet fully disclosed. I consider that members should wait until the Government brings forward its legislation, and then, after hearing all the arguments in favour of it and giving due weight to the views of authorities opposing it, make up their minds. But to determine how they shall vote before hearing the Government's point of view or the necessity for the proposal seems to me to make it unnecessary for Parliament to deliberate at all.

Hon. W. D. Johnson: Local authorities, of course, do not get time to formulate their views before the legislation is passed.

The PREMIER: If members desire to consult those who are affected by legislation, they can do so; in fact, it is their duty to do so. Though I do not wish to lecture members, let me say that I consider their responsibility is to Parliament. When they have ascertained what the Government proposes to do, they can make up their minds about it. But merely to accept the view of local governing bodies, or other authorities, is in my opinion wrong. I do not think members of this Chamber have a tendency in that direction; but some members of another place have shown that disposition. I believe a certain amount of propaganda has been going on among local authorities regarding this legislation; and I think a stage has been reached where we should, to some extent, counteract that propaganda by stating our case fully. I do not wish at this juncture to submit the complete case to Parliament, but only to give reasons why members should fully consider the proposals. I am hopeful that when members hear the reasons for the introduction of the legislation they will be convinced of the need for it and of the reasonableness of the Government's intentions.

The payment of license fees to local authorities affects the State in two ways. It deprives the Government of revenue to which it is entitled, because substantial amounts of loan money are spent each year on roads, and the Government should obtain some contribution towards the interest on that expenditure. The roads are used mostly by motorists, and by far the greatest motor users are owners of vehicles registered in the metropolitan area. It is ob-

vious, from close scrutiny of the accounts of local governing bodies, that in many cases fairly large amounts of the motor license fees are spent on footpaths and other services which are not legitimate charges against the motorists. Part of the interest on loan money spent upon roads is, however, a fair charge against the motorist, and the Government should not be deprived of it. If we, in the interests of the transport needs of the whole State of Western Australia, consider ourselves justified in expending a hundred or two hundred thousand pounds of loan money in making roads, are we not to attempt to get from any source interest on the amount so spent? Money will then have to be found by taxation. However, in all the Australian States the bulk of the money received from motor registration fees goes to the Government; and because of that fact the Government can, when it desires, expend loan moneys on roads, knowing that there will be certain income from license fees with which to pay interest and sinking fund. The other way in which the Government is affected is that because Western Australia is the only State which allows local authorities to retain motor license fees, the Commonwealth Grants Commission feels that the grant payable to this State should be reduced. The Commission says in effect, "You have a source of revenue which every other State enjoys. But you cannot desire that the other States should be called upon to give you a disabilities grant on that score." Thus the Commissioners, when they fix the grant to this State, penalise Western Australia as compared with Tasmania and South Australia.

Hon. C. G. Latham: That is a weak argument on the part of the Commissioners, because our people are taxed notwithstanding. It does not relieve them of any taxation.

The PREMIER: No.

Hon. C. G. Latham: It only transfers that taxation from the local authorities to the Government.

Severity of Taxation.

The PREMIER: The Leader of the Opposition will recall my referring to the severity of taxation in Western Australia. We are almost the most highly taxed State in the Commonwealth; and because of that the Disabilities Grants Commissioners say,

"You have done your job. You have endeavoured to collect sufficient taxation to put you in a proper position relatively to other States. If, after having collected taxation at a severe rate, you cannot get round, there is justification for giving you a disabilities grant." On the evidence submitted as regards this expenditure, the Commissioners make up their minds as to what grant shall be given. If the Leader of the Opposition will say, "I am very inquisitive about this, and I wish to find out what the Disabilities Grants Commissioners say in regard to it," then let us pass this legislation and see whether the Commissioners do not increase our grant. If they do not increase it, I will sympathetically review the request that as the change has had no effect, there is no justification for going on with it. But, in contradistinction to the Leader of the Opposition, I think it will have an effect and will increase the disabilities grant. If any hon. member is interested as to how the Commissioners view this matter, I refer him to the sixth report of the Commission. But calculations made by our Treasury officials, taking into account the considerations on which the grant is based and the attitude of the Commissioners, indicate that Western Australia would be better off by £20,000 or £25,000 in the amount of the grant by this method of dealing with what is otherwise unproductive expenditure.

Hon. C. G. Latham: When did the Commissioners first threaten to reduce our grant?

The PREMIER: They have not threatened that at all. They have said, "You have allowed to slip by revenue which every other State gets, and therefore, if you do not feel inclined to get it, there is no reason why we should recommend the Commonwealth Government to make up the deficiency. However, if you do your best in that respect, we will see that you get a grant commensurate with your needs."

Hon. C. G. Latham: They have not said that.

The PREMIER: Yes; they have said it.

Hon. C. G. Latham: They did not say it in their sixth report.

The PREMIER: No; but they said that this State has not raised as much money as it might have done for revenue purposes, and that it has neglected an opportunity to bring itself into line with the other

States, and that therefore the other States should not be penalised, seeing that Western Australia has not stood up to its duty. If the hon. member will carefully read the sixth report of the Commission—

Hon. C. G. Latham: I will read it when I speak.

The PREMIER: I shall be glad if the hon. member will do so, because I will be saved the trouble of reading it myself. Other members may feel inclined to take up a similar attitude and oppose the proposition. The Minister who will introduce the Bill will explain what is required. In fact, I have some particulars which I could give the hon. member.

Mr. Doney: I would be glad to hear them.

Transfer of License Fees.

The PREMIER: I realise that in some cases local authorities have borrowed money to improve roads, a very wise course to pursue. If a local authority has sufficient money to do the work properly, it will last many years longer; but if a road is merely patched here and there and somewhere else, then in a very short time the work will have to be done again. By raising money in order to construct roads properly, they may last without repair for 10, 12 or 15 years. I think St. George's-terrace has been constructed for 15 or 16 years and it has cost very little in the way of maintenance. If the local authorities have sufficient initiative to borrow money for road construction and make roads that will last, thereby saving money in the long run, I think it but fair that some portion of the traffic fees paid by motorists should be allocated towards interest and sinking fund in just the same way as if money had been provided directly for such purpose. It is proposed, therefore, to ask Parliament to agree to the transfer of 75 per cent. of the license fees, leaving the remaining 25 per cent. available for local authorities to meet their interest charges. A proportion of the petrol tax equal to the amount spent annually on roads will be distributed to local authorities which spend their money on roads, with a limit, of course, of the total amount of license fees transferred to revenue. The metropolitan area can have no grievance at all; but it has been put to me that country road boards and other local authorities may have a grievance because some of the money may not be spent in the country. No fear need be held that

the wants of the country districts will suffer, in view of the Government's past experience. The Government has spent nearly all the petrol tax money—close on £1,000,000—in the country districts.

Mr. Doney: It could hardly be otherwise.

The PREMIER: If we were an urban Government anxious to build up the capital city, there would be nothing to stop the Main Roads Commissioner from spending half that money in the metropolitan area.

Hon. C. G. Latham: He has spent loan funds.

The PREMIER: No, he has not.

Hon. C. G. Latham: What about that white elephant along the coast to North Beach—that expensive road?

The PREMIER: Do you mean the Canning-road?

Hon. C. G. Latham: The Canning-road also.

The PREMIER: That was constructed out of loan funds.

Hon. C. G. Latham: And the Fremantle-road.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! The Premier may proceed.

Road Construction.

The PREMIER: I want to make clear the record of the Government, which has spent in the country districts nearly £1,000,000 from the Main Roads Fund. Nobody can deny that. Every member who travels about the country notices the wonderful improvement in our roads. We do not take any particular credit for it, because we have been able to get the money to do the work. But, in addition, we have undertaken at various times the expenditure of £100,000 to £120,000 of loan money on country roads. This extra money was spent because of the need to provide employment; there has been no return whatever from it. It is what is termed, from the Treasury standpoint, unproductive debt. We must find interest and sinking fund on that capital expenditure out of revenue from taxation or from whatever source the Government can obtain the money. As I have said, our proposal this year differs from the one we made last year, because we recognise that the local authorities have a case. When they incur capital expenditure, interest and sinking fund payments must be provided. We will, as we have done each year for the past seven or eight years,

spend a considerable amount of loan money on roads in country districts, as we are aware that the better the transport facilities, the less will be the cost of production. I shall leave that matter for the time being, hoping that a better reception will be accorded by the House to our proposal this year.

Hon. C. G. Latham: As a matter of fact, you are disappointing us by introducing this subject. You were getting along very well up till then.

Insurance Office Profits.

The PREMIER: There is another special item which members may have noticed in the receipts. It relates to the transfer of £40,000 from the funds of the State Government Insurance Office to the Consolidated Revenue Fund. Members will recollect that when the State Government Insurance Office Act was passed, provision was made for the office to pay to Consolidated Revenue an amount to be assessed by the Commissioner of Taxation as representing the tax on profits that would have been paid had the State Government Insurance Office been operating as a private company and not as a Government concern. The Leader of the Opposition will recall that it is about 18 months since the Act was passed.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Did you say the profits were £40,000?

The PREMIER: I said the profits would be taxed. They amount to about £90,000.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Yearly profits?

Mr. Tonkin: That is well worth investigating.

The PREMIER: The Leader of the Opposition mentioned only this afternoon—I forget in what connection—that some compensation had been paid out of public funds to farmers at Southern Cross. Those payments were made to assist people who had been injured or disabled or had lost their health in the mining industry. Similar amounts have been paid out of revenue for years past. Such amounts are a legitimate charge to the State.

Hon. C. G. Latham: The payment was shown only one year; you covered the other payments up, as you usually do.

The PREMIER: No. Everyone knows that the Government made direct subsidies to the mining industry to assist disabled miners or miners who had lost their health.

The sums were paid out of revenue for years. Instead of charging the mining industry insurance premiums when the industry was at a low ebb, the Government found the money from revenue. Conditions are now different.

Insurance Office Reserve Fund.

The State Government Insurance Office is making some profit—not on that particular phase of its undertaking, but it is making a profit. The Government Actuary set the profit down at £90,000. He recommended that the State Government Insurance Office should pay into revenue a sum equal to such an amount as would have been paid in taxation by a private company. That left a balance of £78,500, of which £40,000 is to go to revenue, the balance being paid into the reserve fund. As members know, we have a rather large reserve fund in the State Government Insurance Office; it amounts to £300,000 or £400,000, perhaps more. We never know, however, what may happen; and we have accepted all responsibility. I do not want to forecast something that might be possible, but I would point out that the Lake View and Star mine employs some 1,200 men. If by some mischance a bomb was dropped on the mine, or there was a subsidence of the mine, we might have a casualty list of 600, 700 or 800 men. Their claims would have to be met from the reserve fund. We must build up a large reserve to meet such a contingency.

Hon. C. G. Latham: You cannot do that by paying it into revenue.

The PREMIER: The remaining portion of the £80,000 will be paid into the reserve fund. After making these adjustments, the Budget reveals the following—

| | £ |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Total revenue | £11,217,152 |
| Expenditure | 11,333,849 |
| Deficit | <u>£166,697</u> |

I shall now give a brief outline of the principal heads of revenue and expenditure as they have been estimated.

Revenue from Taxation.

It is hoped to raise the sum of £2,993,700 from taxation. The amount raised last year was £2,996,054. As I have already stated, we expect to receive about the same amount

by the new income tax rates as we raised last year from income tax plus financial emergency tax. The amount raised by the two taxes last year was £2,123,317; the estimated receipts from the combined taxes has been set down at £2,070,000. The decrease, £53,000, this year is on account of the fact that there were more arrears of unpaid tax at the end of June, 1939, than there were at the end of June, 1940. Land Tax provided £99,880 last year; it is estimated that this year we shall receive £125,000, or an increase of £25,120. The reason for the substantial increase is that last year some delay occurred in issuing assessments of land tax and consequently there is a fairly big carry-over of assessments still to be issued and collected this year. When we receive that, the receipts will be increased by £12,000 over those of last year. That will make a difference of £25,000. It is not proposed to vary the rate of the land tax. I want to assure the Leader of the Opposition of that fact. The goldmining profits tax is estimated to produce £180,000, as against £150,242 received last year, an increase of £29,758. This increase is due to the continued prosperity in the mining industry and is the estimate submitted by the Commissioner of Taxation.

Effects of the War.

We are anticipating a drop in receipts from totalisator duty which have been estimated at £40,000 as against £51,669 received last year. This decrease is of course due to the effect of the war. Stamp duty is estimated to yield the same amount as last year namely £260,000. This sum is a fairly substantial reduction on the collections from 1938-39 which were £284,000. The reduction in the receipts last year was due to the fact that there was not so much business, particularly in land sales, which provide a great proportion of this money. I think that the conditions of last year are a fairly good indication of what we can expect this year. I do not expect either an increase or a reduction, and consequently the amount has been set down at last year's figure, which is £25,000 less than we obtain in a normal year.

Probate duty is estimated to provide £150,000, as against £123,000 received last year. This year we shall have the benefit of a full 12 months of the increased rates of death duties. We anticipate a falling off in receipts from entertainment taxes which are estimated at £85,000 as against £98,722 re-

ceived last year. This is another effect of the war. The receipts from liquor licenses are set down at £77,650 as against £82,978 received last year.

Decreased Revenue.

Hon. members will perceive that I have been rather conservative regarding the revenue. For all sorts of reasons—more particularly war conditions and the bad season—it may be that we will not obtain so much revenue. I could take a very optimistic view, and say, "We got so much tax last year; we will get so much this year," but where a reduction seems likely, I have estimated what I think the reduction will be.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Of course, more money will be spent here by the Commonwealth Government.

The PREMIER: I hope that more revenue will be obtained than was secured last year. But I do not want to paint an optimistic picture and then have people say at the end of the year, "You should have known better. You should have known you could not get that amount of money from the liquor, the totalisator, or the entertainments taxes. Do you not know there is a war on?" That is what people would say if the estimated revenue were not realised. They would declare, "You had no right to anticipate that you would get the same amount of revenue as you obtained under normal conditions."

Mr. Sampson: You will not, either.

The PREMIER: I hope I have been too conservative. If we obtain more money it will be better for the State. It will bring Budget equilibrium nearer. I have sought to reach that equilibrium without unnecessarily penalising the State at this stage. Nobody can accuse the Government of being optimistic in regard to our Revenue Estimates.

Territorial Revenue and the Timber Industry.

Under the heading of "Territorial" we expect to receive £305,000 as against actual receipts last year of £316,205. We have anticipated slight decreases in the revenue from land and mining. The member for Williams-Narrogin (Mr. Doney) can probably say whether I should expect more revenue from the land.

Mr. Doney: The Premier knows that just as well as I do.

The PREMIER: I do not think we can expect more revenue. It is best to be honest and truthful and to put down what we expect to receive. A fairly substantial decrease in the revenue from timber is also anticipated. Last year we received from this source £143,585 and we have set down £135,000 as our estimated receipts this year. As I said earlier, we have been fortunate in maintaining our timber industry. Whether we shall continue to be so fortunate is questionable. Whether shipping space will be available—and the crux of the position is whether ships will be able to call and take timber away from Western Australia—is problematical. I have not felt justified in considering that the shipping facilities provided last year will be available this year. That being so, we will not obtain so much revenue. Recently I communicated with the Prime Minister regarding the question of conserving foreign exchange by the use of Australian timber in place of the imported commodity. As a result of the development of our own hardwoods we in Western Australia use very little imported wood, and on Government works particularly its use is practically negligible. In the other States the same conditions do not apply. I took the opportunity of emphasising this point to the Prime Minister and of pressing the desirability of greater use being made in the Eastern States of our hardwoods. According to a statement prepared in 1935 by the Forestry Commission for the British Empire Forestry Conference, the percentage of imported softwood consumption to total consumption in each State was as follows:—

| | | | |
|-------------------|----|----|----|
| New South Wales | .. | .. | 71 |
| Victoria | .. | .. | 52 |
| Queensland | .. | .. | 55 |
| South Australia | .. | .. | 79 |
| Western Australia | .. | .. | 11 |
| Tasmania | .. | .. | 11 |
| Average | .. | .. | 53 |

Hon. C. G. Latham: Packing cases account for the use of a lot of imported timber in industrial centres.

The PREMIER: Yes, but it seems to me that it would be all to the good if we could manage with West Australian wood which could be sold at much the same price in this State. If of the wood used in Western Australia 90 per cent. was locally produced, we would thereby help to conserve foreign exchange—if

that is so tremendously important—and other States should very well be able to emulate our example. I represented the matter to the Prime Minister and asked him to take it up with the Premiers of the other States. He adopted the suggestion and now all the other States have been asked to go into the matter and ascertain whether in the interests of the conservation of foreign exchange greater use could be made of Australian-grown timber. I hope we shall get some satisfactory results from these representations and that the use of locally-grown timber will be permanent and of benefit to the States.

Departmental Revenue.

Under the heading of "Departmental Revenue" there has been no provision for any marked variation in the estimated receipts compared with last year's revenue, with the exception of receipts of the Treasury Department which it is estimated will be about £52,000 above last year's collections. As I explained earlier, the receipts and expenditure of the Treasury Department are a collection of miscellaneous items and on the receipts side the principal one is the collection of interest by the Agricultural Bank. Last year the Bank paid to Consolidated Revenue the sum of £274,600. After consultation with the Minister for Lands and the Trustees of the Agricultural Bank, the estimated receipts from this source have been reduced to £200,000; that is, £75,000 less. Again, I might be told that this estimate is too conservative, but considering the seasonal prospects and the troubles of producers I do not know that we will get more than that. If we do, I shall be very pleased; but if I do not think we shall, there is no use in budgeting for an extravagant increase and not realising it. Of course, rain is falling now—

Mr. Watts: But not in the right place!

The PREMIER: If the shortage of rain continues, we may be in for disaster. I hope we will not be. I had a letter from a relative in the northern district yesterday who said that crops were better there and that there was plenty of feed; but that is a fortunate part of the State. The district where he is farming is having an average year.

Mr. Patrick: Not an average year!

Assistance to Agriculture.

The PREMIER: Generally speaking, the prospects of the State justify one in taking a pessimistic view and, having that view, I

have budgeted accordingly. This is a difficult item of receipt to estimate in the early part of the year. The season has not opened promisingly, but it is too early yet to know what the effect on the bank's finances will be. The amount credited to revenue as a result of the bank's collections of interest as against the cost of the loan money expended, is an indication of the burden which the State has undertaken in its endeavour to promote and assist primary production. I knew that the State had undertaken a tremendous liability in this regard, but until I got the figures out I did not know they were so colossal. The amount of public debt existing at the 30th June, representing advances to the Agricultural Bank, Soldiers' Land Settlement, Industries Assistance Board, and Group Settlement, was £20,519,000, and the interest, sinking fund, and exchange charges on this sum cost revenue £990,545.

Mr. Seward: That is the gross total?

The PREMIER: Yes. In addition, we still owe £3,265,128 as expenditure on assistance to agriculture, and £334,548 spent on the rabbit-proof fence. The debt charges on these two sums cost us £173,482. The sum of £20,000,000 has been advanced to those utilities for the purpose of assisting land production in this State. The total charges to Revenue last year were therefore £1,164,027 towards which the Bank's interest collections, plus repayment of principal, contributed £293,070, and other revenue amounted to £29,129. The balance of £841,828 was a loss to revenue. If even half of this loss could be recovered each year no difficulty would be experienced in balancing the Budget.

Mr. Seward: Do you know how much has been written off?

The PREMIER: Yes, a very considerable proportion. I do not know that we will ever get it, but it is well sometimes to have a stocktaking and to realise just what the State has undertaken in capital debt liability. Of course the Leader of the Opposition will tell us that we have had that returned tenfold. I am prepared to accept that statement, but it does not—

Hon. C. G. Latham: It does not pay interest.

The PREMIER: No, but if we did not have this tenfold increased production the State would not be nearly as well off as it is. Nevertheless, there is this staggering

debt of £23,000,000 and all we have had from the Agricultural Bank including the payment of principal is £290,000. If we had not written off anything and the farmers had been able to meet interest liabilities, instead of getting £290,000 we would have received £1,160,000. So we are about £800,000 down on that item alone. I am not grouching about it, but I deplore that some people make the charge that the Government has not done anything for the agricultural industry. I am not talking about this or any other Government, because this expenditure has been going on for 40 years at least. I think the Agricultural Bank was started in 1900 and this problem has not been the problem of any one Government in particular.

Hon. C. G. Latham: They were very conservative in those days.

The PREMIER: It is a good thing that we did not remain conservative. That is what this State undertakes by way of interest liability for agricultural production. We do this more or less cheerfully, paying out about £800,000 which is not returned to the industry. If I could get half the interest due from the Agricultural Bank there would be no trouble about balancing Budgets and making grants here and there. We would not even bother about motor registrations. Though many people have not been successful in their attempts to establish themselves in primary industries, thousands have done exceptionally well and the cost of facilities necessary for their success has been and still is being largely contributed by the general taxpayer. I do not want to stress that point any further, but it is sometimes as well to understand what we are doing.

Commonwealth Grants.

The amount to be received from the Commonwealth is £1,123,432, or £55,000 more than we received last year. This sum covers the interest contributions paid to us by the Commonwealth under the Financial Agreement, namely, £473,000, plus the special grants paid as a result of the recommendations to the Commonwealth Government by the Grants Commission. I have been advised by the Prime Minister that the recommendation for this year's grant is £650,000. Last year's grant was £595,000. We are getting some consideration there, namely, £55,000 extra.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Without the local authorities' licenses.

The PREMIER: Yes. I should like to qualify that. The recommendation of the Grants Commission have yet to be approved by the Federal Government, and the necessary authorising legislation has then to be passed by the Federal Parliament before the grant can be paid. So far the Commission's recommendations have always been adopted, and I feel safe, in the light of that experience, in including the higher grant as an item of revenue for this year. It is unfortunate that the investigations of the Commission cannot be completed in time for the Commonwealth Government to approve and ratify its recommendations before the States' budgets are prepared. Before these recommendations can be submitted, however, a vast amount of statistical data has to be collected and tabulated. Members of the Commission are well aware of the difficulties of the claimant States, and I know that the delay in completing their report is not due to any failure on their part. During my visits to Melbourne I make a practice of calling on the Commissioners and of discussing matters with them. Very often they provide me with a cup of tea.

Hon. C. G. Latham: It is very profitable to do a thing like that. I would expect it of you.

The PREMIER: It is a very pleasant social call. Often I am able to bring out different points that are exercising their minds, and consideration is given to them. While I do not claim any direct credit for the increased payments, or the disabilities grants which have been paid, I think that with my understanding and knowledge of the State, and the opportunity to impart that information to the people responsible for the making of the grants, my action has been beneficial to Western Australia.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Do you think the Leader of the Opposition ought to call upon them?

The PREMIER: That would be a good idea. The Commissioners go very deeply into everything. With regard to our irrigation schemes they say, "How will you get enough revenue to pay interest and sinking fund on that expenditure?" I reply, "Would you have us import a million pounds of butter from the Eastern States for ever, or build up our districts by the

conservation of water, irrigation and other developmental work? The indirect benefit to the State from the expenditure of this large sum of money has been beneficial to Australia as a whole."

Hon. C. G. Latham: It will not be as unprofitable as has been the case in New South Wales and Victoria.

The PREMIER: They have put me on a spot. They have said, "You are the Treasurer. You have had a million pounds to spend. You spend that million knowing that the interest and sinking fund at 5 per cent. will be £50,000 a year, and you know you will get in only £30,000. With your eyes wide open you incur that expenditure. If you go on in that way we will not give you any further assistance." Then I have told them what has been done for Western Australia and for Australia as a whole in this direction, that we can export condensed milk to Singapore, Hong Kong and other places, that the whole countryside has been built up by this expenditure, that we have developed the State with it, and that, if we have incurred some loss, the people in Western Australia are cheerful about paying taxation to assist in the establishment of these industries. When we have good seasons I hope everything in the garden will be lovely. If we cannot meticulously get every pound in interest that is due, the interests of the country count for more than the collection of a few pounds. When I put that up to the Commissioners I think they were impressed, and they certainly benefited by the acquisition of information of that kind. The Minister for Lands has advised me that a special case has been submitted for the North-West, and that it is now being given consideration.

Work of the Grants Commission.

I take this opportunity to commend the Chairman and his co-Commissioners on the very fine work they are carrying out on behalf of the Commonwealth and the States. I am happy to know that the relationship that exists between the Commission and our Treasury officers, who present our case to them, are most cordial. The Commissioners do a great deal of research work concerning this State, its resources, and its position in relation to the other States. I think it will be generally agreed that our officers have also given the State excellent service in securing the results they have obtained. The

Commission has to make up its mind what grants should be given to this State in the light of its relative financial position with the other States. It put its finger on the motor registration question, for instance, involving £100,000. In many other ways the Commissioners have been of great assistance to Western Australia. I should like to pay a tribute to our own officials for the manner in which they have prepared the case for this State. The member for Nedlands (Hon. N. Keenan) should know what that work means. He undertook to prepare the original case and was occupied for many months in doing so. He would have an appreciation of the formidable nature of the task involved. The Under Treasurer undertakes that responsibility, assisted by the officials of various departments, such as the Lands Department, the Public Works Department and others. All concerned are anxious about obtaining a true perspective so that a thorough understanding of our financial position may be gained. That work is of vast importance and involves a very big task. It must occupy weeks of the time of the officials. When the case is prepared the officials have to go to Canberra and stand up to a barrage of cross-examination at the hands of the Commissioners. We are at all times anxious to get at the truth of the position, so that the Commission may make an adequate grant. I do not say the Commonwealth Treasury officials are hostile, but they have to conserve the interests of the Commonwealth and are also very searching in their inquiries. We have to justify the claim for every pound. The Under Treasurer and his staff have to answer all sorts of questions, which in ordinary circumstances would be embarrassing unless all the information was at their finger tips. I should like to take this opportunity of paying a tribute to the work done by the Under Treasurer and his staff, and the splendid manner in which they have watched the interests of the State and presented our case to the Commission.

Trading Concerns

The profits from State Trading Concerns are estimated to show an increase of £14,593. This increase is due to the profits earned by the State Sawmills and the State Hotels. Some of the profit was earned last year but was not brought into account before the financial year closed. The earnings

of Public Utilities are estimated to be about the same as those of last year, the difference being only £10,577 greater this year. The Railway Department hopes to receive £3,500,000, compared with £3,497,529 received in 1939-40. Last year railway receipts were much below the estimate of £3,680,000, due to the fact that a considerable quantity of wheat in the country was not transported to ports up to June last. I do not think we can expect to ship all that wheat, and the wheat from the coming harvest, during this year.

Mr. Patrick: There will have to be a lot of water carting done this year.

The PREMIER: Almost throughout the system we were in a better position at the end of last winter and the beginning of the summer than we had been for 10 or 15 years. We are, therefore, in a better position to start off with, although it is rapidly getting worse as we have not had rain in the country districts. We hope that petrol ration will have some effect on railway earnings. It is impossible to forecast what the results will be there, but I do not think we will get much more revenue than we did last year. Our estimate will be about similar to that of last year.

Financial Position of the Railways.

The financial position of the railways has been giving the Government much concern. It cannot be expected that any State should continue to operate a public utility at an annual loss, if that loss can be obviated. Since the improvement following the worst period of the depression, which may be dated at 1935 or 1936, the railways have suffered several financial blows, which in a concern run by private enterprise would have been countered by increased charges. In a Government-controlled undertaking it is not always expedient or possible to take quick corrective measures. Since 1936 there have been two substantial increases in the basic wage, together with several smaller ones. The first big change took place in July, 1938, when the basic wage went up by 5s. 1d. per week. This was followed by several smaller increases totalling 2s. 2d. to the 30th June last. These increases made higher costs for the railways to the extent of approximately £160,000. In July of this year two further increases were granted totalling 3s. 2d. per week, which will add slightly more than £60,000 to railway costs.

The additional annual burden imposed on revenue by the increases in the basic wage since July, 1938, amount to £450,000. That is a staggering sum when we consider the limited resources available to the Government. It takes a lot of economy to make that up out of a revenue of three and a half million pounds. When it is remembered that these added costs have been met with practically no increase in charges or taxation, the drastic economy which has had to be exercised can readily be appreciated. The only increase in charges made to meet these high costs was the variation last year in a few freight charges, bringing in about £40,000 more revenue. That was all. We are getting almost equal results from the railways as was the case three years ago when the wages bill was less by £300,000 or £400,000. There has been economy and has been a cutting out of conveniences. I have even had deputations from my own district with regard to the cutting out of certain services. There has probably been a complaint from the member for Swan (Mr. Sampson) because of Kalamunda not being manned by a stationmaster.

Mr. Sampson: Not one word of objection has been raised.

The PREMIER: The Minister for Railways had the objection but it might not have come through the member for the district.

Mr. Sampson: I have not heard one word of objection.

The PREMIER: We do not like cutting down these services.

Mr. Sampson: We are co-operating with you fully.

The PREMIER: Thank goodness for that! If the Budget is to be balanced, it is obviously impossible for a service to be provided at a charge much below the cost, unless money is obtained from other sources. If costs rise, then the charges should also rise, when due economy has been practised in every direction. I emphasise those words, "when due economy has been practised." After every possible saving has been made, other action that a Government can take when costs increase is to pass on that higher cost to those who use the public utility, or to increase taxation. So far we have not done very much in that direction, but if some relative increases are made during the next three years as during the last

three years, which were responsible for between £300,000 and £400,000, it will be necessary to review the position in the light of results. Something will have to be done unless the people are prepared to pay extra taxation or make up the deficiency in revenue by some other means.

Railway Concession Freights.

Another matter affecting railway finance to which early attention must be given, concerns concession freights. As members know, successive Governments have granted cheap freights on the transport of superphosphate. The idea is economically sound because it encourages farmers to purchase and transport superphosphate at a time when the Railway Department would be sending empty trucks into the country to rail wheat to ports. We know that that arrangement has not been carried out completely, because farmers have not been able to meet their obligations, and so forth.

Hon. C. G. Latham: That is repeated often enough. You need not make any mistake about that.

The PREMIER: I shall say no more.

Hon. C. G. Latham: We have heard a lot about it.

The PREMIER: The arrangement was arrived at because a promise was made on behalf of the suppliers of superphosphate and of the farmers that the supplies of superphosphate would be forwarded when the wheat traffic was very heavy. We know that those concerned have not lived up to that obligation. I know there have been reasons why they have not done so. Many farmers could not make the financial arrangements for the purchase of superphosphate, and wanted their supplies in the second or third week of May.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Anyway, that provides back-loading.

The PREMIER: It does not provide back-loading.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Yes. The wheat comes down in the trucks.

The PREMIER: No. The wheat traffic is practically concluded when the super is forwarded. If farmers were charged freight at cost of transport, railway revenue would benefit by about £200,000 per annum, and to this extent the farming industry may be deemed to be subsidised. If farmers took early delivery of their superphosphate the railways would be put to comparatively

little additional cost, but the practice is developing of leaving superphosphate purchases until late in the financial year. The result is that in many instances trucks have to be provided specially for the transport of superphosphate, and with insufficient return loading available, trucks have to be returned empty, which is a direct loss to the railways. The Government has been generous in its treatment of the farmers in view of the difficult position during the last few seasons, but this cannot be continued indefinitely. If farmers do not arrange for the movement of superphosphate when the trucks are going out for wheat, then the periods during which the concession freights are allowed will have to be reviewed. That the superphosphate would be forwarded when trucks were going up empty to bring down the wheat was the whole justification for the cheaper freight rates, but, as I say, the farmers are not living up to that obligation because financial arrangements will not permit them to do so.

Mr. Seward: Then there is the effect of storage on the bags.

Superphosphate Orders.

The PREMIER: The justification for the low superphosphate freights was that the fertiliser would be sent up when the trucks were empty. But I know that various explanations have been made as to why the farmers could not do so. The bank would not grant them the necessary finance: bags would rot; they wanted the super in the third or fourth week of May; and so on.

Mr. Patriek: The argument that was used was that it was to increase production.

The PREMIER: No. The argument was that the trucks were running empty and the super could be taken as up-loading. I know what the hon. member wanted, because I carted his super for him at the time he wanted it on his farm. It would be much more economical to get the super and cart it to the field and distribute it when it was required. However, the arrangement was made because the trucks were being railed empty.

Hon. C. G. Latham: It pays you to carry it with the wheat coming back.

The PREMIER: The whole argument was that the trucks were going up empty.

Hon. C. G. Latham: It was to increase the wheat yield per acre.

Hon. W. D. Johnson: It was as the Premier has stated.

The PREMIER: However, members need not fight over the point, because I do not contemplate any alteration at the moment. However, the position may have to be reviewed in the future.

Hon. C. G. Latham: You know they could not pay extra for super.

The PREMIER: Of course, the farmers would say that they could not pay more for super, but should someone come along and fix prices at 30s. per ton or more they would pay without a murmur.

Mr. Seward: They would not.

The PREMIER: If the Government were to increase freights on super by 2s. a ton, the roof of this Chamber would fall, because of the protest that would be lodged. I think the Government is justified in making an appeal to the people regarding their obligation to load super when trucks are going empty to the country to bring down their wheat.

Hon. W. D. Johnson: That has been repeatedly the policy of Governments.

The PREMIER: Yes.

Hon. C. G. Latham: And of co-operative concerns too?

Hon. W. D. Johnson: Yes.

The PREMIER: Unless there is a greater realisation of the position, it will have to be reviewed. When the war is over and we can get super from elsewhere, then will be my chance!

Hon. C. G. Latham: You will not be in office then.

The PREMIER: I look forward to that time, and I promise I shall take only 25 per cent.

Hon. C. G. Latham: You will be in London as Agent-General.

The PREMIER: What have I done to be sent out of the country?

Mr. Doney: What did the present Agent-General do to be sent out of the country?

Revenue from Other Utilities.

The PREMIER: However, I have been drawn away from my argument. To proceed with my review of the position, the tramways are expected to exceed their receipts of last year by £7,144. Receipts for last year were £304,856, and the estimate for this year is £312,000. Electricity supply, it is hoped, will exceed last year's receipts by £6,285. The revenue of this undertaking has

been growing, and the increase estimated is in conformity with the additional earnings received year by year.

Turning to the other large public utilities, the receipts of the Metropolitan Water Supply Department are expected to be £18,781 above the revenue for last year, the respective figures being £520,000 this year as against £501,219 last year. This is a natural outcome of the increased consumption of water and the extension of the services provided by this department. The contribution to Consolidated Revenue expected from the Fremantle Harbour Trust has been set down at a lower figure this year than the receipts secured last year. We anticipate receiving £220,000 as against last year's collections of £242,333. This may be rather a pessimistic view to take of the operations of the Fremantle Harbour Trust, but the future is so uncertain that it was considered advisable to anticipate reduced revenue from this source. I could have said that, as the war was in progress last year when the collection realised £242,333, we should obtain a similar return this year. On the other hand, should the dislocation of trade this year be more serious than it was during the previous twelve months and the shipping requirements of Great Britain be such that our export trade will be further hampered, the revenue of the Fremantle Harbour Trust will naturally decline. Should, however, there be an improvement, which I do not anticipate, the budgetary figures will be better to that extent.

Expenditure.

So far I have been dealing with revenue. Now I shall turn attention to the expenditure side. The expenditure is divided into three main sections, namely, Special Acts, Governmental and Public Utilities.

Special Acts are estimated to show an expenditure of £4,515,304 against last year's expenditure of £4,402,863—an increase of £112,441. Reviewing the principal items, the cost of interest and sinking fund shows an increase this year of £66,000. We anticipate having to spend under this heading £4,076,319 as against £4,010,319 last year. The cost of interest and sinking fund represents about 36 per cent. of our total revenue, and as this is an inescapable charge, members will fully appreciate the

Government's anxiety that all loan expenditure should be carefully scrutinised. It is quite obvious that if loan money were spent carelessly and on activities not revenue-producing, the position of the Consolidated Revenue Fund would become hopeless.

Members will appreciate our anxiety to ensure that Loan expenditure will not be unduly spent on non-revenue producing works such as road construction and so on, from which no interest is returned. Of course, such expenditure would be all right if interest were earned. The Minister controlling the Metropolitan Water Supply undertaking has no difficulty in that respect because he has to strike a rate that will secure the return of interest and sinking fund charges. So it is with some other public utilities. This phase has always given me cause for considerable anxiety, particularly when I have had placed before me eminently desirable propositions for Loan expenditure. I am frequently told that the indirect benefits from such expenditure will be tremendous. I have a stick of chalk in my office ready to place a mark on the wall when someone introduces a proposition that will be of direct benefit to the State. I always hear plenty about indirect benefits, but never about direct benefits.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Not even from the Minister for Industrial Development?

The PREMIER: No. I have not yet had occasion to use the chalk. I find it a bug-bear having to refuse many requests for expenditure with which I am quite in agreement, but as the proposals would have no chance of returning interest and sinking fund charges, they necessarily have to be rejected. Naturally we have to incur much expenditure that provides no return, such as that in connection with schools, high schools, police stations and, to some extent, hospitals. That expenditure is necessary, and we cheerfully undertake it. Nevertheless, the necessity is urgent to keep the proportion of unproductive expenditure as low as possible. While it is hard to refuse many requests for expenditure, to agree to them would land the State in a financial morass.

Fortunately the Commonwealth Bank reduced the rate of interest on Treasury bills from 1¾ per cent. to 1½ per cent. as from the 1st May, and the effect of this reduction is to enable us to show a saving of approximately £12,500 this

year as compared with the cost last year of interest on Treasury bills. As hon. members know, we are committed under the terms of the Financial Agreement to pay interest at the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on Commonwealth stock purchased by the National Debt Commission out of the accumulations of sinking fund under their control. That is greater than the existing rate of interest on money and it is questionable whether we can continue to pay it. The rate was reasonable when the agreement was made and when the average interest on loans was 5 per cent. and $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Now the ruling rate of interest-bearing securities is only about 4 per cent. and in some instances only $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent; yet we have to continue to pay at the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on cancelled stock. If the necessities of the State become greater we may have to make some different arrangement. Legislation to that effect will be required. The matter has been discussed by the Loan Council on many occasions but it has been felt that as the higher rate of interest tends to help in the reduction of our debt, no steps should be taken which might prolong the life of the public debt of the various States. If our needs become greater, however, a reduction from $4\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., the ruling rate for money at the present time, will have to be made.

Superannuation Payments.

The balance of the payments under other special Acts is estimated at £421,885, as against an expenditure last year of £375,111, an increase of £46,774. This increase is almost entirely accounted for by the effect of the payments under the Superannuation Act 1938. We undertook the superannuation scheme in peace time and must continue it in war time and it is expected that we will have to pay £46,000 this year under the terms of the Act. Up to the end of June no pensions were payable except to the dependants of people who have died, but from the 1st July people who retire from the service will be entitled to pensions. As an offset to that increase, a reduction of £7,234 is anticipated in regard to the transfer from revenue to the reforestation fund. Hon. members know that under the Forests Act, 1918, three-fifths of the revenue from timber is transferred to the reforestation fund. As I previously explained, we are making provision for a fairly substantial drop in the

revenue from timber which correspondingly reduces the amount to be paid from revenue to this fund.

Another item which causes an increase under special Acts expenditure, though not in total expenditure, is a payment of £5,600 under the Police Benefit Abolition Act. This Act relates to the abolition of the Police Benefit Fund, to which the Government previously contributed from revenue a sum of £5,600 per annum. This payment appeared under "Treasury, Miscellaneous Expenditure." When the superannuation fund was established, the right was given to members of the police force, in common with other Government servants, to join the fund, and it was provided that members of the Police Benefit Fund could transfer their share in this fund towards the payment of their contributions to the superannuation fund. Unfortunately the Police Benefit Fund was in an unstable condition and was unable to meet the full gratuities due to its members because contributions were small compared with the size of the gratuities. A very substantial deficiency was disclosed at the time the fund was abolished and the Government agreed to make good to the members of the police force a fairly large part of this deficiency, though not at any extra cost.

Hon. C. G. Latham: You have not paid cash yet.

The PREMIER: As a matter of fact, for many years we contributed to the Police Benefit Fund at the rate of £5,600. We propose to continue paying that amount in order to make the fund stable or rather to assist people who naturally expect to receive certain benefits after having made contributions for many years. When I became Minister for Police in 1924 I had an actuarial calculation made and it disclosed that the fund was becoming insolvent. Successive Governments allowed the matter to drift until the day of reckoning came. It is not proposed to pay out any additional money, but the Government will continue to provide the £5,600 for a few years and in that way pay the superannuation contributions of many policemen who will thus be enabled to receive pensions to which they consider they are entitled.

Economics in Printing

Under the heading of "Governmental" the estimated expenditure is £61,313 above the actual expenditure last year, the figures be-

ing this year, £3,094,302, as against £3,032,989 last year. Part of the increase is due to the effect of the recent rise in the basic wage. It is estimated that the cost to the Government of this increase will be £30,000. This is in addition to the cost I mentioned when dealing with public utilities. In the Premier's Department the increased expenditure is £4,342. The increased cost in the Government Printing Office is £4,944, due in part to the higher basic wage and in part to the increased cost of paper. I consider that economies can be effected in regard to the printing bill. Many departmental reports can be condensed and I am hopeful that by the exercise of economy even the estimated expenditure will be reduced. I hope hon. members will not be critical when it is decided to dispense with the printing of certain reports or to condense them. During the depression some departmental reports were not printed. At the end of two or three years the main items from those reports were printed in one volume so that there was a continuous record which could be consulted for purposes of comparison. The cost of printing has risen to such an extent that we do not want unduly to publish reports that will result in the incurring of additional expenditure. Although some inconvenience may be caused to hon. members it will be necessary to dispense with the voluminous reports that have been the order of the day in the past. Such reports, while helpful to some people, are not used by a great number.

Mr. Warner: I thought someone was suggesting that more reports should be furnished.

The PREMIER: People can suggest what they like; the Government does not want to print so many reports. I hope the House will resist the attempt to appoint so many select committees, but if such committees are appointed I hope hon. members will agree that at least the evidence taken will not be printed. That course has already been adopted with regard to the South-West Power Commission. The report has been printed and copies will be available. Had the evidence, with accompanying graphs, been printed, the cost would have been increased by about £200. The whole meat of the inquiry is in the report and the interests of the State will be quite well served by the report being printed without the evidence. The £200 thus saved can be employed much

more profitably. Very few people use reports of this description. If any hon. member wishes to see the evidence—for instance the member for Collie (Mr. Wilson) who is directly interested, may wish to do so—a duplicate typewritten copy can be made available to him.

Hon. C. G. Latham: In my opinion the cost of printing as shown on the reports is exaggerated.

The PREMIER: There is a system of costing which purports to be the exact cost, but one sometimes wonders whether so much expense is incurred. Still provision has to be made for overhead charges and the capital total cost of the plant at the printing office has to be taken into consideration.

Hon. C. G. Latham: They charged £3 for 200 copies of the report of the Standing Orders Committee. That is very expensive.

The PREMIER: Of course it is very good paper. We do not want to print on poor quality paper reports which have to be kept for many years. I do not desire to dilate on that matter, but I intend to take every step to effect economies.

Treasurer's Department.

In the Treasurer's Department an increase of £17,691 is shown, part of which, namely £11,302, is in the Taxation Department, due to the added cost of administering the Taxation Department, following upon the introduction of the new method of collecting taxes at the source. Hon. members will be aware of the fact that a new building had to be secured for the Taxation Department, and that the department is now suitably housed in D. & W. Murray's old building. The Commonwealth bought the building and the agreement was that the State Government was to pay half the cost of renovations. There is a probability of the Commonwealth Government deciding to collect taxation at the source and in that event, some of the expenditure on equipment and additional staff will be taken over by that Government.

Hon. members will note—I hope with satisfaction—that provision has been made for a small amount to be charged to Consolidated Revenue in respect of the Workers' Homes Board. A similar provision has been made in regard to the Agricultural Bank and the State Insurance Office. In the past hon. members have desired to speak on the operations of the

Workers' Homes Board, the Agricultural Bank and the State Insurance Office, but as no amount has been included in the Estimates, the Chairman, in accordance with standing orders, has ruled them out of order, and no discussion has taken place. I assure the House that the Government did not wish to block discussion on any of those items and in order that they might be discussed a small amount has been shown in the Estimates.

Child Welfare and Education.

The only other department which might call for comment is the Department of Labour and Industrial Development, where the cost of child welfare and outdoor relief is anticipated to exceed the expenditure last year by £10,069. This is due, of course, to the greater number of cases which has to be dealt with by this department, in some instances due to war conditions. I do not know whether it is true, but the statement has been made that many people with domestic responsibilities have enlisted, and their addresses being unknown, it has not been possible to secure maintenance payment from them. The department has accordingly had to meet increased expenditure on that account and it is anticipated that the same difficulty will be experienced this year.

The expenditure on education shows an increase of £10,594 over last year, the estimate being £783,250 as against an expenditure last year of £772,656. The increase is caused by additional high schools and greater expenditure on technical education. An increase in expenditure is anticipated in the Police Department, the estimate being £268,395 against the expenditure last year of £258,846. Most of this is due to the rise in the basic wage.

Public Utilities.

The estimated expenditure on Public Utilities is £3,774,243 as against an actual expenditure last year of £3,830,916, a decrease of £56,673. This reduction is almost entirely accounted for by a decrease in the expenditure of the railways, the estimate being £2,732,000 against an expenditure of £2,800,850 in 1939-40. The member for Pingelly (Mr. Seward) generally pricks up his ears when the Railway Department is being discussed.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Do not encourage him.

The PREMIER: I know he is bitten with the bug and it will come out in time and I thought I might as well—

Mr. Seward: You can anticipate a very big decline in revenue.

The PREMIER: Yes, but we shall also decrease expenditure. The estimate is about £60,000 less than the actual expenditure last year.

Mr. Doney: For the first time for many years.

The PREMIER: The first time for a long period. This saving will be possible only by the exercise of the most rigid economy in the Railway Department, but I have the assurance of the Commissioner that no essential service will be curtailed. In many instances new staff is not being engaged to take the place of employees who have enlisted. Generally speaking we are endeavouring to do with a lesser staff than for some time past.

Mr. North: Is maintenance being properly attended to?

The PREMIER: Yes. We have heard a lot about post-war reconstruction and it would be well if all repairs that could be postponed without endangering the safety of the railways could be left until soldiers returned from the war seeking employment. There would then be a lot of work for them to do.

Hon. C. G. Latham: They would not like that class of work.

The PREMIER: Railway work is not bad. I did 20 years of it.

Mr. Doney: Reconstruction work?

The PREMIER: We certainly should do something about post-war reconstruction. Many repairs that are not absolutely essential could be effected by returned men after the war.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Buildings and such like.

The PREMIER: Yes, and renovations. We could reserve them until such time as soldiers come back searching for employment. It will be well for us to have a lot of work for them to do and this would be one avenue in which we could employ them during the reconstruction period following the war.

Mr. Doney: We certainly will not be able to turn them into farmers, as we did last time.

The PREMIER: No; in fact, I do not think anyone would agree with a policy of putting returned soldiers on the land.

Mr. Doney: Unless we put them on dairy farms in the South-West.

The PREMIER: Yes, or to growing flax, tobacco or other commodities for which there are markets. To give members a bird's eye view of the Estimates for this year, I have had a statement prepared to which I direct attention. The Leader of the National Party said he had experienced difficulty in trying to discover the alterations as compared with the previous year. This short statement will enable members to grasp the difference between last year's expenditure and this year's expenditure, where we are spending more money and where we are getting more revenue. The statement is really the Budget, and a perusal of it for five minutes will give members a full understanding of the position.

The Minister for Mines: You are becoming too honest.

The PREMIER: Is it possible to be too honest? I have a sincere desire that members shall be able to obtain a full understanding of the position. Government finance takes a lot of comprehending, and ordinarily members would need much time to dissect the items and obtain an understanding of the position as compared with last year, but this statement indicates the main items in a condensed yet clear form.

Uncertainties of the Future.

This completes my survey of the finances. The future is full of uncertainties, and the task of estimating the financial future is a most difficult one. In preparing these Estimates I have felt that I was not justified in estimating the receipts of revenue from some departments on the same scale as those of last year. Consequently I have made reductions which, of course, have adversely affected the attempt to secure budgetary equilibrium. It must be agreed that we will certainly suffer some disabilities caused by the dislocation of business owing to the war. In addition, the seasonal prospects are far from reassuring, and unless a very definite

improvement takes place, our revenue will be bound to suffer. It must be remembered, however, that even though we are showing a comparatively small deficit, our sinking fund contributions greatly exceed the amount of the deficit so that our position is sound. The estimated deficit is £166,697, while the total contributions to the sinking fund to pay off our debt will this year be approximately £700,000. Thus we are paying off about £540,000 of our indebtedness each year, and the position would improve still further but for the bugbear of unproductive expenditure. We have to deal with the uncertainties of the war position. Some of the commodities we produce find a ready market, while others are not so favourably placed. In the light of these facts we, as a State, will have to concentrate our production upon those commodities for which a market exists.

We must particularly take advantage of any opportunities to commence new industries or expand existing production, whether primary or secondary, so that our industries may be as diverse as possible. If we do this and adversity comes to one industry, we might be able to turn to others. I do not wish to traverse the position that the Minister for Lands so fully explained to the House a week or two ago, except to say that the Government is anxious that those engaged in industry shall have all the information available so that the best use can be made of our opportunities. The speech of the Minister for Lands was much appreciated by members and gave a considerable amount of information, and I think the Minister deserves commendation for it. Although the war position dominates our outlook, climatic conditions may bring further troubles difficult to overcome. However, we are in a much better position than we were during the last war and can face the future with confidence and resolution to make the best use of our resources, whatever may be in store for us.

Defence Department Orders.

The war effort should ensure that the whole of our man-power is usefully employed, and that the economic waste caused by the lack of employment for our people is removed. I have received from the Commissioner of Railways a statement dealing with the defence work

to be undertaken by his department. The announcement has already been made that munition orders amounting approximately to £1,500,000 have been received. These orders are for shells, bombs and primers. In addition, other orders are being carried out for the Defence Department totalling £130,000. This is made up of a number of items, the principal of which are engines for the patrol vessels being constructed at Whyalla, South Australia, practice shot, firing platforms, steering engines, mine-sweeping winches, and howitzer components. Some plant, including lathes, is to be made for the purpose of carrying out the manufacture of these orders. If we are successful in making a good job of the work for the Defence Department, no doubt the manufacture of engines for those ships will be continued in Western Australia.

Hon. W. D. Johnson: The rate of progress is not very great.

The PREMIER: It will be accelerated. The Commonwealth is providing £15,000 towards the cost of building an annexe at the Midland Junction workshops.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Is not the trouble the lack of necessary machinery?

The PREMIER: We are making some of the lathes required for the manufacture of those engines. The trouble was that we had concentrated upon a certain kind of lathe and had provided the patterns to proceed with the manufacture. Just as a start was being made, it was discovered that the type of lathe could be considerably improved. The new type does a 30 to 40 per cent. better job at the same cost, and that type has been adopted. The lathes are now being made in the workshops. In addition, orders have been received by private firms for the manufacture of munitions for the Defence Supply Department. To meet the needs of the mining industry, we had to have large moulding machines to make presses, and orders have been received for a dozen or 15 large presses capable of exerting a pressure of 3,000 or 4,000 lbs.

Hon. W. D. Johnson: You got that work because of the apprenticeship system in this State.

The PREMIER: Wherever our hands go in the Eastern States, they can always get a job.

Hon. C. G. Latham: We ought to have more apprentices.

The PREMIER: I am with the hon. member there. When the opportunity occurs, we should train more men. Still, the Government has not been neglectful in that respect because we train at Midland Junction about 200 apprentices each year.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Each year?

The PREMIER: Well, they are going through their five-years' course and each year there are 200 apprentices in the shops.

Hon. W. D. Johnson: There are just on 300 in training to-day.

The PREMIER: But for the men trained at the Midland Junction workshops, we would not have been able to meet the position when the revival of mining occurred.

Conclusion.

As I have said, the obligation that rests upon the Government of this State is so to conduct its affairs as to enable the Commonwealth to make the greatest possible contribution to the war effort with the resources available to Australia. This has been the underlying principle that has guided me in the preparation of these Estimates. I know that members will respect that principle, and I feel sure that I can rely upon the co-operation of the whole of the people to the end that the State might fulfill its obligation. We are all convinced that we have a wonderful State with a wonderful future—a future that is worth the sacrifices we are now being called upon to make. These sacrifices we will cheerfully accept with the confidence that all our people will do their part, whatever the cost, in maintaining the principles of freedom and justice for which the British Empire stands. I move the first division of the Estimates, namely—

Legislative Council, £1,680.

Progress reported.

House adjourned at 9.13 p.m.

CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND.

| | £ | £ | £ |
|---|-----|----------------|-----------------|
| Deficit, 1939-40 | ... | ... | 146,825 |
| <i>Add—Increases in Expenditure, 1940-41 :—</i> | | | |
| Interest and Sinking Fund | ... | 66,000 | |
| Superannuation Act Contributions | ... | 45,237 | |
| <i>Departmental—</i> | | | |
| Child Welfare | ... | 10,669 | |
| Education | ... | 10,594 | |
| Police | ... | 9,549 | |
| Taxation | ... | 11,302 | |
| Agriculture | ... | 5,694 | |
| Printing | ... | 4,944 | |
| | | <u>52,752</u> | |
| Sundry Minor Variations | ... | 26,124 | |
| | | | <u>190,113</u> |
| <i>Add—Decreases in Revenue :—</i> | | | |
| <i>Taxation—</i> | | | |
| Income and Financial Emergency Tax | ... | 53,317 | |
| Totalisator Duty | ... | 11,669 | |
| Entertainment Tax | ... | 13,722 | |
| Liquor Licenses | ... | 5,328 | |
| | | <u>84,036</u> | |
| <i>Territorial—</i> | | | |
| Timber | ... | 8,585 | |
| <i>Departmental—</i> | | | |
| Agricultural Bank Interest | ... | 74,601 | |
| <i>Public Utilities—</i> | | | |
| Fremantle Harbour Trust | ... | 22,333 | |
| Sundry Minor Variations | ... | 14,460 | |
| | | <u>204,015</u> | |
| | | | <u>540,953</u> |
| <i>Less—Decreases in Expenditure :—</i> | | | |
| <i>Public Utilities—</i> | | | |
| Railways | ... | 68,850 | |
| Unemployment Relief | ... | 4,182 | |
| | | <u>73,032</u> | |
| | | | <u>467,921</u> |
| <i>Less—Increases in Revenue :—</i> | | | |
| <i>Taxation—</i> | | | |
| Land Tax | ... | 25,120 | |
| Gold Mining Profits Tax | ... | 29,758 | |
| Probate | ... | 27,072 | |
| | | <u>81,950</u> | |
| <i>Departmental—Treasury—</i> | | | |
| State Insurance—Profits | ... | 40,000 | |
| Metropolitan Traffic Fees | ... | 75,000 | |
| | | <u>115,000</u> | |
| <i>Public Utilities—</i> | | | |
| Metropolitan Water Supply | ... | 18,781 | |
| Railways | ... | 2,471 | |
| Tramways | ... | 7,144 | |
| Electricity Supply | ... | 6,285 | |
| | | <u>34,681</u> | |
| Trading Concerns | ... | 14,593 | |
| Commonwealth—Grant | ... | 55,000 | |
| | | <u>301,224</u> | |
| Estimated Deficit, 1940-41 | ... | | <u>£166,697</u> |

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[Return No. 1.]

BALANCE SHEET OF THE GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA AT 30th JUNE, 1939, AND 30th JUNE, 1940.

| | 30th June, 1939. | 30th June, 1940. | | 30th June, 1939. | 30th June, 1940. |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | £ | £ | | £ | £ |
| Public Debt | 95,472,601 | 96,230,399 | Invested in Works and Services, etc. Balance—General Loan Fund c/d. ... | 94,495,795 976,806 | 95,688,680 541,719 |
| | 95,472,601 | 96,230,399 | | 95,472,601 | 96,230,399 |
| Balance General Loan Fund .. | 976,806 | 541,719 | Consolidated Revenue Fund | 5,830,486 | 5,977,311 |
| Advances to Revenue Fund | 5,723,000 | 5,873,000 | Advances (under Appropriation "Advance to Treasurer") | 131,693 | 163,188 |
| Reserve Accounts | 29,605 | 29,631 | Stores on Hand | 408,177 | 432,752 |
| Suspense Accounts | 1,734 | 104,007 | Suspense Accounts—Expenditure in Suspense | ... | 109,309 |
| Trading Concerns | 32,679 | 50,941 | Trust Fund Investments— Governmental | 1,197,665 | 1,239,557 |
| Trust Funds— Governmental | 2,272,815 | 2,609,852 | Private | 1,330,007 | 1,542,573 |
| Private | 1,496,603 | 1,724,551 | Banking Account | 971,351 | 1,281,905 |
| | | | Cash in hand, etc.— Banks Current Account | 593,789 | 134,072 |
| | | | Banks in Eastern States | 35,226 | 36,008 |
| | | | Cash— In London | 8,502 | 2,140 |
| | | | In Transitu | 14,826 | 5,371 |
| | | | In Hand | 11,520 | 9,515 |
| | 10,533,242 | 10,933,701 | | 10,533,242 | 10,933,701 |

[3 SEPTEMBER, 1940.]

[Return No. 2.]

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1939-40, COMPARED WITH ESTIMATE.

SUMMARY

| | Estimate. | Actual. | Comparison with Estimate. | |
|--------------------|------------|------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| | | | Increase. | Decrease. |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Revenue | 11,186,012 | 11,119,943 | ... | 66,069 |
| Expenditure | 11,217,300 | 11,266,768 | 49,468 | ... |
| Deficit | 31,288 | 146,825 | 115,537 | ... |

DETAILS.

| Revenue. | Estimate. | Actual. | Comparison with Estimate. | |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| | | | Increase. | Decrease. |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Taxation | 2,792,700 | 2,996,054 | 203,354 | ... |
| Territorial | 328,500 | 316,205 | ... | 12,295 |
| Law Courts | 88,500 | 84,966 | ... | 3,534 |
| Departmental | 1,030,650 | 971,047 | ... | 59,603 |
| Royal Mint | 35,000 | 43,274 | 8,274 | ... |
| Commonwealth | 1,068,432 | 1,068,432 | ... | ... |
| Trading Concerns | 103,130 | 89,042 | ... | 14,088 |
| Public Utilities | 5,739,100 | 5,550,923 | ... | 188,177 |
| Total Revenue | 11,186,012 | 11,119,943 | 211,628 | 277,697 |
| Net Decrease | | | £66,069 | |

| Expenditure. | Estimate. | Actual. | Comparison with Estimate. | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------------|------------|
| | | | Increase. | Decrease. |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| SPECIAL ACTS— | | | | |
| Constitution Act | 19,100 | 17,433 | ... | 1,667 |
| Interest—Overseas | 1,779,185 | 1,779,712 | 527 | ... |
| Interest—Australia | 1,756,446 | 1,749,046 | ... | 7,400 |
| Sinking Fund | 481,750 | 481,561 | ... | 189 |
| Other Special Acts | 367,905 | 375,111 | 7,206 | ... |
| GOVERNMENTAL— | | | | |
| Departmental | 2,491,081 | 2,486,420 | ... | 4,661 |
| Exchange | 477,000 | 492,989 | 15,989 | ... |
| Unemployment Relief | 50,000 | 53,580 | 3,580 | ... |
| PUBLIC UTILITIES | 3,794,833 | 3,830,916 | 36,083 | ... |
| Total Expenditure | 11,217,300 | 11,266,768 | 63,385 | 13,917 |
| Net Increase | | | £49,468 | |

UNFUNDED DEFICIT.

| | |
|--|------------------|
| | £ |
| Unfunded Deficit to 30th June, 1939 | 5,830,486 |
| Deficit for 1939-40 Year | 146,825 |
| Total Unfunded Deficit to 30th June, 1940 | <u>5,977,311</u> |

[Return No. 3.]

REVENUE.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS FROM 1931-32 TO 1939-40 AND ESTIMATE FOR 1940-41.

| Heads. | 1931-32. | 1932-33. | 1933-34. | 1934-35. | 1935-36. | 1936-37. | 1937-38. | 1938-39. | 1939-40. | Estimate 1940-41. |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| TAXATION— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Land Tax ... | £ 132,368 | £ 130,963 | £ 118,973 | £ 121,895 | £ 117,082 | £ 117,240 | £ 124,083 | £ 115,229 | £ 99,830 | £ 125,000 |
| Income Tax ... | 200,252 | 180,010 | 173,255 | 235,331 | 274,704 | 283,539 | 582,007 | 741,178 | 850,617 | 1,815,000 |
| Financial Emergency Tax ... | ... | 202,336 | 411,716 | 684,980 | 827,110 | 971,372 | 1,074,561 | 1,214,605 | 1,283,700 | 255,000 |
| Dividend Duty ... | 178,187 | 168,614 | 100,880 | 318,058 | 301,367 | 427,066 | 184,026 | 141,036 | 150,440 | 180,100 |
| Totals for Tax ... | 50,109 | 47,291 | 47,730 | 53,393 | 50,897 | 80,782 | 57,041 | 57,146 | 51,699 | 40,000 |
| Stamp Duty ... | 198,808 | 191,547 | 216,770 | 250,732 | 261,102 | 273,274 | 290,360 | 283,021 | 260,096 | 260,000 |
| Probate Duty ... | 63,162 | 91,995 | 70,154 | 74,076 | 112,657 | 93,320 | 101,631 | 123,798 | 122,028 | 150,000 |
| Entertainment Tax ... | 63,169 | 62,480 | 75,262 | 83,951 | 89,246 | 95,232 | 85,026 | 103,463 | 98,722 | 85,000 |
| Licenses ... | 50,417 | 64,202 | 63,961 | 70,070 | 81,851 | 80,241 | 82,578 | 83,757 | 38,993 | 53,600 |
| Other ... | 3,444 | 11 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Total ... | 1,006,916 | 1,123,515 | 1,368,720 | 1,902,086 | 2,185,800 | 2,403,575 | 2,504,087 | 2,864,223 | 2,906,054 | 2,993,700 |
| TERRITORIAL AND DE- PARTMENTAL— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Land ... | 223,408 | 197,412 | 201,856 | 250,688 | 206,931 | 189,111 | 170,600 | 138,176 | 132,757 | 132,000 |
| Mining ... | 10,906 | 20,304 | 27,708 | 45,049 | 42,242 | 41,832 | 38,884 | 41,201 | 39,863 | 38,000 |
| Timber ... | 52,226 | 51,435 | 89,194 | 110,504 | 134,318 | 155,460 | 165,126 | 137,895 | 143,585 | 135,000 |
| Royal Mint ... | 21,173 | 21,147 | 24,952 | 25,053 | 26,821 | 30,750 | 35,059 | 34,980 | 43,274 | 40,000 |
| Departmental Fees, etc. | 1,362,809 | 1,350,723 | 1,110,829 | 780,819 | 838,374 | 863,679 | 989,051 | 892,926 | 971,047 | 1,018,897 |
| Law Courts ... | 52,819 | 47,195 | 40,782 | 55,590 | 65,242 | 75,722 | 81,057 | 88,158 | 84,960 | 70,000 |
| Commonwealth Do. Special Grant ... | 3,000 | 600,000 | 600,000 | 600,000 | 800,000 | 500,000 | 575,000 | 570,000 | 595,000 | 650,000 |
| Do. Interest Contributions | 473,432 | 473,432 | 473,432 | 473,432 | 473,432 | 473,432 | 473,432 | 473,432 | 473,432 | 473,432 |
| Total ... | 2,522,855 | 2,671,648 | 2,580,813 | 2,474,735 | 2,624,060 | 2,363,001 | 2,528,000 | 2,376,268 | 2,463,924 | 2,568,269 |
| PUBLIC UTILITIES— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Native Stations ... | 2,332 | 2,901 | 2,029 | 3,703 | 4,786 | 5,005 | 4,277 | ... | ... | ... |
| Bunbury Harbour Board ... | 6,600 | 3,000 | 8,000 | 8,400 | 8,500 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Fremantle Harbour Trust ... | 227,316 | 231,095 | 216,853 | 236,036 | 231,307 | 238,429 | 257,413 | 261,537 | 242,333 | 220,000 |
| Goldfields Water Supply ... | 170,315 | 171,071 | 174,546 | 187,040 | 240,461 | 288,848 | 293,873 | 296,994 | 310,723 | 310,000 |
| Kalgoorlie Abattoirs Metropolitan Abat- toirs and Sale Yards | 4,209 | 5,130 | 5,035 | 5,926 | 6,003 | 6,638 | 6,496 | 5,896 | 6,504 | 6,500 |
| Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewer- age ... | 373,177 | 350,197 | 355,687 | 364,240 | 370,006 | 412,545 | 430,184 | 468,762 | 501,210 | 520,000 |
| Other Hydraulic Undertakings ... | 43,884 | 43,224 | 44,898 | 52,664 | 61,755 | 58,147 | 61,104 | 54,055 | 61,308 | 62,000 |
| Perth City Markets ... | 1,126 | 1,263 | 1,320 | 1,118 | 866 | 60 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Railways ... | 2,807,336 | 2,920,817 | 2,884,531 | 3,277,544 | 3,424,494 | 3,468,067 | 3,645,942 | 3,586,013 | 3,497,520 | 3,500,000 |
| Tramways, Perth Electric ... | 286,641 | 282,202 | 281,063 | 284,813 | 287,103 | 285,797 | 286,568 | 302,354 | 304,856 | 312,000 |
| Electricity Supply ... | 274,510 | 279,302 | 295,207 | 322,674 | 348,425 | 364,663 | 387,037 | 414,519 | 425,715 | 432,000 |
| State Ferries ... | ... | (a) 1,996 | 8,608 | 8,799 | 8,514 | 5,458 | 8,231 | 8,148 | 7,762 | 8,000 |
| State Batteries ... | 72,045 | 98,919 | 110,496 | 116,002 | 126,298 | 122,532 | 125,072 | 120,095 | 124,424 | 122,000 |
| Cave Houses, etc. ... | 6,238 | 5,983 | 4,857 | 5,212 | 5,370 | 5,804 | 6,585 | 10,372 | 13,041 | 14,000 |
| Metropolitan Markets | 1,165 | 454 | 159 | 37 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Total ... | 4,409,024 | 4,436,707 | 4,433,390 | 4,918,502 | 5,183,249 | 5,316,308 | 5,574,009 | 5,570,300 | 5,550,923 | 5,501,500 |
| TRADING CONCERNS ... | 98,521 | 95,283 | 98,774 | 30,107 | 40,612 | 102,540 | 121,137 | 129,809 | 89,042 | 98,683 |
| GRAND TOTAL ... | 8,035,316 | 8,332,153 | 8,481,697 | 9,331,430 | 10,033,721 | 10,185,498 | 10,819,042 | 10,940,660 | 11,119,943 | 11,217,152 |

(a) From April 1st only. Previously under State Trading Concerns.

[Return No. 4.]

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FROM 1931-32 TO 1939-40, AND ESTIMATE FOR 1940-41.

| Head. | 1931-32. | 1932-33. | 1933-34. | 1934-35. | 1935-36. | 1936-37. | 1937-38. | 1938-39. | 1939-40. | Estimate 1940-41. |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Special Acts ... | 3,733,021 | 3,740,944 | 3,811,437 | 3,842,389 | 3,918,351 | 3,997,418 | 4,181,908 | 4,270,903 | 4,402,863 | 4,515,304 |
| Parliamentary ... | 11,476 | 11,650 | 12,123 | 12,270 | 13,374 | 14,992 | 14,544 | 14,809 | 14,992 | 14,881 |
| Premier ... | 13,791 | 14,474 | 16,542 | 22,613 | 20,626 | 21,901 | 18,148 | 19,045 | 17,718 | 18,165 |
| Governor ... | 1,771 | 1,631 | 1,807 | 1,980 | 2,339 | 2,419 | 2,487 | 2,474 | 2,401 | 2,412 |
| London Agency ... | 9,285 | 9,109 | 9,225 | 9,029 | 10,156 | 10,180 | 12,030 | 12,361 | 10,478 | 10,110 |
| Public Service Commissioner ... | 1,828 | 1,263 | 1,246 | 1,198 | 1,571 | 1,520 | 1,540 | 1,788 | 1,675 | 1,705 |
| Government Motor Cars ... | 2,544 | 3,078 | 3,608 | 4,357 | 2,236 | 3,581 | 3,597 | 3,151 | 3,383 | 2,570 |
| Printing ... | 47,400 | 49,317 | 51,613 | 52,873 | 53,564 | 56,905 | 61,049 | 60,914 | 68,565 | 73,300 |
| Tourist and Publicity Bureau ... | 1,523 | 1,519 | 1,646 | 1,760 | 2,112 | 3,752 | 4,387 | 6,638 | 7,144 | 7,060 |
| Literary and Scientific Fisheries ... | 8,690 | 9,690 | 8,690 | 8,935 | 11,148 | 11,101 | 11,150 | 11,320 | 11,160 | 11,395 |
| Superannuation Board ... | 3,410 | 3,820 | 3,554 | 3,606 | 4,158 | 4,533 | 4,563 | 5,473 | 6,189 | 6,925 |
| Treasury ... | 17,510 | 20,084 | 20,187 | 21,738 | 23,791 | 26,454 | 27,211 | 28,780 | 29,788 | 31,900 |
| Audit ... | 11,133 | 10,403 | 11,039 | 11,261 | 12,420 | 13,333 | 14,190 | 15,739 | 16,416 | 17,180 |
| Workers' Homes Board | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Compassionate Allowances ... | 7,018 | 6,083 | 8,150 | 5,176 | 6,711 | 8,182 | 7,162 | 8,092 | 6,230 | 4,255 |
| Government Stores ... | 11,548 | 11,675 | 11,714 | 12,357 | 13,788 | 14,587 | 15,643 | 16,862 | 17,135 | 18,490 |
| Taxation ... | 30,000 | 31,614 | 32,657 | 33,640 | 33,894 | 33,699 | 33,860 | 33,795 | 33,698 | 45,000 |
| Miscellaneous and Refunds ... | 697,927 | 627,497 | 680,128 | 569,335 | 605,939 | 751,688 | 778,467 | 625,650 | 649,075 | 659,205 |
| Lands and Surveys ... | 52,045 | 48,001 | 46,916 | 48,723 | 51,094 | 51,743 | 52,237 | 50,765 | 56,077 | 58,950 |
| Immigration ... | 2,040 | 791 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Group Settlement ... | ... | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Farmers' Debts Adjustment and Rural Relief | 2,182 | 2,213 | 2,224 | 2,154 | 3,044 | 8,681 | 7,024 | 6,057 | 5,072 | 4,575 |
| Agricultural Bank | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Mines, Explosives, Geological, etc. ... | 102,252 | 87,424 | 109,985 | 120,865 | 145,720 | 144,092 | 142,504 | 144,103 | 139,696 | 139,641 |
| Forests ... | 14,272 | 12,835 | 14,742 | 18,524 | 22,289 | 25,453 | 27,105 | 28,474 | 28,696 | 29,325 |
| Agriculture ... | 64,918 | 65,061 | 66,640 | 75,535 | 87,264 | 100,419 | 118,174 | 117,049 | 112,840 | 118,647 |
| College of Agriculture | 69,335 | 71,525 | 66,711 | 65,767 | 78,874 | 74,194 | 84,663 | 92,204 | 91,694 | 99,635 |
| Crown Law & Branches | 201,898 | 197,905 | 211,929 | 219,683 | 228,894 | 239,458 | 243,124 | 255,878 | 258,846 | 268,395 |
| Police ... | 20,830 | 19,159 | 50,663 | 49,206 | 87,627 | 103,385 | 93,682 | 100,767 | 98,416 | 95,085 |
| Public Works ... | 3,779 | 3,858 | 3,979 | 4,344 | 4,808 | 5,250 | 5,570 | 6,765 | 7,402 | 7,850 |
| Factories ... | ... | ... | (a) 3,470 | 4,777 | 4,148 | 6,523 | 7,688 | 6,477 | 5,702 | 5,825 |
| Arbitration Court | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| State Insurance ... | 1,080 | 910 | 931 | 930 | 1,374 | 1,414 | 1,478 | 1,653 | 1,725 | 1,750 |
| Town Planning ... | 23,449 | 23,662 | 23,274 | 24,845 | 26,634 | 28,610 | 28,754 | 31,539 | 33,705 | 35,914 |
| Office of Chief Secretary | 11,187 | 11,616 | 11,330 | 12,608 | 14,063 | 20,008 | 25,202 | 39,000 | 44,044 | 42,900 |
| Natives ... | 25,873 | 24,310 | 25,709 | 25,620 | 26,674 | 28,084 | 28,015 | 29,513 | 29,949 | 31,625 |
| Prisons ... | 16,982 | 17,328 | 19,375 | 19,830 | 22,957 | 24,140 | 27,240 | 26,743 | 28,411 | 29,120 |
| Harbour and Light and Jetties | 85,432 | 90,999 | 93,933 | 98,218 | 101,248 | 107,289 | 112,004 | 120,453 | 124,490 | 127,930 |
| Mental Hospitals | 138,431 | 132,576 | 128,863 | 125,957 | 118,502 | 116,338 | 120,957 | 126,309 | 133,081 | 143,150 |
| Child Welfare ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 891 | 908 | 913 | 1,118 | 1,428 | 1,525 |
| Labour ... | 653,031 | 357,721 | 244,457 | 92,445 | 68,605 | 69,578 | 69,826 | 64,183 | 73,132 | 68,950 |
| Unemployment Relief | 4,048 | 8,358 | 7,715 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| State Labour Bureau | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Council of Industrial Development | 928 | 918 | 1,202 | 1,559 | 1,572 | 2,235 | 1,884 | 2,518 | 3,891 | 3,760 |
| Medical and Health ... | 78,658 | 75,468 | 69,410 | 64,560 | 69,095 | 83,112 | 78,104 | 80,090 | 83,287 | 85,378 |
| Education ... | 549,115 | 553,846 | 576,296 | 612,703 | 685,284 | 715,957 | 736,917 | 757,051 | 772,656 | 783,250 |
| North-West ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 | 200 |
| Total, Departmental... | 2,908,069 | 2,814,386 | 2,524,391 | 2,460,518 | 2,648,336 | 2,935,670 | 3,023,170 | 2,970,790 | 3,032,089 | 3,094,302 |
| PUBLIC UTILITIES. | | | | | | | | | | |
| Native Stations ... | 4,441 | 4,102 | 4,751 | 5,190 | 6,002 | 6,593 | 6,777 | ... | ... | ... |
| Goldfields Water Supply | 108,073 | 108,230 | 113,258 | 128,369 | 114,411 | 120,334 | 125,155 | 135,389 | 130,055 | 133,000 |
| Kalgoorlie Abattoirs ... | 2,488 | 2,886 | 2,900 | 2,990 | 3,584 | 4,802 | 4,550 | 4,029 | 4,531 | 4,590 |
| Metropolitan Abattoirs | 25,296 | 25,518 | 26,952 | 27,886 | 30,231 | 33,550 | 30,830 | 33,912 | 34,480 | 35,490 |
| Metropolitan Water Supply | 97,046 | 83,369 | 96,602 | 97,133 | 99,202 | 101,357 | 97,088 | 101,990 | 105,208 | 109,555 |
| Other Hydraulic Undertakings ... | 21,617 | 23,916 | 29,953 | 47,095 | 51,092 | 60,142 | 61,090 | 58,685 | 64,060 | 61,636 |
| Perth City Markets ... | 589 | 602 | 590 | 720 | 678 | 110 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Railways ... | 2,116,352 | 2,089,353 | 2,156,664 | 2,348,560 | 2,496,412 | 2,691,698 | 2,669,131 | 2,902,677 | 2,800,850 | 2,732,000 |
| Tramways ... | 220,623 | 222,210 | 205,060 | 199,978 | 204,392 | 205,646 | 211,013 | 247,071 | 249,438 | 253,000 |
| Electricity Supply ... | 192,924 | 191,997 | 192,804 | 220,079 | 241,653 | 270,364 | 290,870 | 312,719 | 307,895 | 313,000 |
| State Ferries ... | ... | 2,006 | 7,828 | 7,993 | 7,996 | 8,088 | 8,452 | 8,350 | 8,606 | 7,760 |
| State Batteries ... | 65,587 | 80,601 | 91,783 | 103,739 | 113,643 | 113,100 | 112,225 | 113,806 | 112,918 | 112,050 |
| Cave House ... | 6,186 | 6,017 | 5,627 | 5,636 | 5,760 | 7,766 | 7,458 | 9,751 | 11,025 | 12,272 |
| Total Public Utilities | 2,862,122 | 2,840,904 | 2,934,781 | 3,195,368 | 3,378,156 | 3,623,550 | 3,624,657 | 3,928,409 | 3,830,916 | 3,774,243 |
| GRAND TOTAL ... | 9,593,212 | 9,196,234 | 9,270,609 | 9,493,625 | 9,945,349 | 10,556,638 | 10,829,735 | 11,170,102 | 11,266,768 | 11,383,849 |

(a) Previously under Crown Law.

[Return No. 5.]

STATEMENT SHOWING ANNUAL SURPLUSES AND DEFICIENCIES OF CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND,
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEARS 1900-01 TO 1939-40.

| Year. | Revenue. | Expenditure. | Annual. | |
|-----------|------------|--------------|----------|-------------|
| | | | Surplus. | Deficiency. |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| 1900-01 | 3,078,033 | 3,165,244 | ... | 87,211 |
| 1901-02 | 3,688,049 | 3,490,026 | 198,023 | ... |
| 1902-03 | 3,630,238 | 3,621,763 | 108,475 | ... |
| 1903-04 | 3,550,016 | 3,698,311 | ... | 148,295 |
| 1904-05 | 3,615,340 | 3,745,225 | ... | 129,885 |
| 1905-06 | 3,558,939 | 3,632,318 | ... | 73,379 |
| 1906-07 | 3,401,354 | 3,490,183 | ... | 88,829 |
| 1907-08 | 3,376,641 | 3,379,006 | ... | 2,365 |
| 1908-09 | 3,267,014 | 3,368,551 | ... | 101,537 |
| 1909-1910 | 3,657,670 | 3,447,731 | 209,939 | ... |
| 1910-1911 | 3,850,439 | 3,734,448 | 115,991 | ... |
| 1911-1912 | 3,966,673 | 4,101,082 | ... | 134,409 |
| 1912-1913 | 4,596,659 | 4,787,064 | ... | 190,405 |
| 1913-1914 | 5,206,343 | 5,340,754 | ... | 135,411 |
| 1914-1915 | 5,140,725 | 5,706,541 | ... | 565,816 |
| 1916-1916 | 5,356,978 | 5,705,201 | ... | 348,223 |
| 1916-1917 | 4,577,007 | 5,276,764 | ... | 699,757 |
| 1917-1918 | 4,622,636 | 5,328,279 | ... | 705,743 |
| 1918-1919 | 4,944,851 | 5,596,566 | ... | 652,015 |
| 1919-1920 | 5,863,501 | 6,531,725 | ... | 668,225 |
| 1920-1921 | 6,789,565 | 7,476,291 | ... | 686,725 |
| 1921-1922 | 6,907,107 | 7,639,242 | ... | 732,135 |
| 1922-1923 | 7,207,492 | 7,612,856 | ... | 405,364 |
| 1923-1924 | 7,865,595 | 8,094,753 | ... | 229,158 |
| 1924-1925 | 8,381,446 | 8,439,844 | ... | 58,398 |
| 1925-1926 | 8,808,166 | 8,907,309 | ... | 99,143 |
| 1926-1927 | 9,750,833 | 9,722,588 | 28,245 | ... |
| 1927-1928 | 9,807,949 | 9,834,415 | ... | 26,466 |
| 1928-1929 | 9,947,951 | 10,223,919 | ... | 275,968 |
| 1929-1930 | 9,750,515 | 10,268,519 | ... | 518,004 |
| 1930-1931 | 8,686,756 | 10,107,295 | ... | 1,420,539 |
| 1931-1932 | 8,035,316 | 9,593,212 | ... | 1,557,896 |
| 1932-1933 | 8,332,153 | 9,196,234 | ... | 864,081 |
| 1933-1934 | 8,481,697 | 9,270,809 | ... | 788,912 |
| 1934-1935 | 9,331,430 | 9,498,525 | ... | 167,095 |
| 1935-1936 | 10,033,721 | 9,945,343 | 88,378 | ... |
| 1936-1937 | 10,185,433 | 10,556,638 | ... | 371,205 |
| 1937-1938 | 10,819,042 | 10,829,735 | ... | 10,693 |
| 1938-1939 | 10,949,660 | 11,170,102 | ... | 220,442 |
| 1939-1940 | 11,119,943 | 11,266,768 | ... | 146,825 |

LOAN EXPENDITURE FOR 1939-40 COMPARED WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.

(EXCLUSIVE OF LOAN SUSPENSE EXPENDITURE).

| Undertakings. | 1939-40. | 1938-39. | 1937-38. | 1936-37. | 1935-36. | 1934-35. | 1933-34. | 1932-33. | 1931-32. | 1930-31. | 1929-30. | 1928-29. |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Railways, including Land Resumptions | 102,153 | 198,065 | 349,393 | 178,882 | 116,240 | 295,076 | 316,124 | 180,567 | 137,168 | 454,395 | 824,952 | 826,500 |
| Tramways—Perth Electric | 125 | 8,042 | 8,512 | 35,501 | ... | ... | 11,290 | 5,801 | ... | 9,550 | 24,710 | 8,551 |
| Electric Power Station | 1,097 | 17,919 | 39,977 | 109,837 | 281,165 | 203,268 | 2,069 | 918 | 3,881 | 11,289 | 44,050 | 48,479 |
| Fremantle Harbour Works | 15,845 | 34,803 | 31,891 | 78,781 | 100,058 | 98,688 | 91,975 | 169,618 | 37,094 | 69,896 | 109,086 | 133,066 |
| Harbours and Rivers generally | 36,081 | 57,689 | 70,240 | 108,085 | 200,949 | 206,830 | 154,169 | 78,302 | 39,882 | 63,810 | 154,169 | 140,994 |
| Sewerage—Perth and Fremantle | 242,105 | 351,400 | 253,490 | 361,334 | 455,901 | 330,199 | 177,673 | 125,055 | 90,669 | 42,102 | 102,250 | 151,211 |
| Water Supplies | 611,559 | 584,132 | 709,742 | 831,636 | 819,339 | 784,605 | 656,072 | 656,640 | 437,315 | 197,238 | 236,999 | 425,963 |
| Development of Goldfields & | 55,806 | 42,015 | 20,071 | 20,550 | 27,167 | 59,682 | 74,166 | 80,041 | 27,982 | 29,077 | 91,870 | 78,793 |
| Development of Agriculture | 205,611 | 179,462 | 154,658 | 137,711 | 217,644 | 341,850 | 366,116 | 267,150 | 125,904 | 61,490 | 87,019 | 143,971 |
| Assistance to Settlers | 9,198 | 442 | 8,471 | 8,870 | 9,289 | 9,921 | 113,535 | 64,679 | 79,516 | 262,880 | 67,121 | 92,907 |
| Agricultural Group Settlement | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9,618 | 26,073 | 115,904 | 79,646 | 67,513 | 213,298 | 639,611 | 768,893 |
| Land Settlement for Soldiers | 417 | 540 | 87 | 434 | 427 | 331 | 1,199 | 403 | 12,284 | 39,969 | 46,318 | 116,914 |
| College of Agriculture | 443 | 879 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,100 | 10,305 |
| Immigration | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 132 | 461 | 500 | 1,063 | 7,182 | 11,897 |
| Agricultural Bank—Working Capital | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 50,000 | 325,000 | 303,257 | 317,460 | 298,734 | 849,849 | 704,445 |
| Steamships | 3,000 | 15,023 | 215,325 | 53,385 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20,796 |
| Workers' Homes—Working Capital | 10,000 | ... | 25,000 | 35,000 | ... | 35,000 | 35,000 | 35,000 | ... | ... | ... | 25,000 |
| Saw Mills | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7,000 | 8,346 |
| State Hotels | 9,173 | 4,909 | 18,922 | 4,647 | 8,000 | ... | 519 | ... | 413 | ... | 749 | 1,653 |
| Brickyards | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,000 | 1,925 |
| Ferries | ... | 12 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 268 | ... |
| Public Buildings | 103,535 | 114,954 | 91,726 | 89,182 | 84,454 | 106,418 | 98,020 | 34,634 | ... | ... | 54,140 | 62,353 |
| Hospital Buildings and Equipment, including Grants | 8,194 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Roads and Bridges | 325,000 | 65,000 | 160,038 | 83,294 | 182,002 | 213,804 | 124,647 | 85,004 | ... | ... | 315,325 | 335,718 |
| Purchase of Plant and Stock (Suspense Account) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 66,000 |
| Fremantle Road and Railway Bridge | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18 |
| Sundries | 9,415 | 9,000 | ... | 5,448 | 593 | 5 25,103 | 9 412 | 1 | f 2,244 | e 5,072 | d 13,354 | c 18,058 |
| Bulk Handling of Wheat | 4,478 | 7,049 | 62,493 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Boya Quarries | 2,645 | 1,586 | 600 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Native Stations, Hospitals, etc. | 8,294 | 5,500 | 5,568 | 470 | 421 | 337 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 156 |
| Reconstruction Canning Road | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 88,907 |
| Gulldford Road—East Street to Midland Junction | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10,042 |
| Metropolitan Markets | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8,935 | 92,418 |
| Discount and Flotation Expenses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 78,007 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Totals | 1,759,174 | 1,698,111 | 2,315,004 | 2,193,117 | 2,464,167 | 2,784,186 | 2,664,022 | 2,217,082 | 1,380,225 | 1,759,263 | 3,693,052 | 4,372,269 |
| Less Expenditure from Loan Repayments | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Receipts | 101,036 | 159,105 | 154,825 | 78,376 | 74,791 | 97,064 | 215,740 | 249,275 | 171,800 | ... | 216,647 | 38,207 |
| Net Expenditure from Loan Raisings | 1,658,088 | 1,545,006 | 2,160,179 | 2,114,741 | 2,389,376 | 2,687,121 | 2,448,282 | 1,963,707 | 1,208,425 | 1,759,263 | 3,476,405 | 4,338,972 |

Includes Loans to Local Authorities for erection of Country Hospitals, etc., c £9,780; d £5,084; e £3,610; f £1,442; g £400; h £108.

a Including Goldfields Districts.

b Excluding Water Supplies.

[Return No. 7.]

PUBLIC DEBT.

(a) LOAN AUTHORISATIONS AND FLOTATIONS.

| | £ | £ | £ |
|---|------------|-------------|-------------|
| Authorisations to 30th June, 1939 (Adjusted) | ... | 114,758,858 | |
| Authorisations, 1939-40 | ... | 2,137,000 | |
| | | <hr/> | 116,895,858 |
| Flotations— | | | |
| Inscribed Stock, Debentures, Treasury Bonds, etc., issued in Australia and Overseas—Net proceeds:— | | | |
| For Works and Services... .. | 96,589,001 | | |
| For Funding Deficits | 6,140,087 | | |
| | <hr/> | 102,729,088 | |
| Discounts and Flotation Expenses (including Cost of Conversion Loans), net:— | | | |
| On Works Loans... .. | 3,880,850 | | |
| On Deficit Loans... .. | 198,807 | | |
| | <hr/> | 4,079,657 | |
| Balance of March, 1940, Loan | 9,000 | | |
| | <hr/> | 106,817,745 | |
| Short Term Debt current at 30th June, 1940— | | | |
| London | 2,998,014 | | |
| Australia | 5,805,000 | | |
| | <hr/> | 8,803,014 | |
| Total Flotations | | | 115,620,759 |
| Balance available for Flotation | | | * 1,275,099 |

* Includes surplus of £46,415 under Treasury Bonds Deficiency Acta.

(b) LOAN INDEBTEDNESS.

| | £ | £ |
|--|------------|-------------------|
| Total Amount raised to 30th June, 1939 | ... | 114,140,219 |
| Flotations during the year— | | |
| Counter Sales | 23,540 | |
| Instalment Stock | 158,000 | |
| Commonwealth Loans (Australia) | 1,799,000 | |
| | <hr/> | 1,980,540 |
| Less net reduction in Australian Treasury Bills | 500,000 | |
| | <hr/> | 1,480,540 |
| | | 115,620,759 |
| Redemptions— | | |
| Total to 30th June, 1939 | 18,667,618 | |
| During the year: | | |
| National Debt Commission: | £ | |
| Securities repurchased | 633,820 | |
| Instalment Stock redeemed (Australia) | 11,144 | |
| Do. do. (London) | 24,269 | |
| Inscribed Stock redeemed at maturity | 53,509 | |
| | <hr/> | 722,742 |
| | | 19,390,360 |
| Gross Public Debt at 30th June, 1940... .. | | 96,230,399 |
| Sinking Fund | | 303,977 |
| Net Public Debt at 30th June, 1940 | | <hr/> £95,926,422 |

[Return No. 7—continued.]

(c) SUMMARY OF GROSS LOAN RAISINGS AND DISBURSEMENTS.

| <i>Raisings.</i> | | <i>Disbursements.</i> | |
|--|-------------|---|-------------|
| | £ | | £ |
| Total Flotations, as per Return 7 (b)— | | Discounts and Expenses— | |
| To 30th June, 1939 ... | 114,140,219 | To 30th June, 1939 (Net) ... | 3,871,788 |
| During Year 1939-40 ... | 1,480,540 | During Year 1939-40 ... | 9,061 |
| Receipts from Loan Repayments— | | Redemption of Agricultural Bank Mortgage Bonds ... | 1,566,000 |
| To 30th June, 1939 ... | 1,595,280 | Deficits Funded (including Discount and Expenses) ... | 6,338,894 |
| During Year 1939-40 ... | 127,470 | Advances to meet Expenditure pending receipt of Revenue ... | 5,873,000 |
| | | Expenditure on Works and Services ... | 98,831,093 |
| | | Loan Suspense Expenditure ... | 302,954 |
| | | Balance of Loan—not to account at 30th June, 1940 ... | 9,000 |
| | | Balance of General Loan Fund | 541,719 |
| | 117,343,509 | | 117,343,509 |

(d) NET PUBLIC DEBT FOR HEAD OF POPULATION ON 30TH JUNE EACH YEAR.

| Year. | | Debt per Head. | | Year. | | Debt per Head. | |
|----------|-----|----------------|-------|----------|-----|----------------|-------|
| | | £ | s. d. | | | £ | s. d. |
| 1940 ... | ... | 205 | 0 4 | 1927 ... | ... | 157 | 14 4 |
| 1939 ... | ... | 204 | 7 1 | 1926 ... | ... | 155 | 14 8 |
| 1938 ... | ... | 202 | 19 8 | 1925 ... | ... | 146 | 3 11 |
| 1937 ... | ... | 201 | 15 2 | 1924 ... | ... | 146 | 13 6 |
| 1936 ... | ... | 199 | 7 10 | 1923 ... | ... | 142 | 9 6 |
| 1935 ... | ... | 197 | 11 11 | 1922 ... | ... | 137 | 1 0 |
| 1934 ... | ... | 193 | 7 6 | 1921 ... | ... | *124 | 15 11 |
| 1933 ... | ... | 187 | 4 8 | 1920 ... | ... | 119 | 7 3 |
| 1932 ... | ... | 180 | 3 8 | 1919 ... | ... | 116 | 7 0 |
| 1931 ... | ... | 174 | 2 6 | 1918 ... | ... | 118 | 0 8 |
| 1930 ... | ... | 163 | 9 9 | 1917 ... | ... | 116 | 5 5 |
| 1929 ... | ... | 162 | 6 9 | 1916 ... | ... | 109 | 19 9 |
| 1928 ... | ... | 165 | 10 7 | | | | |

* NOTE.—Compared with the previous year, £2 16s. 11d. of the increase is due to an adjustment in the figures of the population at the Census.

(e) CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AT 30TH JUNE, 1940.

| | Securities Issued. | Re-deemed. | In Circulation. | Funds Invested. |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Finance and Development Board Act ... | 700,000 | 282,194 | 417,806 | ... |
| Metropolitan Market Act ... | 19,000 | ... | 19,000 | ... |
| Workers' Homes Act ... | 99,000 | 860 | 98,340 | ... |
| Agricultural Lands Purchase Act ... | 587,471 | 270,310 | 317,161 | 67,924 |
| | 1,405,471 | 553,164 | 852,307 | 67,924 |
| Bank Guarantees in force ... | ... | ... | 163,400 | ... |
| Metropolitan Water Supply Act * | ... | ... | 108,654 | ... |
| Land Drainage Act * | ... | ... | 2,236 | ... |
| Total, Contingent Liabilities ... | ... | ... | 1,126,597 | ... |

* Principal and Interest on Debentures chargeable on the revenue and assets of the concern.

[Return No. 8.]

LOAN LIABILITY—STATEMENT SHOWING AMOUNTS MATURING EACH YEAR.

| Earliest Date of Maturity. | Latest Date of Maturity. | Interest Rate. | Repayable in— | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------|-----------|------------|
| | | | London. | New York. | Australia. |
| | | % | £ | £ | £ |
| ... | 1940 | 1½ | ... | ... | *5,805,000 |
| ... | 1940 | 2½ | *2,998,014 | ... | ... |
| ... | 1940 | 3·4875 | ... | ... | 9,658 |
| ... | 1940 | 3½ | ... | ... | 590,230 |
| ... | 1941 | 4 | ... | ... | 4,207,094 |
| ... | 1942 | 3·4875 | ... | ... | 66,155 |
| ... | 1942 | 3½ | ... | ... | 287,000 |
| ... | 1942 | 3½ | ... | ... | 3,061,750 |
| ... | 1942 | 4·2625 | ... | ... | 61,697 |
| 1941 | 1943 | 2½ | 3,228,061 | ... | ... |
| ... | 1943 | 3½ | ... | ... | 1,831,820 |
| ... | 1943 | 3½ | ... | ... | 277,930 |
| ... | 1943 | 4·2625 | ... | ... | 1,100 |
| ... | 1943 | 4·65 | ... | ... | 755,000 |
| ... | 1943 | 3½ | ... | ... | 287,000 |
| ... | 1944 | 3 | ... | ... | 72,500 |
| ... | 1944 | 3½ | ... | ... | 286,000 |
| ... | 1944 | 4 | ... | ... | 1,607,494 |
| ... | 1945 | 3½ | ... | ... | 463,000 |
| 1927 | 1947 | 3½ | 1,417,801 | ... | ... |
| ... | 1947 | 3½ | ... | ... | 32,630 |
| ... | 1947 | 4 | ... | ... | 1,274,724 |
| ... | 1947 | 5·0375 | ... | ... | 250,000 |
| ... | 1948 | 3 | ... | ... | 1,443,925 |
| ... | 1948 | 3½ | ... | ... | 1,165,170 |
| ... | 1948 | 3·4875 | ... | ... | 281,055 |
| ... | 1948 | 3½ | 195,647 | ... | ... |
| ... | 1948 | 3½ | ... | ... | 1,461,380 |
| 1943 | 1948 | 4 | 2,716,302 | ... | ... |
| ... | 1949 | 3½ | ... | ... | 1,304,220 |
| ... | 1949 | 3½ | ... | ... | 1,741,310 |
| ... | 1950 | 4 | ... | ... | 1,341,198 |
| ... | 1951 | 3½ | ... | ... | 3,952,210 |
| 1948 | 1953 | 3½ | 903,193 | ... | ... |
| ... | 1953 | 4 | ... | ... | 1,238,774 |
| 1952 | 1954 | 3½ | ... | ... | 587,800 |
| ... | 1954 | 3½ | ... | ... | 3,180,710 |
| 1935 | 1955 | 3½ | 3,204,904 | ... | ... |
| ... | 1955 | 4 | ... | ... | 1,239,763 |
| 1953 | 1955 | 3½ | ... | ... | 2,467,805 |
| 1952 | 1955 | 5 | ... | 1,498,444 | ... |
| 1950 | 1956 | 3½ | ... | ... | 470,000 |
| ... | 1957 | 3 | ... | ... | 150,273 |
| ... | 1957 | 4 | ... | ... | 1,174,159 |
| 1947 | 1957 | 5 | ... | 516,992 | ... |
| ... | 1958 | 3 | ... | ... | 172,465 |
| ... | 1959 | 3 | ... | ... | 371,424 |
| ... | 1959 | 4 | ... | ... | 1,167,005 |
| ... | 1960 | 3 | ... | ... | 453,761 |
| 1940 | 1960 | 3½ | 877,408 | ... | ... |
| 1956 | 1961 | 3½ | 1,739,527 | ... | ... |
| ... | 1961 | 4 | ... | ... | 1,216,546 |
| ... | 1961 | 3 | ... | ... | 311,912 |
| ... | 1962 | 3 | ... | ... | 184,591 |
| 1942 | 1962 | 4 | 4,866,583 | ... | ... |
| ... | 1963 | 3 | ... | ... | 194,508 |
| ... | 1964 | 3·1 | ... | ... | 1,566,000 |
| ... | 1964 | 3 | ... | ... | 157,524 |
| ... | 1965 | 3 | ... | ... | 32,000 |
| 1964 | 1974 | 3½ | 8,829,191 | ... | ... |
| 1945 | 1975 | 1½ | 66,970 | ... | ... |
| 1945 | 1975 | 5 | 12,909,492 | ... | ... |
| | | Average Rate 3·8739 | 43,953,693 | 2,015,436 | 50,261,270 |
| | | | £96,230,399 | | |

* Floating Debt.

[Return No. 9.]

SINKING FUND.

TRANSACTIONS DURING THE YEAR 1939-40.

| | | | | | | £ | s. | d. | £ | s. | d. |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|---------|----|----|-----------|----|----|
| Receipts: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Balances brought forward, 1st July, 1939— | | | | | | | | | | | |
| National Debt Commission | | | | | | | | | 350,656 | 0 | 10 |
| Contributions: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| State— | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5s. per cent. on loan liability | | | | | | 250,426 | 5 | 1 | | | |
| 4½ per cent. on cancelled securities | | | | | | 210,444 | 12 | 1 | | | |
| 3 per cent. under Federal Aid Roads Act | | | | | | 17,623 | 6 | 11 | | | |
| Special contribution on account loan for purchase of M.V. "Koolama" | | | | | | 20,690 | 10 | 10 | | | |
| Exchange on contribution re M.V. "Koolama" | | | | | | 5,250 | 4 | 6 | | | |
| Commonwealth— | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5s. and 2s. 6d. per cent. on loan liability | | | | | | 174,765 | 8 | 3 | | | |
| Net earnings on investments... .. | | | | | | 9,238 | 16 | 11 | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | 688,430 | 4 | 7 |
| | | | | | | | | | 1,048,095 | 5 | 6 |
| Disbursements: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Redemptions and Repurchases, etc. | | | | | | | | | 744,118 | 14 | 4 |
| Balance, Sinking Fund, 30th June, 1940 | | | | | | | | | 303,976 | 11 | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | | 1,048,095 | 5 | 6 |

TRANSACTIONS FROM 1ST JULY, 1927, TO 30TH JUNE, 1940.

| | | | | | | £ | s. | d. | £ | s. | d. |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|-----------|----|----|-----------|----|----|
| Receipts: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Balances brought forward— | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1st July, 1927—Endowment Policy (M.V. "Kangaroo"), Premiums paid | | | | | | 57,607 | 10 | 0 | | | |
| 1st July, 1929—Crown Agents | | | | | | 897,347 | 0 | 10 | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | 955,044 | 10 | 10 |
| Contributions: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| On account M.V. "Kangaroo" | | | | | | 47,250 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| On account, Crown Agents | | | | | | 40,312 | 13 | 5 | | | |
| State— | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5s. per cent. on loan liability | | | | | | 2,703,097 | 0 | 2 | | | |
| 4½ per cent. on cancelled securities | | | | | | 1,127,117 | 0 | 8 | | | |
| 3 per cent. under Federal Aid Roads Act | | | | | | 222,659 | 16 | 8 | | | |
| Special contribution on account loan for purchase of M.V. "Koolama" | | | | | | 51,726 | 7 | 1 | | | |
| Exchange on contribution re M.V. "Koolama" | | | | | | 13,126 | 11 | 3 | | | |
| Commonwealth— | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5s. and 2s. 6d. per cent. on Loan Liability | | | | | | 1,712,524 | 0 | 4 | | | |
| Net earnings on investments | | | | | | 357,005 | 16 | 0 | | | |
| Accretions to Endowment Policy at maturity | | | | | | 35,062 | 10 | 0 | | | |
| Exchange on remittances | | | | | | 29,504 | 6 | 1 | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | 6,330,465 | 19 | 8 |
| | | | | | | | | | 7,294,510 | 10 | 6 |
| Disbursements: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Redemptions and Repurchases, etc. | | | | | | 5,764,365 | 11 | 7 | | | |
| Contributions refunded to the State | | | | | | 630 | 17 | 11 | | | |
| Contributions to Crown Agents | | | | | | 39,934 | 2 | 8 | | | |
| Premiums on Policy account M.V. "Kangaroo" | | | | | | 47,250 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| Repayment of 1934 Loan | | | | | | 908,553 | 7 | 3 | | | |
| Repayment of 1936 Loan | | | | | | 140,000 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | 6,990,533 | 19 | 5 |
| Balance, 30th June, 1940:— | | | | | | | | | | | |
| National Debt Commission | | | | | | | | | 303,976 | 11 | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | | 7,294,510 | 10 | 6 |

[Return No. 10.]

SUMMARISED CLASSIFICATION OF LOAN ASSETS, 1939-40. (a)

| Undertaking.* | Loan Liability. (b) | Capital Charges (c). | | | Net Earnings. | Surplus. | De-ficiency. |
|---------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|----------|--------------|
| | | Interest. | Sinking Fund. | Exchange. | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|---------|--------|--------|---------|--------|------|
| FULLY REPRODUCTIVE. | | | | | | | |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Electricity Supply | 1,940,550 | 74,225 | 0,858 | 10,027 | 117,820 | 23,710 | .... |
| State Brickworks | 52,231 | 1,089 | 264 | 260 | 2,689 | 167 | .... |
| State Implement Works | 121,554 | 4,628 | 614 | 625 | 6,000 | 2,133 | .... |
| State Saw Mills | 271,181 | 10,325 | 1,376 | 1,395 | 16,586 | 3,490 | .... |
| State Hotels | 80,569 | 3,206 | 307 | 445 | 8,705 | 4,057 | .... |
| Metropolitan Markets | 156,245 | 5,949 | 703 | 804 | 9,275 | 1,720 | .... |
| Abattoirs, Sale Yards, Grain Sheds | | | | | | | |
| and Cold Stores | 310,245 | 11,812 | 1,540 | 1,596 | 22,678 | 7,721 | .... |
| Workers' Homes Board | 728,463 | 27,735 | 3,593 | 3,747 | 38,432 | 3,357 | .... |
| Stock Suspense | 24,027 | 915 | 121 | 124 | 1,537 | 377 | .... |
| | 3,700,071 | 140,874 | 18,475 | 19,032 | 225,722 | 47,341 | .... |

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|------|-----------|
| PARTIALLY REPRODUCTIVE | | | | | | | |
| Railways (e) | 26,545,146 | 1,010,042 | 133,473 | 136,533 | 694,679 | .... | 585,060 |
| Tramways | 1,238,471 | 47,076 | 6,242 | 6,300 | 50,019 | .... | 9,650 |
| Harbours and Rivers (d) | 6,406,044 | 243,920 | 32,140 | 32,954 | 247,840 | .... | 61,189 |
| Water Supply, Sewerage and Drain- | | | | | | | |
| age | 15,907,863 | 605,054 | 77,605 | 81,821 | 603,222 | .... | 161,858 |
| Wyndham Meat Works | 1,072,380 | 40,828 | 5,413 | 5,516 | 46,068 | .... | 5,650 |
| State Quarries | 39,931 | 1,520 | 202 | 205 | 1,000 | .... | 927 |
| Loans to Public Bodies | 137,678 | 5,242 | 691 | 708 | 4,632 | .... | 2,000 |
| Mining Generally | 796,621 | 30,329 | 3,800 | 4,097 | 238 | .... | 37,904 |
| State Batteries | 419,120 | 15,957 | 2,098 | 2,150 | 11,506 | .... | 8,705 |
| Roads and Bridges | 3,406,068 | 120,678 | 10,130 | 17,519 | 7,390 | .... | 155,931 |
| Tourist Resorts | 74,550 | 2,538 | 350 | 383 | 2,477 | .... | 1,103 |
| Plant Suspense | 154,401 | 5,878 | 780 | 794 | 2,876 | .... | 4,570 |
| Pine Planting and Reforestation | 887,557 | 33,792 | 4,116 | 4,565 | 40,949 | .... | 1,524 |
| Small Loans Scheme | 24,786 | 944 | 130 | 128 | 1,027 | .... | 184 |
| Assistance to Industries | 435,080 | 16,564 | 2,157 | 2,238 | 7,856 | .... | 13,103 |
| Agricultural Bank (f) | 8,838,325 | 336,498 | 44,571 | 45,450 | 259,503 | .... | 137,020 |
| Soldiers' Land Settlement (g) | 2,060,188 | 78,437 | 10,400 | 10,596 | 17,725 | .... | 81,708 |
| Group Settlement | 4,288,995 | 163,293 | 21,613 | 22,060 | 30,123 | .... | 176,848 |
| Aborigines Stations, etc. | 57,740 | 2,198 | 241 | 207 | 83 | .... | 2,659 |
| Agriculture Generally | 3,265,128 | 124,312 | 16,229 | 16,704 | 13,283 | .... | 144,052 |
| Bulk Handling of Wheat—Bunbury | 70,057 | 2,667 | 352 | 360 | 1,638 | .... | 1,741 |
| | 76,125,016 | 2,898,276 | 378,763 | 391,543 | 2,044,175 | .... | 1,024,407 |

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|---------|--------|--------|------------|------|---------|
| TOTALLY UNPRODUCTIVE. | | | | | | | |
| State Ferries | 4,335 | 165 | 24 | 22 | Dr. 834 | .... | 1,046 |
| State Shipping Service | 931,751 | 24,052 | 3,183 | 3,240 | .... | .... | 30,464 |
| Miscellaneous | 144,627 | 5,506 | 730 | 744 | Dr. 795 | .... | 7,975 |
| Industries Assistance Board | 167,044 | 6,360 | 1,201 | 850 | .... | .... | 8,420 |
| Rabbit-proof Fence | 334,548 | 12,737 | 1,639 | 1,721 | Dr. 6,296 | .... | 22,443 |
| Public Buildings, Including Schools, | | | | | | | |
| Police Stations, Gaols, Court | | | | | | | |
| Houses, Hospitals and Institu- | | | | | | | |
| tions | 3,884,110 | 147,878 | 17,514 | 19,078 | Dr. 33,793 | .... | 210,168 |
| | 5,166,424 | 196,608 | 24,341 | 26,573 | Dr. 41,918 | .... | 289,580 |

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|-----------|---------|---------|----------------|--------|------------|
| SUMMARY. | | | | | | | |
| Fully Reproductive | 3,700,071 | 140,874 | 18,475 | 19,032 | 225,722 | 47,341 | .... |
| Partially Reproductive | 70,125,016 | 2,898,276 | 378,763 | 391,543 | 2,044,175 | .... | 1,024,407 |
| Totally Unproductive | 5,166,424 | 196,608 | 24,341 | 26,573 | Dr. 41,918 | .... | 289,580 |
| Capital Adjustments and Unallo- | | | | | | | |
| cated Costs of Raisings | 4,815,170 | 183,326 | 26,163 | 24,766 | .... | .... | 234,255 |
| Advances to C.R. Fund | 5,873,000 | 100,330 | 28,838 | .... | .... | .... | 120,218 |
| Balance of General Loan Fund | 541,718 | 9,254 | 4,931 | .... | .... | .... | 14,185 |
| | 96,221,399 | 3,528,768 | 481,661 | 491,014 | 2,227,979 | 47,341 | 2,201,595 |
| Balance of March Loan (not to | | | | | | | |
| account at 30th June, 1940) | 9,000 | | | | Net Deficiency | .... | £2,244,254 |
| Public Debt, 30th June, 1940 | 96,230,399 | | | | | | |

* For details see Return No. 11.

(a) This statement distributes the net cost of loan charges for the year over the various assets. (b) Total expenditure from loan funds (including proportionate cost of raising), after allowing for sinking fund redemptions and other adjustments. (c) Actual expenditure averaged over all assets. (d) To this should be added £571,142, included in Railway Capital. (e) Includes £571,142, being part of Capital Expenditure on Harbours and Jettyes controlled by Railway Department. (f) Includes £3,661,298 in respect of advances to settlers under Soldiers' Land Settlement Scheme. (g) Represents expenditure by P.W.D. on roads, bridges and drainage, and by Lands Department on repurchased estates.

[Return No. 11]

DETAILED CLASSIFICATION OF LOAN ASSETS 1939-40*

| Undertaking. | Loan Liability. | Capital Charges. (a) | | | Net Earnings. | Surplus. | Deficiency. |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|----------|-------------|
| | | Interest. | Sinking Fund. | Ex-change. | | | |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Railways (b) ... | 26,545,146 | 1,010,642 | 133,473 | 136,533 | 694,679 | ... | 585,969 |
| Tramways ... | 1,236,471 | 47,076 | 6,242 | 6,360 | 50,019 | ... | 9,659 |
| Electricity Supply ... | 1,940,556 | 74,225 | 9,858 | 10,027 | 117,820 | 23,710 | ... |
| | 29,731,173 | 1,131,943 | 149,573 | 152,920 | 862,518 | 23,710 | 595,628 |
| <i>Harbours and Rivers.</i> | | | | | | | |
| Fremantle (c) ... | 3,410,020 | 129,829 | 17,200 | 17,537 | 256,014 | 91,448 | ... |
| Bunbury (c) ... | 690,239 | 26,279 | 3,479 | 3,550 | 2,963 | ... | 30,345 |
| Geraldton (d) ... | 699,721 | 26,640 | 3,532 | 3,598 | 722 | ... | 33,048 |
| Albany (d) ... | 153,292 | 5,836 | 774 | 788 | 491 | ... | 6,907 |
| Esperance (d) ... | 15,951 | 607 | 81 | 83 | Dr. 30 | ... | 801 |
| Busselton (d) ... | 20,351 | 775 | 103 | 106 | Dr. 34 | ... | 1,018 |
| North-West Ports (d) ... | 570,854 | 21,735 | 2,880 | 2,936 | Dr. 6,744 | ... | 34,295 |
| Swan River ... | 427,062 | 16,259 | 2,022 | 2,197 | Dr. 1,186 | ... | 21,664 |
| Dredges, Steamers and Plant ... | 276,452 | 10,525 | 1,305 | 1,423 | Dr. 678 | ... | 14,021 |
| Other Jetties and Works | 143,002 | 5,444 | 680 | 736 | Dr. 3,078 | ... | 10,538 |
| (d) | 6,406,944 | 243,929 | 32,146 | 32,954 | 247,840 | 91,448 | 152,637 |
| <i>Water Supplies.</i> | | | | | | | |
| Metropolitan ... | 7,934,136 | 302,073 | 39,505 | 40,809 | 421,262 | 38,875 | ... |
| Goldfields Water Scheme | 2,724,111 | 103,714 | 12,862 | 14,011 | 184,280 | 53,693 | ... |
| Country Towns ... | 963,885 | 36,608 | 4,825 | 4,958 | 17,587 | ... | 28,894 |
| Country Areas ... | 1,114,360 | 42,427 | 5,384 | 5,732 | 3,125 | ... | 50,418 |
| Goldfields Areas ... | 955,031 | 36,360 | 4,803 | 4,912 | Dr. 62 | ... | 46,137 |
| Irrigation and Drainage. | 2,041,666 | 77,732 | 9,345 | 10,500 | Dr. 21,333 | ... | 118,910 |
| Other Works ... | 174,674 | 6,650 | 881 | 899 | Dr. 1,637 | ... | 10,067 |
| | 15,907,863 | 605,654 | 77,605 | 81,821 | 603,222 | 92,568 | 254,426 |
| <i>Trading Concerns.</i> | | | | | | | |
| Wyndham Meatworks... | 1,072,380 | 40,828 | 5,413 | 5,516 | 46,098 | ... | 5,659 |
| Quarries ... | 39,931 | 1,520 | 202 | 205 | 1,000 | ... | 927 |
| Brickworks ... | 52,231 | 1,989 | 264 | 269 | 2,689 | 167 | ... |
| Implement Works ... | 121,654 | 4,628 | 614 | 625 | 8,000 | 2,133 | ... |
| Saw Mills ... | 271,181 | 10,325 | 1,376 | 1,395 | 16,586 | 3,490 | ... |
| Shipping Service ... | 631,751 | 24,052 | 3,183 | 3,249 | ... | ... | 30,484 |
| Hotels ... | 86,669 | 3,296 | 307 | 445 | 8,705 | 4,657 | ... |
| | 2,275,697 | 86,638 | 11,359 | 11,704 | 83,078 | 10,447 | 37,070 |
| <i>Development of Agriculture.</i> | | | | | | | |
| Agricultural Bank (e)... | 8,838,325 | 336,498 | 44,571 | 45,459 | 259,508 | ... | 167,020 |
| Industries Assistance Board ... | 167,044 | 6,360 | 1,201 | 859 | ... | ... | 8,420 |
| Soldiers' Land Settlement (f) ... | 2,060,188 | 78,437 | 10,400 | 10,596 | 17,725 | ... | 81,708 |
| Group Settlement ... | 4,288,995 | 163,293 | 21,613 | 22,060 | 30,123 | ... | 176,843 |
| Rabbit-proof Fence ... | 334,648 | 12,737 | 1,689 | 1,721 | Dr. 6,296 | ... | 22,443 |
| Generally ... | 3,265,128 | 124,312 | 16,229 | 16,794 | 13,283 | ... | 144,052 |
| | 18,954,228 | 721,637 | 95,703 | 97,489 | 314,343 | ... | 600,486 |

* See footnote (a) on Return No 10.

[Return No. 11—continued.]

DETAILED CLASSIFICATION OF LOAN ASSETS 1939-40—continued.

| Undertaking. | Loan Liability. | Capital Charges. (a) | | | Net Earnings. | Surplus. | Deficiency. |
|--|-----------------|----------------------|---------------|-----------|----------------|----------|-------------|
| | | Interest. | Sinking Fund. | Exchange. | | | |
| <i>Abattoirs, Saleyards, etc.</i> | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Metropolitan Abattoirs | 217,897 | 8,296 | 1,085 | 1,121 | 20,429 | 9,927 | ... |
| Kalgoorlie Abattoirs ... | 25,613 | 975 | 127 | 132 | 1,974 | 740 | ... |
| Generally ... | 66,735 | 2,541 | 337 | 343 | 275 | ... | 2,946 |
| | 310,245 | 11,812 | 1,549 | 1,596 | 22,678 | 10,667 | 2,946 |
| <i>Development of Mining.</i> | | | | | | | |
| State Batteries ... | 419,120 | 15,957 | 2,098 | 2,156 | 11,506 | ... | 8,705 |
| Generally ... | 796,621 | 30,329 | 3,806 | 4,097 | 238 | ... | 37,994 |
| | 1,215,741 | 46,286 | 5,904 | 6,253 | 11,744 | ... | 46,699 |
| <i>Public Buildings.</i> | | | | | | | |
| Education (including Narrogin School of Agriculture and Muresk College of Agriculture) ... | 1,593,707 | 60,675 | 7,802 | 8,197 | Dr. 16,256 | ... | 92,930 |
| Police Stations, Quarters, etc. ... | 166,646 | 6,345 | 838 | 857 | Dr. 2,627 | ... | 10,667 |
| Court Houses, Quarters, etc. ... | 44,009 | 1,678 | 223 | 227 | 371 | ... | 1,757 |
| Gaols ... | 54,545 | 2,078 | 275 | 281 | Dr. 3,655 | ... | 6,289 |
| Hospitals ... | 953,033 | 36,284 | 3,383 | 4,902 | Dr. 259 | ... | 44,828 |
| Institutions ... | 584,687 | 22,261 | 2,683 | 3,007 | Dr. 3,026 | ... | 30,977 |
| Buildings generally ... | 487,402 | 18,557 | 2,310 | 2,507 | Dr. 8,341 | ... | 31,715 |
| | 3,884,119 | 147,878 | 17,514 | 19,978 | Dr. 33,793 | ... | 219,163 |
| <i>All Other.</i> | | | | | | | |
| Aborigines Stations ... | 57,740 | 2,198 | 241 | 297 | 83 | ... | 2,653 |
| Assistance to Industries | 435,069 | 16,564 | 2,157 | 2,238 | 7,856 | ... | 13,103 |
| Bulk Handling, Bunbury | 70,057 | 2,667 | 352 | 360 | 1,638 | ... | 1,741 |
| Ferries ... | 4,335 | 165 | 24 | 22 | Dr. 834 | ... | 1,045 |
| Loans to Public Bodies | 137,678 | 5,242 | 691 | 708 | 4,632 | ... | 2,009 |
| Metropolitan Markets... | 156,245 | 5,949 | 793 | 804 | 9,275 | 1,729 | ... |
| Miscellaneous ... | 144,627 | 5,506 | 730 | 744 | Dr. 995 | ... | 7,975 |
| Pine Planting and Re-forestation ... | 887,557 | 33,792 | 4,116 | 4,565 | 40,949 | ... | 1,524 |
| Plant Suspense ... | 154,401 | 5,878 | 780 | 794 | 2,876 | ... | 4,576 |
| Roads and Bridges ... | 3,406,066 | 129,678 | 16,130 | 17,519 | 7,396 | ... | 155,931 |
| Small Loans Scheme—Workers' Homes Board ... | 24,786 | 944 | 139 | 128 | 1,027 | ... | 184 |
| Stock Suspense ... | 24,027 | 915 | 121 | 124 | 1,637 | 377 | ... |
| Tourist Resorts ... | 74,550 | 2,838 | 359 | 383 | 2,477 | ... | 1,103 |
| Workers' Homes Board | 728,463 | 27,735 | 3,593 | 3,747 | 38,432 | 3,357 | ... |
| Capital Adjustments and Unallocated Costs of Raisings ... | 4,815,170 | 183,326 | 26,163 | 24,766 | ... | ... | 234,255 |
| Advances to C.R. Fund | 5,873,000 | 100,330 | 28,888 | ... | ... | ... | 129,218 |
| Balance of General Loan Fund ... | 541,718 | 9,254 | 4,931 | ... | ... | ... | 14,185 |
| | 17,535,489 | 532,981 | 90,208 | 57,199 | 116,349 | 5,463 | 569,502 |
| TOTAL ... | 96,221,399 | 3,528,758 | 481,561 | 461,914 | 2,227,979 | 234,303 | 2,478,557 |
| Balance of March Loan (not to Account at 30th June, 1940) ... | 9,000 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | Net Deficiency | ... | £2,244,254 |
| Public Debt, 30th June, 1940 ... | 96,230,399 | | | | | | |

(a) Actual Expenditure averaged over all assets.

(b) Includes £571,142 being part of Capital Expenditure on Harbours and Jetties controlled by Railway Dept.

(c) Includes all expenditure on Fremantle and Bunbury Harbour Works.

(d) To this should be added £571,142 included in Railway Capital in respect of the following Harbours and Jetties—Albany, £119,077; Busselton, £34,794; Geraldton, £329,904; Esperance, £63,225; Port Hedland, £24,142.

(e) Includes £3,661,298 in respect of advances to settlers under Soldiers' Land Settlement Scheme.

(f) Represents expenditure by P.W.D. on roads, bridges and drainage, and by Lands Department on reparation cost.

[Return No. 12.]

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES.

| Year. | Capital. | Working Expenses. | Interest, Sinking Fund and Exchange. | Total Annual Cost. | Gross Revenue. | Surplus. | Deficiency. |
|--------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------|-------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| 1935-36 | 42,419,787 | 3,337,372 | 1,914,010 | 5,251,382 | 5,164,371 | .... | 87,011 |
| 1936-37 | 43,663,984 | 3,590,309 | 1,954,297 | 5,544,696 | 5,300,372 | .... | 244,324 |
| 1937-38 | 45,045,476 | 3,594,309 | 2,072,467 | 5,666,866 | 5,569,462 | .... | 97,404 |
| 1938-39 | 46,028,171 | 3,900,517 | 2,141,120 | 6,041,637 | 5,911,981 | .... | 429,656 |
| 1939-40 | 46,424,972 | 3,796,428 | 2,208,074 | 6,004,502 | 5,572,612 | .... | 431,890 |

[Return No. 13.]

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES FOR YEAR 1939-40.

| Utilities. | Loan Capital. | Working Expenses. | Interest, Sinking Fund and Exchange. | Total Annual Cost. | Gross Revenue. | Surplus. | Deficiency. |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------|-------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Railways | (a) 27,178,484 | 2,802,850 | 1,280,648 | 4,083,498 | 3,497,529 | .... | 585,969 |
| Tramways | 1,236,471 | 254,837 | 59,678 | 314,515 | 304,856 | .... | 9,659 |
| Electricity | 1,049,556 | 307,895 | 94,110 | 402,005 | 425,715 | 23,710 | .... |
| Metropolitan Water Supply | 7,934,130 | 105,268 | 382,387 | 487,655 | 526,530 | 38,875 | .... |
| Goldfields Water Supply | 2,724,111 | 130,055 | 130,587 | 260,642 | 314,335 | 53,693 | .... |
| All other | 5,402,214 | 195,525 | 260,664 | 456,187 | 503,047 | 47,460 | .... |
| Totals | 46,424,972 | 3,796,428 | 2,208,074 | 6,004,502 | 5,572,612 | 103,738 | 595,623 |
| NET DEFICIENCY .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | £431,890 | .... |

(a) Includes Revenue Capital £933,338.

[Return No. 14.]

RETURN RELATING TO RAILWAYS.

| | 1939-40. | 1938-39. | 1937-38. | 1936-37. | 1935-36. |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | miles. | miles. | miles. | miles. | miles. |
| Number of Miles Open | 4,381 | 4,378 | 4,339 | 4,357 | 4,358 |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Loan Capital | 26,545,146 | 26,442,349 | 26,251,503 | 25,895,076 | 25,713,798 |
| Revenue Capital | 633,338 | 633,338 | 640,020 | 640,020 | 640,020 |
| Total | 27,178,484 | 27,075,687 | 26,891,523 | 26,535,096 | 26,353,818 |
| Working Expenses | 2,802,850 | 2,904,677 | 2,671,131 | 2,693,698 | 2,498,412 |
| Interest, Sinking Fund, and Exchange | 1,280,648 | 1,249,042 | 1,227,178 | 1,178,504 | 1,181,919 |
| Total Annual Cost | 4,083,498 | 4,153,719 | 3,898,309 | 3,872,202 | 3,680,331 |
| Gross Revenue | 3,497,529 | 3,586,013 | 3,645,942 | 3,468,657 | 3,424,494 |
| Deficiency | 585,969 | 567,706 | 252,367 | 403,545 | 255,837 |

[Return No. 15.]

RETURN RELATING TO TRAMWAYS.

| | 1939-40. | 1938-39. | 1937-38. | 1936-37. | 1935-36. |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Loan Capital | 1,236,471 | 1,230,503 | 1,228,675 | 1,140,163 | 1,104,573 |
| Working Expenses | 254,837 | 251,571 | 218,013 | 212,645 | 204,392 |
| Interest, Sinking Fund, and Exchange | 59,678 | 58,413 | 57,127 | 51,780 | 50,777 |
| Total Annual Cost | 314,515 | 309,984 | 275,140 | 264,425 | 255,169 |
| Gross Revenue | 304,856 | 302,354 | 286,568 | 285,797 | 287,103 |
| Surplus | ... | ... | 11,428 | 21,372 | 31,934 |
| Deficiency | 9,659 | 7,630 | ... | ... | ... |

[Return No. 16.]

RETURN RELATING TO ELECTRICITY.

| | 1939-40. | 1938-39. | 1937-38. | 1936-37. | 1935-36. |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Loan Capital | 1,949,556 | 1,952,884 | 1,927,957 | 1,901,198 | 1,854,065 |
| Working Expenses | 307,895 | 312,719 | 290,879 | 270,364 | 241,853 |
| Interest, Sinking Fund, and Exchange | 94,110 | 92,196 | 90,124 | 86,390 | 83,865 |
| Total Annual Cost | 402,005 | 404,915 | 381,003 | 356,754 | 325,718 |
| Gross Revenue | 425,715 | 414,519 | 387,037 | 364,663 | 348,425 |
| Surplus | 23,710 | 9,604 | 6,034 | 7,909 | 22,707 |

[Return No. 17.]

RETURN RELATING TO METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY, SEWERAGE, AND DRAINAGE.

| | 1939-40. | 1938-39. | 1937-38. | 1936-37. | 1935-36. |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Loan Capital | 7,934,136 | 7,826,447 | 7,373,243 | 6,827,384 | 6,167,061 |
| Working Expenses | 105,268 | 101,990 | 97,088 | 101,357 | 99,202 |
| Interest, Sinking Fund, and Exchange | 382,387 | 367,792 | 342,755 | 308,278 | 280,490 |
| Total Annual Cost | 487,655 | 469,782 | 439,843 | 409,635 | 379,692 |
| Gross Revenue | 528,530 | 494,390 | 439,184 | 412,545 | 376,608 |
| Surplus | 38,875 | 24,608 | ... | 2,910 | ... |
| Deficiency | ... | ... | 659 | ... | 3,084 |

[Return No. 18.]

RETURN RELATING TO GOLDFIELDS WATER SUPPLY.

| | 1939-40. | 1938-39. | 1937-38. | 1936-37. | 1935-36. |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Loan Capital | 2,724,111 | 2,548,042 | 2,325,012 | 2,100,267 | 1,767,805 |
| Working Expenses | 130,055 | 135,388 | 125,155 | 120,314 | 111,622 |
| Interest, Sinking Fund, and Exchange | 130,587 | 119,379 | 107,855 | 94,318 | 80,011 |
| Total Annual Cost | 260,642 | 254,767 | 233,010 | 214,632 | 191,633 |
| Gross Revenue | 314,335 | 300,610 | 293,873 | 286,848 | 240,461 |
| Surplus | 53,693 | 45,843 | 60,863 | 72,216 | 48,828 |

[Return No. 19.]

RETURN RELATING TO OTHER UTILITIES FOR 1939-40.

| Utilities. | Loan Capital. | Working Expenses. | Interest, Sinking Fund and Exchange. | Total Annual Cost. | Gross Revenue. | Surplus. | Deficiency. |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------|-------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Fremantle Harbour Trust | 2,882,140 | (a) | 139,123 | 139,123 | 242,333 | 103,210 | .... |
| Bunbury Harbour Board | 610,841 | (a) | 29,481 | 29,481 | 2,500 | .... | 26,981 |
| State Batteries | 419,120 | 112,018 | 20,211 | 133,129 | 124,424 | .... | 8,705 |
| Bunbury Bulk Handling | 70,057 | .... | 3,379 | 3,379 | 1,638 | .... | 1,741 |
| Metropolitan Abattoirs | 217,807 | 34,480 | 10,502 | 44,982 | 54,909 | 9,927 | .... |
| Kalgoorlie Abattoirs | 25,013 | 4,531 | 1,284 | 5,765 | 6,503 | 740 | .... |
| Cave House | 52,081 | 11,925 | 2,406 | 14,421 | 13,641 | .... | 780 |
| State Ferries | 4,335 | 8,590 | 211 | 8,807 | 7,762 | .... | 1,045 |
| Metropolitan Markets Trust | 166,245 | (a) | 7,546 | 7,646 | 9,275 | 1,729 | .... |
| Water Supplies—Country Towns | 963,885 | 23,073 | 46,481 | 69,554 | 40,660 | .... | 28,894 |
| Totals | 5,402,214 | 195,523 | 200,664 | 456,187 | 503,047 | 115,006 | 68,146 |
| NET SURPLUS .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | £47,400 | |

(a) Receipts paid to Trust Accounts from which Working Expenses are met without Parliamentary Appropriation.
(See Return No. 31).

[Return No. 20.]

SUMMARY OF TRADING CONCERNS.

| | 1938-39. | 1937-38. | 1936-37. | 1935-36. | 1934-35. | 1933-34. |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Loan Capital | 2,249,545 | 2,251,247 | 2,041,263 | 1,997,237 | 2,114,384 | 2,116,028 |
| Revenue Capital | 157,794 | 162,794 | 163,035 | 178,319 | 208,319 | 208,319 |
| | 2,407,339 | 2,414,041 | 2,204,298 | 2,175,556 | 2,322,703 | 2,324,347 |
| Gross Revenue | 1,454,296 | 1,516,771 | 1,347,971 | 1,218,099 | 1,264,775 | 1,066,974 |
| Increase in Stocks | 73,066 | 206 | 9,562 | 4,885 | 14,584 | 11,841 |
| Decrease in Stocks | 111 | 52,865 | 8,949 | 7,191 | 69,251 | 39,358 |
| | 1,527,251 | 1,464,112 | 1,348,584 | 1,215,793 | 1,210,108 | 1,039,457 |
| Working Expenditure (a) | 1,444,176 | 1,341,466 | 1,244,740 | 1,120,076 | 1,141,829 | 979,702 |
| Interest and Sinking Fund | 146,999 | 116,319 | 115,273 | 116,491 | 129,859 | 143,359 |
| Depreciation | 49,673 | 37,741 | 41,361 | 31,938 | 30,624 | 30,438 |
| Total Annual Cost | 1,640,848 | 1,495,526 | 1,401,374 | 1,268,505 | 1,302,312 | 1,153,499 |
| Profit | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Loss | 113,597 | 31,414 | 52,790 | 52,712 | 92,204 | 114,042 |

(a) Includes provision for Bad Debts and Bad Debts written off.

Note.—Wyndham Meat Works—Financial years end 31st January, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940.

State Shipping Service—Financial year now ends 31st December. 18 months to 31st December, 1939, included in above figures.

[Return No. 21.]

RETURN RELATING TO STATE BRICKWORKS.

| | 1938-39. | 1937-38. | 1936-37. | 1935-36. | 1934-35. | 1933-34. |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Loan Capital | 52,231 | 52,238 | 52,238 | 52,238 | 52,238 | 52,238 |
| Revenue Capital | 1,774 | 1,774 | 1,774 | 1,774 | 1,774 | 1,774 |
| | 54,005 | 54,012 | 54,012 | 54,012 | 54,012 | 54,012 |
| Gross Revenue | 42,605 | 32,848 | 25,279 | 26,027 | 18,974 | 12,641 |
| Increase in Stocks | 87 | 206 | ... | 1,078 | ... | 886 |
| Decrease in Stocks | ... | ... | 353 | ... | 2,879 | ... |
| | 42,692 | 33,054 | 24,926 | 27,105 | 16,095 | 13,527 |
| Working Expenditure | 38,008 | 30,620 | 24,359 | 23,657 | 15,293 | 12,159 |
| Interest and Sinking Fund | 2,828 | 2,849 | 2,821 | 2,846 | 2,943 | 2,063 |
| Depreciation | 1,743 | 1,683 | 1,838 | 1,896 | 1,756 | 1,075 |
| Total Annual Cost | 42,579 | 35,154 | 29,018 | 28,399 | 19,992 | 16,197 |
| Profit | 113 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Loss | ... | 2,100 | 4,092 | 1,294 | 3,897 | 2,670 |

[Return No. 22.]

RETURN RELATING TO STATE IMPLEMENT WORKS.

| | 1938-39. | 1937-38. | 1936-37. | 1935-36. | 1934-35. | 1933-34. |
|-----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Loan Capital | 121,554 | 121,554 | 121,816 | 121,816 | 121,816 | 122,815 |
| Revenue Capital | 123,509 | 123,509 | 118,750 | 119,034 | 119,034 | 119,034 |
| | 245,063 | 245,063 | 240,566 | 240,850 | 240,850 | 241,849 |
| Gross Revenue | 66,547 | 63,603 | 63,211 | 72,958 | 73,512 | 69,267 |
| Increase in Stocks | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Decrease in Stocks | 111 | 518 | 6,801 | 5,300 | 6,680 | 5,738 |
| | 66,436 | 63,085 | 56,410 | 67,649 | 66,832 | 63,529 |
| Working Expenditure | 62,634 | 60,861 | 55,389 | 68,500 | 76,882 | 62,993 |
| Interest and Sinking Fund (a) ... | 12,390 | 12,443 | 11,726 | 11,752 | 11,520 | 12,700 |
| Depreciation | ... | ... | 4,091 | ... | ... | ... |
| Total Annual Cost | 75,024 | 73,304 | 71,206 | 80,252 | 88,402 | 75,693 |
| Profit | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Loss | 8,588 | 10,219 | 14,796 | 12,603 | 21,570 | 12,164 |

a) Includes Sinking Fund not charged in the accounts of the Concern as follows :—

| | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| £304 | £305 | £305 | £305 | £307 | £307 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|

[Return No. 23.]

RETURN RELATING TO STATE QUARRIES.

| | 1938-39. | 1937-38. | 1936-37. | 1935-36. | 1934-35. | 1933-34. |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Loan Capital | 39,953 | 35,596 | 34,996 | 34,096 | 35,031 | 35,031 |
| Revenue Capital | 872 | 872 | 872 | 872 | 872 | 872 |
| | 40,825 | 36,468 | 35,868 | 35,868 | 35,903 | 35,903 |
| Gross Revenue | 20,704 | 17,388 | 10,598 | 16,445 | 14,780 | 20,355 |
| Increase in Stocks | 1,385 | ... | 104 | 160 | 4 | ... |
| Decrease in Stocks | ... | 394 | ... | ... | ... | 282 |
| | 22,089 | 16,994 | 10,702 | 16,605 | 14,784 | 20,073 |
| Working Expenditure | 21,727 | 15,072 | 10,029 | 14,420 | 13,902 | 19,081 |
| Interest and Sinking Fund | 1,904 | 1,884 | 1,872 | 1,942 | 2,128 | 2,238 |
| Depreciation | 1,625 | 1,600 | 1,637 | 1,621 | 756 | 856 |
| Total Annual Cost | 25,256 | 18,550 | 13,538 | 17,983 | 16,786 | 22,175 |
| Profit | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Loss | 3,167 | 1,562 | 2,836 | 1,378 | 2,002 | 2,102 |

[Return No. 24.]

RETURN RELATING TO STATE SHIPPING SERVICE.

| | 18 months to 31-12-39. | 1937-38. | 1936-37. | 1935-36. | 1934-35. | 1933-34. |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Loan Capital | 629,956 | 634,204 | 421,879 | 368,494 | 508,494 | 508,494 |
| Gross Revenue | 317,877 | 189,148 | 189,748 | 180,345 | 167,569 | 181,603 |
| Working Expenditure | 339,568 | 195,785 | 196,978 | 171,026 | 166,768 | 168,758 |
| Interest and Sinking Fund (a) ... | 53,676 | 22,426 | 22,292 | 25,600 | 29,703 | 35,592 |
| Depreciation | 37,873 | 25,118 | 25,118 | 19,427 | 19,440 | 19,441 |
| Total Annual Cost | 431,117 | 243,329 | 244,388 | 216,053 | 215,911 | 223,791 |
| Profit | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Loss | 113,240 | 54,181 | 54,640 | 35,708 | 48,342 | 42,188 |

(a) Includes Sinking Fund not charged in the accounts of the Concern as follows:—

| | | | | | |
|--------|--------|------|--------|--------|--------|
| £2,373 | £1,055 | £921 | £1,271 | £1,271 | £1,264 |
|--------|--------|------|--------|--------|--------|

[Return No. 25.]

RETURN RELATING TO STATE HOTELS.

| | 1938-39. | 1937-38. | 1936-37. | 1935-36. | 1934-35. | 1933-34. |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Loan Capital | 60,853 | 61,154 | 61,441 | 59,987 | 60,171 | 60,215 |
| Revenue Capital | 5,524 | 5,524 | 5,524 | 5,524 | 5,524 | 5,524 |
| | 66,377 | 66,678 | 66,965 | 65,511 | 65,695 | 65,739 |
| Gross Revenue | 62,429 | 63,456 | 61,434 | 55,285 | 47,932 | 45,935 |
| Working Expenditure | 52,461 | 52,034 | 49,937 | 44,375 | 38,723 | 37,048 |
| Interest and Sinking Fund | 3,607 | 3,009 | 3,401 | 3,406 | 3,455 | 3,577 |
| Depreciation | 240 | 80 | 129 | 345 | 87 | 149 |
| Total Annual Cost | 56,308 | 55,723 | 53,467 | 48,126 | 42,265 | 40,774 |
| Profit | 6,121 | 7,733 | 7,067 | 7,159 | 5,667 | 5,161 |
| Loss | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |

[Return No. 26.]

RETURN RELATING TO STATE SAW MILLS.

| | 1938-39. | 1937-38. | 1936-37. | 1935-36. | 1934-35. | 1933-34. |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Loan Capital | 272,618 | 274,121 | 276,513 | 287,326 | 287,326 | 287,927 |
| Revenue Capital | 26,115 | 31,115 | 36,115 | 51,115 | 81,115 | 81,115 |
| | 298,733 | 305,236 | 312,628 | 338,441 | 368,441 | 369,042 |
| Gross Revenue | 574,192 | 660,707 | 592,754 | 588,272 | 591,282 | 474,155 |
| Increase in Stocks | 2,332 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Decrease in Stocks | ... | 14,889 | 1,795 | 1,882 | 59,692 | 33,338 |
| | 576,524 | 645,818 | 590,959 | 586,390 | 531,590 | 440,817 |
| Working Expenditure | 538,575 | (a) 579,868 | 534,350 | 529,515 | 474,175 | 411,559 |
| Interest and Sinking Fund | 16,294 | 16,808 | 16,809 | 18,201 | 21,249 | 24,336 |
| Depreciation | 7,523 | 8,697 | 8,548 | 8,639 | 8,483 | 8,502 |
| Total Annual Cost | 562,392 | 600,373 | 559,767 | 556,355 | 503,907 | 444,397 |
| Profit | 14,132 | 40,445 | 31,192 | 30,035 | 27,683 | ... |
| Loss | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3,580 |

(a) Includes £5,000 paid to Mill Construction Reserve Account.

[Return No. 27.]

RETURN RELATING TO WYNDHAM MEAT WORKS.

| | 1-2-39 to 31-1-40. | 1-2-38 to 31-1-39. | 1-2-37 to 31-1-38. | 1-2-36 to 31-1-37. | 1-2-35 to 31-1-36. | 1-2-34 to 31-1-35. |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Loan Capital | 1,072,380 | 1,072,380 | 1,072,380 | 1,072,380 | 1,049,308 | 1,049,308 |
| Gross Revenue | 369,942 | 489,621 | 404,947 | 278,767 | 350,726 | 263,018 |
| Increase in Stocks | 69,262 | ... | 9,458 | 3,647 | 14,580 | 10,955 |
| Decrease in Stocks | ... | 37,064 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| | 439,204 | 452,557 | 414,405 | 282,414 | 365,306 | 273,973 |
| Working Expenditure | 391,203 | 407,226 | 373,698 | 268,583 | 356,086 | 268,104 |
| Interest and Sinking Fund (a) | 56,300 | 56,300 | 56,292 | 52,744 | 58,861 | 61,953 |
| Depreciation (b) | 669 | 561 | ... | 10 | 102 | 415 |
| Total Annual Cost | 448,172 | 464,087 | 429,990 | 321,337 | 415,049 | 330,472 |
| Profit | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Loss | 8,068 | 11,530 | 15,585 | 38,923 | 49,743 | 56,499 |

(a) Includes Sinking Fund not charged in the accounts of the Concern, as follows:—

| | | | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| £2,681 | £2,681 | £2,681 | £2,623 | £2,623 | £2,611 |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|

(b) Depreciation on Stores.

[Return No. 28.]

THE AGRICULTURAL LANDS PURCHASE ACT, 1909, and AMENDMENTS.

Position of Estates under the above Act, at 30th June, 1940.

[Amount Authorised, £ 100,000.]

| Estates. | Receipts. | | | | Payments. | | | | Balances. | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|-----------|--------------------|----------|-----------|
| | Proceeds of De-bentures. | Sale of Lots, Rents, etc. | Inter-est. | Total. | Purchase Money. | Survey Expenses, Interest, etc. | De-bentures Re-deemed. | Total. | Amount Over-drawn. | In Hand. | Invested. |
| Annebrook ... | £ 4,092 | £ 706 | £ | £ 5,788 | £ 4,092 | £ 2,819 | £ | £ 7,811 | £ 2,023 | £ | £ |
| Avondale ... | 49,949 | 43,284 | 8,417 | 96,650 | 49,949 | 60,216 | .... | 110,165 | 13,515 | .... | .... |
| Baacton ... | 32,875 | 12,790 | .... | 45,665 | 32,875 | 24,075 | .... | 56,950 | 11,285 | .... | .... |
| Bowes ... | 54,352 | 81,888 | 17,523 | 153,761 | 54,352 | 60,432 | 36,352 | 151,136 | .... | 26 | 2,500 |
| Brunswick ... | 5,650 | 9,550 | 1,605 | 16,805 | 5,650 | 5,925 | 5,650 | 17,225 | 420 | .... | .... |
| Bucklands ... | 30,162 | 15,705 | .... | 45,957 | 30,162 | 15,602 | 30,162 | 75,926 | 29,969 | .... | .... |
| Henty ... | 4,527 | 8,547 | 34 | 13,108 | 4,527 | 4,608 | 4,526 | 13,661 | 553 | .... | .... |
| Homebush ... | 1,250 | 1,979 | 742 | 3,971 | 1,250 | 1,471 | 1,250 | 3,971 | .... | .... | .... |
| Jelcobine ... | 8,320 | 10,448 | 303 | 19,071 | 8,320 | 9,853 | 1,000 | 19,173 | 103 | .... | .... |
| Jingalup ... | 2,734 | 2,688 | 15 | 5,437 | 2,734 | 2,859 | 2,734 | 8,327 | 2,890 | .... | .... |
| Kockatea ... | 16,170 | 6,082 | .... | 22,252 | 16,170 | 8,233 | .... | 24,403 | 2,151 | .... | .... |
| Marjildin ... | 4,452 | 7,832 | 1,749 | 14,033 | 4,452 | 5,216 | 4,452 | 14,120 | 37 | .... | .... |
| Mendel ... | 16,586 | 8,101 | 224 | 25,001 | 16,586 | 9,344 | .... | 25,930 | 929 | .... | .... |
| Narra Narra ... | 24,119 | 40,147 | 3,881 | 68,147 | 24,119 | 21,412 | 24,119 | 69,650 | 1,503 | .... | .... |
| Norman ... | 7,000 | 11,444 | 4,303 | 22,747 | 7,000 | 8,747 | 7,000 | 22,747 | .... | .... | .... |
| Oakabella ... | 22,000 | 38,831 | 12,018 | 72,849 | 22,000 | 26,816 | 22,000 | 70,816 | .... | 2,594 | .... |
| Pickering ... | 4,295 | 1,925 | 106 | 6,326 | 4,295 | 2,047 | .... | 6,342 | 610 | .... | .... |
| Porongorup ... | 1,764 | 880 | 30 | 2,692 | 1,764 | 942 | .... | 2,706 | 13 | .... | .... |
| Ulljugalup ... | 3,350 | 4,377 | 543 | 8,270 | 3,350 | 2,153 | .... | 5,503 | .... | 217 | 2,560 |
| Weirs ... | 700 | .... | .... | 700 | 700 | 373 | .... | 1,073 | 373 | .... | .... |
| Wongoody ... | 42,260 | 9,512 | .... | 51,772 | 42,260 | 21,150 | .... | 63,410 | 11,647 | .... | .... |
| Yandanooka ... | 140,000 | 231,004 | 10,468 | 381,472 | 140,000 | 154,024 | 21,100 | 315,124 | .... | 3,573 | 62,775 |
| Estates under S.S. Scheme | .... | 307,210 | .... | 307,210 | .... | 237,252 | .... | 237,252 | .... | 69,967 | .... |
| | 477,507 | 855,266 | 50,970 | 1,383,743 | 477,507 | 685,977 | 160,345 | 1,323,629 | 78,027 | 76,317 | 67,924 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | £144,241 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | £66,214 |

[Return No. 29.]

DISECTION OF CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND EXPENDITURE, 1932-33 to 1939-40.

| Item. | 1932-33. | 1933-34. | 1934-35. | 1935-36. | 1936-37. | 1937-38. | 1938-39. | 1939-40. |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Interest | 3,238,628 | 3,253,234 | 3,231,562 | 3,229,161 | 3,258,860 | 3,391,569 | 3,440,331 | 3,528,758 |
| Sinking Fund | 265,762 | 294,515 | 318,305 | 338,471 | 359,759 | 397,827 | 440,074 | 481,561 |
| Exchange | 566,982 | 504,286 | 460,237 | 454,250 | 460,459 | 453,902 | 470,829 | 492,089 |
| Unemployment Relief | 346,956 | 232,191 | 72,490 | 49,870 | 51,144 | 51,966 | 46,859 | 53,580 |
| Salaries and Wages | 3,056,742 | 3,233,133 | 3,432,644 | 3,618,271 | 3,917,527 | 4,006,298 | 4,306,034 | 4,435,780 |
| Materials | 665,837 | 720,350 | 727,015 | 787,970 | 920,284 | 905,021 | 1,049,207 | 1,009,158 |
| Grants | 109,050 | 115,718 | 138,909 | 154,754 | 155,756 | 186,644 | 189,815 | 138,533 |
| Pensions | 74,895 | 81,861 | 100,762 | 118,014 | 124,570 | 131,097 | 134,241 | 142,525 |
| All other | 871,382 | 835,321 | 1,007,595 | 1,194,582 | 1,308,279 | 1,305,411 | 1,083,712 | 983,884 |
| Total | 9,196,234 | 9,270,609 | 9,498,625 | 9,945,343 | 10,556,638 | 10,820,735 | 11,170,102 | 11,266,768 |

[Return No. 30.]

LOAN REPAYMENTS.
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE.

| Year ended 30th June. | Receipts. | Expenditure. | Balance in hand. |
|-----------------------|-----------|--------------|------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| 1928 | 154,108 | ... | 154,108 |
| 1929 | 235,404 | 33,297 | 358,215 |
| 1930 | 153,583 | 216,647 | 293,151 |
| 1931 | 84,248 | ... | 377,399 |
| 1932 | 112,361 | 171,800 | 317,960 |
| 1933 | 91,751 | 249,275 | 160,436 |
| 1934 | 100,935 | 215,740 | 45,631 |
| 1935 | 150,507 | 97,064 | 99,074 |
| 1936 | 107,906 | 74,791 | 132,189 |
| 1937 | 122,975 | 78,376 | 176,788 |
| 1938 | 134,462 | 154,825 | 156,425 |
| 1939 | 147,040 | 153,105 | 150,360 |
| 1940 | 127,470 | 101,086 | 176,744 |

[Return No. 31.]

**SUMMARY OF TRANSACTIONS OF FUNDS, THE EXPENDITURE OF WHICH IS NOT SUBJECT TO
PARLIAMENTARY APPROPRIATION. FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1940.**

| Fund. | Balance, 1st July, 1939. | Receipts during Year. | Payments during Year. | Balance, 30th June, 1940. |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Hospital Fund (see Return No. 32)... | 2,684 | 335,769 | 313,299 | 25,154 |
| Forest Improvement and Reforestation Fund (see Return No. 33) ... | 88,814 | 65,609 | 54,259 | 100,164 |
| Road Funds (see Return No. 34) ... | 26,976 | 1,082,926 | 994,055 | 115,847 |
| Metropolitan Markets Trust ... | 633 | 28,396 | (a) 28,153 | 876 |
| Fremantle Harbour Trust ... | ... | 534,585 | (b) 534,585 | ... |
| Bunbury Harbour Board ... | 1,974 | 23,378 | 21,701 | 3,651 |
| | 121,081 | 2,070,663 | 1,946,052 | 245,692 |

(a) Includes payments on account of—Interest, £7,854; Sinking Fund, £833; and Profits, £588.

(b) Includes payments on account of—Interest, £144,316; Sinking Fund, £19,924; Replacement Fund, £2,000; and Surplus Cash, £78,093.

[Return No. 32.]

HOSPITAL FUND.—TRANSACTIONS DURING THE YEARS 1935-36 TO 1939-40.

| — | 1935-36. | 1936-37. | 1937-38. | 1938-39. | 1939-40. |
|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| <i>Receipts.</i> | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Balance from previous year ... | ... | ... | 7,889 | 17,465 | 2,684 |
| Hospital Tax Collections ... | 206,539 | 234,599 | 245,660 | 264,072 | 271,689 |
| Treasury Grants ... | ... | ... | 12,936 | 1,502 | 61,000 |
| Recoup of Expenditure on Buildings ... | ... | 28,085 | 7,000 | 25,000 | ... |
| Miscellaneous Receipts ... | 2,828 | 8,369 | 780 | ... | 3,080 |
| Overdraft at end of year ... | 23,021 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| | 232,388 | 271,053 | 274,265 | 308,039 | 338,453 |
| <i>Payments.</i> | | | | | |
| Overdraft at beginning of year ... | 649 | 23,021 | ... | ... | ... |
| Administration Expenditure ... | 4,950 | 4,233 | 4,569 | 4,481 | 4,555 |
| Hospitals Expenditure— | | | | | |
| Departmental ... | 89,748 | 89,241 | 91,898 | 123,978 | 128,138 |
| Non-Departmental Subsidies, etc. | 135,189 | 143,694 | 160,245 | 174,658 | 180,606 |
| Miscellaneous ... | 1,852 | 2,975 | 88 | 2,238 | ... |
| Balance at end of year ... | ... | 7,889 | 17,465 | 2,684 | 25,154 |
| | 232,388 | 271,053 | 274,265 | 308,039 | 338,453 |

[Return No. 33.]

FORESTS IMPROVEMENT AND RE-FORESTATION FUND—TRANSACTIONS DURING THE YEARS 1935-36 TO 1939-40.

| — | 1935-36. | 1936-37. | 1937-38. | 1938-39. | 1939-40. |
|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| <i>Receipts.</i> | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Balance from previous year ... | 52,251 | 78,364 | 80,512 | 89,043 | 88,814 |
| Appropriation from Revenue Fund ... | 41,998 | 46,594 | 54,765 | 46,964 | 49,234 |
| Sundry Receipts ... | 3,615 | 4,451 | 14,026 | 4,970 | 16,375 |
| | 97,864 | 129,409 | 149,303 | 140,977 | 154,423 |
| <i>Payments.</i> | | | | | |
| Expenditure on Forest Improvements and Re-forestation during the year ... | 19,500 | 48,897 | 60,260 | 52,163 | 54,259 |
| Balance at end of year ... | 78,364 | 80,512 | 89,043 | 88,814 | 100,164 |
| | 97,864 | 129,409 | 149,303 | 140,977 | 154,423 |

[Return No. 34.]

ROAD FUNDS.—TRANSACTIONS DURING THE YEAR 1939-40.

| | Main Roads Contrib- utions Trust Account. | Metro- politan Tras- port Account. | Transport Co-ordi- nation Fund. | Federal Aid Roads Agree- ment Account. | Total |
|--|--|--|--|---|-----------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Balances from Year 1938-39 ... | 1,911 | 10,782 | 419 | 13,014 | 26,976 |
| Receipts during Year— | | | | | |
| License Fees and Permits ... | ... | 106,912 | 21,678 | ... | 218,490 |
| Contributions by Local Authorities ... | 497 | ... | ... | ... | 497 |
| Premiums on Omnibus Routes ... | ... | ... | 220 | ... | 220 |
| Commonwealth Grant ... | ... | ... | ... | 862,248 | 862,248 |
| Miscellaneous Receipts ... | ... | 12 | 120 | ... | 132 |
| Other Receipts in Suspense ... | ... | ... | 1,105 | ... | 1,105 |
| | 2,408 | 207,556 | 23,542 | 876,162 | 1,109,668 |
| Transfers to other Funds ... | ... | 39,416 | ... | ... | 39,416 |
| Transfers from other Funds ... | 89,416 | ... | 234 | ... | 89,650 |
| Totals ... | 41,824 | 168,140 | 23,776 | 876,162 | 1,109,902 |
| Payments during Year— | | | | | |
| Administration, Plant, Office Equip- ment, etc. ... | ... | 23,305 | 7,578 | 19,160 | 50,043 |
| National Debt Commission Sinking Fund ... | ... | ... | ... | 17,623 | 17,623 |
| Treasury—Interest, Sinking Fund, and Premiums ... | ... | 7,400 | 220 | ... | 7,620 |
| Road Construction, Maintenance, Surveys, etc. ... | 38,900 | 5,750 | ... | 741,654 | 786,304 |
| Distributions to Local and Statutory Authorities ... | ... | 116,808 | 12,980 | ... | 120,797 |
| Other Payments in Suspense ... | ... | ... | 1,190 | ... | 1,196 |
| Subsidies paid for the operation of various Road Transport Services ... | ... | ... | 1,472 | ... | 1,472 |
| | 38,900 | 153,263 | 23,455 | 778,437 | 994,055 |
| Balances in hand at 30th June, 1940 | 2,924 | 14,877 | 321 | 97,725 | 115,847 |

[Return No. 35.]

TOTAL NET COLLECTIONS OF STATE TAXATION TAKEN TO THE CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND,
TRUST ACCOUNTS, AND SPECIAL ACCOUNTS, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1940.

| Particulars. | Paid to C.R. Fund. | Paid to Trust or Special Accounts. | Total. | Taxation per Head. (a) |
|--|--------------------------|---|-----------|------------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ s. d. |
| Probate and Succession Duties ... | 122,442 | ... | 122,442 | 0 5 3 |
| Other Stamp Duties ... | 250,728 | ... | 250,728 | 0 10 9 |
| Land Tax ... | 99,348 | ... | 99,348 | 0 4 3 |
| Income Tax— | | | | |
| State Income Tax and Dividend Duty (b) | 1,001,906 | ... | 1,001,906 | 2 3 0 |
| Financial Emergency Tax (c) | 1,251,259 | ... | 1,251,259 | 2 13 8 |
| Hospital Tax (d) | ... | 270,782 | 270,782 | 0 11 8 |
| Liquor Licenses ... | 82,975 | ... | 82,975 | 0 3 7 |
| Racing— | | | | |
| Entertainments Tax on Admission ... | 10,565 | ... | 10,565 | 0 0 6 |
| Stamp Duty on Betting Tickets ... | 8,854 | ... | 8,854 | 0 0 5 |
| Income Tax on Stakes ... | 1,829 | ... | 1,829 | 0 0 1 |
| Totalisator Duty ... | 50,963 | ... | 50,963 | 0 2 2 |
| Totalisator Licenses ... | 718 | ... | 718 | ... |
| Stamp Duty on Tote Dividends ... | 449 | ... | 449 | ... |
| Motor Taxation ... | 22,598 | 428,223 | 450,821 | 0 19 4 |
| Other Vehicles ... | ... | 5,094 | 5,094 | 0 0 2 |
| Entertainments ... | 87,496 | ... | 87,496 | 0 3 9 |
| Vermitt Tax ... | ... | 16,489 | 16,489 | 0 0 9 |
| Licenses, not elsewhere included ... | 16,696 | ... | 16,696 | 0 0 9 |
| | 3,008,826 | 720,588 | 3,729,414 | 8 0 1 |

(a) Based on population as at 31st December, 1939, viz., 465,916.

(b) Includes Gold Mining Profits Tax, £150,242.

(c) Financial Emergency Tax.—Stamp Sales and Deductions, £603,498; Assessments, £647,761.

(d) Hospital Tax.—Stamp Sales and Deductions, £172,907; Assessments, £97,875.

[Return No. 36.]

STATEMENT SHOWING RECEIPTS FROM COMMONWEALTH, 1901-02 TO 1939-40

| Year. | Contri- bution to Sinking Fund. | Contri- bution towards Interest. | Surplus Revenue Re- turned. | Payment per Head, 25/-. | Special Payment to W.A. | Interest on Trans- ferred Prop- erties. | Dis- abilities Grant. | Total. |
|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-------------|
| PERIOD COVERED BY BRADDON CLAUSE. | | | | | | | | |
| *1901-02 to 1910-11 | £ ... | £ ... | £ 18,872,722 | £ ... | £ ... | £ ... | £ ... | £ 8,872,722 |
| PERIOD COVERED BY PER CAPITA PAYMENTS AND SPECIAL PAYMENT TO W.A. | | | | | | | | |
| 1911-12 to 1926-27 | ... | ... | ... | 6,632,264 | 2,556,248 | 462,010 | 505,905 | 10,216,427 |
| PERIOD COVERED BY FINANCIAL AGREEMENT ACT. | | | | | | | | |
| 1927-28 ... | 77,908 | 1483,286 | ... | ... | ... | 25,775 | 300,000 | 886,960 |
| 1928-29 ... | 91,598 | 1483,578 | ... | ... | ... | 47,868 | 300,000 | 903,044 |
| 1929-30 ... | 97,863 | 473,432 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 300,000 | 871,295 |
| 1930-31 ... | 106,166 | 473,432 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 300,000 | 879,598 |
| 1931-32 ... | 118,946 | 473,432 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 300,000 | 892,378 |
| 1932-33 ... | 126,781 | 473,432 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 500,000 | 1,100,213 |
| 1933-34 ... | 136,826 | 473,432 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 600,000 | 1,210,258 |
| 1934-35 ... | 143,871 | 473,432 | £133,000 | ... | ... | ... | 600,000 | 1,350,303 |
| 1935-36 ... | 151,247 | 473,432 | \$35,000 | ... | ... | ... | 800,000 | 1,459,679 |
| 1936-37 ... | 157,016 | 473,432 | \$33,000 | ... | ... | ... | 500,000 | 1,163,448 |
| 1937-38 ... | 162,524 | 473,432 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 575,000 | 1,210,956 |
| 1938-39 ... | 167,013 | 473,432 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 570,000 | 1,210,445 |
| 1939-40 ... | 174,765 | 473,432 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 595,000 | 1,243,197 |
| Total, 13 years ... | 1,712,524 | 6,154,616 | 201,000 | ... | ... | 73,643 | 6,240,000 | 14,381,783 |

* First complete year under Federation. † Including £868,963 from Special Tariff provided under the Constitution of the Commonwealth for 5 years after the imposition of uniform Customs duties.
 ‡ Special payment under States Grant Act, pending passing of the Financial Agreement Act.
 § Proportion of Commonwealth Surplus distributed to States.

GRANTS FOR ROADS, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND ASSISTANCE TO INDUSTRIES FOR YEAR 1939-40—PAID TO TRUST FUNDS.

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|------------|
| <i>Federal Roads Agreement Act—</i> | | | | | £ | £ |
| Contribution from Petrol Tax: | | | | | | |
| For Roads | ... | ... | ... | ... | 844,625 | |
| For Sinking Fund | ... | ... | ... | ... | 17,623 | |
| | | | | | | 862,248 |
| <i>Assistance to Industries—</i> | | | | | | |
| Relief to Primary Producers | ... | ... | ... | ... | 395,965 | |
| Rural Relief | ... | ... | ... | ... | 100,000 | |
| Assistance to Banana Growers | ... | ... | ... | ... | 500 | |
| | | | | | | 496,465 |
| <i>Other Grants—</i> | | | | | | |
| Local Public Works | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6,650 | |
| Die Back Investigation | ... | ... | ... | ... | 463 | |
| Tobacco Investigation | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,250 | |
| | | | | | | 9,363 |
| | | | | | | £1,368,076 |

| Service. | Loan Lia- bility. | Expenditure : | | | | | Receipts. | Net Ex- penditure. | Cost per Head (*) |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | Indirect. | | Direct. | | Total. | | | |
| | | Interest and Ex- change. | Sinking Fund. | Con- solidated Revenue Fund. | Trust and Special Accounts. | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.—Education— | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ s. d. |
| (a) Education Department and Schools ... | 1,364,555 | 58,969 | 6,743 | 734,340 | ... | 800,052 | 17,058 | 782,994 | 1 13 7 |
| (b) University | 34,115 | 1,474 | 172 | 43,096 | ... | 44,742 | ... | 44,742 | 0 1 11 |
| (c) Technical Education | 95,617 | 4,133 | 389 | 63,099 | ... | 67,621 | 4,010 | 63,611 | 0 2 9 |
| (d) Agricultural Education | 99,420 | 4,296 | 498 | 22,971 | ... | 27,765 | 11,486 | 16,279 | 0 0 8 |
| (e) Library, Museum, Observatory ... | 35,956 | 1,554 | 181 | 9,685 | ... | 11,420 | 530 | 10,890 | 0 0 6 |
| (f) Deaf, Dumb and Blind | 884 | 39 | 4 | 3,300 | ... | 3,343 | ... | 3,343 | 0 0 2 |
| Total 1 | 1,630,547 | 70,465 | 7,987 | 876,491 | ... | 954,943 | 33,084 | 921,859 | 1 19 7 |
| 2.—Health, Hospitals, and Charities— | | | | | | | | | |
| (a) Public Health | ... | ... | ... | 49,848 | ... | 49,848 | 12,400 | 37,448 | 0 1 7 |
| (b) Care of Sick and Mentally Afflicted, Health of Mothers and Children | 1,448,153 | 62,583 | 5,617 | 136,140 | 368,107 | 572,447 | (†) 75,986 | 496,461 | 1 1 4 |
| (c) Recreation Facilities | ... | ... | ... | 8,388 | ... | 8,388 | ... | 8,388 | 0 0 4 |
| (d) Relief of Aged, Indigent and Infirm, Child Welfare | 88,683 | 3,832 | 445 | 159,072 | ... | 163,349 | 31,769 | 131,580 | 0 5 8 |
| (e) Miners' Phthisis | ... | ... | ... | 69,557 | ... | 69,557 | 25,000 | 44,557 | 0 1 11 |
| (f) Natives... .. | ... | ... | ... | 54,991 | ... | 54,991 | 11,600 | 43,391 | 0 1 10 |
| (g) Unemployment Relief | ... | ... | ... | 66,059 | ... | 66,059 | 768 | 65,291 | 0 2 10 |
| Total 2 | 1,536,836 | 66,415 | 6,062 | 544,055 | 368,107 | 984,639 | 157,523 | 827,116 | 1 15 6 |
| 3.—Law, Order and Public Safety— | | | | | | | | | |
| (a) Administration of Justice | 44,099 | 1,905 | 223 | 93,232 | ... | 95,360 | 117,209 | Cr. 21,849 | Cr. 0 0 11 |
| (b) Police | 187,257 | 8,093 | 942 | 261,704 | ... | 270,739 | 54,419 | 216,320 | 0 9 3 |
| (c) Gaols and Reformatories | 54,545 | 2,359 | 275 | 32,170 | ... | 34,804 | 1,427 | 33,377 | 0 1 5 |
| (d) Public Safety | ... | ... | ... | 25,854 | ... | 25,854 | 13,305 | 12,549 | 0 0 7 |
| Total 3 | 285,901 | 12,357 | 1,440 | 412,960 | ... | 426,757 | 186,360 | 240,397 | 0 10 4 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 3,453,284 | 149,237 | 15,489 | 1,833,506 | 368,107 | 2,366,339 | 370,967 | 1,989,372 | 4 5 5 |

(*) Based on Population as at 31st December, 1939, viz., 465,916.

(†) Includes £54,808. Patients' Fees paid to Hospital Fund.

[Return No. 38.]

RAILWAYS.—STATEMENT SHOWING TONNAGE AND EARNINGS ON GOODS CARRIED.

| Class of Goods. | 1939-1940. | | 1938-1939. | | 1937-1938. | | 1936-1937. | | 1935-1936. | |
|---------------------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|----------------------|
| | Tonnage. | Percentage of Total. | Tonnage. | Percentage of Total. | Tonnage. | Percentage of Total. | Tonnage. | Percentage of Total. | Tonnage. | Percentage of Total. |
| Coal, Coke, and Charcoal | 267,203 | 10.05 | 299,048 | 10.48 | 307,096 | 10.03 | 282,561 | 10.10 | 269,558 | 9.34 |
| Ores and other Minerals | 262,030 | 9.48 | 230,478 | 9.81 | 297,075 | 9.70 | 309,203 | 11.04 | 349,934 | 12.13 |
| Wool | 31,430 | 1.18 | 28,426 | 0.99 | 26,714 | 0.87 | 24,840 | 0.89 | 30,529 | 1.06 |
| Hay, Straw, and Chaff | 39,045 | 1.47 | 45,074 | 1.58 | 42,469 | 1.39 | 57,896 | 2.07 | 55,678 | 1.93 |
| Wheat | 671,453 | 25.25 | 750,495 | 26.24 | 788,838 | 25.11 | 485,906 | 17.36 | 571,926 | 19.61 |
| Other Grain and Flour | 159,568 | 6.00 | 163,449 | 5.72 | 140,378 | 4.58 | 133,089 | 4.76 | 129,505 | 4.38 |
| Firewood | 43,117 | 1.62 | 43,495 | 1.52 | 151,312 | 4.94 | 242,234 | 8.66 | 244,452 | 8.47 |
| Local Timber | 298,424 | 11.23 | 317,939 | 11.10 | 403,663 | 13.18 | 351,885 | 12.56 | 376,349 | 13.04 |
| Imported Timber | 1,571 | 0.06 | 2,298 | 0.08 | 1,810 | 0.06 | 1,428 | 0.05 | 1,973 | 0.07 |
| Fruit and Garden Produce | 95,810 | 3.60 | 118,062 | 4.13 | 80,308 | 2.62 | 95,080 | 3.07 | 96,842 | 3.35 |
| Fertilisers | 271,509 | 10.21 | 279,563 | 9.78 | 293,574 | 9.69 | 258,263 | 9.23 | 233,924 | 8.10 |
| All other goods | 627,716 | 19.85 | 531,414 | 18.59 | 548,684 | 17.93 | 555,103 | 20.21 | 628,673 | 18.32 |
| Total | 2,858,876 | 100.00 | 2,859,141 | 100.00 | 3,061,921 | 100.00 | 2,798,448 | 100.00 | 2,886,648 | 100.00 |

| Class of Goods. | 1939-1940. | | 1938-1939. | | 1937-1938. | | 1936-1937. | | 1935-1936. | |
|---------------------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|----------------------|
| | Earnings. | Percentage of Total. | Earnings. | Percentage of Total. | Earnings. | Percentage of Total. | Earnings. | Percentage of Total. | Earnings. | Percentage of Total. |
| Coal, Coke, and Charcoal | 158,344 | 5.94 | £ 179,659 | 6.67 | £ 180,670 | 6.52 | £ 160,780 | 6.33 | £ 155,637 | 6.16 |
| Ores and other Minerals | 86,693 | 3.25 | 96,386 | 3.58 | 109,922 | 3.97 | 100,117 | 3.94 | 98,020 | 3.88 |
| Wool | 85,927 | 3.22 | 74,079 | 2.75 | 69,006 | 2.52 | 63,762 | 2.61 | 85,584 | 3.39 |
| Hay, Straw, and Chaff | 33,169 | 1.24 | 38,408 | 1.43 | 36,537 | 1.32 | 49,860 | 1.96 | 46,229 | 1.83 |
| Wheat | 451,073 | 16.93 | 478,759 | 17.78 | 495,174 | 17.88 | 314,485 | 12.37 | 367,991 | 14.56 |
| Other Grain and Flour | 90,774 | 3.42 | 95,535 | 3.55 | 82,275 | 2.97 | 77,823 | 3.06 | 73,592 | 2.91 |
| Firewood | 19,673 | 0.40 | 19,929 | 0.41 | 13,734 | 0.50 | 15,524 | 0.61 | 16,963 | 0.67 |
| Local Timber | 250,281 | 9.39 | 255,451 | 9.48 | 316,131 | 11.42 | 287,844 | 11.33 | 300,318 | 11.89 |
| Imported Timber | 3,558 | 0.13 | 3,100 | 0.12 | 2,261 | 0.08 | 2,233 | 0.09 | 2,743 | 0.11 |
| Fruit and Garden Produce | 110,466 | 4.15 | 126,367 | 4.69 | 90,824 | 3.60 | 104,605 | 4.12 | 113,143 | 4.48 |
| Fertilisers | 73,555 | 2.76 | 75,735 | 2.81 | 79,934 | 2.89 | 71,812 | 2.83 | 65,417 | 2.59 |
| All other goods | 1,310,161 | 49.17 | 1,258,896 | 46.73 | 1,283,033 | 46.33 | 1,292,355 | 50.85 | 1,209,982 | 47.53 |
| Total | £2,664,674 | 100.00 | £2,693,484 | 100.00 | £2,789,401 | 100.00 | £2,541,170 | 100.00 | £2,526,619 | 100.00 |

[3 SEPTEMBER, 1940.]

[Return No. 39.]

TRADE, PRODUCTION, POPULATION, Etc.

| | 1929-30. | 1930-31. | 1931-32. | 1932-33. | 1933-34. | 1934-35. | 1935-36. | 1936-37. | 1937-38. | 1938-39. | 1939-40. |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Railway and Tram- way Revenue | £3,981,994 | £3,425,220 | £3,183,977 | £3,203,018 | £3,165,593 | £3,562,957 | £3,711,597 | £3,754,454 | £3,932,510 | £3,883,367 | £3,802,385 |
| Railway Mileage (Route) | 4,111 | 4,170 | 4,235 | 4,338 | 4,360 | 4,359 | 4,356 | 4,357 | 4,376 | 4,378 | 4,331 |
| Wool exported ... | £2,779,113 | £2,386,638 | £2,345,670 | £2,563,592 | £4,810,846 | £3,413,589 | £4,871,736 | £4,164,433 | £3,161,540 | £3,270,580 | (a) |
| Wool produced (c)— (quantity—lbs.) (value) | 67,150,720 £2,946,812 | 71,541,885 £2,397,766 | 71,614,145 £2,504,406 | 75,147,012 £2,001,965 | 78,424,200 £5,103,128 | 89,991,658 £3,419,308 | 85,706,700 £4,793,147 | 63,537,200 £4,020,713 | 64,739,400 £3,183,641 | 72,475,000 £2,962,860 | 73,477,000 £4,058,370 |
| *Wheat produced (bushels) | 39,031,183 | 53,504,149 | 41,521,245 | 41,791,866 | 37,305,100 | 26,985,000 | 23,315,417 | 21,549,000 | 36,224,800 | 36,843,600 | †40,560,000 |
| Wheat produced (value) | £8,871,429 | £6,152,977 | £6,477,314 | £6,352,364 | £5,483,650 | £4,317,600 | £4,639,768 | £5,047,524 | £7,426,084 | £4,494,919 | ££7,491,000 |
| *Hay produced ... (tons) | 423,328 | 491,595 | 453,353 | 485,368 | 512,439 | 462,947 | 504,571 | 412,982 | 450,419 | 437,800 | †460,000 |
| Gold produced (b) ... | £1,690,099 | £2,235,761 | £3,794,035 | £4,610,376 | £5,306,102 | £5,213,894 | £8,713,027 | £8,191,168 | £9,438,078 | £10,784,852 | £12,957,448 |
| Coal produced | £418,350 | £371,956 | £281,174 | £292,285 | £269,302 | £297,581 | £394,797 | £326,756 | £362,196 | £371,713 | £361,152 |
| Other Minerals pro- duced (c) | £59,045 | £23,176 | £19,608 | £47,348 | £65,178 | £63,391 | £113,140 | £140,446 | £200,817 | £187,592 | †£130,071 |
| Timber exported ... | £803,154 | £503,696 | £367,953 | £258,510 | £484,241 | £631,223 | £675,932 | £606,013 | £932,394 | £721,941 | (a) |
| †Number of Sheep... | 9,556,823 | 9,882,781 | 10,098,104 | 10,417,031 | 10,322,350 | 11,197,156 | 11,082,972 | 9,007,535 | 8,732,076 | 9,177,531 | †9,574,292 |
| †Number of Cattle... | 836,646 | 812,844 | 826,532 | 857,473 | 885,669 | 912,016 | 882,761 | 792,508 | 740,241 | 767,680 | †810,170 |
| †Number of Horses | 159,528 | 156,973 | 156,489 | 157,443 | 159,646 | 161,636 | 160,181 | 155,177 | 151,067 | 143,679 | †138,211 |
| Area of land selected (acres) | 1,541,707 | 1,024,787 | 533,572 | 463,356 | 351,313 | 310,170 | 281,921 | 521,117 | 718,823 | 627,443 | 805,212 |
| Area of land leased (acres) | 8,686,404 | 3,253,044 | 3,492,791 | 3,281,418 | 7,543,950 | 6,327,078 | 4,613,172 | 3,926,517 | 3,888,060 | 3,201,701 | 2,795,988 |
| Area of land under cultivation (d) | 13,803,310 | 14,407,750 | 14,212,789 | 14,196,094 | 14,624,856 | 14,528,108 | 14,906,055 | 15,216,219 | 15,677,822 | 15,850,338 | †15,800,000 |
| * Area of land under crop (acres) | 4,566,001 | 4,792,017 | 3,961,459 | 4,261,047 | 4,215,360 | 3,838,618 | 3,724,308 | 3,849,841 | 4,165,952 | 4,681,242 | †4,222,000 |
| Tonnage Shipping, Inwards | 3,955,079 | 3,687,357 | 3,555,403 | 3,549,604 | 3,564,705 | 3,757,174 | 3,827,038 | 3,729,523 | 4,104,922 | 4,251,368 | (a) |
| Tonnage Shipping, Outwards | 3,932,478 | 3,686,229 | 3,530,279 | 3,563,679 | 3,567,884 | 3,775,162 | 3,831,105 | 3,773,586 | 4,111,171 | 4,326,529 | (a) |
| Exports, including Gold | £17,709,529 | £17,975,502 | £18,296,086 | £15,587,412 | £17,291,577 | £16,879,163 | £18,891,679 | £20,091,133 | £23,100,537 | £23,006,410 | (a) |
| Exports, excluding Gold | £13,133,726 | £11,239,168 | £11,374,476 | £10,803,066 | £11,964,436 | £11,717,923 | £12,165,281 | £13,040,135 | £13,746,172 | £12,296,535 | (a) |
| Imports ... | £18,781,656 | £10,879,854 | £10,856,821 | £12,186,760 | £12,832,517 | £14,226,405 | £16,111,631 | £18,028,359 | £19,334,013 | £18,048,238 | (a) |
| Savings Bank De- posits | £11,719,493 | £9,636,023 | £7,864,997 | £7,447,503 | £3,182,395 | £3,987,577 | £9,468,344 | £9,716,032 | £10,004,412 | £10,602,936 | †£10,046,212 |
| Savings Bank With- drawals | £12,026,896 | £10,877,719 | £8,734,317 | £7,747,633 | £7,988,122 | £3,501,441 | £8,958,575 | £9,425,588 | £9,853,281 | £10,285,055 | †£10,642,315 |
| Population end of Financial Year | 429,112 | 432,183 | 435,111 | 438,852 | 442,027 | 445,692 | 450,248 | 454,231 | 460,161 | 465,429 | †467,900 |

*Season ended 28th February. †As at 31st December of year first mentioned. ‡Preliminary figures, liable to slight revision. (a) Information not available for publication.
 (b) Australian Currency Value. (c) Calendar year first mentioned. (d) Area cropped, cleared, fallowed, ringbarked, etc. §Based on Value of Season's
 Wheat exported to 31st July, 1940.