

and if they are foolish enough to be taken down by land agents, let them be, for if they were not taken down by land agents they would be taken down by other people. As a rule, people with sense enough to acquire money have sense enough to keep it. But if they make money at the races, for instance, someone will get at them sooner or later. Such people may just as well invest their money in a piece of land that cannot run away as invest in something that can.

Hon. J. R. Brown: In the case of land they cannot see where the money is going. They can see where it is going if they put it on a geegee.

Hon. J. J. HOLMES: Surely we have reached the position of utter absurdity when we try to fix the value of land! Prices are always regulated by supply and demand. If purchasers of land do not protect themselves by employing lawyers, but choose to be their own lawyers, then the old saying applies that the man who is his own lawyer has a fool for his client. Under last session's Town Planning Act—which has never yet been proclaimed—

The Chief Secretary: It will be proclaimed shortly.

Hon. J. J. HOLMES: We are hot on the track of something else before we have finalised what was done last year. Under the Town Planning Act a man cannot sell subdivided land without first submitting to a board, for approval, a plan showing the size of the blocks and the width of the streets and many other details.

Hon. J. R. Brown: Quite right, too.

Hon. J. J. HOLMES: The proclamation of that Act would surely simplify matters somewhat. At all events people then would be able to see what they were buying. If they do not now see what they are buying, it is their own fault. There is no need, in view of the Town Planning Act, for Parliament to step in and prevent the legitimate land agent from doing legitimate work. If the Honorary Minister will bring down a Bill to amend the Criminal Code so as to deal with fraudulent land agents, I shall support him to the fullest extent. Indeed, some of those persons have already been dealt with under the Code. I will not, however, be a party to the harassing of legitimate traders and to the throwing in their way of the numerous obstacles contained in the Bill. I therefore oppose the second reading of the measure.

On motion by the Honorary Minister, debate adjourned.

House adjourned at 5.29 p.m.

Legislative Assembly,

Tuesday, 15th September, 1929.

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

QUESTION—RAILWAY PROJECT, MULLEWA-MILING.

Mr. KENNEDY asked the Premier: Will he consider the advisability of instructing the Railways Advisory Board to report at an early date as to the need for railway facilities between Mullewa and Miling?

The PREMIER replied: Yes.

QUESTION—BORING, BAMBOO CREEK.

Mr. LAMOND asked the Minister for Mines: 1, In regard to boring operations recently undertaken by the Government on the Kitchener and Prophecy leases at Bamboo Creek, were the owners of those leases consulted as to the sites selected for boring? 2, If so, did they express any opinion regarding the prospects of success or failure by reason of the sites selected?

The MINISTER FOR MINES replied: 1, Yes. Both owners were consulted and agreed upon the selected sites. 2, Both owners appeared quite hopeful that the boring would be successful.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

On motion by Mr. North, leave of absence for one week granted to the member for Roebourne (Mr. Teesdale) on the ground of urgent private business.

BILL—MAIN ROADS ACT AMENDMENT.

Read a third time and transmitted to the Council.

BILL—MENTAL DEFICIENCY.

Message.

Message from the Governor received and read, recommending appropriation for the purposes of the Bill.

Second Reading.

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH (Hon. S. W. Munsie—Hannans) [4.42] in moving the second reading said: I am pleased to have the opportunity of introducing such a measure as this. Naturally, it is not a party Bill in any sense; both sides of the House will be free to discuss it from every aspect. I do not think any member will disagree with the statement that it is time something was done for the care and control of our mental deficient. Indeed, the Bill, as well as being a social measure, has an economic side. If things are allowed to continue as at present, the economic load accruing to this State from mental deficiency will grow heavier and heavier through continuous increase in the number of mental defectives. I am hopeful that if the measure becomes law, some means of protection and control being provided, their number will gradually grow less. The necessity for the Bill cannot, in my opinion, be questioned. At the present day we have mental deficient in our schools, in our institutions and hospitals, and at large among the general public. Before going further, let me say that I am sorry to admit three small errors in the Bill as printed. I do not wish members to read the Bill as containing those errors. On page 2, in line 29, "an examining psychologist" should read "a clinical psychologist." Then, on page 20, in line 32, "eighteen years" should read "fourteen years." Lastly, on page 27, in line 7, "nineteen" should read "eighteen."

Three amendments accordingly will have to be effected in Committee. As regards the British Empire, there is already legislation of this nature in England, Canada, South Africa, New Zealand and Tasmania. Victoria introduced a Bill for the purpose on the 17th August last. There is no other British legislation dealing with mental defectives. Most of the States of the American Union have Acts dealing with the subject, and some of them have also legislated to provide control over the marriages of mental deficient. With that aspect of the subject I shall deal later. If the Bill passes, the intention is to have one central controlling authority, known as the board administering the Mental Deficiency Act. The composition of the board I shall explain later. However, it is essential that there should be one controlling authority. On that board there should be people with an understanding of mental deficiency and the mentally defective. There will be a central school for tuition purposes principally, and of necessity there will have to be classes for mental defectives in other schools as well. Further, there will be a boarding school with permanent inmates, as well as pupils attending during the day but not otherwise accommodated in the institution. No scheme for dealing with mental defectives would, in my opinion, be complete unless it included a farm colony. We shall have to select a piece of land, and if we have not got it in Crown land it will have to be resumed, for the purpose of establishing a farm colony for mental defectives. I believe from the experience of other countries, and especially of Tasmania, that after a year or two that farm colony will rapidly become self-supporting. It will not take very much land—probably 300 or 400 acres. The object is to introduce the cottage system, and not have the mental defectives lumped together in that farm colony. They will be graded in cottages to suit individual cases. Some may say that this is going to cost a considerable amount of money. I admit it will cost a fair amount, but I want to show how much money we are absolutely wasting at present, money that can be diverted into this new channel. I believe the Bill will have an economic result as well as a social result, and that eventually it will be the means of saving the State a considerable amount of money, and certainly of saving considerable trouble to all concerned.

At present we have 52,000 children attending State schools, and from a survey made of the few schools examined up to date, it is estimated that we have in this State, and of school age, between 1,100 and 1,200 mentally defective children. It must be realised that it is costing us to-day £11 10s. per head per annum to teach each child in a State school. In that I am referring not merely to the mentally deficient, but to the whole of the 52,000 children. Undoubtedly that £11 10s. per head spent on every mentally deficient child attending a State school is being wasted. It is not in the interests of the child, for the child is being taught nothing of benefit to it, and moreover the system is unfair to the school teachers. Certainly it is unfair to have one or two mental deficient in a class and expect the teacher to get the average results from that class. It is estimated that of that 1,100 or 1,200 mentally deficient children, between 150 and 160 will need instructional care all the time. At present we have 1,600 teachers teaching those 52,000 scholars. The estimate I have given of the mentally deficient children is approximately 2 per cent. of all the children attending school. If we take 2 per cent. of the teachers, namely, 32, out of the total number, and have them specially trained to teach the mental defectives, we shall be saving in the Education Department, to say nothing of the great saving of worry and trouble to the teachers themselves. And over and above it all is the prospect that eventually we shall make useful citizens of many of those pretending to attend school to-day and who, under existing circumstances, cannot possibly be of use to themselves or grow up to be good citizens of the State.

Mr. Sampson: They are only retarding the progress of all other scholars.

The MINISTER FOR HEALTH: That is so. I want to quote a few cases as a further reason for something being done. The member for Perth (Mr. Mann) in moving the second reading of a Bill recently, dealt fully with many cases of hereditary mental deficient and touched upon the cost of those people to the State. I am not going to quote many foreign cases, although I have a great number under my hand. There are two or three I intend to quote, but the balance will be local cases. I believe that in attempting to prove a case for a Bill of this character we should bring forward evidence

bearing a local application. Let me deal with the foreign cases first. Here is one where there have been actually identified 834 descendants of the original couple, and of those, 709 individual histories have been traced. No fewer than 143 were beggars, 64 were inmates of asylums, 181 were prostitutes, 69 were criminals and seven were murderers. The cost of that family to the State up to the time this record was made was 1,250,000 dollars. That is for the descendants of the one family.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: You are robbing the member for Perth in quoting these cases.

The MINISTER FOR HEALTH: No, but on the other hand he robbed me of a good deal of my data. However, I am quite ready to forgive him, for he put up a really wonderful case in support of his Bill. I am quite sure that the efforts he put up for his Bill will assist me in getting this Bill through Parliament. Now we have the case of another family, 737 of whose descendants have been traced. Of those 18 were known to be illegitimate. Of 82 married women in the family 24 per cent. had had illegitimate children either before or after marriage. Eight married women were prostitutes. In all, 65 persons were in receipt of relief of one sort or another, 37 being State wards. No less than 18.4 per cent. of all and 50 per cent. of the school children living at home were classified as feeble-minded. Of the marriages in the family, 25 per cent. were cousin marriages. No less than 3.3 per cent. of the family showed criminal tendencies, while 2.2 per cent. were convicted of crime. The estimated cost to the State of that family was 497,260 dollars. I have several other foreign cases, but I do not propose to quote them. But in comparison with those two cases I now propose to quote the history that has been traced of a family without any semblance of lunacy or mental deficiency attached to it. As the result of an examination of this family 1,394 descendants have been identified. Amongst them all there is no case of mental deficiency and no known instance of criminality. Of the descendants, 297 were college graduates, 12 were college presidents, 65 were college professors, 100 were clergymen, 100 were musicians, 100 were lawyers, 80 were public officials, 75 were army and navy officers, 60 were physicians, 30 were judges, three were United States senators, and one was a vice-presi-

dent. I quote that case of a family with no trace of mental deficiency as a contrast to the other two cases where we had mental defectives at the onset.

Mr. Sampson: All three cases are abnormal.

The MINISTER FOR HEALTH: Yes, one is certainly above normal and the other two are below normal. Now I want to quote some local cases, of course without names. With the records kept in Western Australia up to date it is difficult to trace the history of any family very far back. We are quite satisfied—or at all events I am—from the inquiries made in the various departments that there are several people of the same name who, if we had opportunity for tracing their ancestors, would be found to be descendants of the same family. However, I propose to quote only from absolutely authentic cases. I am quoting these for the purpose of showing what mental defectives are costing the public of this State at present. Of the local cases, in No. 1 the mother was mentally deficient, the son was insane, costing the State at the Claremont Hospital for Insane £766. There were five girl children in the care of the State since March, 1919, at a cost to the Child Welfare Department of £634, the total cost being £1,400. In case No. 2 the mother is mentally deficient and has been in receipt of invalid pension since 1914. One son is in the care of the State in the Blackwood School, and is now in receipt of invalid pension. He has cost the public to date £733, and the pension is continuing at the rate of £104 annually. The cost to the Orphanage and Backward School provision is £304. A daughter is in the industrial school, her cost being £121. The second son is in the Claremont Hospital for the Insane, the cost being £100, while in outdoor relief, rations and cash he has drawn £40. A third son, imprisoned, has cost the State £67. The total cost to date of this family has been £1,365. In case No. 3 the mother is incapable, the father is of poor type, and both are in receipt of invalid pensions. A daughter has been in receipt of the pension since 1927. The total payments as pensions to date has been £1,312, and the pensions are continuing at £104 annually. The son is backward. The maintenance for six children, three of whom are definitely mentally deficient, to date has been £671 and the total cost of the family

£1,983. In case No. 4 the mother is defective and the father a drunkard and tubercular. Of the children four have been committed as wards of the department and one is in the home for backward boys. The total cost to the State to date is £711. An expenditure of £2 7s. per week is still continuing, the father and mother receiving invalid pensions at the rate of £2 per week. The total cost of the pensions to date has been £656 and the total cost of the family £1,367, while payments of £4 7s. weekly are continuing. In case No. 5 the father is mentally deficient and has been convicted of incest, and two sons are also sex offenders. The total cost to the Prisons Department of members of this family has been £500. The mother and one son are in the Hospital for the Insane and have cost to date £323, while the cost of £82 per year is still continuing. The total cost of the family has been £823. In case No. 6 the mother, a defective drunkard, has been in and out of prison since 1898. Of the daughters one is immoral and one insane. The cost to the Prisons Department of this family has been £1,000 and the cost to the Claremont Hospital for the Insane £82 per year, which is still continuing. In case No. 7 four sons have been in the Industrial School and the School for Backward Boys, and three of them have been in and out of prison since leaving school, at a cost to the State of £500, their offences usually being thieving and violence. The total cost to the State for the seven cases to date has been £8,438. While this scheme for the relief of this social evil will cost money, at the same time most of the cost I have quoted will be saved. Had it been spent in this proposed direction, it would have been of much more benefit to those whom it was intended to relieve. The Bill is drafted on the lines of the English and Tasmanian Acts as amended. The English measure was introduced in 1913 and has been twice amended. The Tasmanian measure was introduced in 1920 and was amended in 1925. I am hopeful that the provisions of this Bill take cognisance of all the matters that have been brought up to date by both those Acts and will make this measure suitable for and applicable to Western Australian. The Bill is divided into six parts. Part I. is preliminary and deals with interpretations; Part II., relates to the power and manner of dealing with defectives; Part III., mental deficiency board; Part IV., es-

establishment and certification of institutions, etc.; Part V., administration of estates of defective persons; and Part VI., general provisions, offences and penalties. Part I. explains the meaning of the various terms used in the Bill. Part II. practically constitutes the Bill, covering as it does the power and manner of dealing with defectives. This part is contained in Clauses 5 to 34 inclusive. First of all it outlines and grades defectives into five classes (1) idiots, that is to say, persons so deeply affected in mind as to be permanently unable to guard themselves against common physical dangers (2) imbeciles, that is to say, persons in whose case there exists permanent mental defectiveness not amounting to idiocy, yet so pronounced that they are incapable of managing themselves or their affairs, or in the case of children of being taught to do so; (3) feeble-minded persons, that is to say, persons in whose case there exists mental defectiveness not amounting to imbecility, yet so pronounced that they require care, supervision and control for their own protection, or in the case of children, that they, by reason of such defectiveness, appear to be incapable of receiving proper benefit from the instruction in ordinary schools; (4) moral defectives, that is to say, persons in whose case there exists mental defectiveness coupled with vicious or criminal propensities or habitual delinquency, and who require care, supervision and control for their own protection or the protection of others; (5) border-line cases, that is to say, persons in whose case there exists mental defectiveness, not amounting to feeble-mindedness, accompanied by instability which is so pronounced that they are rendered socially inefficient and in urgent need of supervision, treatment and training which cannot be given in the ordinary schools. In dealing with mental defectives, I think that every step possible for safeguarding the individual has been provided. In every instance and at every step provision is made for an appeal by the individual, his guardian or parent, so that protection is given to the individual from beginning to end. There are two methods by which persons may be committed to institutions for mental defectiveness or placed under guardianship. The parent or guardian may move in the ordinary way by getting the person examined and producing the certificate and voluntarily placing him under

care in a mentally defective institution, provided the person is under 21 years of age. If a person is over the age of 21 proceedings must be taken by petition. Some person interested—the parent, guardian or friend—may, by petition to the judicial authority, have a person examined for the purpose of having him placed in a home for mental defectives. In all cases a petition can be presented only with the consent of the parent or guardian. If a case arises in which it is not possible for the parent, guardian or relative to seek a petition, and a friend does it, the friend has to prove conclusively why no guardian or relative presented the petition. That is a safeguard, and I consider it a very wise precaution. No one may be placed in an institution in any circumstances without first undergoing an examination. The most important part, in my opinion, is the examining authority. The examining authority provided for in the Bill is one legally qualified medical practitioner in conjunction with a clinical psychologist approved by the board, or two legally qualified medical practitioners, one of whom shall be approved by the board, who make for the purposes of the measure an examination of any person alleged to be a defective. I stress this point because, under this Bill, we are practically reversing the position that obtains in an existing Act. The Act provides firstly for two medical practitioners and, secondly, for a medical practitioner and a psychologist. Under this Bill we make a medical practitioner and a clinical psychologist the principal examining authority, and I believe we are right in doing so. I do not think it is really a medical man's work.

Mr. Mann: Will the medical man be an alienist?

The MINISTER FOR HEALTH: Possibly; on the existing board, he is an alienist. It is more the duty of a clinical psychologist to make an expert examination with a medical man than the duty of two medical men. A psychologist, to attain the position of clinical psychologist, must have had at least five years' training. The principal part of that training is highly technical and embraces clinical experience of the examination of patients. A medical practitioner can gain his diploma and become legally qualified without studying psychology at all. At present the British Medical Association are endeavouring to include

in the curriculum of the ordinary medical course six months' compulsory study of psychology. I say that even six months' study is not sufficient. In my opinion we are doing the right thing in providing for a clinical psychologist with a medical man as the principal examining authority. In support of that statement let me quote from a work on "Mental Deficiency" recently published in England by Dr. A. F. Treadgold, who I believe is regarded as the greatest medical authority in England on the subject. Dealing with the medical, physical and mental examination, he said—

It is obvious that the mental examination is of most importance. Briefly, the purpose of this is to ascertain the degree of development, and manner of functioning, of the component parts of the mind. In the more severe grades of defect this is a comparatively simple matter; indeed, in idiots and most imbeciles the defects of comprehension, of intelligence, and of commonsense are so patent that very little in the way of special examination is needed. In milder grades of deficiency, however, this is not the case, and a special investigation is necessary to ascertain these details. Such investigation requires on the part of the examiner a knowledge of psychology and of certain special tests, together with no little experience and judgment as to the inference to be drawn from these tests, and the whole subject has now attained a position of great importance.

The Bill provides that an order of judicial authority shall be obtainable upon petition made by any relative, guardian or friend of the defective person, by the secretary of the Child Welfare Department, the chairman of the board or a person authorised by him, or by a police officer of or above the rank of sergeant. If the petition is presented by a friend, he must state why the petition was not presented by a relative and must also state his connection with the defective. Clause 21 provides that the judicial authority must either visit the person or order the person to be brought before him. The inquiry may be held in private if the judicial authority thinks fit, and shall be held in private if so desired by the person to whom the petition relates. There again is another safeguard. If a petition is not presented by a relative of the person, the consent of the relative or guardian must be obtained if it is practicable to do so. Members, when reading this Bill, may find that it is possible for a petition to be presented without what is known as the authoritative certificate. Western Australia is a large State and I think it is essential to make such provision in the Bill. Someone in an

outlandish place may wish to have a relative or friend examined and brought before the judicial authority. It is possible to have that done as provided in the Bill, but in no circumstances may the court hear the case and commit the person to an institution until there has been an official examination as prescribed. That, I think, provides ample safeguard. The board have power to transfer an inmate from one institution to another; they also have power to transfer from an institution to guardianship, but they have no power to transfer from guardianship to an institution. If that course be deemed necessary, the person must be brought before the court again and examined by the examining authority. Another portion of the Bill deals in some way with the matter brought up by the member for Perth in his measure. Where a person has been convicted, if an adult, and the conviction would mean imprisonment, the court may order a petition to be presented to the judicial authority for an examination, and if the person is found defective may postpone the sentence and commit him or her to an institution. We have had cases recently in this State where it has been apparent to the arresting constable, the magistrate on the bench, and all those connected with the matter that the person was a mental defective. There has been no doubt in their minds, but as there was no legislation in force the persons concerned had to be brought before the court, had to go through the ordinary course, and be committed to imprisonment if they were over the age of 18 years.

Mr. Stubbs: Why should they not be sterilised?

The MINISTER FOR HEALTH: I will deal with that matter later on. This Bill does not go as far as that. I do not believe the public in this State are yet sufficiently educated to endorse any legislation going as far as that.

Mr. Stubbs: It is time someone started it.

Mr. Thomson: People are beginning to think along those lines.

The MINISTER FOR HEALTH: As a result of my inquiries, I find this is not as effective as authorities thought it would be. In several of the States of America, which inaugurated legislation of that kind, it has since been abandoned.

Miss Holman: Quite true.

The MINISTER FOR HEALTH: If the person charged is a child within the meaning of the Child Welfare Act, the court, if satisfied, in lieu of making an order for committal to an institution may itself make an order after examination and commit the child to an institution for mental defectives. The Bill provides that a police officer of or above the rank of sergeant, in a case where a person is charged with an offence, may, if the person appearing before him seems to him to be deficient, communicate with the chairman of the board or the director of the clinic to have an examination made as to whether such person is defective within the meaning of the Act. He shall present a report of such examination when the charge is being made, and shall also notify the person charged and the parents or guardians, if such can be done. This is a case of power given to which some members may take exception, but I think it is desirable that it should be contained in the Bill. I want members in considering the effect of this measure never to lose sight of the fact that irrespective of what methods are being adopted with the individual, they can keep prominently before their minds the knowledge that in every case the person must be a defective or the Bill will not apply to him. Seeing that this Bill will only apply if after examination persons are declared to be defective, it is quite right that the provisions I have outlined should be embodied in it. Power is given to the Minister to remove a person certified as defective from a home, prison or institution to a Government institution for defectives. That is a reasonable provision. At present in some of our homes we have people who have been examined by all the authorities it is possible to get to examine them, and they are certified as absolutely mentally defective, some almost as low as imbeciles. There is no other place in which to hold them except in one or other of our institutions. In cases like that, the Minister should have power, where the certifying authority has already certified, to remove such people from those institutions or homes to a home for mental defectives. Clause 25 contains one of the main principles of the Bill. A defective in an institution or under guardianship is deemed incapable of entering into any valid contract or disposing of his property. That

differs from the Acts in England or in Tasmania from which this Bill is largely copied. I have gone a little further than that legislation. By this Bill I am prohibiting the marriage of anyone who has been certified and declared mentally deficient. Later on in the Bill pretty severe penalties are provided, particularly for the protection of mentally deficient girls, their physical protection in the first place, and then protection against their reproducing their own species. Whilst we and other countries are prepared to make provision such as that, to punish people, we should be lacking in our duty if we also permitted mental defectives to marry. This is prohibited by the Bill. I have evidence which backs up the attitude I have adopted, and have before me extracts from the report of the Royal Commission of England and Wales which dealt with the care and control of the feeble-minded. In 1908 the report of the Commission says—

Both on the grounds of fact and of theory there is the highest degree of probability that feeble-mindedness tends to be strongly inherited. (2) Especially in view of the evidence concerning fertility, the prevention of mentally defective persons from becoming parents would tend largely to diminish the number of such persons in the population. In our opinion, the general feeling of the people would at present rightly condemn any legislation directed chiefly or exclusively to the prevention of hereditary transmission of mental defect by surgical or other artificial measures. The question naturally arises whether it is desirable and practicable that any steps should be taken to place obstacles in the way of the marriage of persons ascertained to be mentally defective. Such legislation would not be an absolute novelty in English-speaking communities; but it is clear that such legislation, however carefully restricted, would in effect operate less by imposing an easily enforceable legal prohibition than by guiding and directing the advisory functions of medical and other authorities, and in other ways educating public opinion to the proper consideration of a very serious evil. We believe that a legislative prohibition affecting those classes of persons who exhibit the congenital and incurable forms of mental defect would have useful direct and indirect effects.

The board of control in England and Wales in 1925 says—

The law should be altered so as to provide that marriage by a defective when under order should be void.

I next come to the report of the board of control of England and Wales in 1927. I

wish to emphasise this, for it is what they have particularly discovered—

We have instances where a local authority and visitor have suggested the discharge of feeble-minded women in order that they might be married. One local authority tells us that they have knowledge of the discharge of six defectives by the judicial authority in order to allow the defectives to get married, and also of two others where petitions were dismissed in order to allow two pregnant girls to get married. The upbringing of children by defectives should be prevented as far as possible. The publication of the facts discovered by the local authorities as to the extent to which the marriage of defectives takes place might go far to prepare the way of legislation, and to justify an alteration of the law. The London Mental Hospitals Committee passed in 1927 a resolution recommending to the County Council that legislation should be promoted by the Government to make illegal the marriage of a person who was for the time being subject to an order of detention under the Mental Deficiency Act.

That has already been drafted and submitted, and I understand will be introduced during the next session of the British House of Commons, for the purpose of bringing about what I am already providing for in this Bill, namely the prevention of marriage for mental defectives. The board of control of England and Wales in 1932 said—

A careful study of the information before us leads to the conclusion that the marriage of defectives has disastrous consequences to the community, and that the time has come when definite legislative steps should be taken to prevent the marriage of those under normal. Mentally defective parents invariably create centres of degeneracy, disease, inebriety, pauperism and crime.

Mr. Stubbs: Legislation will not stop illegitimacy.

The Minister for Justice: But segregation will.

The MINISTER FOR HEALTH: With proper control and segregation as provided, this Bill will stop it to a large extent.

Mr. Stubbs: Any lawyer will tell you that it is possible to drive a team of horses through every legislative enactment on the statute-book.

The MINISTER FOR HEALTH: That may be so in some cases. There may still be some people who are vile enough to take advantage of a mentally defective girl or boy. If the legislature does what it can in the interests of these people and of the general community, we shall have taken some steps to prevent the disastrous state of things that exists to-day.

Mr. Sampson: You will have to wrestle with the forces of nature.

The MINISTER FOR HEALTH: It has been proved conclusively by people who have had control of mental defectives in institutions that women who are mentally defective are not hard to control. If the home is suitable and such women have suitable occupations to follow, and can be employed in a useful capacity, they settle down quite readily in their new environment and are by no means difficult to control in that respect. Provision is contained in the Bill whereby when an order has been made and a person committed to an institution or guardianship, that order remains in force only for one year. At the end of the first year the examining authority must again examine that individual. If in the opinion of the board after the examination that person is not fit to be liberated or discharged and is to continue in an institution or under guardianship as a mental defective for a further 12 months, the parent or guardian has the right to appeal to the judicial authority against the decision of the board.

Mr. Sampson: Doctors differ.

The Premier: And patients die.

The MINISTER FOR HEALTH: That happens, too. The Bill also provides that after a person has been examined and committed to an institution, he must be compulsorily examined again at the end of 12 months. If he is still at the institution it is compulsory for the person to be re-examined at the end of every three years. That provision does not apply where a person has been committed under guardianship. In such circumstances the board have no right to interfere and have examinations made. That course cannot be adopted except on the written application of the guardian. That is as it should be. A copy of every order, or continued order, must be forthwith served upon the defective, his parents or guardians and, if practicable, the petitioner. If a person was committed as the result of a petition lodged by a friend, and it is possible for that friend to be located, then he has to be notified as well. Where a person under 21 years, but near to that age, is placed in an institution, an examination must be made within three months of his becoming 21 years of age. That makes provision for a period of less

than 12 months should a person come of age in the meantime. I have already mentioned that if the board do not consider him fit to be discharged, the defective, or his guardian, has the right of appeal to the judicial authority. There is also provision in the Bill whereby a judge of the Supreme Court, on his own motion, or on an application made to him, will have the right to have any person who is detained in an institution or placed with a guardian, brought before him so that he may hear the particulars regarding the defective. Should he so desire, the judge may require a special examination of the defective apart from that which the latter has already been submitted to. He may do that in order to afford added protection against anyone being placed in an institution or under guardianship, should there be any doubt as to that person's mental condition. Parents or guardians may, by giving 14 days' notice to the board, withdraw any defective from an institution or guardianship if, in the opinion of the board, it is desirable that that course should be adopted. By requiring that notice, provision will be made so that the board may make inquiries as to the environment and conditions obtaining in the home to which the defective may go. It is quite possible that the environment may be such that will not serve the best interests of the patient, and if the board think so, and that it is in the best interests of the defective that he shall remain in the institution, they will have the right to so decide. If the board refuse the application made by a person's parents, that will debar the parents from applying again within six months from the date of the board's refusals. A judicial authority may make an order for maintenance against any parent or person liable to maintain a defective. In the case of illegitimacy, an order may be made against the putative father, or if an order has already been made, he may be ordered to pay the amount specified to the board or to some other person. For instance, should a putative father have an order made against him for the payment of 6s. per week maintenance for his child, and that child is proved to be mentally defective, as a result of which it is transferred to an institution, then the court can make an order against the father and direct that the money be paid to the board or to the institution for the maintenance of his child.

Mr. Thomson: Does that go on for all time?

The MINISTER FOR HEALTH: The putative father will have the right of appeal, just as others have under other Acts. The board may transfer a patient from an institution to the Hospital for the Insane, or vice versa, but in the former instance the consent of the parent or guardian must be first obtained. If a person has been committed to an institution for mental defectives, and after being there for some time and re-examinations prove that the individual is insane, he may be transferred to the Hospital for the Insane, with the consent of the parent. On the other hand, if a person is detained in the Hospital for the Insane and examinations show that he is merely feeble-minded and not insane, the board will have the right to transfer that patient from the asylum to the institution for mental defectives without the necessity for taking the patient before the Court. Part III. of the Bill deals with the Mental Deficiency Board, the members of which will be the Commissioner of Public Health, the State Psychologist, and three other members to be appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be the Inspector General of the Insane, or a duly qualified medical practitioner with a knowledge of psychiatry, one a legal practitioner and one a woman. The Commissioner of Public Health will be, ex officio, chairman of the board. Part IV. deals with Government institutions, officers, etc. It is provided that the Government may erect and control such homes or institutions as, in their opinion, are desirable in the interests of mental defectives. It also sets out that with regard to idiots, the Claremont Hospital for the Insane shall be deemed to be an institution under this legislation. That will be for idiot; but not for other mental defectives. Provision is also made whereby mental defectives may be allowed out on license or parole by permission of the board. Part V. deals with the administration of the estates of defectives by the Official Trustee. Part VI. deals with penalties and offences. I do not think I need say much more at this stage. Strecker has said—

It is hard-headed, practical and economical common sense to insist that those who, by reason of mental disturbance or defect, are not free-minded enough to decide against a life of delinquency, crime, prostitution, vagrancy, or dependency, should at least be protected from themselves, and society should be protected from their constant menace.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: That is the best part of your speech; that is all you need have said!

The MINISTER FOR HEALTH: I am glad the hon. member agrees with it, and I hope he will help me to secure the passage of the Bill. There are one or two other things I wish to say before concluding. There has hardly been one session of Parliament, since I have been a member, without legislation of some description being introduced for the purpose of protecting or improving the breed of animals of various descriptions. I have nothing to say against that, but I think it is time that, in the interests of the State, we took some notice of our manhood and our womanhood. J. H. Curle, in his book "To-day and To-morrow" says—

Australians still have it in their power by excluding colour, limiting entry to the best whites, and preventing the unfit from breeding, to become and remain about the finest white strain in the world.

I agree absolutely with that sentiment, and while we have been legislating in many directions for the improvement of our stock and herds, I will draw attention to another necessity by quoting the following verse that was read by a medical officer of Chicago when lecturing to students. The verse is headed "Breed of Men" and is as follows:—

You talk of our breed of cattle, the worth of
a calf or a colt,
And scoff at the "scrub" or the "mongrel"
as worthy a fool or a dolt.
We mention the points of our racers with
many a "wherefore" and when";
But Ah! Are we cunning, my brothers, the
worth of the children of men?
And what of your boy? Have you measured
his needs for the coming years?
Does your mark, as his Sire, on his features
mean less than the brand of the steer?
Thoroughbred! That is your watchword for
stable, for barn and for pen—
But what is your word for the homestead?
Answer, you breeders of men!

I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

On motion by Hon. Sir James Mitchell,
debate adjourned.

BILLS (2)—FIRST READING.

1, Easter.

2, Pearling Act Amendment.

Received from the Council and read a first time.

ANNUAL ESTIMATES.

Message from the Governor received and read transmitting the Annual Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the financial year 1929-30, and recommending appropriation.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 1929-30.

In Committee of Supply.

The House resolved into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the year ending 30th June, 1930; Mr. Panton in the Chair.

THE PREMIER AND TREASURER

(Hon. P. Collier—Boulder) [5.47]: These Estimates follow very closely the lines of those of last year and as usual are divided into sections: Expenditure into Special Acts £3,279,695, Governmental £2,424,372, and Public Utilities £4,210,116 or a total of £9,914,183; and Revenue into Governmental £3,931,474, Public Utilities £5,934,520, and Trading Concerns £153,604, or a total of £10,019,598. As compared with last year, expenditure, for reasons which I will explain later, shows a decrease of £309,736. Revenue has increased by £71,647 only, the alteration in the method of treating the Commonwealth contribution under the Financial Agreement affecting this position. This also I will explain later. The special provision under "Miscellaneous" of £350,000 in each of the last two years to cover the liability contingent on the passing of the Financial Agreement has been dropped and an amount of £700,000 on that account will now be appropriated. Amongst added expenditure, provision is made for the redistribution of seats and the coming elections, centenary celebrations, and the increased programme of the Main Roads Board. So far as general revenue is concerned, increases forecasted under the various heads are due wholly to the natural growth of the State and not to increases in taxation, rates or other charges. As I explained, I expect a total revenue of £10,019,598 and an expenditure of £9,914,183, leaving a surplus of £105,415. Although the revenue estimated is greater than that of last year by £71,647 only, the respective amounts being last year £9,947,951 and this year £10,019,598, any comparison on this basis would be misleading. It will be noted under the heading of

"Commonwealth" that receipts this year from that source are set down at £300,000, whereas last year the amount received was £811,446, or a difference of £511,446. This at first sight would seem to show that we were receiving less this year from the Commonwealth than we received last year. That is not so. The Financial Agreement provides that the Commonwealth shall make a fixed contribution of £173,432 per annum towards payment of our interest, and the Act having been ratified this sum has been deducted from the interest payable under Special Acts, instead of treating it as revenue as in the past. This, of course, is in accordance with the Agreement itself. Again, interest on transferred properties, which formerly appeared as revenue is now treated somewhat similarly, the Agreement providing that from the 1st July last the Commonwealth assumes responsibility for an amount of our public debt equal to the value of the transferred properties, namely £736,432. The interest payable this year under Special Acts is therefore further reduced, as shown by a footnote on page 14, and the reduction in revenue is thus offset by a corresponding reduction in expenditure. Apart from this, the revenue shows practically the same rate of increase as in preceding years. From Taxation we expect a return of £43,461 more than that of last year, and from Territorial £18,767 more. The latter is due to the promise of a revival in the timber trade. From the Law Courts we expect an increase of £1,787, from the Mint £294, and from Public Utilities £548,405. Under "Departmental" there is a falling off of approximately £41,058, one of the main causes being anticipated short recoups interest, brought about by writing down group capital costs.

Public Utilities.

There is an increase of £548,405 expected from Public Utilities, practically all the concerns showing increases. The Railways again are the principal contributors, being expected to return £451,508 more than last year. So far the prospects of this season are so promising that it is reasonable to expect a largely increased harvest and consequently greater transport. Then there are increases expected from the Tramways, £26,553, from Electricity Supply £30,465, and from Metropolitan Water Supply,

£25,026. These concerns are all growing rapidly, and so large capital outlay is required to keep pace with our demands for expansion, but owing to the restricted money market it is most difficult at present to provide this capital. The Fremantle harbour again experienced a good year, but Bunbury harbour suffered severely from the falling off in the timber export trade, the relative figures being 1927-28, 174,000 loads; 1928-29, 124,000 loads. The improvement looked for in the timber trade this year should bring the returns back to normal, thus accounting for the increased revenue shown under the Bunbury Harbour Board, whilst Fremantle is expected to return an additional £10,119. The steady increase at Fremantle is very gratifying, for it is an indication of the growth of the State. Little variation appears in the returns from Trading Concerns, these being practically the same from year to year. The decrease of £511,446 under Commonwealth as explained, is not actual. Omitting it, the net increase of revenue as a whole will be £583,093. The estimated revenue under the various divisions is as follows:—

Taxation, £1,413,500—an increase of £43,461.	
Territorial, £533,250—an increase of £18,767.	
Departmental, etc.—£1,684,724—a decrease of £38,977.	
Commonwealth, £300,000.	
Public Utilities, £5,934,520—an increase of £548,405.	
Trading Concerns, £153,604—an increase of £11,437.	
Total, £10,019,598.	
	£
Total increase of	583,093
Less Commonwealth decrease (due to alteration of methods) ..	511,446
Increase as shown ..	£71,647

Estimated expenditure this year, as compared with last year—

Special Acts, £3,279,695; last year £3,629,819; decrease, £350,124.	
Governmental, £2,424,372; last year, £2,651,564; decrease, £227,192.	
Public utilities, £4,210,116; last year, £3,942,536; increase, £267,580.	
Decrease, £309,736.	

Two principal causes contributed to this decrease, firstly, the altered method of treating Commonwealth contributions towards interest under the Financial Agreement and secondly, the abolition of the special payment of £350,000 to suspense. As I have

already stated, the Financial Agreement having been ratified, there is no further necessity for this special payment to suspense. I explained when dealing with the estimated revenue the effect of the altered method of treating the Commonwealth's contribution under the Financial Agreement. Under ordinary circumstances, Special Acts would have shown an increase of approximately £183,620, due to increased interest, and Governmental would have shown an increase of £122,808. Whilst we are experiencing a steady increase of revenue, gratifying in that it is not due to increased taxation, expenditure increases in like proportion, entirely owing to causes beyond our control, or largely so.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: Largely so. That is very different.

The PREMIER: Almost all the increased revenue comes from Public Utilities, £548,405 as against £34,688 from all other sources.

Increased Requirements.

We know that this increase of revenue is due to the growing demands by the public on these concerns, and in order to meet those demands added working expenditure is necessarily incurred. Again, with the growth of population comes the necessity to provide more schools, hospitals, charitable institutions, police, etc., all of which are practically non-revenue producing. This year these items account for—Education, £691,019; Medical, £218,726; Charities, £116,931; Police, £251,119; Gaols, £31,354; Lunacy, £114,993, or a total of £1,424,142. That is out of a grand total of £2,424,372 for Governmental, of which they form part, leaving only £1,000,230 for all other purposes. Added to these are increases in rates of pay fixed by arbitration awards and agreements. Practically the whole of the Government employees—teachers, civil servants, police, railway men, etc.—come under such awards or agreements and as regards rates of pay are outside of Ministerial control. The recent increase in the basic wage has also been a fairly heavy item in some departments. The Miners' Phthisis Act alone accounts for an expenditure of £42,000, and it has been found necessary to provide additional funds for many departments, largely due to exceptional circumstances. In the Premier's Department there is an increase of £10,170 caused by the centenary celebrations. Under the Department of the Minister for Justice the approaching

elections and the redistribution of seats add approximately £12,000. Increased provision must be made for the Public Works Department for the programme of the Main Roads Board, and this year £17,925 has been added on that account. In the Chief Secretary's Department increased rates of pay and the opening of the Point Heathcote hospital for the full year as compared with a part only of last year are mainly responsible for an increase of £16,074. The police increase of £14,787 was due to higher rates of pay awarded by the Arbitration Court just prior to the end of the last financial year and also to additions to staff. There is the usual unavoidable increase in the Education Department, in addition to which I am providing £5,000 from Government Property Sales Fund for plant and equipment for technical schools. The existing plant is both inadequate and obsolete, and in order to cope with the increasing number of apprentices, it is imperative that additional equipment should be provided. The operation of State farms and the increased technical staff have caused the expenditure of the Department of Agriculture to rise. Owing to the Hospital Fund Bill failing to pass last session, something must be done to meet the increasing demands of the sick, and without imposing further taxation, we cannot continue to provide additional funds from ordinary revenue.

Mr Stubbs: Why not bring in a lottery, instead of leaving our people to send so much money to Tasmania?

The PREMIER: An attempt to do that was made some years ago, but the proposal failed to receive the sanction of both Houses of Parliament. With increasing settlement in the South-West and in the agricultural areas the demand for hospital accommodation continues as well as for assistance for medical practitioners in unserved areas. Several new hospitals have been established during the year. The demands on the metropolitan hospitals are increasing, and have meant requests for increased assistance. The whole position will again be examined, and an effort made to find a way out of the difficulty.

Curtailment of Expenditure.

In each of the Governmental departments expenditure has been curtailed in every possible direction. I have already dealt with the increased revenue from public utilities, and

here we have an increased expenditure amounting to £267,580. It is well known that as the revenue from public utilities increases, the expenditure that is necessary to earn the revenue also increases. The railways were responsible for an increase of £211,432, representing the major portion of the increase, and then come the electricity supply £22,091, tramways £20,027, metropolitan water supply £7,679, goldfields water supply £3,077, and other hydraulic undertakings £3,511. The same reasons account for these increases of expenditure as account for the increases of revenue. The anticipated increase of railway revenue is due to the expectation of an increased harvest and a revival of the timber trade, and that of the electricity supply, tramways and metropolitan water supply to the growth of the metropolitan area and the heavier demands on those undertakings. Expenses in connection with the goldfields water supply must gradually increase, for extensions into agricultural districts are continually being made, and the cost of upkeep of the pipe line becomes heavier as it grows older. As a matter of fact I am quite unable to provide the amount of money that the engineer in charge of the undertaking declares is necessary for that purpose. The Leader of the Opposition smiles, the reason no doubt being, as I have discovered on looking through files and budgets, that similar request have been made for the last 15 years.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: Right through the ages.

The PREMIER: For a generation past, at any rate. We cannot escape the fact that as the years go on, the pipes are becoming older, and there is greater need for expenditure on maintenance.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: Water will out!

The PREMIER: Yes, water will find leaky places, and there is greater need for expenditure in that direction. More water supplies have been added to other hydraulic undertakings. Although we are bound to find the funds required to carry on public utilities and meet the increasing demands, I assure members that the expenditure is as carefully watched as in the case of ordinary Governmental departments. Beyond that it is not possible for us to go, because the services must be maintained.

Last Year's Results.

Last year was somewhat disappointing from a revenue standpoint, the actual return having been £274,761 below expectations. The principal shortage, as I have already pointed out, was in the railways, their collections having been £416,508 below the estimate. Land rents and timber receipts also contributed, the former by £11,775 and the latter by £20,967. For all those decreases, there were causes over which we had no control. For instance, we cannot influence the seasons.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: According to the Minister for Railways, you lose when you do carry wheat.

The PREMIER: Two things that operated greatly against the railways were the partial failure of the season and the waterside strike. At the beginning of the year when the Estimates were prepared the outlook for the harvest was most promising, and it was certainly not anticipated that there would be any industrial trouble. Unfortunately the harvest did not turn out as expected, and that had a serious effect on the railways. Consequent on the waterside strike, the loss to the railways alone was estimated at approximately £100,000. The export of timber had an effect on the railway revenue as well as in other ways. The export values showed a decline from £1,265,321 in 1927-28 to £716,027 in 1928-29. That was a very serious falling-off. It is well known that timber is one of the best paying lines of traffic that the railways handle. The timber carried over the railways was 457,689 tons against 554,409 tons for the previous year, and the returns fell from £391,237 to £312,999. On the other hand, the tonnage of fertilisers, which emphatically are not payable traffic, increased from 217,141 to 257,999 tons.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: Hear, hear! That is the best news you have given us so far.

The PREMIER: It is good news in one respect, but it is not altogether good from a purely railway point of view.

Mr. C. P. Wansbrough: Indirectly it represents a big gain.

The PREMIER: The low rate traffic for the year increased, representing 50 per cent. of the whole, whilst returning only 30 per cent. of the total receipts. As was to be expected, the partial failure of the harvest was

reflected in land rents, they having fallen £11,775 below the estimate. Timber receipts, due largely to a falling-off in exports, also fell short of anticipations by £20,967. Otherwise the collections were satisfactory, the estimates in a majority of instances, having been exceeded. Expenditure was kept down to the least possible amount, having been £93,091 less than was estimated. There was a considerable saving of interest under Special Acts, due to our not having gone on the loan market as expected. Public utilities spent £52,120 less than was provided, largely due to the railways where the saving was £49,432. With the exception of tramways £9,973, electricity supply £3,309, and Perth Markets £77, all those concerns kept within their votes, Governmental, on the other hand, exceeded the total vote by £34,070. Of this, failure to pass the Hospital Tax Bill was responsible for £10,000, increased rates of pay to the police force represented £8,000, refunds of revenue, principally taxation, £9,000, and of course there were other increases as well as savings. I anticipated a deficit of £94,298, whereas the actual result was a deficit of £275,968, the revenue having been over-estimated by £274,761 and the expenditure over-estimated by £93,091. The Railway Department was the only department where there was any variation of note. There has been no slackening in the control exercised over the spending of Governmental departments generally. Each year it will be extremely difficult, owing to the steady growth of the State, to continue to keep expenditure at the present comparatively low level. The departments complain that the amounts allotted to them are insufficient to meet their requirements, but it is impossible to provide any more without increasing taxation, and I do not think the time is opportune to suggest any increase of taxation on the people of this State. Last year's deficiency will be cleared by transferring to it an amount of £44,238 standing to the credit of Deficiency Account, and the balance of £231,728 will be provided from the Suspense Account of £700,000.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: The £44,238 is part of the £200,000 grant?

The PREMIER: That is so. Thus we shall start this year with a clean sheet.

Sitting suspended from 6.15 to 7.30 p.m.

Loan Expenditure.

The PREMIER: The loan expenditure for last year amounted to £4,372,269, compared with £4,680,260 in the previous year. As usual development of agriculture was the principal head of expenditure, and accounted for almost £2,000,000. The expenditure under the various divisions was—

Railways, etc., £883,530.

Harbours and Rivers, £274,062.

Water Supply, £576,215.

Development of Mining, £79,752.

Development of Agriculture, £1,847,322,

Roads and Bridges, £711,390.

making the total I have just mentioned, namely, £4,372,269. It will be seen that a large proportion of this expenditure was directly revenue-producing. Expenditure was incurred on:

Bridgetown-Jarnadup railway, £24,115.

Ejanding—northward railway, £79,015.

Kalkalling-Bullfinch railway, £81,708.

Wiluna railway, £75,351.

Albany-Denmark extension, £85,251.

Kulja—eastward, £11,046.

In addition, £154,413 was spent on improvements to opened railways, £140,821 on rails and fastenings, £142,061 on rolling stock, and £18,687 on surveys of new lines. The principal works carried out in connection with harbours were in the Victoria Quay re-organisation, £133,066; Geraldton harbour, £99,366; and bridges and improvements generally £31,773, whilst minor works were carried on at Esperance, Bunbury and in the North-West. The expenditure on water supplies for country works was £311,194 and on metropolitan water supply and sewerage £265,021, a total of £575,215. We provided for group settlement £766,893, additional capital for the Agricultural Bank £704,405, soldier settlement £116,914, and assistance to settlers £92,907, a total of £1,681,119, spent directly in assistance to settlers. On roads the sum of £334,668 was spent, on public buildings £92,353, on trading concerns £36,721, and plant £66,000, and we provided a further sum of £25,000 for the Workers' Homes Board.

Workers' Homes.

Whilst I am referring to this last-mentioned sum, members may be interested to hear a few figures in connection with the

board's operations. The original capital of the board was £525,500, and to this was added during the last three years £75,000, making a total capital of £600,500. By arrangement with the Soldiers' Homes Commission, the board was supplied by the Commonwealth with a total to date of £1,611,250.

Mr. Thomson: Additional to the £600,500?

The PREMIER: Yes. The additional capital required for further soldiers' homes was arranged for with the commission, and the repayment of advances of workers' homes capital was utilised for further building. The board has provided on account of workers' homes 2,974 houses, totalling an expenditure of £1,157,870. On account of soldiers' homes, 2,198 houses have been erected at a cost of £1,680,000, and the balance now outstanding on the books of both accounts is £2,568,826. This includes houses provided by the previous War Service Homes administration. It is pleasing to know that bad debts have been negligible, and that each year's operations have shown a small profit. Arrangements have now been made for funds as required under the Commonwealth Housing Scheme up to £100,000 for the time being. Building is going on in all the principal country towns where the demand for houses exists.

Loan Moneys.

There were no loan flotations of any consequence last year. Our principal source of loan funds was the Commonwealth on account of migration loans. From this we received £934,081. From investments of Savings Bank funds and counter sales, etc., we had a further amount of £565,0024. Deposits under the Insurance Companies Act amounted to £10,000, making a total increase in the public debt of £1,509,105. Redemptions during the year amounted to £586,788, leaving a net increase on account of public debt of £922,317. As I explained to hon. members at the time, our last London loan of £3,000,000 was floated in April, 1928, and a large proportion of that was carried forward to finance the early part of 1928-29. It has not been possible to float a loan on the London market since then, and it was necessary to obtain an overdraft to carry on, and this, on the 30th June last, stood at £1,295,000. That is not nearly as high as our overdraft at the London and Westminster Bank has been in previous years.

Mr. Thomson: It shows that the bank must have had great faith in Western Australia.

The PREMIER: Yes. We have had on more than one occasion gone up to £2,000,000. The bank rate of interest is higher than it has been in past years, and upon our overdraft we are paying £5 11. per centum. For many years we had an overdraft at 4 per cent. and 4½ per cent. At the end of June we were indebted to the Commonwealth to the extent of £400,000 for temporary accommodation pending the raising of a loan in Australia. Members will note from Return No. 7 that the original sinking fund, which was cancelled in consequence of the Financial Agreement, has been treated as a redemption, as well as stock purchased by the National Debt Sinking Fund Commission. Purchases of our stocks by the commission will in future be treated in the same manner. Interest at the rate of 4½ per cent. is payable annually on stock purchased by them, and is available for investment in the purchases of further stock. This continues until the period provided for in the Financial Agreement is reached, namely, 58 years, for old loans, and 53 years for new ones, when the loans will be fully redeemed.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: What has become of the £1,000,000 profit?

Public Debt.

The PREMIER: Before leaving this subject I should like to draw the attention of members to Return No. 7, which shows the net amount of our public debt, and to Return No. 14, which gives the amount of capital invested in public utilities. It will be seen from Return No. 7 that the net debt on the 30th June last was £68,364,173, and from Return No. 13 that the capital invested in public utilities amounted to £37,515,080, leaving only a total of £30,849,093 for all other avenues of loan expenditure. These are represented by assets and are interest-bearing, such as the Agricultural Bank capital, group settlement, Workers' Homes Board capital, wire netting advances, and transferred profits.

Loan Council.

During the year two meetings of the Loan Council were held. Owing to the heavy export of gold from England and the exchange rate between London and New York, money in London has been very tight.

and there seems little chance of any immediate relief. Should the position not improve, there is grave risk of the interest rate being increased. It is generally thought, however, that the next few months may show some improvement. In the meantime, any loan on the London market is out of the question. Similarly, a loan in New York could only be floated at unreasonable prices, or at an unusually high rate of interest. This is not contemplated by the Loan Council or any of the Governments of Australia. Arrangements are well in hand for meeting the position, and it is thought that all the States will be able to carry on their most pressing and important works pending an adjustment of the situation in London. It follows that because of the situation on the loan market in London, the Commonwealth and all the States have had considerably to curtail their loan programmes. At the meeting of the Loan Council in May, approval was given to this State for a loan expenditure this year of £4,650,000.

Reduction of Loan Expenditure.

It was found that the programme agreed to could not be carried out. A further meeting of the Loan Council was held a month or two ago, when it was agreed that there should be a reduction of that programme by 20 per cent. all round. The amount that will now be available for our loan expenditure for the year will be £3,560,000, instead of £4,650,000 that was anticipated early in the year.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: What about last year? Was there any money over from then?

The PREMIER: No. That was the total amount for this year, as agreed by the Loan Council. We are, therefore, down on loan account to the tune of about £900,000. The Loan Estimates have been prepared, and I hope to introduce them at an early date.

Sinking Fund Charges.

When it was decided to set aside in each of the last two years the savings from the sinking fund charges pending the ratification of the Financial Agreement, I advised members that they would be given the opportunity to appropriate the amounts held in suspense. As the agreement has been ratified and is law, I propose to deal now with these amounts, a total of £700,000.

In order that the position may be clear, I wish to set out again what has been done. Under the Financial Agreement there have been savings amounting in all to £850,000. In the last half of the year 1926-27 there was a saving of £150,000, and in the following year a saving of £350,000, and in 1928-29 one of £350,000 also, making the total of £850,000. The first amount of £150,000 was transferred in 1926-27 from revenue to reserve for the purpose of meeting losses on group settlement. That transfer was confirmed by the Appropriation Act for 1927-28. So that that amount has already been dealt with by Parliament. The two remaining amounts were not so dealt with, being placed in suspense for the time being. After carefully considering the various proposals for the expenditure of this money, the Government have decided that it can best be utilised by being applied in the first place to wiping off the balance of the unfunded deficit, and in the second place by adding the remainder to the reserve for meeting losses on group settlement. It would have been impossible to carry forward a deficit and at the same time to use the whole of this money for some other purpose. It would also have been most unwise to use it, representing as it did a saving in revenue expenditure, for other ordinary outgoings when we were faced with heavy losses on the groups. It has been suggested—I think I have heard it suggested in this Chamber—that the money might be used for the purpose of reducing taxation; but our taxation is not by any means heavy when compared with that of other States, and considerable reductions of taxation have already been made. May I add here that if the money were used for the purpose of reducing taxation, it is not at all likely that the State would be assisted in securing a continuance of the special grant made by the Commonwealth because of Western Australia's disabilities. Moreover, any further reductions of taxation that might be made would be merely temporary, and the charges would soon have to be reimposed.

Group settlement losses.

It is recognised that losses in connection with group settlement will be heavy. The Government look upon it as their duty to provide for those losses to as great an extent as possible while the opportunity exists.

Mr. Thomson: Have you framed any estimate of the losses?

The PREMIER: On the Address-in-reply the Minister for Lands gave an estimate which just about covers the position. The investigations of the Valuation Board have already made it quite evident that the losses are going to be indeed heavy. It is difficult, until the board's work has been completed, to say just what the losses will be; but at this stage it would appear that they will amount to between £1,000,000 and £5,000,000. If hon. members will turn to page 121 of the Estimates, they will see how it is proposed to allocate the remainder of the grants from the Commonwealth. The amount necessary for clearing the unfunded deficit is £231,730. It will be recalled that the Commonwealth, in consequence of the report of the Federal Disabilities Commission, made this State a grant of £353,112 for 1925-26, and one of £212,812 for 1926-27, making a total of £565,924. In appropriating this sum in 1926-27, £200,000 was set aside for the purpose of extinguishing the then unfunded deficit. Of this amount there still remains £44,238. Last year's deficit amounted to £275,968, against which is set the sum just mentioned, £44,238. The balance of £231,730 will be cleared from the suspense account, and £468,270 will be carried to group settlement reserve. The reserve will then consist of the two amounts of £150,000, which I have mentioned was appropriated in 1926-27, and £468,270 set aside and proposed to be appropriated in these Estimates, making a grand total, set aside to meet losses on group settlements, of £618,270, and £93,235 received from the Commonwealth under the Migration Agreement. I am quite sure that hon. members, upon consideration, will agree that that is the best manner of utilising the money which has come to us in consequence of the Financial Agreement. If the Government desired to make themselves popular at this particular stage in the life of the present Parliament, they might perhaps have decided to utilise the money in many ways. It would have been quite feasible to reduce taxation in some directions, and to increase payments in many other directions; but the Government think that the only sound method of using the money is to set it aside against the heavy losses which we now know will be incurred on group settlement.

Railways.

The capital invested in our railway system increased during the year from £22,130,077 to £23,196,608, representing more than one-third of our net indebtedness of £68,364,173. This illustrates the important part played by the Railway Department in the State's finances, and how anything exercising an adverse effect on our railways reacts on our general revenue returns. Collections last year amounted to £3,783,492, and payments to £3,075,568, leaving a balance of £707,924 towards payment of interest. The interest, however, amounted to £923,017, leaving a shortage on the department's operations for the year of £215,093.

Mr. Stubbs: That is a much better result than any of the Eastern States railway systems can show.

The PREMIER: Yes, fortunately; but had things gone on as was anticipated early last year, the railways would have got round on their finances, as they did in the previous year. In fact, the previous year showed a surplus of £11,645. The revenue collected decreased by £51,807, while the expenditure increased by £172,484. So that last year, compared with the previous year from a revenue and expenditure standpoint, was worse by £224,291. At the beginning of the year an improvement over the previous year was naturally expected, but unfortunately it did not eventuate. There was a preponderance of traffic which is not considered payable, whilst more remunerative traffic fell off. It is interesting to note that the earnings per average mile worked were £951 last year, as compared with £972 for the previous year, last year thus showing a decrease of £21. The mileage of track increased by 102, and now stands at 4,079 miles, being far and away the greatest mileage of railway per head of population of any country in the world. Having regard to that fact, and also to the fact that the small States such as Victoria, where the population is denser, and New South Wales as well, have a mileage per head of population so much less than ours, I consider it a remarkable testimony to the management of our railway service to be able to say that we are producing better results with a lesser population per mile of railway than any of the Eastern States or, indeed, any country in the world.

Mr. Thomson: We are fortunate in that our capital cost per mile is much lower.

The PREMIER: That has something to do with it, and of course affects the interest bill considerably. But even allowing for those factors, our results are highly satisfactory.

Mr. Thomson: I agree.

The PREMIER: A quantity of rolling stock, including locomotives, coaches and wagons has been turned out by the Midland Junction Workshops during the year. Amongst these, I am indeed pleased to say, were 10 new sleeping cars for the Kalgoorlie express. These sleeping cars, hon. members will have noted from observations in the newspapers made by travellers, are much appreciated, and represent a vast improvement upon the old coaches.

Mr. Stubbs: One or two of the new sleeping coaches are needed on the Great Southern railway.

The PREMIER: They will come in time. We have not, in fact, as yet sufficient of the new coaches to cope with the transcontinental traffic between Perth and Kalgoorlie. We are not able to supply the two-berth coach on every train, and it will be necessary to continue building the new two-berth coaches if we are to keep abreast of the times.

Mr. Angelo: Has the second-class accommodation been improved?

The PREMIER: I do not know that it has.

Mr. Angelo: Six-berth compartments are shocking.

The PREMIER: Perhaps. However, we must hasten slowly, and according to our means. Here let me say that although we have six-berth coaches in the second-class, Western Australia was the first country in the world to provide any sleeping berths whatever for second-class passengers. That was done during the period I was Minister for Railways in the Scaddan Government.

Mr. Sampson: Good old John!

The PREMIER. Well, no; I just said that I was the Minister. I do not often claim credit for past deeds, but that is one of the things for which I was responsible.

Mr. Kenneally: The other States have not yet followed suit.

The PREMIER: No. There is no doubt in the world that an improvement in that respect was greatly needed. A great deal of

reggrading, reballasting and relaying has been done in order to reduce further the cost of haulage. It is largely because of the expenditure of money on those purposes that the railways are able to show such good results.

Tramways and Electricity Supply.

Tramway extensions for the year were 44¼ chains, at a capital expenditure of £9,105, bringing the total capital expenditure on the tramways to £1,069,352. The number of passengers carried during the year increased by £2,374,108, as compared with an increase of 2,116,547 in the previous year. The earnings increased last year from £319,438 to £344,447. The operations, after allowing for interest and sinking fund, resulted in a profit of £21,646, against which of course must be set the payment of £9,500 to local authorities. Owing to the increase in population in the outer suburbs, lines will have to be duplicated and extended. The capital invested in the Electricity Supply now amounts to £1,120,710. Further extensions will have to be considered in the near future, largely in the district represented by the member for Swan.

Mr. Sampson: I hope you will give effect to that suggestion.

The PREMIER: The revenue from the Electricity Supply Department amounted to £278,535, an increase of £31,095 for the year. That was sufficient to meet all charges, including interest and sinking fund, and to leave a small balance. The units sold were 7,606,868 more than in the previous year.

Mr. Davy: That is well above the estimated capacity of the plant.

The PREMIER: As a matter of fact, increased capital expenditure on plant, it now appears, will be a continuous affair. No sooner have we completed additional plant, as we did last year, than we have to commence on further additions. It seems that owing to the growth of the city and the increased demand for electric current for power, this will supply an annual item of increased expenditure. So long as it pays working expenses, interest and sinking fund charges, and shows a small profit, the position will be satisfactory.

Metropolitan Water Supply.

The capital charged to the metropolitan water supply during last year amounted to £200,035, the total now standing at £4,612,971. Extensions during the year consisted principally of the completion of the Churchman's Brook dam, the laying of arterial mains, extensions of the sewerage system in Perth, and the Subiaco and Fremantle storm-water drainage. The Subiaco sewerage system has been practically completed, and further work is contemplated in North Perth, Nedlands and East Fremantle. The Engineer-in-Chief's recommendation for the construction of a reservoir at Canning River has been approved. The pipes have been ordered and will be laid to the dam site, while preliminary work has been gone on with. As a matter of fact, I believe they will arrive on Monday. The Chemical Department's co-operation in investigations regarding the corrosion of pipes and the discolouration of water resulted in a definite advance in knowledge as to the cause of this trouble and its prevention. The department's operations resulted in a slight profit. The revenue amounted to £374,974, while working expenses, together with interest and sinking fund charges, totalled £348,501. This left a credit balance of £26,473.

Agricultural Bank.

I come now to a section that relates to an institution that has played a most important part in the development of the State. Loans approved for ordinary Agricultural Bank clients last year totalled £849,175, while the actual advances amounted to £633,393. The balances owing by borrowers, including principal and interest on the 30th June, represented £4,493,327. Included in the approvals was provision for clearing 546,480 acres, representing advances totalling £582,793. The bank's field of operations continues to extend with the development of our agricultural areas. Loans have been granted to 724 settlers in areas extending from the Bullfinch-Southern Cross districts to areas far east of Narrogin. Loans have been made on a more extended basis for the purpose of fallowing. In the older settled areas, the full advance has been repayable out of the ensuing crop, while in the new districts 50 per cent. of the advance has been capitalised. In the Southern Cross district,

92 miners were assisted, the amount approved to date being £126,025. Loans to soldier settlers amounted to £73,945 and the total amount of principal and interest now owing is £4,896,817. Advances to Industries Assistance Board settlers for the year represented £532,497, making the total advances since the inception of the board £12,619,100. Thus it will be seen what a very important part the Industries Assistance Act has played in our agricultural development during the past 15 years. Having regard to the large total of £12,619,100, I do not think the losses, which are estimated at £654,550, while balances still outstanding on the books represent £1,711,278, will be regarded as relatively great, when we take all the circumstances into consideration.

Mr. Thomson: That £12,000,000 was a good investment for the State.

The PREMIER: Yes. I was a member of the Government at the time.

Mr. Thomson: That is right, so you were.

The PREMIER: I was a member of the Government that passed the Industries Assistance Act, and established the Industries Assistance Board.

Mr. Kenneally: Good old Scaddan, again!

The PREMIER: I remember what a time we had as a result of the total failure of the season at that stage, and the consequent increase in the deficit, of which we were reminded daily.

The Minister for Justice: And have been ever since.

The PREMIER: That is so. There is no doubt that the Industries Assistance Act has been of great benefit to the State, and is still of benefit, having regard to the fact that over £500,000 was advanced last year under its provisions.

Mr. Sampson: Another tribute to John S.!

The PREMIER: I do not intend to deny John S. his share of the credit. Under the three sections I have mentioned, the balances owing are:—

	£
Bank	4,493,327
Soldier Settlement ..	4,896,817
Board	1,711,278
Total ..	11,101,422

I think those represent an important set of figures, and indicate the great work done by the institutions I have mentioned.

Agriculture.

From a wheat-growing point of view, hon. members are aware that last season did not reach expectations. The estimated production was 33,792,471 bushels, compared with 36,370,219 bushels for the previous year, which was a record one. It is interesting to observe the results of the work at the experimental farms. The average yields recorded were—

Merredin	13 bushels
Yilgarn (on fallowed land) ..	18 "
Salmon Gums	15 "
Wongan Hills (almost) ..	18 "
Chapman	11 "

If hon. members will take the trouble to look up the yields from the several districts mentioned, they will find that the yields in many instances were not half, and in some cases only one-third of those recorded at the State experimental farms.

Mr. Stubbs: On land of a similar nature?

The PREMIER: Yes, under almost identical conditions. Of course the figures indicate the result it is possible to obtain with improved and up-to-date methods of farming. I think the figures in connection with Salmon Gums are particularly notable. An average of 15 bushels was secured, whereas, if I remember aright, the yield for the district itself was about five bushels only. It was somewhere about one-third of the yield secured by the Salmon Gums experimental farm.

Mr. Griffiths: The Yilgarn figures are most encouraging too.

The PREMIER: That is so, although we must regard that as rather exceptional. As a matter of fact, the Yilgarn district topped the lot for the year before. Last year, although the returns were slightly down in that district, they were excellent.

Mr. Sampson: The yield furnished a fine testimony for the Wongan Hills district.

The PREMIER: Yes, that is light land too.

Apple Crop.

Although the wheat crop was not as satisfactory as was anticipated, the fruit season was above the average. The apple crop was a record one, both for quantity and the number of cases exported. The crop was esti-

mated to have produced 1,100,000 bushel cases. The previous highest production was in 1926-27, when 901,464 bushels were harvested. For the year ended the 30th June last, the number of bushel cases exported to overseas markets totalled 654,982, or 160,000 bushels more than the previous record established in 1927. Fortunately, side by side with the exceptionally good yield, was the fact that prices were excellent. The small crop in the Eastern States has enabled over 150,000 cases of our fruit to be sent there, and it is understood that more are to follow. As a matter of fact, I was in Melbourne in the early part of the year, and at that time there was quite a boom in Western Australian apples.

Butter production.

Our butter production continues to advance rapidly. Last year showed an increase of 25 per cent. above the production of the preceding year. The indications point to a still further increase during the coming year. It is also very satisfactory to note that a great improvement has been shown in the quality of our butter.

Member: It is better than North Coast butter.

The PREMIER: Yes. The butter submitted by factories last year was examined by official graders and the result showed that 87 per cent. of it was equal to "Kangaroo" brand standard.

Sheep and Wool.

The number of sheep in the State on the 31st December, 1928, was 8,927,929, and it is believed that at the close of this year the number will have considerably increased. The clip in 1928 was 61,244,631 lbs., valued at £4,962,916.

Mr. Thomson: Unfortunately prices are down to-day.

The PREMIER: Yes, I noticed casually in the Press that prices were down to 1s. 6d. per lb.

Mr. Stubbs: But that is not a bad price.

The PREMIER: It is that price now as against 30d. or 32d. per lb. a few years ago. However, the development of the clover belt in the Great Southern and South-Western districts of the State has had a great influence on the development of the sheep industry.

Cattle Industry.

It is unfortunate that Buffalo flies were found to be accompanying cattle from the North-West to Fremantle. In order to prevent this, a temporary spraying plant was erected at Robb's Jetty, and each beast was thoroughly sprayed before landing. Since then a power spraying plant has been erected at Derby, and it is believed that by this means herds in the south-western portion of the State will be protected from the pest. A veterinary officer and a stock inspector have been appointed by the Government and have been permanently stationed in the North-West. It is hoped that the results of their work will be beneficial.

Lands Department.

The Lands Department have had another busy year. Approvals under conditional purchase numbered 2,602 for an area of 2,616,762 acres, and under pastoral leases 199 for an area of 14,777,802 acres. Under the agreement with the Commonwealth 1,615 miles of wire netting have been supplied to farmers at a cost of £72,878. The close classification of country between Southern Cross and Salmon Gums undertaken 18 months ago in connection with the scheme of development under the Migration Agreement was completed, and classification of the land between Lake Hillman and the Murchison railway, and between Dartmoor and the Murchison also has been completed, and three parties of surveyors are now engaged in subdividing the area into suitable holdings, while four survey parties are in the pastoral area. The classification of country relating to the 3,500 farms scheme has been completed, and the proposals regarding railways, roads and water supplies are now before the Development and Migration Commission for their consideration. The depression in the timber trade last year caused the Forests Department's revenue to fall short of the estimate by £20,967. During the year—this is worthy of note—1,111,027 acres were dedicated as State forests. The total area now dedicated is 2,974,344 acres. During the year 639 acres were planted with soft wood and at the close of the year 3,269 acres of soft woods had been planted.

Mines Department.

The year's production of gold totalled £1,671,093. Diamond-drill boring has been steadily persevered with and drilling under-

taken at Greenbushes, Yalgoo, Cue, Black Range, Galena and Carbine, whilst operations are in progress at Cue, Riverina, and Norseman. Boring on the Big Bell and Mararoa holdings proved so successful that the former property has been purchased from the Government and the latter taken over by a larger company which will provide capital for extensive development. Steady progress is being made with the Meekatharra-Wiluna railway, which it is expected will be completed by the end of December. The northern portion of the State is receiving considerable attention with regard to tin mining and oil boring, and in both instances well equipped parties are in the field. The operations of the Miners' Phthisis Act have continued, and a large sum has been expended for the relief of sufferers and dependants. To show how the figures have increased I have had a return prepared, and from this it is seen that payments since the inception of the Act have been as follows:—

		£
1925-26	.. ..	5,109
1926-27	.. ..	20,518
1927-28	.. ..	37,922
1928-29	.. ..	41,145
		<hr/>
		£104,694

The estimated expenditure for this year is £12,000.

Mr. Stubbs: Are so many men falling sick, to cause this increase?

The PREMIER: It is not that so much; it is the cleaning up. I think the number now found to be affected is decreasing, but there were the accumulations of the past years. And then, payment under the Miners' Phthisis Act continues after the patient himself may have died. For instance, payment continues to his widow so long as she remains unmarried, and to the children up to 16 years of age. I do not desire to weary the Committee any longer, except to say it will be recognised that Australia generally is going through economic difficulties. I would commend to the careful consideration of every member the article or statement appearing in this morning's newspaper by Professor Brizden, a professor of economics in Sydney, wherein he points out that the national income of Australia is likely to be less by 30 millions this year than it was last year. A falling-off in the national income of £30,000,000, and that with a population of only a little over 6,000,000, must have a very serious economic influence on the life of the community. Whilst we will feel it

here, there is this to be said, that the position in Western Australia generally is more satisfactory than it is in any other State of the Commonwealth. But we are all in the same ship, so to speak, and failures of the harvest or the season in any of the Eastern States or several of them must react against Western Australia. I think we had better make up our minds to the altered position, having regard to the difficulty of raising money in the Old Country and to the comparatively high rate of interest to be paid should we raise loans there, and having regard also for the reduced price of our staple commodity, wool. I am glad to think it will not apply to wheat this year, but it is very serious for the wool-growers and of course will have a general influence through-

out the whole life of the community. We had better make up our minds for that position. However, the position in Western Australia is satisfactory, and if the prospects of the wheat season should continue as at present, and we should get the expected increase in our flocks and herds owing to the better fodders that are being produced, that increase will balance to some extent the reduction in price, and so I think we may look forward to a satisfactory and comparatively prosperous year. I move the first Division of the Estimates, namely—

Legislative Council, £1,814.

Progress reported.

House adjourned at 8.23 p.m.

[Return No. 1.]

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1928-29, COMPARED WITH THE ESTIMATE.

REVENUE.							£	£
The Treasurer's estimate for the year was	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,222,712	
The actual amount received was	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,947,951	
Or a total net over-estimate of	...	...	...	...	...	...		274,761
EXPENDITURE.								
The Treasurer's estimate for the year was	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,317,010	
The actual amount expended was	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,223,919	
Or a net over-estimate of	...	...	...	...	...	...		93,091

DETAILS.

HEADS.	REVENUE.		EXPENDITURE.	
	Over- Estimate.	Under- Estimate.	Over- Estimate.	Under- Estimate.
Taxation—	£	£	£	£
Land Tax	...	21,301	...	...
Income Tax	...	4,603	...	...
Dividend Duty	...	5,238	...	...
Totalisator Tax	...	...	...	...
Stamp Duty	2,102	...	10,224	...
Probate Duty	1,931	...	...	...
Licenses	...	13,791	...	...
Commonwealth	...	...	...	...
Territorial, etc.—	...	...	...	...
Land	11,775	...	...	...
Mining	1,275	...	...	...
Timber	20,967	...	...	...
Law Courts	...	4,212	...	...
Royal Mint	5,294	...	...	...
Special Acts—	...	...	...	...
Interest	...	...	72,175	...
Sinking Fund	...	...	...	2,359
Forests Act	...	...	116	...
Pensions	...	...	...	3,758
Residue	...	...	3,867	...
Departmental—	...	...	...	...
Parliamentary	...	...	...	88
Premier	2,052	...	2,303	...
Treasurer	...	3,891	...	18,074
Minister for Forests	...	3,811	1,364	...
Minister for Justice	...	1,894	1,086	...
Minister for Public Works and Labour	...	6,097	10,141	...
Minister for Lands, Immigration, and Industries	...	2,188	...	680
Chief Secretary	...	2,805	976	...
Minister for Education	265	...	...	325
Minister for Mines	...	397	2,827	...
Minister for Public Health	338	...	...	8,116
Minister for Agriculture	1,308	...	731	...
Minister for Police	...	2,210	...	7,620
Minister for Child Welfare and Outdoor Relief	...	411	...	26,594
Government Property Sales Fund	...	38,458	...	...
State Trading Concerns	...	4,300	...	...
Public Utilities—	...	...	...	...
Aborigines Cattle Stations	...	954	387	...
Albany Cold Stores	...	...	134	...
Bunbury Harbour Board	8,950	...	...	...
Fremantle Harbour Trust	...	34,881	...	...
Goldfields Water Supply	...	6,181	7,091	...
Kalgoorlie Abattoirs	...	340	65	...
Metropolitan Abattoirs	...	200	153	...
Metropolitan Water Supply, etc.	...	14,974	3,403	...
Other Hydraulic Undertakings	...	1,671	472	...
Perth City Markets	27	...	...	77
Railways	416,508	...	40,432	...
Tramways	...	2,447	...	9,973
Electricity Supply	...	6,535	...	3,909
State Batteries	2,202	...	4,469	...
Cave House	4,276	...	493	...
Totals	479,270	204,509	172,664	79,573
Net Over Estimates	£274,761		£93,091	

[Return No. 2.]

REVENUE.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS FROM 1920-21 TO 1928-29 AND ESTIMATE FOR 1929-30.

Heads.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	Estimate 1929-30.
TAXATION—	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Land Tax ...	57,791	42,549	79,983	71,449	113,867	145,830	147,415	162,906	196,301	210,000
Income Tax ...	834,320	820,874	390,003	502,265	478,642	566,344	845,527	323,597	329,603	320,000
Dividend Duty ...	244,969	177,005	189,057	216,895	237,467	265,895	278,613	324,940	315,233	330,000
Totalisator Tax ...	57,448	57,792	54,411	53,910	52,905	54,529	54,553	58,770	67,899	60,000
Stamp Duty ...	177,404	164,928	173,453	194,176	204,108	231,407	252,693	270,756	298,244	318,000
Probate Duty ...	42,406	76,817	45,997	66,969	68,114	84,635	66,366	81,452	82,469	85,500
Licenses ...	41,020	41,194	54,654	67,904	63,927	69,410	71,176	73,937	90,290	90,000
Total ...	955,358	881,159	987,558	1,173,568	1,224,030	1,418,050	1,211,343	1,296,358	1,370,039	1,413,500
TERRITORIAL AND DE- PARTMENTAL—										
Land ...	342,362	338,729	311,360	380,234	334,109	336,791	350,531	395,282	343,225	345,000
Mining ...	24,108	22,929	19,880	17,376	16,328	10,306	16,689	18,812	17,725	17,750
Royal Mint ...	23,005	24,446	22,896	16,397	24,294	18,231	15,271	15,800	10,706	11,000
Timber ...	70,796	73,529	73,095	115,047	151,787	188,641	183,692	197,027	153,533	170,500
Departmental Fees, etc.	808,861	910,857	1,046,006	1,086,279	1,238,240	1,415,714	1,636,768	1,602,543	1,655,782	1,614,724
Law Courts ...	25,210	26,353	28,609	30,070	33,978	37,568	45,441	51,122	57,213	59,000
Commonwealth ...	593,834	583,767	583,186	585,723	583,184	588,510	1,153,132	809,061	811,446	800,000
Total ...	1,888,176	1,930,610	2,084,032	2,181,126	2,436,370	2,601,761	3,401,524	3,089,712	3,049,630	2,517,974
PUBLIC UTILITIES—										
Harbour Boards ...	185,470	173,188	168,223	224,850	262,124	246,288	279,034	265,307	305,931	325,000
Railways ...	3,688,611	2,805,335	2,884,370	3,189,894	3,334,008	3,317,140	3,574,269	3,835,299	3,783,492	4,215,000
Tramways ...	225,000	248,924	263,668	275,402	282,418	287,774	295,032	319,438	344,447	371,000
Batteries ...	69,467	57,663	56,691	89,235	17,816	27,336	21,921	19,106	14,523	14,000
Avondale, Harvey, Bucklands, and Yan- danooka Estates ...	12,020	7,543	4,943	2,966	...	...	...	...	...	...
Water Supply and Sewerage, etc. ...	402,354	406,151	416,683	424,835	441,962	469,519	498,272	528,712	538,826	630,000
State Dairy Farm ...	3,250	2,614	a	a	a	a	a	a	...	...
Refrigerating Works, etc.	85,735	40,615	43,918	32,120	24,669	66,569	59,654	61,732	54,637	54,620
Cave House, etc. ...	13,834	14,432	13,576	16,630	14,011	16,190	16,279	17,272	15,724	16,000
Electric Works ...	95,350	119,120	128,932	162,796	186,867	205,073	221,221	247,440	278,535	309,000
Butter Factories ...	27,548	17,756	17,187	17,310	13,329	15,224	4,577	...	...	...
Total ...	3,758,689	3,893,291	4,000,147	4,383,088	4,577,204	4,640,108	4,970,259	5,294,396	5,386,115	5,934,520
TRADING CONCERNS ...	187,342	162,047	135,765	122,813	143,942	148,247	167,707	127,482	142,167	163,004
GRAND TOTAL ...	6,789,565	6,007,107	7,207,492	7,865,595	8,381,446	8,808,166	9,750,683	9,507,948	9,947,951	10,019,598

a. Included in Departmental.

[Return No. 8.]

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FROM 1921-22 TO 1928-29, AND ESTIMATE FOR 1929-30.

Head.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	Estimate 1929-30
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Special Acts	2,644,609	2,792,793	3,081,350	3,352,720	3,592,273	3,602,450	3,490,063	3,629,819	3,279,695
Parliamentary and Executive Council	11,423	12,258	11,855	12,568	13,557	13,901	13,954	14,173	14,972
Premier	18,185	15,522	15,420	18,738	16,529	15,518	15,936	14,843	18,055
His Excellency the Governor	2,227	2,166	2,356	2,399	2,549	2,508	2,518	2,439	2,440
London Agency	12,032	14,190	12,817	11,973	12,256	12,572	13,844	13,196	12,489
Public Service Commissioner	2,553	2,701	2,569	1,374	1,345	1,873	1,573	1,509	1,626
Government Motor Cars ...	1,703	2,193	1,053	3,047	5,534	5,838	8,478	7,228	6,561
Printing	71,881	68,270	63,389	62,875	64,946	67,053	67,929	74,237	76,135
Tourist and Publicity Bureau	...	...	...	...	1,579	1,788	1,934	2,120	2,121
Literary and Scientific ...	9,250	9,250	9,250	9,200	9,707	11,115	11,321	11,953	11,217
Centenary ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,915	15,085
Treasury	14,909	14,677	13,882	18,169	18,513	18,515	19,830	20,395	20,681
Audit	12,618	11,701	11,830	12,772	12,431	13,375	13,534	13,938	14,647
Compassionate Allowances	4,964	2,509	3,976	5,425	5,216	7,441	5,591	9,879	1,226
State Savings Bank	31,798	38,150	32,856	34,589	38,404	44,413	48,361	53,059	56,528
Government Stores	21,480	15,678	16,015	16,511	16,637	16,996	17,070	16,866	17,522
Taxation	14,486	13,200	13,635	14,341	13,937	30,224	30,212	30,000	30,000
Workers' Homes	6,047	11,366	12,853	12,014	12,659	13,722	17,212	18,554	20,218
Miscellaneous and Refunds	117,156	104,229	149,410	117,766	86,394	230,328	511,861	446,528	184,615
State Accident Insurance Office	...	...	...	...	...	2,550	3,164	3,475	4,150
Council of Industrial Development	...	...	1,065	1,437	1,088	1,168	1,176	1,160	1,204
Commonwealth Grants ...	...	...	...	...	...	365,905	...	...	...
Lands and Surveys	108,192	101,056	100,297	82,968	72,689	72,191	69,141	71,843	73,569
Settlement for Soldiers ...	13,207	13,196	9,787	...	...	...	...	...	...
Agricultural Bank and I.A. Board	61,016	66,804	83,865	82,398	83,511	83,061	79,514	81,136	83,704
Group Settlement ... ..	...	...	8,401	9,865	9,243	10,825	12,978	14,017	15,695
Immigration ... ..	...	...	8,430	5,786	6,904	5,728	5,914	6,391	6,787
Mines, Explosives, Geological, etc.	67,010	67,817	63,002	61,481	68,492	86,166	102,066	102,148	109,476
Forests	16,430	15,246	15,835	17,816	23,191	23,192	24,081	23,081	23,955
Agriculture	58,973	60,398	59,657	63,225	73,805	77,968	85,881	93,851	100,852
College of Agriculture ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Crown Law and Branches	78,077	76,819	82,334	80,715	81,932	94,233	90,321	86,327	103,372
Police	178,005	175,332	180,079	187,240	209,450	215,908	220,511	236,332	251,119
Public Works	93,587	76,042	87,220	89,538	82,688	88,971	89,698	97,712	118,073
Labour ... ..	...	...	5,335	5,251	7,415	10,228	12,310	13,580	15,111
Office of Chief Secretary ...	284,814	282,277	227,110	228,684	229,308	280,478	281,165	282,190	283,068
Aborigines	10,244	6,108	6,623	6,899	4,615	8,562	11,620	12,376	12,500
Fisheries	6,377	5,789	5,414	5,465	5,211	5,448	5,385	5,347	5,842
Gas	26,068	24,022	23,196	23,366	23,351	25,400	25,712	28,204	31,354
Harbour and Light and Jetty	22,073	20,466	20,213	21,096	22,290	23,082	22,429	23,457	24,705
Lunacy	89,840	87,847	88,813	97,085	99,467	102,653	101,918	104,813	114,993
Charities and State Children	93,563	95,626	93,523	100,498	109,220	108,425	108,352	136,222	116,931
Medical and Health	180,093	181,277	181,018	198,357	205,573	199,395	200,894	212,292	218,726
Education	556,026	568,183	580,548	585,465	595,209	647,061	668,685	679,019	691,019
Department of the North-West	2,942	20,989	21,813	19,005	23,229	...	...	...	...
Total, Departmental...	2,049,278	2,028,554	2,127,346	2,126,794	2,170,143	2,795,715	2,772,055	2,820,745	2,802,623
PUBLIC UTILITIES.									
Aborigines Cattle Stations	12,030	10,560	7,643	6,074	6,232	7,254	6,079	6,791	7,127
Butter Factories	15,073	16,433	16,807	13,068	14,673	4,537	...	...	...
Water Supply	281,846	275,447	283,596	284,162	291,053	296,919	307,184	307,554	321,821
Refrigerating Works, etc.	31,647	24,967	24,558	25,070	31,180	32,592	30,120	32,773	32,202
Railways	2,387,391	2,210,851	2,307,380	2,361,760	2,519,712	2,684,728	2,903,064	3,075,568	3,287,000
Tramways	202,995	207,542	225,678	229,362	234,332	234,508	253,005	269,978	290,000
Electricity Supply	95,784	91,557	116,154	138,731	147,934	172,000	191,467	212,909	235,000
State Batteries	64,891	72,149	35,889	28,359	29,216	29,317	27,712	22,636	22,694
Cave House	114,176	113,841	114,412	114,610	14,379	14,139	14,815	14,332	14,272
Avondale, Harvey, and Yandooka Estates	3,932	1,678	1,702	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total, Public Utilities	3,059,815	2,925,025	3,033,819	3,099,196	3,288,710	3,478,994	3,733,526	3,942,536	4,210,111
Less Rebates, etc.	7,753,702	7,744,372	8,242,513	8,578,710	9,051,126	9,877,159	9,995,644	10,393,100	10,136,722
	114,460	131,516	147,765	138,886	143,817	154,571	161,229	169,181	178,261
Total	7,639,242	7,612,850	8,094,752	8,439,844	8,907,309	9,722,588	9,834,415	10,223,819	9,914,188

a Includes transfer from Miscellaneous. b Includes £45,071 for loss on operations Royal Commission Control of Trade. c Includes Registry, Friendly Societies, Correspondence Despatch, and Observatory, and Labour Bureau. d Includes Tourist and Publicity.

[Return No. 4.]

**STATEMENT SHOWING ANNUAL SURPLUSES AND DEFICIENCIES OF CONSOLIDATED
REVENUE FUND, ALSO ANNUAL AGGREGATE FOR THE FINANCIAL YEARS
1900-01 TO 1928-29.**

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Annual.		Aggregate.	
			Surplus.	Deficiency.	Surplus.	Deficiency.
Balance, 30th June, 1900 ...	£ ...	£ ...	£ ...	£ ...	£ 12,372	£ ...
1900-01 ...	3,078,033	3,165,244	...	87,211	...	74,839
1901-02 ...	3,688,049	3,490,026	198,023	...	123,184	...
1902-03 ...	3,630,238	3,521,763	108,475	...	231,659	...
1903-04 ...	3,550,016	3,698,311	...	148,295	83,364	...
1904-05 ...	3,615,340	3,745,225	...	129,885	...	46,521
1905-06 ...	3,558,939	3,632,318	...	73,379	...	119,900
1906-07 ...	3,401,354	3,490,183	...	88,829	...	208,729
1907-08 ...	3,376,641	3,379,006	...	2,365	...	211,094
1908-09 ...	3,267,014	3,368,551	...	101,537	...	312,631
1909-1910 ...	3,657,670	3,447,731	209,939	...	...	102,692
1910-1911 ...	3,850,439	3,734,448	115,991	...	13,299	...
1911-1912 ...	3,966,673	4,101,082	...	134,409	...	121,110
1912-1913 ...	4,596,659	4,787,064	...	190,405	...	311,515
1913-1914 ...	5,205,343	5,340,754	...	135,411	...	446,928
1914-1915 ...	5,140,725	5,706,541	...	565,816	...	1,012,742
1915-1916 ...	5,356,978	5,705,201	...	348,223	...	1,360,965
1916-1917 ...	4,577,007	5,276,764	...	699,757	...	2,060,722
1917-1918 ...	4,622,536	5,328,279	...	705,743	...	2,766,465
1918-1919 ...	4,944,851	5,596,966	...	652,015	...	3,418,480
1919-1920 ...	5,863,501	6,531,725	...	668,225	...	4,086,705
1920-1921 ...	6,789,565	7,476,291	...	686,725	...	4,773,430
1921-1922 ...	6,907,107	7,639,242	...	732,135	...	5,505,565
1922-1923 ...	7,207,492	7,612,856	...	405,364	...	5,910,929
1923-1924 ...	7,865,695	8,094,753	...	229,158	...	6,140,087
1924-1925 ...	8,381,446	8,439,844	...	58,398	...	6,198,485
1925-1926 ...	8,808,166	8,907,309	...	99,143	...	6,297,628
1926-1927 ...	9,750,833	9,722,588	28,245	...	...	6,269,383
1927-1928 ...	9,807,949	9,834,415	...	26,466	...	6,295,849
1928-1929 ...	9,947,951	10,223,919	...	276,968	...	6,571,817

[Return No. 5.]

SYNOPSIS AND BALANCE SHEET AT 30TH JUNE, 1929, AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

	1925.			1926.			1927.			1928.			1929.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Dr.															
Westminster Bank, Ltd. ...	a			445,000	0	0	b			c			d		
Consolidated Revenue Fund										1,778	17	4			
Sinking Fund ...	10,017,509	12	5	10,652,929	7	3	9,129,910	0	0	9,250,811	2	3	949,767	7	11
General Loan Fund ...	571,425	6	7	113,965	12	11									
Australian Wheat Board															
State Savings Bank ...	5,978,002	3	9	6,460,884	14	1	6,986,310	0	0	7,698,784	14	5	8,377,578	19	0
Insurance Companies Act, Deposits	276,000	0	0	290,000	0	0	290,000	0	0	295,000	0	0	305,000	0	0
Trust and Deposit Accounts generally ...	2,918,238	18	11	3,460,491	19	1	3,855,660	0	0	4,392,084	2	1	4,728,028	17	5
	19,760,176	1	8	21,413,271	13	4	20,261,880	0	0	21,578,463	16	1	14,360,376	4	4
Cr.															
Investments ...	16,860,165	1	5	18,350,203	10	1	17,313,293	0	0	17,381,737	19	1	10,359,962	18	3
Stores on hand ...	801,794	8	3	725,078	6	9	820,418	0	0	934,846	15	7	723,600	9	4
Treasurers' Advance, and other Advances ...	261,560	11	8	582,347	0	1	488,686	0	0	343,174	6	10	785,614	16	10
General Loan Fund ...							292,936	0	0	947,260	17	7	1,218,284	6	4
Cash in hand—															
Treasury ...				22,541	4	11				15,349	12	7	106,922	0	5
Wheat Certificates															
General Account with Bank	811,684	9	4	739,951	13	10	170,356	0	0	287,555	5	9	390,209	7	9
State Savings Bank Account	516,703	15	10	320,151	8	8	207,949	0	0	361,589	4	6	431,161	6	0
Fixed Deposits with Bank ...				300,000	0	0				250,000	0	0			
Government of South Australia							600,000	0	0						
Government of Victoria										250,000	0	0			
Eastern States ...	29,100	16	5	151,357	16	3	90,957	0	0	105,258	17	4	87,117	10	11
London ...	12,184	3	1	2,952	8	11	2,187	0	0	4,871	1	9	2,054	0	5
Remittances and Drafts in transitu ...	2,866	17	3	37,745	5	9	61,350	0	0	51,053	7	5	18,718	6	11
Consolidated Revenue Fund	58,397	9	2	157,540	8	4	129,296	0	0				231,730	1	2
Deficiency Account ...	403,509	17	10	15,892	12	9									
Sundry Debtors, etc. ...	2,248	11	2	7,800	17	0	128,452	0	0	145,761	7	8			
	19,760,176	1	8	21,413,271	13	4	20,261,880	0	0	21,578,463	16	1	14,360,376	4	4

a £2,340,000 incorporated with General Loan Fund.

b £1,465,000 incorporated with General Loan Fund.

c. £10,000 incorporated with General Loan Fund.

d £1,295,000 incorporated with General Loan Fund.

[Return No. 6.]

STATEMENT SHOWING RECEIPTS FROM COMMONWEALTH FROM 1909-10 TO 1928-29.

Year.	Payment per Head, 25s.	Special Payment to W.A.	Interest on Transferred Properties at 3½ per cent.	Disabilities Grant.	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
1909-10 ...	703,723 ^a	...	Nil	...	703,723
1910-11 ...	569,578 ^a	...	Nil	...	569,578
1911-12 ...	365,614	232,265	40,648	...	638,527
1912-13 ...	382,591	222,554	30,465	...	635,610
1913-14 ...	400,855	212,751	27,358	...	640,964
1914-15 ...	403,772	203,127	24,388	...	631,287
1915-16 ...	398,076	193,544	24,485	...	616,105
1916-17 ...	386,008	183,974	24,485	...	594,467
1917-18 ...	386,779	174,350	38,110	...	599,239
1918-19 ...	391,809	164,696	29,163	...	585,668
1919-20 ...	414,068	154,937	29,268	...	598,273
1920-21 ...	419,448	145,287	29,099	...	593,834
1921-22 ...	418,966	135,738	29,063	...	583,767
1922-23 ...	428,193	128,038	28,955	...	583,186
1923-24 ...	442,269	116,301	27,153	...	585,723
1924-25 ...	455,155	106,589	26,391	...	588,135
1925-26 ...	465,229	96,890	26,391	...	588,510
1926-27 ...	473,432	87,207	26,588	565,905	1,153,132
1927-28 ...	b 483,256	...	25,775	300,000	809,061
1928-29 ...	463,578	...	47,868	300,000	811,446
Totals ...	8,852,429	2,556,248	535,653	1,166,905	13,110,235

^a Surplus Revenue returned.^b Special payment under States Grants Act.

[Return No. 7.]

LOAN AUTHORISATIONS AND FLOTATIONS.

							£	£
Authorisations to	30th June, 1928 (adjusted)	...	...	...	...	...	83,777,961	
Do.	1928-29	...	...	...	...	...	4,800,000	
	Total Authorisations	...	...	...	...	...		88,577,961
Flotations—								
General Loans	...	...	...	...	...	...	a 48,619,446	
Local Inscribed Stock	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,512,066	
Treasury Bonds and Inscribed Stock under Deficiency Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,243,965	
Local Debentures	...	...	...	...	...	...	a 4,154,567	
Commonwealth Loans—Migration	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,489,812	
Do. Soldiers Land Settlement	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,463,782	
Do. Financial Agreement	...	...	...	...	...	...	600,446	
Treasury Bills	...	...	...	...	...	...	850,446	
								81,994,530
	Balance available for Flotation	...	...	...	...	...		6,583,431
Actual Loan Indebtedness—								
Gross Debt on 30th June, 1928	...	...	...	...	...	...	76,427,764	
Flotation during year—								
Debenture (5½ per cent.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	
Treasury Bonds	...	...	...	...	...	...	84	
Local Treasury Bills (4½ per cent.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,000	
Local Inscribed Stock (5½ per cent.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	251,600	
Commonwealth Loan (5½ per cent.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	313,240	
Commonwealth Loans (Migration, 1 per cent.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	934,081	
								77,936,869
Less Redemptions—								
Debentures, Loans, 1884 (Crown Agents), 4 per cent.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,800	
Commonwealth Wire Netting Advance (deleted)	...	...	...	...	...	...	101,158	
Treasury Bills	...	...	...	...	...	...	16,259	
Debentures (Sinking National Debt Fund) 6 and 5 per cent.	...	...	...	...	...	...	467,571	
Inscribed Stock (from State Sinking Fund) 3 to 6 per cent.	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,994,632	
								8,581,420
								69,355,449
Less—								
Sinking Fund at 30th June, 1929	...	...	...	...	...	...		991,276
	Net Indebtedness, 30th June, 1929	...	...	...	...	...		68,364,173
Net Public Debt per head of Population on 30th June, 1929								
Do.	do.	do.	1928	...	...	...	165	17 11
Do.	do.	do.	1927	...	...	...	168	16 0
Do.	do.	do.	1926	...	...	...	160	14 1
Do.	do.	do.	1925	...	...	...	158	4 4
Do.	do.	do.	1924	...	...	...	148	2 2
Do.	do.	do.	1923	...	...	...	148	7 6
Do.	do.	do.	1922	...	...	...	142	9 6
Do.	do.	do.	1921	...	...	...	137	1 0
Do.	do.	do.	1920	...	...	...	*124	15 11
Do.	do.	do.	1919	...	...	...	119	7 3
Do.	do.	do.	1918	...	...	...	116	7 0
Do.	do.	do.	1917	...	...	...	118	0 8
Do.	do.	do.	1916	...	...	...	116	5 5
Do.	do.	do.	1915	...	...	...	109	19 9
Do.	do.	do.	1914	...	...	...	101	12 10
Do.	do.	do.	1913	...	...	...	94	4 11
Do.	do.	do.	1913	...	...	...	85	17 2

* 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.

a. Adjustments have been as between this and other items compared with the previous year in respect to Commonwealth Loans, where securities will not be issued, and also by conversions in 1928-29.

b. Includes surplus of £55,737, under Treasury Bonds Deficiency Act, 1924.

(Return No. 8.)

LOAN FLOTATIONS, DEBT AND EXPENDITURE ON 30TH JUNE, 1929.

Works and Services.	Flotations.	Actual Indebtedness on Works.	Actual Cash spent.
	£	£	£
Railways, Tramways, and Electricity Supply	25,270,123	20,197,884	24,627,381
Harbours and Rivers	5,566,700	4,352,756	5,399,855
Goldfields Water Scheme	2,903,078	551,761	2,689,824
Water Supply Generally	4,350,999	3,987,516	4,442,801
Sewerage	1,767,368	1,509,038	1,842,841
Erection of State Batteries and Treatment Plants	335,470	227,814	320,622
Development of Goldfields	2,190,410	1,757,452	2,112,126
Development of Agriculture	3,895,708	2,518,054	2,957,676
Agricultural Group Settlement	6,741,882	6,741,882	7,107,182
Assistance to Settlers	2,894,186	2,894,186	2,761,999
Agricultural Bank	3,168,865	3,168,865	3,734,446
Land Settlement for Soldiers	7,843,586	7,015,006	7,868,620
College of Agriculture	60,260	60,260	62,184
Purchase of Wire Netting for Settlers	117,775	117,775	...
Workers' Homes—Working Capital	600,332	600,332	600,500
Telegraphs	276,724	199,863	269,308
Roads and Bridges	1,628,162	1,362,043	1,670,892
Public Buildings	1,402,966	1,130,542	1,511,197
Immigration	64,216	59,284	65,392
State Hotels	93,932	93,932	96,238
State Steamships	1,063,594	1,063,594	1,191,887
State Saw Mills	327,463	327,463	334,044
State Implement Works	153,656	153,656	168,270
South Perth Ferries	24,447	24,447	12,967
State Milk Supply	4,590	4,590	4,496
State Brickyards	61,655	61,655	52,421
State Quarries	28,513	28,513	30,092
State Fish Supply	3,286	3,286	3,162
Crawley, Dalkeith, and Harvey Estates, Aborigines Stations, Avon Valley Native Station, Savoy House, Purchase of Land at Nedlands, Purchase of House for Residence of Agent General, and Site at Point Heathcote for Mental Reception Home	131,441	131,441	119,392
Plant and Stock Suspense Accounts	223,587	223,587	291,500
Miscellaneous	183,255	77,671	206,444
Wyndham Freezing Works (Working Capital)	388,602	388,602	286,014
Fisheries	12,208	12,208	11,806
Carnarvon Meat Works	46,624	46,624	45,000
Metropolitan Markets Trust ... ..	...	...	92,418
	73,730,663	61,091,582	73,980,797
Redemptions ... ..	...	12,639,081	...
Cost of Raising ... ..	...	...	2,853,374
Loan Suspense Expenditure ... ..	...	...	94,288
			76,928,459
Less Sundry Credits ... ..	...	...	1,979,512
Less Balance General Loan Fund ... ..	...	...	1,218,284
	73,730,663	73,730,663	73,730,663

a Includes £17,877, expended on Wyndham Freezing Works. b An additional amount of £438,425 was expended upon Agricultural Immigration from Development of Agriculture. c Sales Credits £389,512. Westminster Bank £1,295,000, Treasury Bills, Insurance Companies deposits, £295,000.

RECONCILIATION WITH PUBLIC DEBT (RETURN No. 8).

	£
Indebtedness as above	61,091,582
Local Inscribed Stock, issued under Agricultural Bank Act, for conversion of Mortgage Bonds	1,566,000
Issues under Treasury Bonds Deficiency Act	6,329,572
Issues under Insurance Companies Act, 1918	295,000
Treasury Bills under Loan Act 1923 issued for payment of arrears of interest	73,295

Gross Public Debt £69,355,449

LOAN EXPENDITURE FOR 1928-29 COMPARED WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.

(Exclusive of Loan Suspense Expenditure.)

Undertakings.	1928-29.	1927-28.	1926-27.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1922-23.	1921-22.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1918-19.	1917-18.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways, including Land Resumptions ...	826,500	806,895	642,225	642,854	584,108	561,988	519,557	323,296	145,724	75,786	154,720	181,384
Tramways—Perth Electric ...	8,551	75,247	32,444	16,380	26,571	57,815	72,057	95,535	34,410	27,473	7,299	3,073
Electric Power Station ...	48,479	69,304	104,752	110,540	60,661	31,717	57,701	184,345	18,783	17,890	25,386	23,506
Fremantle Harbour Works ...	133,066	113,954	62,652	66,530	56,437	37,891	42,726	40,009	40,089	51,855	46,345	42,449
Fremantle Dock and Slip ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Harbours and Rivers generally ...	140,994	137,691	128,535	152,764	124,576	101,122	77,414	42,632	72,245	50,322	23,803	42,485
Sewerage—Perth and Fremantle ...	151,211	129,430	108,414	109,891	114,798	39,762	47,190	21,348	19,436	...	...	15,167
Water Supply ...	425,004	452,967	333,431	568,570	535,497	393,903	153,667	106,231	194,172	49,115	46,636	53,080
Development of Goldfields ...	79,752	81,915	87,528	84,070	86,731	84,221	64,618	43,530	43,902	32,581	16,152	10,661
State Smelter, Ravensthorpe ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Development of Agriculture ...	143,971	67,091	51,238	127,328	100,626	74,941	91,952	58,692	73,075	112,807	150,421	156,089
Assistance to Settlers ...	92,007	110,959	84,060	10,784	192,710	441,546	400,000	74,674	31,695	6,468	80,000	478,170
Agricultural Group Settlement ...	766,693	1,122,829	1,428,486	1,335,009	1,121,252	822,910	506,803	...	...	...	...	...
Land Settlement for Soldiers ...	116,914	170,484	176,021	326,247	508,649	778,608	958,132	983,914	1,527,664	1,947,772	283,319	...
College of Agriculture ...	10,805	5,371	25,559	5,043	15,558	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Immigration ...	11,897	10,072	11,203	...	7,148	16,229	11,209	8,278	12,024	5,205	1,867	1,107
Agricultural Bank—Working Capital ...	704,445	221,170	105,078	229,511	257,072	204,027	260,410	13,518	151,825	118,235	73,948	25,000
Purchase of Wire Netting for Settlers ...	...	25,650	132,854	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Steamships ...	20,796	419,119	178,353	94,989	...	...	6,658	200,000	10,000	14,591	...	...
Workers' Homes Working Capital ...	25,000	50,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Saw Mills ...	8,346	36,934	50,000	...	...	...	...	...	33,803	...	...	...
State Hotels ...	1,653	16,905	953	966	1,424	2,831	3,108	6,868	5,056	2,767	1,793	117
Agricultural Implements Works ...	...	...	25,000	...	7,500	...	...	...	39,929	15,772	...	...
Brickyards ...	1,625	1,506	9,537	1,712	7,500	...	141	...	705	1,326	1,166	20
Ferries ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
State Fish Supply ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Public Buildings ...	92,353	126,512	117,483	77,795	91,140	88,595	18,680	44,440	24,963	10,602	21,470	17,536
Roads and Bridges ...	835,718	287,584	176,930	96,835	92,606	77,744	34,331	12,500	32,121	14,716	4,231	2,473
Perth-Fremantle Road Reinstatement ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Purchase of Plant and Stock (Suspense Account) ...	66,000	50,000	...	...	39,500	30,000	10,000	...	60,000	...	...	...
Fremantle Road and Railway Bridge ...	18	847	...	...	...	...	...	19	...	1	79	108
Sundries ...	18,058	14,264	23,108	16,991	25,140	23,230	13,892	9,710	7,841	3,089	2,262	1,729
Wyndham Freezing Works—Working Capital ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	86,000	...	100,000	100,000	...
Fisheries ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32	5,870	5,904	...	...
Urgent Minor Works throughout the North-West ...	...	...	...	3,770	1,714	5,708	2,979	...	...	...	...	...
Purchase of Site at Point Heathcote for Mental Home ...	...	...	91	...	7,068	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Purchase of Avon Valley Native Station ...	156	368	6,459	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Reconstruction Cannock Road ...	35,907	76,792	8,981	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Guildford Road—East Street to Midland Junction ...	10,042	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Metropolitan Markets ...	92,418	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	4,372,289	4,680,260	4,118,054	4,078,666	4,099,021	3,938,833	3,889,299	2,454,925	2,586,404	2,663,320	1,049,736	1,054,178

Includes Loans to Local Authorities for erection of Country Hospitals, etc., a £10,379; b £21,625; c £9,780.

[Return No. 10]

PUBLIC DEBT AND SINKING FUNDS.

Loan.			Stocks held by the State Trustees and cancelled under the Financial Agreement Act, 1928.	Stocks purchased by the National Debt Commission and cancelled to 31st March, 1929. ^a	Balance of Debt.	Accumulated Sinking Fund.	Remarks.
Issue.	Amount.	Maturity.					
1898-1915	£ 998,353	1934	£ ...	£ ...	£ 998,353	£ 896,700	Controlled by Crown Agents. Stock issued for conversion of Debentures; the latter are Redeemable by annual drawings.
1872-1888	2,400	2,400	647	
1916 ...	140,000	1936	140,000	68,198	
1896 ...	1,500,000	1935	1,036,890	...	463,110	} Sinking Fund represents premiums paid on Assurance Policy for redemption of principal amount of 5 per cent. Stock issued for purchase of M.S. "Kangaroo."	} G.S.R. Purchase.
1897-1900	3,500,000	1935	752,632	12,361	2,735,007		
1897 ...	1,100,000	1936	494,003	8,500	597,497		
1900-1902	680,000	1935	680,000	...	...
1902-1905	2,600,000	1935	603,289	...	1,996,711		
1907-1908	2,000,000	1947	556,399	...	1,443,601		
1909 ...	1,445,000	1955	1,091,196	...	353,804		
1910 ...	1,342,000	1955	...	...	1,342,000
1911 ...	1,650,000	1955	...	...	1,650,000
1912 ...	1,000,000	1960	111,392	...	888,608		
1912-1914	6,000,000	1962	1,035,917	...	4,964,083		
1922 ...	2,000,000	1945	241,187	...	1,758,863		
1920 ...	1,500,000	1940	448,007	...	1,051,993	} 825,731	
1922 ...	3,000,000	1940	251,600	16,798	2,731,602		
1923 ...	3,000,000	1965	298,680	28,258	2,673,062		
1926 ...	2,600,000	1976	385,194	134,035	1,980,721		
1919 ...	108,603	1939	8,295	...	98,308		
1928 ...	424,691	1975	...	28,700	395,991		
1925 ...	575,362	1957	...	5,610	569,752		
1925 ...	1,541,149	1955	...	5,260	1,535,889		
1924 ...	502,300	1929	...	228,000	274,300		
1925 ...	500,000	1975	...	47,735	452,265		
Total	39,607,858	...	7,994,631	515,307	31,097,920	991,276	
Balance of Debt			38,257,520		
Gross Public Debt, 30th June, 1929			...	£ 69,355,449			

^a Although cancelled these stocks, with the exception of £47,735 which was finally cancelled, are subject to a Sinking Fund contribution at the rate of 4½ per cent.

^b Uninvested Cash.

{Return No. 11.]

SINKING FUND AND INVESTMENTS.

ANALYSIS OF FUND.

	State.	Common-wealth.
	£	£
Contributions from Revenue	6,882,358	a 494,898
Interest on Investments	4,454,195	7,522
Discounts on Purchases, less Brokerage, Expenses, and Premiums on Purchases	1,094,787	...
	12,431,340	502,420
Less utilised for Redemptions	11,465,795	476,689
Total of Fund, 30th June, 1929	965,545	25,731

a Includes £312,052, contributed by the State during two years, being the period covered by the statement.

INVESTMENTS.

	Maturity.	Rate.	Nominal Value.	
			£	s. d.
Western Australian Stocks	1935	3 per cent. ...	1,502,632	4 8
	1936	3 per cent. ...	494,003	8 3
	1935	3½ per cent. ...	1,570,178	13 9
	1927-1947	3½ per cent. ...	556,399	10 10
	1935-1955	3½ per cent. ...	1,091,196	4 10
	1940-1960	3½ per cent. ...	111,392	4 8
	1942-1962	4 per cent. ...	1,035,917	2 3
	1930-1940	5½ per cent. ...	448,006	16 7
	1930-1940	6 per cent. ...	251,600	0 0
	1935-1945	5 per cent. ...	241,136	15 5
Western Australian Debentures ...	1935-1965	4½ per cent. ...	298,679	17 4
	1945-1975	5 per cent. ...	385,194	8 3
	1939	4½ per cent. ...	8,295	0 0
Total held and cancelled under the Financial Agreement Act, 1928			7,994,632	6 10
Other Stocks—Crown Agent's Investments			896,700	5 6
Payments on Assurance Policy towards redemption £140,000			68,197	10 0
Cash			26,378	6 3
Total Sinking Fund, 30th June, 1929			991,276	1 9

[Return No. 12.]

SINKING FUND AND DEFICIT.

Year.	Contributions.		Interest and Discount (less Brokerage and Expenses).	Total Accretions.	Redemptions.	Deficit on Year.
	To Commonwealth Fund.	To State Fund.				
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1911-12	245,274	136,148	381,422	7,500	134,409
1912-13	244,555	153,756	398,311	7,700	190,404
1913-14	250,100	140,558	390,658	7,900	135,411
1914-15	258,792	126,193	384,985	8,200	565,817
1915-16	265,457	206,842	472,299	12,755	348,223
1916-17	280,883	239,445	520,328	7,600	699,757
1917-18	306,782	237,405	544,187	9,300	705,743
1918-19	319,101	257,457	576,558	8,400	652,014
1919-20	319,692	386,628	706,320	12,200	668,225
1920-21	342,277 ^b	460,761	803,038	10,300	686,725
1921-22	322,130	416,066	736,196	9,600	732,135
1922-23	242,319	351,879	594,198	183,307	405,364
1923-24	225,649	377,471	603,120	10,600	229,158
1924-25	236,742	380,918	617,660	6,200	58,398
1925-26	247,168	428,894	676,062	6,600	99,143
1926-27	282,328	327,816	610,142	2,507,700	^d 28,245
1927-28 ...	238,378	68,649	128,354	^e 435,381	54,335	26,468
1928-29 ...	256,521	5,935	63,960	^f 326,416	8,473,121	275,968
Totals ...	494,899	4,463,831	4,820,551	9,779,281	11,343,318	66,585,115

^a The Actual Deficit on 30th June, 1929, was £6,571,817, the difference being due to a credit balance of £13,298 at the commencement of the period included in the return. ^b Includes £21,375 by Trading Concerns. ^d Surplus. ^e Includes £84,276 contributed by the Commonwealth. ^f Includes £99,097 contributed by the Commonwealth.

[Return No. 13.]

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES FOR YEARS 1922-1923, 1923-1924, 1924-1925, 1925-1926, 1926-1927, 1927-1928, 1928-1929.

—	Capital Cost.	Working Expenses.	Interest Charges.	Sinking Fund.	Total Cost.	Revenue.	Surplus.	Deficiency.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1922-23 ...	29,819,380	2,923,476	1,136,606	180,886	4,250,968	4,000,147	...	250,821
1923-24 ...	30,841,698	3,032,282	1,186,766	192,751	4,411,799	4,388,090	...	23,709
1924-25 ...	32,290,890	3,097,680	1,230,788	196,158	4,524,626	4,577,204	52,578	...
1925-26 ...	33,675,991	3,291,186	1,294,398	197,745	4,783,329	4,640,108	...	143,221
1926-27 ...	34,606,907	3,476,997	1,318,674	199,593	4,995,264	4,970,259	...	25,005
1927-28 ...	35,740,764	3,746,600	1,315,609	201,458	5,293,667	5,298,117	4,450	...
1928-29 ...	37,515,080	3,942,536	1,415,577	123,885	5,481,988	5,386,116	...	95,882

[Return No. 14.]

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES FOR YEAR 1928-29.

—	Capital Cost.	Working Expenses.	Interest Charges.	Sinking Fund	Total Cost.	Revenue.	Surplus.	Deficiency.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways	23,196,608	3,075,568	923,017	56,382	4,054,967	3,783,492	...	271,475
Tramways	1,069,352	289,973	50,155	2,673	322,801	344,447	21,646	...
Electricity	1,210,710	212,009	56,654	3,027	272,590	278,535	5,945	...
Metropolitan Water Supply...	4,612,971	142,785	176,045	29,671	348,501	374,974	26,473	...
Goldfields Water Supply ...	3,312,089	134,941	38,808	11,023	184,772	171,181	...	3,
Other Hydraulic Undertakings	471,806	29,828	20,981	5,273	56,082	42,671	...	13,41
All other	3,641,544	76,632	149,917	15,836	242,285	390,816	148,531	...
Total	37,515,090	8,942,636	1,415,577	123,885	5,481,998	5,836,116	202,595	298,477
Net Deficiency ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	£95,882	...

[Return No. 15.]

RETURN RELATING TO RAILWAYS.

—	1928-29.	1927-28.	1926-27.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1923-24.
Number of miles open ...	miles. 4,079	miles. 3,977	miles. 3,918	miles. 3,865	miles. 3,733	miles. 3,629
Capital Cost of Construction and Equipment of Lines open	£ 22,552,665	£ 21,488,043	£ 20,923,104	£ 20,368,658	£ 19,520,070	£ 18,810,711
Loan ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Revenue	£643,943	£642,034	£643,158	£658,134	£798,050	£827,333
	23,196,608	22,130,077	21,566,262	21,026,792	20,318,120	19,638,044
Working Expenses	3,075,568	2,903,084	2,684,728	2,519,712	2,361,760	2,307,380
Interest Charges	923,017	920,569	887,740	860,225	813,849	787,221
Total Annual Cost a	3,998,585	3,823,653	3,572,468	3,379,937	3,175,609	3,094,601
Gross Revenue	3,783,492	3,835,298	3,574,269	3,317,140	3,334,008	3,189,894
Surplus ... ..	...	11,645	1,801	...	158,399	95,293
Deficiency debited to Consolidated Revenue, being burden on Taxpayers ...	215,093	...	...	62,797	...	...

a These figures do not include sinking Fund, estimated to be £56,382.

[Return No. 16.]

RETURN RELATING TO TRAMWAYS.

	1928-29.	1927-28.	1926-27.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1923-24.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Capital Cost of Construction and Equipment ...	1,069,352	1,060,247	983,140	949,929	932,317	912,089
Working Expenses ...	269,973	253,065	234,507	234,332	229,362	225,678
Interest Charges ...	50,155	48,799	46,236	45,155	44,835	42,843
Total Annual Cost <i>a</i>	320,128	301,864	280,743	279,487	274,197	268,521
Gross Revenue ...	344,447	319,438	295,032	287,774	282,418	275,402
Surplus ...	24,319	17,574	14,289	8,287	8,221	6,881

a These figures do not include Sinking Fund, £2,673, nor payments to Local Authorities, £9,500.

[Return No. 17.]

RETURN RELATING TO ELECTRICITY.

	1928-29.	1927-28.	1926-27.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1923-24.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Capital Cost of Construction and Equipment ...	1,210,710	922,395	895,629	880,042	864,128	800,227
Working Expenses ...	212,909	191,467	172,000	147,934	136,731	116,154
Interest Charges ...	56,654	43,627	42,340	41,540	40,039	37,261
Total Annual Cost <i>a</i>	269,563	235,094	214,340	189,474	176,770	153,415
Gross Revenue ...	278,535	247,440	221,221	205,073	186,867	162,796
Surplus ...	8,972	12,346	6,881	15,599	10,097	9,381

a These figures do not include Sinking Fund, £3,027.

[Return No. 18.]

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

—	1928-29.	1927-28.	1926-27.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1923-24.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Capital Cost of Construction and Equipment	4,612,971	4,412,936	4,103,759	3,796,396	3,313,032	2,777,080
Working Expenses*... ..	142,785	143,831	139,004	134,286	124,756	123,302
Interest Charges	176,045	135,105	125,846	113,665	104,389	96,093
Sinking Fund	29,671	25,162	23,374	21,855	20,205	18,004
Total Annual Cost	348,501	304,098	288,024	269,806	249,350	237,399
Gross Revenue	374,974	324,900	290,334	250,729	236,386	221,867
Surplus	26,473	20,802	2,310	...	...	...
Deficiency ... ..	...	...	...	19,077	12,964	15,532

*Includes Interest and Sinking Fund on debentures, £33,510.

[Return No. 19.]

RETURN RELATING TO GOLDFIELDS WATER SUPPLY.

—	1928-29.	1927-28.	1926-27.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1923-24.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Capital Cost of Construction and Equipment	3,312,089	3,289,021	3,266,603	3,250,085	3,154,727	3,099,816
Working Expenses a	134,941	136,633	133,432	128,858	131,457	132,450
Interest Charges	38,808	37,358	60,055	79,893	75,579	74,211
Sinking Fund	11,023	10,547	10,385	8,698	7,356	6,459
Total Annual Cost	184,772	184,538	203,872	217,449	214,392	213,120
Gross Revenue	171,181	164,909	171,145	180,942	171,850	170,748
Deficiency	13,591	19,629	32,727	36,507	42,542	42,372

a Includes interest on Debenture Capital.

[Return No. 20.]

RETURN RELATING TO OTHER HYDRAULIC UNDERTAKINGS.

—	1928-29.	1927-28.	1926-27.	1925-26	1924-25.	1923-24.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Capital Cost of Construction and Equipment ...	471,806	416,971	429,797	406,191	400,350	394,745
Working Expenses ...	29,828	26,719	27,483	30,385	27,949	27,844
Interest Charges ...	20,981	19,109	18,120	18,725	20,951	20,401
Sinking Fund ...	5,273	4,364	4,449	5,807	7,951	7,822
Total Annual Cost ...	56,082	50,192	50,052	54,917	56,851	56,067
Gross Revenue ...	42,671	38,903	36,792	37,848	33,726	32,220
Deficiency ...	13,411	11,289	13,260	17,069	23,125	23,847

[Return No. 21.]

RETURN RELATIVE TO OTHER UTILITIES FOR 1928-1929.

Utilities.	Capital Cost, etc.	Working Expenses.	Interest Charges.	Total Annual Cost.	Gross Revenue.	Surplus.	Deficiency.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fremantle Harbour Trust ...	2,565,750	...	104,531	104,531	294,881	190,350	...
Bunbury Harbour Board ...	471,680	...	20,770	20,770	11,050	...	9,720
State Batteries ...	413,104	22,636	14,459	37,095	14,523	...	22,572
Aborigines Stations ...	80,730	6,790	1,275	8,065	4,553	...	3,512
Albany Cool Stores ...	20,915	926	937	1,863	...	...	1,863
Perth City Markets ...	20,000	865	1,000	1,865	1,544	...	821
Metropolitan Abattoirs ...	84,790	28,654	5,397	34,051	46,200	11,149	...
Kalgoorlie Abattoirs ...	6,360	2,328	433	2,766	3,341	575	...
Butter Factories ...	551	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tourist Resorts ...	24,664	14,333	1,110	15,443	15,724	281	...
Total ...	3,641,544	76,532	149,917	226,449	390,816	202,355	37,988
Estimated Sinking Fund...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,836
NET SURPLUS ...	...	...	...	...	...	£148,581	...

[Return No. 22.]

ESTIMATED CASH POSITION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES FOR YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1930.

Items.	Estimated 1929-30.		Balance.	
	Receipts.	Payments.	Deficiency.	Surplus.
	£	£	£	£
Aborigines Native Stations (Moola Bulla and Munja)	3,600	7,127	3,527	...
Goldfields Water Supply Undertaking ...	182,000	138,018	...	43,982
Kalgoorlie Abattoirs	3,350	2,481	...	869
Metropolitan Abattoirs and Sale Yards ...	46,000	28,871	...	17,129
Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage, and Drainage	400,000	150,464	...	249,536
Other Hydraulic Undertakings	48,000	33,339	...	14,661
Perth City Markets	1,570	850	...	720
Railways	4,215,000	3,287,000	...	928,000
Tramways	371,000	290,000	...	81,000
Electricity Supply	309,000	235,000	...	74,000
State Batteries	14,000	22,694	8,694	...
Cave House, etc.	16,000	14,272	...	1,728
	5,609,520	4,210,116	12,221	1,411,625
Net Surplus ... ..	...	...	£1,399,404	

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

Class of Goods.	1928-1929.		1927-1928.		1926-1927.		1925-1926.		1924-1925.	
	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.
Coal, Coke, and Charcoal ...	252,963	7.10	240,011	6.68	242,473	7.26	209,929	6.69	212,640	6.69
Ores and other Minerals ...	683,233	19.32	878,812	18.89	580,232	17.88	523,862	16.69	540,951	17.64
Wool ...	22,433	0.63	25,286	.70	21,334	0.64	16,941	.54	15,242	.48
Hay, Straw and Chaff ...	73,011	2.05	80,128	2.23	89,646	2.69	100,113	3.19	113,533	3.57
Wheat ...	864,586	24.27	851,229	23.68	663,745	19.88	499,066	15.90	567,419	17.85
Other Grain and Flour ...	146,086	4.10	161,605	4.50	166,688	4.99	175,277	5.58	159,945	5.03
Firewood ...	350,070	9.83	359,700	10.01	381,457	11.43	441,826	14.08	422,293	13.28
Local Timber ...	457,689	12.85	554,409	15.42	803,940	18.08	619,037	19.72	698,310	18.75
Imported Timber ...	6,811	0.19	5,546	.15	4,861	0.15	4,135	.13	4,835	.15
Fruit and Garden Produce ...	72,327	2.03	55,364	1.54	64,441	1.93	55,977	1.78	59,362	1.87
Fertilisers ...	257,999	7.24	217,141	6.04	190,397	5.72	170,834	5.44	147,481	4.84
All other goods ...	370,057	10.39	365,144	10.16	328,699	9.85	322,022	10.28	319,438	10.05
Total ...	3,562,216	100.00	3,594,465	100.00	3,838,113	100.00	3,189,019	100.00	3,179,749	100.00

Class of Goods.	1928-1929.		1927-1928.		1926-1927.		1925-1926.		1924-1925.	
	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.
Coal, Coke, and Charcoal ...	£ 136,587	5.52	£ 130,700	5.29	£ 127,688	5.61	£ 112,289	5.54	£ 108,142	5.23
Ores and other Minerals ...	156,629	6.33	150,064	6.08	132,862	6.85	126,765	5.96	125,447	6.07
Wool ...	84,408	3.41	83,321	3.78	80,011	3.52	58,601	2.89	50,274	2.43
Hay, Straw, and Chaff ...	57,143	2.31	62,824	2.64	68,558	3.03	73,045	3.60	85,291	4.13
Wheat ...	531,317	21.49	550,511	21.72	404,029	17.77	302,945	14.95	349,255	16.90
Other Grain and Flour ...	83,340	3.37	91,761	3.72	92,748	4.08	96,865	4.78	91,811	4.46
Firewood ...	32,004	1.29	36,639	1.44	37,575	1.65	44,075	2.17	44,146	2.13
Local Timber ...	342,999	13.88	391,237	15.84	422,873	18.60	416,689	20.55	404,230	19.56
Imported Timber ...	5,158	0.21	3,552	.14	3,112	.14	2,764	.14	3,322	.16
Fruit and Garden Produce ...	84,808	3.43	72,657	2.94	78,659	3.87	71,345	3.52	71,062	3.44
Fertilisers ...	92,569	3.74	75,943	3.07	68,025	2.99	57,132	2.82	51,123	2.47
All other goods ...	865,887	35.02	825,562	33.44	759,129	33.39	670,535	33.08	682,851	33.03
Total ...	2,472,771	100.00	2,469,771	100.00	2,273,519	100.00	2,027,000	100.00	2,086,892	100.00

TRADE, PRODUCTION, POPULATION, ETC.

	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.
Railway Revenue	£2,004,148	£1,970,838	£2,012,811	£2,463,138	£2,913,611	£3,054,258	£3,150,037	£3,405,297	£3,616,428	£3,604,914	£3,860,800	£4,154,787	£4,127,939
Railway Mileage ...	3,425	3,491	3,539	3,539	3,539	3,589	3,555	3,629	3,733	3,865	3,913	3,977	4,079
Wool exported ...	£1,420,291	£535,619	£1,952,141	£3,937,106	£2,388,118	£3,202,145	£3,232,599	£4,237,152	£3,738,300	£3,527,865	£3,518,313	£4,062,916	£3,782,236
*Wheat produced (bushels)	18,103,216	9,303,787	8,845,387	11,222,950	12,248,080	18,904,721	13,867,432	18,920,271	23,887,897	20,471,177	30,021,616	36,370,219	33,831,899
*Hay produced (tons) ...	236,989	267,163	250,014	379,025	264,244	368,720	457,871	368,122	448,525	355,269	423,859	416,707	417,539
Gold produced ...	£4,361,698	£3,924,197	£3,580,650	£2,637,932	£2,425,852	£3,385,753	£2,204,257	£2,186,563	£1,391,310	£1,890,141	£1,781,662	£1,708,924	£1,633,211
Timber exported ...	£310,383	£274,230	£322,080	£465,734	£1,137,223	£1,040,640	£997,454	£1,367,713	£1,477,997	£1,532,958	£1,669,018	£1,265,321	£718,027
Coal produced ...	£182,852	£192,248	£219,200	£311,731	£393,424	£404,521	£372,130	£365,567	£371,152	£364,304	£405,770	£414,451	£415,926
Other Minerals (exported)	£189,124	£275,856	£247,691	£218,067	£199,394	£75,634	£143,898	£140,153	£151,396	£118,021	£75,655	£22,883	£23,879
†Number of Sheep ...	5,529,960	6,384,191	7,183,747	6,697,951	6,632,965	6,506,177	6,664,135	6,595,867	6,898,584	6,361,795	7,458,766	8,447,430	8,937,602
†Number of Cattle ...	863,930	927,036	943,847	880,644	849,803	893,108	939,596	953,764	891,564	835,911	827,303	846,785	837,527
†Number of Horses ...	169,730	178,151	180,094	174,919	178,664	189,334	181,159	181,944	176,116	170,693	186,463	165,021	160,871
Area of land selected (acres)	285,640	547,533	611,135	1,469,684	1,728,455	1,924,129	1,330,270	1,336,083	1,584,963	2,023,671	2,179,616	2,147,202	2,618,313
Area of land leased (acres)	9,845,516	20,333,357	39,571,708	19,178,124	20,354,735	23,641,868	7,605,229	20,359,232	20,596,952	9,931,282	10,822,845	11,105,900	14,822,663
c Area of land under cultivation	7,822,548	7,567,820	7,568,716	7,325,519	7,533,272	7,704,242	8,305,232	8,896,204	9,099,933	9,757,189	10,474,172	11,486,803	12,300,000
*Area of land under crop (acres)	2,004,944	1,679,772	1,605,088	1,623,163	1,804,936	1,901,680	2,274,998	2,323,070	2,710,858	2,932,110	3,324,523	3,720,100	4,220,000
Tonnage Shipping, Inwards	2,548,339	1,094,000	2,122,439	2,660,640	2,843,470	3,231,392	3,166,116	3,097,386	3,666,226	3,263,333	3,763,957	3,795,510	3,300,000
Tonnage Shipping, Outward	2,557,936	1,102,295	2,111,894	2,659,302	2,825,536	3,231,966	3,087,946	3,101,166	3,657,529	3,255,132	3,798,664	3,806,078	3,300,000
Exports, including Gold ...	£14,683,027	£5,807,335	£10,922,675	£16,068,790	£12,258,639	£13,628,883	£11,105,220	£14,123,239	£14,664,548	£14,581,657	£15,151,959	£18,240,775	£17,185,936
Exports, excluding Gold ...	£5,562,966	£3,607,335	£5,927,471	£12,619,962	£10,440,617	£10,647,324	£8,958,726	£11,796,689	£13,976,719	£13,521,377	£14,048,887	£17,569,994	£16,906,577
Imports ...	£9,385,010	£7,649,233	£8,023,990	£12,368,331	£14,899,241	£12,037,779	£13,777,679	£14,344,145	£16,074,035	£16,462,572	£18,376,083	£18,287,638	£20,022,911
State Savings Bank Deposits d	£3,523,851	£3,006,075	£4,415,782	£6,046,930	£6,142,756	£5,276,218	£6,321,616	£5,696,912	£5,796,118	£6,312,148	£7,057,817	£7,972,142	£8,932,830
State Savings Bank Withdrawals d	£3,471,959	£3,549,293	£4,128,161	£5,936,575	£6,223,806	£5,571,330	£5,380,578	£5,904,923	£5,940,535	£6,061,332	£6,742,398	£7,491,095	£8,526,572
Excess of Arrivals over Departures	b 12,063	b 2,754	7,488	6,795	b 1,077	1,557	3,132	7,374	2,749	2,366	4,957	9,516	a 7,204
Population ...	306,297	306,232	319,636	330,172	333,644	340,059	343,119	360,352	368,027	375,158	385,043	399,700	a 412,092

* Season ended 28th February.
Arrivals.

† Year ended 31st December.

c Area cropped, cleared, fallowed, ringbarked, etc.

‡ Including Perth Tramways.

d Not including School Savings Bank.

a Preliminary figures, liable to revision.

b Excess of Departures over
Exclusive of premium realised on export sales.

[17 SEPTEMBER, 1929.]