

7, If so, how many were—(a) owners; (b) owner-tenants; (c) tenants only; and if any of them were known, why was no attempt made to prosecute them, too, for breaches of the betting laws?

The CHIEF SECRETARY replied: 1, Convictions, 701; fines, £48,819; costs, £664 19s. 2, Once, 645; twice, 50; thrice and more, 6. 3, 71. 4, Yes. 5, 61. 6 and 7, Fifty-one (51) tenants were known to the police, and of that number 14 were prosecuted as users or keepers and convicted. The owners of some premises are known, but in no case are they the occupiers, and under the existing law it is almost impossible to obtain a conviction against them.

ASSENT TO BILL.

Message from the Lieut.-Governor received and read notifying assent to the Supply Bill (No. 1), £2,350,000.

BILLS (4)—FIRST READING.

1. Criminal Code Amendment (No. 1).
Introduced by Hon. J. Cornell.
 2. Dried Fruits Act Amendment.
 3. Road Districts Act Amendment.
 4. Feeding Stuffs Act Amendment.
- Received from the Assembly.

House adjourned at 2.28 p.m.

Legislative Assembly.

Tuesday, 15th September, 1942.

	PAGE
Questions: W.A. Meat Export Company's Works	518
Agricultural Bank, mortgagors' insurances	518
Leave of absence	518
Bills: Feeding Stuffs Act Amendment, 3a.	519
Jury (Emergency Provisions), 2a.	519
Water Boards Act Amendment, 2a., Com.	520
Mining Tenements (War Time Exemptions), Com.	524
Annual Estimates, Message, Financial Statement for 1942-43	524

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 2.15 p.m., and read prayers.

QUESTIONS (2).

W.A. MEAT EXPORT CO'S. WORKS.

Mr. SEWARD asked the Minister for Agriculture: 1, Has an authority been appointed to control the recently acquired works of the W.A. Meat Export Co.? 2, If not, will he make provision for the appoint-

ment of at least one producer as a member of the controlling body? 3, If not, why not?

The MINISTER replied: 1, A departmental committee has been appointed in addition to the normal arrangements for management continuing. 2, and 3, See answer to 1.

AGRICULTURAL BANK.

Mortgagors' Insurances.

Mr. BOYLE asked the Minister for Lands: 1, With what company are Agricultural Bank and Industries Assistance Act insurance policies effected? 2, What total amounts of commissions or rebates, if any, are received by the Commissioners of the Agricultural Bank on insurances of their mortgagors' crops, wool clips, buildings, and other insurances effected? 3, What is the rate per centum of such commissions, if any? 4, Do the Commissioners of the Agricultural Bank insist on their mortgagors insuring through the bank's agency? 5, If insurance commissions or rebates are secured on Agricultural Bank or Industries Assistance Act mortgagors are these commissions or rebates paid into the Treasury or to whom?

The MINISTER replied: 1, State Insurance Department and Harvey Trinder (Aust.), Ltd. 2, 1941-42—crop insurance £2,191 1s. 11d., house insurance £1,687 4s. 9d. 3, Crop insurance—tariff rates less 27½ per cent., house insurance—tariff rates less 37½ per cent. less 7½ per cent. which is allowed to the mortgagor. 4, No. Clients can effect house insurance with any company. If they fail to do so, however, insurance is arranged by the bank through the State Insurance Office. Clients are at liberty to effect crop insurance with any company they choose. Where advances are made for seasonal assistance clients are required to effect such insurance by the 21st September in each year, otherwise crop insurance is effected by the bank both in the client's and the bank's interests. 5, Commissions or rebates received by the bank are credited to the bank's expenditure in this connection.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

On motions by Mr. Wilson, leave of absence for one month granted to the Premier (Hon. J. C. Willecock, Geraldton) on the ground of ill-health, and to Mr. Styants (Kalgoorlie) on the ground of military service.

BILL—FEEDING STUFFS ACT AMENDMENT.

Read a third time and transmitted to the Council.

BILL—JURY (EMERGENCY PROVISIONS).

Second Reading.

THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE [2.21] in moving the second reading said: This is only a small Bill but, in the circumstances, it is rather important. It is a war measure, and has been brought down because of the manpower position. Great difficulty is now experienced in finding juries for criminal trials. A jury consists of 12 persons and, in order to get that number, it is necessary to empanel about 40 jurors. It is also necessary to send out no less than 75 summonses, because people nowadays are very busy. Businessmen have important duties and have no employees to spare. Employment, generally, is rather acute. This Bill seeks to effect a slight alteration in the law inasmuch as it proposes to reduce the number of members on a jury from 12 to six.

Mr. Hughes: That is a slight alteration, is it?

THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE: I think it is.

Mr. Hughes: It is 50 per cent.

THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE: Yes, but in the circumstances it is important. As I have said, the number will be reduced from 12 to six, and the right of challenge will not remain as at present, but under the Bill will be 13. Another reason for submitting this measure is that the police are experiencing difficulty in delivering the jury summonses. People are finding very good reasons and excuses for not attending because of the manpower position, and because of that it is necessary to give consideration to the matter. The number was reduced from 12 to seven in England in 1939 for all criminal trials, except those dealing with murder or treason. If this Bill becomes law, the same thing will apply here—that is, for any charge of murder or treason the jury will not be reduced, nor will it be in the case of any trial that the court or judge may think of sufficient gravity to warrant the present number. We are protected in that respect.

Hon. C. G. Latham: How will the judge know before he has heard the case?

THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE: I do not know. He will have to go into the position. I take it that a judge always has a fair idea as to the gravity of a case before it is brought on. At present a jurymen must be over 21 and under 60 years of age. The Bill proposes to increase the age limit to 65. I see no reason why the age should not be so increased. Civil servants are not required to retire until the age of 65, and judges and magistrates retire at the age of 70, and surely their responsibilities are very much greater than are those of a jurymen. Juries now are empanelled for five days, unless the cases are finished before, and it is proposed to increase the limit of attendance of jurors to 10 days. As I have stated, England has reduced the number of jurors from 12 to seven, and consideration is being given to the matter of making a reduction in the Eastern States.

Mr. Sampson: Is the jury system worth retaining, anyhow?

Mr. Warner: Of course it is!

THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE: We propose that the measure shall operate for the duration of the war and six months thereafter. The proposal is quite reasonable because the court or a judge may exercise discretion as to whether a case is of sufficient gravity to warrant the empanelling of a jury of 12. In civil cases, although a jury consists of 12, the court may direct the number to be reduced to six or a reduction may be made by agreement between the parties. In actions for damages there is a maximum of six and a minimum of three, a limit which applies also to coronial inquiries. I could advance other good reasons for reducing the strength of juries, but to do so is unnecessary. When members have considered the matter, I think they will conclude that in existing circumstances and owing to manpower requirements it is reasonable to reduce the number of jurymen, subject to the discretion of the court, from 12 to six. During the year as many as 4,430 jurymen have been summoned. I cannot believe that six jurymen could not give consideration to a case which might be important, though not important enough to warrant the empanelling of a jury of 12. I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

On motion by Mr. Watts, debate adjourned.

BILL—WATER BOARDS ACT AMENDMENT.

Second Reading.

Debate resumed from the 3rd September.

MR. DONEY (Williams-Narrogin) [2.29]: I have no objection to offer to the second reading of the Bill. It is essentially a measure for consideration in Committee and not much comment is necessary at this stage. I have placed on the notice paper five proposed amendments, which will be dealt with in due course. The Minister, during his second reading speech, said the intention was to bring the Water Boards Act into line with the requirements of the Road Districts Act. That justifies me in anticipating that the Chamber will insist upon a change from the existing period of one year to five years before default becomes the subject of an action for the sale of the land. In the Road Districts Act the period is plainly set down as five years before default may be made the subject of an action for the recovery of rates. I cannot understand why the Minister should continue to require a period of 12 months only. However, that matter can be dealt with in Committee.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee.

Mr. Marshall in the Chair; the Minister for Works in charge of the Bill.

Clause 1—agreed to.

Clause 2—Amendment of Section 108:

MR. DONEY: I move an amendment—

That in line 3 of proposed new Subsection (1) the words "twelve months" be struck out with a view to inserting other words.

I understood the purpose of the Bill was to bring the requirements of the Act into line with the Road Districts Act, which stipulates a period of five years. The Minister has offered no explanation for making the period 12 months. To reduce the period to that extent would be harsh, particularly in existing circumstances. An owner might overlook the responsibility of paying rates, and valuable land might be sold almost without the knowledge of the owner. This sort of thing should not be tolerated. "The West Australian" about three weeks ago published a letter setting out the experience of a returned soldier in regard to threatened

action by the Metropolitan Water Supply Department. It stated—

I think it is quite time someone informed the public of the attitude of both the Metropolitan Water Supply and the City of Perth in reference to soldiers in the A.I.F., overseas and returned. Take my own case as an example. I am married, with two children, and joined the A.I.F. as a private, being allocated to an Infantry Battalion. Prior to enlistment I was employed in a most satisfactory position, average £8 10s. per week, but joined at the rate of 6s. per day, and by dint of hard work was eventually promoted to A/Sgt. Due to stress of work and illness I was sent to hospital, and then a convalescent depot for one month, and immediately I was regressed to a private again with a corresponding reduction in pay. Later I was instructed to appear before a medical board, and returned to Australia medically unfit, and although I had again been appointed an A/Sgt. and carried out those duties, I again reverted to the ranks with a further reduction in pay.

One week after arriving home I received a notice from the Water Supply Department advising me that a summons had been prepared for the balance of the half-year's water rates. I had been debited with 3s. costs, and was threatened with having the water cut off. I borrowed some money on a life insurance policy and paid the account.

The letter has no specific reference to the period of grace, whether five years or one year; but a great deal of discussion is going on about this letter in relation to the Bill. If the 12-months period is retained, many cases may arise of service men situated as this man is. Action might be taken against a service man without his knowing anything whatever about the matter.

THE MINISTER FOR WORKS: I did not give reasons for the inclusion of 12 months in the Bill because the principal Act provides for 12 months. The Bill merely repeats what is in the Act. The special reason for a period of 12 months is that in connection with water supply on the goldfields there is often sudden evacuation, towns dying in a night. Moreover, in many instances it would not be possible to sell the land if the period were five years. I would accept an amendment making the period three years. I may mention that in the case of one resurrected goldfields town, resettlement took place outside the area because titles to the old blocks were not obtainable. People are anxious, in connection with deserted goldfields towns, to give away blocks; but no one will accept them. If the writer of the letter, which has been quoted by the mover of the amendment, had written to

the Metropolitan Water Supply Department, his case would at once have received sympathetic treatment. It is plain that an enlisted man might not receive the department's notice. Obviously, no man who has enlisted should be penalised.

Mr. DONEY: The Minister has missed the point arising from the letter quoted by me, but it has at least drawn from him a promise that such cases will receive sympathetic treatment.

Amendment put and passed.

Mr. DONEY: I move an amendment—

That the words "three years" be inserted in lieu of the words struck out.

Amendment put and passed.

Mr. DONEY: I desire an explanation of proposed new Subsection (2), which opens with the words, "If the money due and expenses are not paid at or before the expiration of the time specified in such notice the water board may present a petition," and so forth. An undertaking by the Minister is perhaps desirable. He is aware that it is common for six or eight defaulters to be dealt with in the one petition and the one advertisement. In some country centres where there have been multiple defaults, the local authority, anxious not to be a loser over the expense, has attempted to load—and sometimes has succeeded in loading—practically all the costs upon the first defaulter whose case was heard by the court. The Minister should make provision for pro rata collections. Should five defaulters be dealt with in one petition the expenses should be divided equally or, according to the needs of the case, into five parts. One only of those parts should be payable by each defaulter.

The MINISTER FOR WORKS: I scarcely know what explanation the member for Williams-Narrogin requires. He suggests that a water board may take action against five persons.

Mr. Doney: Yes, and the cases would be dealt with collectively on the petition and individually by the court.

The MINISTER FOR WORKS: The expenses in such an instance would be allocated.

Mr. Doney: They are not allocated by the magistrate.

The MINISTER FOR WORKS: What would the expenses be?

Mr. Doney: The costs to the water board of issuing the summons and advertising.

The MINISTER FOR WORKS: Those costs would be segregated.

Mr. Doney: But they are not.

The MINISTER FOR WORKS: I have not heard of an instance where the costs have been lumped. Each defaulter has to bear his share of the expense, and the amount thereof is deducted from the purchase money of the land when sold. So far as I know, this point has not been raised before. What actually happens is that the expenses are charged in their right proportions to each defaulter.

Mr. DONEY: I move an amendment—

That at the end of proposed new Subsection (4) the following words be added:—"and such directions, unless subsequently varied by the magistrate, shall be adhered to."

The magistrate's directions form part of his judgment and in my opinion should not be departed from—as they frequently are—by disinterested persons. Secretaries of water boards should not be encouraged to re-arrange dates and places to suit their convenience or perhaps the convenience of other interested persons, after a magistrate has thought fit to be specific in regard to those two points. When a magistrate has appointed a time and place for a sale, a large number of persons would be likely to attend. Should it be decided to depart from the magistrate's direction, it would be well to inform him. It cannot be pleaded in such a case that there is need for haste, because it would make but little difference if the sale were held in a month or six weeks' time.

The MINISTER FOR WORKS: True, the magistrate must give directions for the sale, but such directions are not mandatory. The magistrate may, at the time of his making an order, give any directions he may deem proper touching the time and place of the sale and the notice to be given thereof. Those are the preliminaries. The important safeguard is that the magistrate has to order that the land be sold. I warn the member for Williams-Narrogin that I shall oppose any amendment of proposed new Subsection (5).

The CHAIRMAN: The Minister cannot deal with that matter at this moment.

The MINISTER FOR WORKS: The position is rather involved. A sale should not be invalidated because of some technical error. If the directions of the magistrate were strictly adhered to, it might be im-

possible to carry out a sale and in that event the whole procedure might have to be gone through again. The point is that the directions respecting the preliminaries of a sale should not be mandatory.

Mr. DONEY: I agree that this might just as well have been made mandatory by substituting the word "shall" for "may" but, as that has not been done, it cannot be altered. The Minister's objection to accepting the whole of the amendment is that subsequently it might be necessary to vary the directions of the magistrate. I point out that, if it should become necessary to vary the directions, application could be made to the magistrate and the position explained, and at the next sitting he could bring down directions in keeping with the changed requirements.

Amendment put and passed.

Mr. DONEY: I move an amendment—

That proposed new Subsection (5) be struck out.

Now that the preceding subsection has been amended, this subsection has very little meaning.

The MINISTER FOR WORKS: This subsection is necessary. If it were omitted, the slightest technical error in respect to the notices might, as the Solicitor General points out, invalidate the sale. The owner is safeguarded by the fact that he has to appear before the court, and the magistrate makes an order. The magistrate cannot, however, be expected at the time to deal with every technical detail. As a result of the words added to the previous subsection, a strong direction is given to those connected with the sale to carry out the instructions. Should they overlook any technical detail, the sale would not be invalidated, provided this subsection remains. I oppose the amendment.

Mr. DONEY: To some extent I am influenced by the Minister's persuasion, but I would point out that the wording of the amendment of the preceding subsection is "and such directions, unless subsequently varied by the magistrate, should be adhered to." Provided they are adhered to, I do not care much what happens to the next succeeding piece of writing but, if they are adhered to, where is there any room for discretion on the part of those who carry out the instructions?

The Minister for Works: The Minister may give discretionary powers.

Mr. DONEY: That would become part of the instructions they must adhere to.

The Minister for Works: He may not give them any instructions.

Mr. DONEY: If he gives them no instructions, there is no penalty because they cannot disobey.

Mr. F. C. L. SMITH: This subsection is necessary because the magistrate might direct that the land be sold free of all encumbrances. I know that under the Municipalities Act land has been sold as being free of all encumbrances. Then the purchasers have found that land tax was owing, but the sale has not been invalidated. In such circumstances there should be provision for invalidation.

Mr. DONEY: The hon. member has dealt with a matter not covered by or referred to in the subsection. An additional subsection would be required to give effect to what he wishes.

Amendment put and negatived.

Mr. DONEY: I move an amendment—

That at the end of proposed new Subsection (6) the following words be added:—"and any other mortgage registered prior thereto."

Under the subsection as drafted the private mortgagee would lose his money altogether; so, for that matter, would all other mortgagees, solely excepting the Agricultural Bank. That is a distinction I cannot understand. The Minister has given no reason for it. What about the Workers' Homes Board and the War Service Homes Board, and mortgages in the name of other Government instrumentalities. They are apparently not to be considered. What desirable quality is there about an Agricultural Bank mortgage that puts it in a category entirely by itself? Maybe there is an explanation. If so, I hope the Minister will give it. Sometimes, though not frequently, the Agricultural Bank becomes second mortgagee. In such a case, is the second mortgage to be sacrosanct and are any preceding mortgages to be ignored? The words contained in my amendment may not provide the best way out of the difficulty. If any member has a better method of overcoming it I will be glad to set my amendment aside and adopt his.

The MINISTER FOR WORKS: If this were agreed to it would mean that the fourth provision would be substituted for the fifth provision. What the hon. member

is anxious to safeguard is contained in the sixth provision.

Mr. Doney: Do you give a guarantee that there would be anything left to be divided?

The MINISTER FOR WORKS: I am not giving guarantees at the present time. I want a guarantee that the Agricultural Bank will rank fourthly in respect to these payments. The suggestion that this is an innovation is incorrect. It applies to other Acts, including some of those mentioned by the member for Williams-Narrogin. He mentioned the Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Act, 1919. Section 16 of that Act provides the Agricultural Bank with automatic security over all assets held by the client. The Road Districts Act (Part C, Power of Sale, Section 282) provides protection in respect of Agricultural Bank securities where any such security is sold by a road board on account of arrears of rates. The hon. member must remember that the Agricultural Bank does not select its clients. I could give the number of good cases transferred from the Agricultural Bank, and it has to take what is left. It is not in the business to make money, and it should be protected to the extent provided in this Bill, which sets out firstly, secondly and thirdly the payments which shall be made, and then quite boldly and unashamedly states that the Agricultural Bank shall rank fourthly. I am not prepared to give way on that point. Others who have come in and can secure themselves—

Mr. Doney: If they can secure themselves I do not mind—if you will explain how it is done!

The MINISTER FOR WORKS: They are provided for. If they have lent money on securities which were so doubtful that they have to be sold to pay rates—water rates in this instance—they would not be what are termed first-class securities. The Agricultural Bank is probably the biggest lender, and it has undertaken its liabilities in order that holdings may be developed. It must be protected. We must have this measure in conformity with other Acts, such as the Road Districts Act and the Soldiers' Settlement Act, which deal with these matters. It is our business to protect the Agricultural Bank as it is compelled to undertake liabilities on doubtful securities. Its average securities are doubtful because other banks and institutions take over many clients whose securities are good. The Agri-

cultural Bank has given me some valid reasons why it should be included in this measure. From the 1st July, 1930, to the 30th June, 1942, 2,061 Agricultural Bank mortgages were discharged. Those were the good ones. The principal repaid was £705,000 odd and the interest repaid £51,000 odd. If it is to be left with the doubtful securities and rank still lower down the list its business will be affected. We are justified in giving the Agricultural Bank a prior claim in this measure as in others.

Hon. C. G. Latham: You gave priority in the case of workers' homes mortgages. Surely the bank is entitled to the same protection. You are talking of selling blocks on the goldfields, with, perhaps, some of these homes on them.

The MINISTER FOR WORKS: I am quite satisfied in this instance to give the Agricultural Bank the priority. I am concerned for the time being with amending the Water Boards Act. The member for Williams-Narrogin seeks to make the Agricultural Bank rank sixthly, whereas the Bill makes it rank fourthly. It is a reasonable provision and brings the matter into line with other measures.

Mr. WATTS: The member for Williams-Narrogin seeks to prevent a second mortgage, held by the Agricultural Bank, being turned into a first mortgage. All he asks is that the certificate shall give the purchaser a title free of encumbrances other than the mortgage to the Agricultural Bank, and any other mortgage registered prior thereto. In some cases—very rare—the Agricultural Bank has a second mortgage. The first mortgagee may be some other institution; it is conceivable that it might be some other Government institution. As the proposed new subsection is worded at present, the Agricultural Bank mortgage, which is a second mortgage and therefore inferior to the other, is the only one which can remain on the title. The amendment says that if there is a mortgage registered prior to the Agricultural Bank mortgage, then that mortgage shall remain on the title and be an encumbrance to be taken note of by the purchaser. The amendment does not open up the avenue dealt with by the Minister. It will not affect the great bulk of Agricultural Bank investments, as they are mainly first mortgages with no mortgage registered prior thereto. I know of only one or two cases that would be affected, although

there are doubtless others, where the Agricultural Bank is in the position of second mortgagee because of some arrangement made in past years. This Committee should not agree that in these few cases the right of a prior mortgagee should be in any way destroyed or injured simply because the Agricultural Bank happens to have a few second and inferior mortgages. I support the amendment.

Amendment put and a division taken with the following result:—

Ayes	..	..	..	17
Noes	..	..	..	20

Majority against .. 3

AYES.

Mr. Boyle
Mrs. Cardell-Oliver
Mr. Hill
Mr. Hughes
Mr. Keenan
Mr. Mann
Mr. McDonald
Mr. McLarty
Mr. North

Mr. Patrick
Mr. Sampson
Mr. Seward
Mr. Shearn
Mr. Warner
Mr. Watts
Mr. Willmott
Mr. Doney

(Teller.)

NOES.

Mr. Berry
Mr. Coverley
Mr. Cross
Mr. Fox
Mr. Hawks
Mr. J. Hegney
Mr. W. Hegney
Mr. Kelly
Mr. Leahy
Mr. Millington

Mr. Needham
Mr. Nulsen
Mr. Panton
Mr. Rodoreda
Mr. F. C. L. Smith
Mr. Tonkin
Mr. Triat
Mr. Wise
Mr. Withers
Mr. Wilson

(Teller.)

Amendment thus negatived.

Mr. DONEY: I had a further amendment to move, with the object of adding the words, "provided there is no prior mortgage" to the paragraph dealing with the fourth priority, but in view of the Committee's decision it is futile to proceed with it.

The CHAIRMAN: Does the hon. member propose to move his further amendment?

Mr. DONEY: I shall not do so. I would like an explanation from the Minister for Works regarding the meaning of the word "vendor" in the paragraph dealing with the fifth priority, which reads: "In payment of all vendor's costs and expenses of and in connection with conferring upon the purchaser a clear title to the land." Who is the vendor? I do not think it can be the person who has been dispossessed of his property nor do I think it can be the water board, and I hardly think it can be the bailiff, respecting whom provision has already been made. Will the Minister explain the position?

The MINISTER FOR WORKS: I think the "fifthly" paragraph is quite clear. Obviously the vendor in this instance will be the water board, which is selling the land and collecting the money. The board is to sell the land under an order of the court and will proceed after the sale to pay the costs and expenses incurred in connection with the sale with the object of conferring upon the purchaser a clear title to the property.

Mr. Doney: Are you quite sure the board is entitled to be termed "the vendor"?

The MINISTER FOR WORKS: I am quite sure that is the intention. The object is to enable the board to pay all the necessary expenses, and to provide the purchaser with a title that will be clear apart from any mortgage to the Agricultural Bank.

Clause, as previously amended, agreed to.

Clauses 3 and 4—agreed to.

Clause 5—New Schedule:

Mr. DONEY: I move an amendment—

That in line 4 of paragraph (1) of the Petition the words "twelve months" be struck out and the words "three years" inserted in lieu. The amendment is consequential upon the decision arrived at earlier.

Amendment put and passed; the clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 6, Title—agreed to.

Bill reported with amendments.

BILL—MINING TENEMENTS (WAE TIME EXEMPTIONS).

In Committee.

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

ANNUAL ESTIMATES, 1942-43.

Message.

Message from the Lieut.-Governor received and read transmitting the Annual Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the financial year 1942-43, and recommending appropriation.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 1942-43.

In Committee of Supply.

The House resolved into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the year ending the 30th June, 1943, Mr. Marshall in the Chair.

THE MINISTER FOR LANDS AND ACTING TREASURER [3.31]: All members will regret the circumstances which make it necessary for me to appear in the role of Acting Treasurer. Owing to the unfortunate illness of the Premier, it has fallen to my lot to deliver the Budget Speech, which deals with the revenue and expenditure from Consolidated Revenue Fund for the year 1941-42 and Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the year 1942-43. I am pleased to inform members that the health of the Premier is improving and that he hopes to be able to extend courtesy to the Leaders of both Opposition Parties and be in his place in the Chamber on Thursday next.

Treasurer's Seventh Budget.

This Budget is the seventh of the Government with Mr. Willecock as Treasurer. It is interesting to note that he has now been Premier for a continuous period longer than has any other with the exception of Lord Forrest. Lord Forrest was Premier for 10 years continuously; Mr. Willecock has had six years and one month in the office continuously. Hon. P. Collier was Premier for nine years and five months in two periods, and Sir James Mitchell filled the office for seven years and 11 months, also in two periods. The Premier has a full knowledge of the figures incorporated in these Estimates. Members are aware how meticulous in detail he is regarding all matters coming within his purview. He never loosens his grip on the multiplicity of tasks that his position as head of the Government demands. As members are aware, he never spares himself in his application to the job in hand, and perhaps close application to his task has been one of the reasons for his prolonged illness.

Detrimental Effects of War.

The speech, as usual, will be a fairly comprehensive review of the finances of the preceding year, with full statements of the reasons for the expectations of the Government embodied in the Estimates for the current year. I will endeavour to make the references to figures as concise as possible, and hope to devote some of the time to matters more interesting than a bare examination of accounts would be. This is the fourth budget submitted by the present

Government since the outbreak of the war. Members will recollect that the Treasurer, when submitting the Estimates for 1939-40, intimated that the war would have far-reaching effects on the economy of Australia as a whole, and possibly detrimental effects on the financial position of this State. As will be shown later, that prophecy has been largely fulfilled. Just before the outbreak of war, Australia had almost recovered from the disastrous effects of the depression years. The year 1937-38 was amongst the most prosperous that Australia has enjoyed. Somewhat of a setback was experienced in 1938-39 mainly on account of a decline in price level of export commodities. Unemployment was increasing, and the relief of unemployment was again becoming a major problem. The unemployment position has now been entirely reversed, and Australia is experiencing the utmost difficulty in finding the necessary manpower to meet military and civil demands.

Manpower.

The manpower position is highly acute in Western Australia. From an Australian population of 7,102,306 more than 500,000 men cannot be taken from normal lives to soldiering, and hundreds of thousands in addition cannot be diverted from civil, professional and production spheres to war production activities without causing major dislocation in internal economy. We understand that the enlistments in this State have been higher, relatively to population, than enlistments in any other State. Men and women alike have left their work in city and country, with the result that many of our essential forms of production have suffered. With the possible exception of South Australia, this State has been the most severe loser of income by the calls of defence on primary production manpower, especially in the goldmining and also in wheat and other rural industries. While South Australia has suffered in this regard, that State has received enormous benefits by way of compensation from which Western Australia has been excluded.

It is perhaps a commonplace to say that in pre-war days Western Australia was essentially a primary producing country. The greater proportion of our income came from primary production. Western Australia

was by far the greatest exporter per capita of all the States of the Commonwealth. Because of her distance from the centres of population Western Australia is unable to compete in the Australian markets in manufactures generally. A recent writer on the subject has given the following figures for the value of output per worker engaged in agriculture, showing Australia to be second in the world in that regard:—

	£
New Zealand	450
Australia	300
Great Britain	205
United States of America ..	185
Canada	135
Eire	65

These figures emphasise the relatively high technical efficiency of that section of the population which is engaged in rural activities in Australia. We know that in our main avenues of agriculture, such as wool, wheat, fruit and fat lamb production, our farmers are as efficient as any in the Commonwealth. In fact, the Western Australian farmer is a greater producer of primary wealth per head than any other farmer in Australia, and only second to New Zealand in the world. Now we have reached a stage where we are experiencing serious difficulties and shortages in production of food-stuffs for our home requirements. I do not wish to intrude too much of rural matter which is of vital importance into this speech, but there are some very serious features in that connection that will be dealt with later. Although there has been so much depletion of manpower in rural fields, a further stirring appeal is being made now for more and more men of war service.

Distribution of Labour.

One urgent need of the moment is the proper distribution of labour as required between the production of foodstuffs and commodities for home needs, civil as well as military, and the vital demands of manpower for active service in all sections of the Forces. Already there have been hundreds of unwise enlistments; and releases from the Fighting Forces, no matter how urgent may be the circumstances, are highly difficult to obtain. We have noted statements from military sources that rural workers and others who have been accustomed to earn a living in the country make good soldiers. On this we have the pronouncement of high military authorities. It would be

reassuring, however, to be confident that an equally important work is being carried out by this particular type of citizen in the Army as when the type alluded to was engaged upon food production.

I am pleased to say that the military authorities, Manpower Department, and Department of Agriculture have worked together with cordiality and understanding; but now that the control has been moved to Army Headquarters, Melbourne, the difficulty of arranging casual labour, as for potato-digging, etc., must become apparent. Authority should be returned to local Commonwealth officers.

It is easy to be wise after an event, but the Commonwealth authorities could have arranged for the proper distribution of labour between the provision of essential requirements and the needs of war much sooner than was done. It is true that every effort is now being made by the Federal Minister in Charge of Manpower to fill the gaps caused by unwise enlistments; but, as members are well aware, it is a difficult matter to secure the release of men once they have joined the Fighting Forces. I have had an estimate prepared of the number of men required in rural activities during the next four months; not merely for harvesting but for other activities as well; and I find that in October the number of men required who will not be present is approaching 5,000, and the number for November 4,450, and for December 2,700. These men will be needed for three industries, and I am afraid that so far there has not been a realisation of the needs of the position.

Japan's Entry into the War.

The entry of Japan into the war last December has had far-reaching effects on our economy, and has entirely altered our outlook on the prosecution of the war and the contribution we can make to the cause of the United Nations. Prior to Japan's entry into the war Australia was concerned with the provision of materials of war not only for her own Forces but also for the Forces of Great Britain in the Middle East and other quarters. Australian munitions have gone in large quantities to many spheres. We were also actively engaged in the production of foodstuffs and their export to the parts where the demand was greatest. Immediately upon Japan's entry into the war, however, we were compelled

to cease sending munitions to many other spheres and were obliged to prepare for this country to be not only its own arsenal but also to supply its Forces overseas.

After December, however, we suddenly found ourselves faced with a powerful enemy right at our very shores. We were ill-equipped to defend ourselves; most of our fighting men were overseas, together with much of the war material we had produced. We were faced with the task not only of making a contribution towards the cause of the United Nations but also of defending our country from actual invasion. Although our munitions were sent, in a degree, to Burma and to Malaya, and largely to our own men in the Middle East, an entirely new set of circumstances arose, causing a major effort in both food and munitions to become necessary. Our own State, on account of its vast coastline and sparse population, was particularly vulnerable. Problems of which we had no experience crowded upon us, and very rapid decisions had to be made from day to day in order to safeguard the life and property of our people. The position of our people in the Far North and North-West was extremely critical, and immediate and extraordinary action had to be taken for their well-being. The Government exerted every effort possible to assist those people so seriously placed. I am pleased to say that nothing that could be done to assist them was left undone by the Government.

State's Achievements.

It is usual to mention in a Budget speech one or two outstanding incidents or achievements of the year. Although no Press or broadcast publication of the following information is desired—and I ask those representing the Press to note this—I think the House should know that during the last four months 16,000 bales of wool and nearly 7,000 cattle, none of which came by rail, have reached the metropolitan markets. Neither did those cattle walk. In the last three months there has also been a movement of 20,000 head of cattle from the Kimberleys eastward. These would normally have been dealt with by the Wyndham Meatworks. Other cattle are still moving southwards overland. To safeguard the foodstuffs position, we are endeavouring to leave nothing to chance in those distant areas where, in a few months' time, the wet season will pre-

vent transport. Transport, as members may know, ceases in the North with the advent of the wet season. The season usually breaks about the end of November in the far North-West.

Diversion of Australia's Resources.

Changed circumstances caused by the war have brought about many difficulties in the Commonwealth. It is hard for some people to understand why, in a democracy, it has not been possible to take such rapid action as can be taken under dictatorship conditions. The attitude of this State towards Australian affairs has been constant. It has been not to deny to the Commonwealth Government in its war effort anything we can possibly do to assist it. Many pleasant things have been said by successive Prime Ministers to State Premiers in that connection. Little publicity has been given to the nice things that have been said; indeed, some pleasing remarks received no publicity whatever. On the other hand, much publicity has been given to some of the nasty things that were said, or supposed to have been said, by some of the leaders in the Commonwealth sphere. However, it is a fact that Prime Ministers have expressed their gratification and appreciation for much that the State Premiers have done. Much has been said in conferences, held in camera, that has been unreported. I would therefore like to quote what the present Prime Minister said in April last when addressing the Premiers. He said—

I thank members of the conference for the way in which they have assisted the Commonwealth in the task that lies before us, namely, that of ensuring the security of the country. This example of co-operation between the States and the Commonwealth will be welcomed by the people of Australia and will be accepted by the world as proof of the unconquerable purpose of the nation.

I do not recall that having been printed in the Press; but it is well for us to know that successive Prime Ministers have, in conference, paid high tributes to the Premiers of the States for their co-operation and help in many matters.

Goldmining Industry.

This State received a great shock when the Commonwealth Government decided that the goldmining industry should no longer enjoy a high priority as an essential service. With the entry of America into the war and the arrival of large numbers of American

troops and war equipment in this country, and the operation of the Lend-Lease scheme, the need for gold to be exported to pay for these materials was lessened. The Commonwealth Government consequently decided that men should be taken from the goldmining industry and placed in other avenues of production and in the Fighting Forces. The State Government was fully conscious of the fact that such a step would mean a heavy blow to our economy, because goldmining has been one of our main sources of production and one of the chief factors contributing to our prosperity. In addition, goldmining—unlike many other forms of production—cannot be stopped without causing irreparable damage to the industry. Mines cannot indefinitely be left unworked. With a very clear vision of the post-war effects of a substantial reduction in goldmining, the Government made every endeavour to induce the Commonwealth Government to formulate a plan whereby the industry as a whole would be kept intact, even though serious inroads might be made into the numbers engaged in it.

When it appeared that the Commonwealth Government was not to be moved from its announced intention of taking large numbers of men from the goldmines, the Government decided that a delegation should visit the Prime Minister and place the facts before him. Members are aware of the results of that delegation. Led by the Premier, the delegation was able to place before the Prime Minister such a convincing case that the Commonwealth agreed that an organised scheme for the withdrawal of certain men only from the industry should be undertaken, the end in view being to ensure that, as far as possible, those mines which in post-war years would be able to continue operations and re-absorb men returning from the war, should be maintained in a state of efficiency. To enable this maintenance to be carried on, the Commonwealth Government agreed to provide a sum of £100,000.

As a result of the efforts of the delegation, therefore, we have the satisfaction of knowing that, though of necessity there must be a serious interruption of goldmining, the asset is to be preserved and will be available for the repatriation of our soldiers when peace comes. Nobody can foresee the future of gold, but under the existing economic order there will always be a demand for gold and, under any order, some demand. We should therefore be able to look forward

to many years of prosperity in this industry when the war is over. I would like members to realise the sterling work done by the Premier in leading this delegation, because the success of the visit was in no small measure due to his advocacy of the State's case, both in and out of the conference room.

Uniform Taxation.

One outstanding happening and change in Australia resulting from the war that will doubtless have far-reaching effects on our economy and political life was the Commonwealth's action in suspending the State's right to impose income tax. With the necessity thrust upon it to husband all the available resources for the war effort, it was perhaps inevitable that the Commonwealth should desire to limit the revenues of the States from income-tax. Australia is spending vast sums of money on the war. The Prime Minister recently stated that £50,000 an hour is being spent. In ordinary circumstances this task would be considered absolutely impossible. If circumstances were ordinary the distribution of this money would mean increased incomes, not only for the wage-earner and business man engaged in war production but also for the revenues of the States and public bodies generally.

The Commonwealth, therefore, in its desire to see that as much of this money as possible was returned to it by taxation, conceived the idea of requesting the States to agree to a proposal whereby the Commonwealth would be the sole taxing authority and under which a scheme of uniform taxation would be imposed by it. In return, compensation was to be paid to the States in accordance with their past taxation figures. Members are as well aware as I am of the reasons which prompted the State Government to object to the Commonwealth proposals. They were freely ventilated in this House during the discussion of the motion on the matter submitted to members.

Commonwealth Promises.

At the Premiers' Conference held in April last our Premier made a very strong plea for the abandonment by the Commonwealth of its proposals and the substitution of a scheme of uniformity of rates of State taxation, to be agreed upon by the States themselves. The records of the conference show that the Premier presented a strong case to the Commonwealth Government for the

abandonment of its attitude. He pointed out that the Commonwealth proposals attacked the fundamental constitutional position of the States. He reminded the Prime Minister that the history of the relationships between the Commonwealth and the States had not been such as to instil confidence in the minds of the State Premiers that the Commonwealth's promise that the uniform tax scheme would last only for the duration of the war would be fulfilled. As a matter of fact that conference was really one to which the States were summoned to be told that the Commonwealth intended to do something, rather than a conference at which the views of the States could be freely expressed and their sentiments and opinions accepted. We have had bitter experience of previous Commonwealth promises, and the States have reason to be chary of accepting the latest promise.

We can take our minds back to the early days of Federation, the days of the original Braddon clause which gave to the States 75 per cent. of the customs duties collected. That was to have been instituted for a 10-year period. Long before that period elapsed there was dissatisfaction in all the States. The matter again came before Parliament and the situation was changed. Instead of the customs being distributed on the original basis, per capita payments were arranged at 25s. per head. The States again suffered. Then came the time when the Financial Agreement was introduced in 1927, and subsequently the Loan Council became the authority which gave the States a very restricted outlook. Every time the matter came up for further consideration the basis was altered. What has happened in the present instance? There has already been a suggested alteration of the present basis. The proposal for uniform taxation as presented at the conference was a serious one while it was intended to apply for the duration of the war only. I will indicate to the Committee what has happened in the meantime.

Conflicting Comments.

Unfortunately many Commonwealth Ministers as well as private members of the Commonwealth Parliament believe that Australia consists only of the Eastern States. Western Australia is so very far away. In Sydney and Melbourne it is an almost unheard of place. The States took action to

test the validity of the Commonwealth legislation but the majority judgment of the High Court was in favour of the Commonwealth. Though the majority decision of the High Court is adverse to us, we accept it, but with the full realisation that it is likely to have a very serious effect on the future economy of all the States. It means that the Commonwealth has power to impose an income-tax of such severity that it will be impossible for any State to think of collecting State income-tax concurrently with the Commonwealth tax. The decision further means that this power of the Commonwealth can be exercised at any time, and not only during a period of emergency such as war. But let us be quite clear what the intention was at the time! I would like to read what the Prime Minister said to the Premiers at the conference on the 23rd April last—

You have said that the States may never regain their power to levy income tax. I deeply regret that you have taken that view of the position, because there are very great bodies of the public who may be inclined to feel the same way about it; for it is not the States alone, as States, that the Commonwealth Government has approached with a proposal that they should forgo certain rights in the interests of the conduct of the war. We have asked large bodies of employers and employees to forego rights which they claim, shall I say, to have been written in the Constitution. They regard them as traditional rights. We have asked those sections to waive their rights, and we have, as decent and honest Australians, said to them, "We ask you to give up these things for the duration of the war." They have agreed to do so. I confess that we cannot give to them an absolute assurance that the subsequent life of this nation will see those rights restored to them, but we have at least promised them to do our utmost to see that they are restored, and they have accepted that undertaking of the Commonwealth Government. But you, the Premiers of the States, are not of the same mind. You have doubts, which the employers and the employees did not entertain. That is unfortunate. The Commonwealth Government has put forward these proposals in order to get simplification of its own assessment of the taxpaying capacity of the Australian people in time of war.

Those words were uttered on the 23rd April last and are difficult to reconcile with subsequent statements by Dr. Evatt and the Prime Minister himself. Dr. Evatt is reported to have made comments on the proposed referendum. The newspaper report of the 5th September was as follows:—

Indication that part of the referendum which the Government proposes to take this year will contain a provision to make uniform taxation a permanent feature of Commonwealth policy

was given today by the Attorney General, Dr. Evatt. . . . The uniform taxation plan, he said, was now working successfully and the Government hoped to continue it permanently.

Dealing with the matter on the 7th September a Treasury spokesman, whoever he may be, said—

Because the Government believed it already had power to retain uniform taxation indefinitely after the war the question of uniform taxation was unlikely to be included in the forthcoming referendum.

The following appeared in "The West Australian" of the 11th September:—

Mr. Curtin said the Attorney General had stated that the Commonwealth should have undoubted legal power to decide that the uniform tax should be a peacetime as well as a wartime measure, and that it was not certain, having regard to the varying reasons of the judges in the recent appeal case, that the Commonwealth would be deemed to retain the present legal power after the war.

Thus we have very conflicting comments. The attitude of the Prime Minister when he pleaded in April last with the Premiers to give the Commonwealth the power that was subsequently taken was very different from that exhibited this week concerning the hopes, fears and intentions of the Commonwealth Government.

Hon. C. G. Latham: I consider it quite a dishonest thing for the Commonwealth Government to do!

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: If the Prime Minister's promise is fulfilled it will be disastrous for any prospect of expansion within such a State as this.

Hon. C. G. Latham: The Premier of Queensland realised that.

Difficulties of Administration.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: If it is fulfilled it will make very difficult the administration of affairs of State where elasticity of money matters is important and where the expansion of any sort of industry is being considered. The outstanding fact, so far as we are concerned, will be that no State will be able to carry out a policy without the concurrence of the Commonwealth. Compensation in lieu of income-tax is fixed at the level of the average collections for the two years ended June, 1941. As the war progresses, it is inevitable that costs will rise and, whereas in the past rising costs or expansion of social services could

be met by slight increases in taxation, it will be necessary during the currency of the uniform tax scheme for application to be made to the Commonwealth Grants Commission for additional compensation as the necessity arises.

Hon. C. G. Latham: You will not get anything from the Grants Commission which affects all of Australia in the same way. It can only be got by an increased amount.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: During the war period, therefore, there can be no question of any expansion of the existing social services unless the Commonwealth Government is willing to finance it. I think it is most improbable that the Commonwealth Government would agree to such an expansion during the war period and, if the scheme is continued in the post-war years, there is little doubt, I think, that the desire of the Commonwealth Government will be to bring the scale of social services of the States to a common level. So from this new idea we can see arising some serious repercussions for this State. There is not much chance of industrial expansion either rural or secondary on the State's volition. Expenditure cannot be anticipated or undertaken, even with the brightest prospects, as a capital investment. If the State has any project in view it will have to approach the Commonwealth Government for additional finance.

Mr. Cross: Poor old Cinderella!

The Year 1911-12.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: I will now deal with the figures for the past year, 1941-42. The year concluded with a surplus of £1,768 compared with an estimated deficit of £198,297, the figures of actual and estimated revenue and expenditure being—

	Estimated.	Actual.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Revenue.....	11,527,138	11,940,149	413,011
Expenditure	11,723,435	11,938,381	212,946
	198,297	1,768	200,065
	(Deficit)	(Surplus)	(Net increase)

Reviewing the revenue figures, the taxation receipts showed a net increase of £77,460. The principal items contributing to the increase were—

	£
Income Tax	101,832
Land Tax	21,455
Probate Duty	17,559
Entertainments Tax	3,284

Against these increases were the following reductions in actual collections compared with the Estimates—

Financial Emergency Tax	£ 21,794
Goldmining Profits Tax	25,930
Stamp Duty	5,918
Liquor Licenses	10,063

The increase in the income tax collections was due not only to a better income year, but to the earlier issue of assessments and the fact that a larger proportion of assessments was paid during the year. The same remarks apply to the improvement in the collection of land tax. Probate duty is a difficult matter to estimate accurately, the factors responsible for the receipts of probate duty being beyond the power of the Government to control. A list of anticipations is not strictly kept!

Hon. C. G. Latham: I hope not, anyhow.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: We certainly have not listed the Leader of the Opposition as a prospect.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Thanks!

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: The increase in the entertainments tax collections was due to larger attendances, particularly at pictures. The heavy demand for accommodation at picture shows still continues.

As to Duration of Commonwealth Entertainments Tax.

With the evidence of the yield from this tax being on the up-grade, it is unfortunate that the Commonwealth Government should have felt impelled to ask the States to transfer this form of tax to the Commonwealth Government for the duration of the war. An assurance was given by both the Prime Minister and the Commonwealth Treasurer at the recent conference in regard to the duration of the Commonwealth tax proposals. That was very interesting. They both gave assurances, without any qualifications, that the transfer of the entertainments tax to the Commonwealth sphere was for the duration of the war only. An extract from the report of the Premiers' Conference held in August last, shows that Mr. Chifley, the Treasurer, said—

If the Commonwealth Government decides to impose an entertainments tax, this field of revenue will be dried up for the States and they are not likely to obtain as much from this source as they are obtaining at present. We are facing an enormous gap between revenue

and expenditure in the last financial year. We shall have a very much greater one in this financial year. The Commonwealth is not desirous of simply grabbing money from here, there and everywhere.

The Prime Minister is reported to have said—

I do not apologise for our policy in this connection. A great deal of the resources upon which people draw in order to meet their entertainments costs is to be found in the war expenditure. It is very important to get back from the people the money that is paid to them. We cannot get it all back nor do we expect to do so, and we do not want to impose undue prohibitions on the people. We simply say that when they are engaged on enjoyment they should have brought significantly before their notice the fact that the country is engaged in a life and death struggle.

It is being put forward as a genuine and bona fide proposal directly related to the war effort. It is our intention that our successors in office—and of course there will be successors—will acknowledge any arrangement that we have made on the subject. I can only say to the Premiers that we regard this as purely a war measure.

We will see what history tells us in that regard.

As to Compensation.

When the Commonwealth request was received the Government asked that the compensation should be fixed at the round figure of £100,000 which we hoped to reach this year, rather than the basis proposed by the Commonwealth—namely, the average of the collections for the two years ended June last, which amounted to £97,443. The estimated yield from financial emergency tax was £65,000, but the collections amounted to £43,206. The amounts collected under this heading are, of course, arrears of tax and, as time passes, it becomes more and more difficult to collect the amounts outstanding. The reduction in the yield of goldmining profits tax was a direct effect of the lessened activity in goldmining. The restrictions in money transactions and all commercial dealings affect stamp duty collections. The State normally would receive one per cent. stamp duty on land transactions and 2s. 6d. per £100 on mortgage registrations. Very many aspects of the restricted financial operations imposed by the Commonwealth affect stamp duty. The decline in the receipts from liquor licenses was due to the action of the Commonwealth in restricting production and hours for sales of liquor.

Territorial revenue showed a net decrease of £5,431, the estimates and collections being as follows:—

	Estimate. £	Actual. £	Increase. £	Decrease. £
Land	135,000	127,157		7,843
Mining	20,250	32,579	3,329	
Timber	151,000	150,083		917
Net Decrease			5,431	

Pastoral Rent Remissions.

Most of the legislative action in respect of the remission of pastoral rents took place during the period from 1936 until 1940 in particular, and since then even more serious consideration has had to be given to the remission of rents, owing to the circumstances that obtained in the northern portions of the State. Thus the falling-off in receipts from land revenue was due, in part, to the smaller collection of pastoral lease rents, and during the past five financial years the remissions of such rents were as follows:—

Year ending the 30th June	Amount remitted. £
1938	59,602
1939	101,347
1940	26,372
1941	113,954
1942	42,173
Making a total for the five years ..	£343,448

The pastoral lease rents outstanding as at the 30th June, 1942, amounted to £166,509. The revaluation of the repurchased estates, which were brought under the provisions of the Agricultural Lands Purchase Act, also affected the position.

Repurchased Estate Debentures.

With regard to the repurchased estates, it was anticipated that the interest payments would be contributed towards the repayment of debentures as they matured, the idea at the time of purchase being that the debentures would be met out of the rental collections from the new settlers on the estates. Experience showed that it did not work out that way. In the early stages, most of the collections was paid into Consolidated Revenue and in those circumstances redemption day seemed a long way off. In recent years, however, the position has undergone review and a drastic alteration was effected. The position now is much more satisfactory seeing that under the present arrangement preparations are made when revenue is buoyant for meeting de-

bentures as they mature. It is interesting to note that up to the 30th June this year provision to the extent of £234,940 has been made towards debenture redemption that formerly was provided from Consolidated Revenue. That is entirely different from the earlier method of paying collections into revenue, as I previously indicated.

With regard to the redemption of agricultural land purchase debentures from revenue funds, the total redeemed to the 30th June, 1937 represented a value of £147,000, while to the 30th June, 1942, the amount was £242,000. The amount of the debentures paid off in five years was £95,000; the amount paid into a trust account towards debentures falling due in November—I think that refers to the Yandanooka estate—was £78,000, and the amount provided on the Estimates for the current financial year is £30,000, making a total of £203,000. Debentures maturing in November of this year represent a value of £126,000. Thus during the past four or five years provision has been made for payment from revenue into a trust fund, and the amount so paid has been almost sufficient to meet the debentures maturing in November next.

Hon. W. D. Johnson: Previously that provision was from loan funds.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: The collections were paid into Consolidated Revenue and debentures were redeemed.

Hon. C. G. Latham: But the rentals had to be paid. The member for Guildford-Midland did that when he was Minister for Lands.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: Members can argue that point for themselves. The fact remains that no further debentures mature until 1947.

Decline in Sandalwood Royalties.

Under the heading of "Mining," it was anticipated that there would be a substantial falling-off in revenue, but the decline has not proved as great as was expected. On the whole, timber revenue was buoyant but, due to the very serious decline in the sales of sandalwood, improvements in other respects were thereby offset. The royalty paid on sandalwood sales during 1940-41 represented £16,279, and the return under that heading for 1941-42 fell to £14,882, while the estimate for the current financial year is £1,000, representing the royalty on an

estimated sale of 100 tons for local operations. As members are aware, the principal port for the distribution of sandalwood was formerly Hong Kong. From that centre supplies were sent to provincial districts throughout China. That market is not now available.

Departmental Revenue.

Departmental revenue was estimated to yield £1,121,546, while the actual collections amounted to £1,101,813, a decrease of £19,733. The main contributing factors to the reduction in this section of revenue were—

Harbour and Light Department: The decreased revenue, representing £5,742, was due to the loss of business at the North-West ports, particularly following upon the entry of Japan into the war.

Land Titles Department: Here a decrease of revenue was shown amounting to £2,545. This was the result of the Commonwealth restrictions on the transfer of property.

Police Department: The decreased revenue of £6,018 was brought about by reason of the smaller receipts derived from the issue of drivers' licenses, while the amount recouped for expenses incurred in administering the Metropolitan Traffic Act was reduced because of the fewer cars that were registered.

To counterbalance the decreases, some departments showed improved revenue collections, and these included the following:—

Registrar General's Department: An increase of £1,912 was disclosed, due to the increased issue of certificates on account of child endowment and military requirements.

Lands and Surveys Department: The increase of £3,094 was due to additional revenue for work done for the military authorities in connection with the preparation of plans.

Royal Mint: The revenue was greater than the estimate to the extent of £5,291. This was due to a coinage contract entered into by the Mint with the Commonwealth Government. The Mint has been very busy from time to time, but not continuously, which is one of the difficulties associated with an undertaking of that type.

Receipts from State Trading Concerns.

The returns from the State Trading Concerns were lower than the estimate by £16,289, due to the fact that the Wyndham

Meat Works was not able to pay the amount of interest anticipated when last year's Estimates were prepared. It will be interesting for members to appreciate the fact that the difficulties associated with the Wyndham Meat Works are not confined to non-payment of anticipated interest. The effect of the closing of the works is that we are short of 1,500 tons of blood and bone manure, which now have to be imported from the Eastern States. Further, we are short of 35,000 hides required for the manufacture of leather, and on top of that there is the position confronting the pastoralists themselves who cannot take advantage of the works.

Returns from Public Utilities.

The revenue from Public Utilities, which was estimated at £5,694,000, was actually £6,066,000, showing a net increase of £372,000. The Railway Department was responsible for most of this improvement, the collections of revenue being nearly £329,000 above the estimate. This was due almost entirely to increased traffic brought about by war conditions, the passenger traffic being greater because of the restrictions upon travel by motorcar and also because of increased activity in military movements.

Details of the variations between the actual and estimated financial results of the various undertakings are as follows:—

Undertaking.	Increase.	Decrease.
Bunbury Harbour Board	£9,000	—

No dredging maintenance was undertaken during the year, with the result that a larger margin of revenue was available for payment to the Treasury.

Fremantle Harbour Trust	£344	—
Goldfields Water Supply	—	£44,802

This was another result of the decline in mining activity.

Kalgoorlie Abattoirs ..	£225	—
Metropolitan Abattoirs ..	£5,870	—

This was due to increased killings during additional days, principally for the military authorities.

Metropolitan Water Supply	£18,628	—
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In addition to an increased consumption of water, the improvement in the financial position was due to reimbursements received for work carried out for the Commonwealth Government.

Other Hydraulic Under- takings	£4,483	—
Railways	£328,809	—
Tramways	£52,693	—
State Ferries	£1,414	—
Electricity Supply	£17,789	—
State Batteries	—	£19,241
Cave House	—	£3,311

Expenditure for 1911-12.

Dealing now with expenditure, under Special Acts the estimated outgoings totalled £4,606,000 compared with an actual expenditure of £4,583,000, a decrease of £23,000. Interest and sinking fund payments accounted almost entirely for this decrease, the expenditure being £23,035 below the estimate. This saving was the result of the conversion loan in November of last year, in which Western Australia was interested to the extent of £4,000,000, the interest on which had been calculated at 4 per cent. whereas most of the loan was converted at a rate of $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. Under other Special Acts the estimated expenditure was £464,001, whereas the actual expenditure was £464,687. One reason for the slight variation was the increased payments under the Forests Act, the estimated amount being £50,000, whereas the actual payments were £52,206, due to increased activity in this department. Mine Workers' Relief Act payments, estimated at £17,000, actually amounted to £15,895. Pensions and retiring allowances, estimated at £140,000, cost £146,823. Pensions under the Superannuation and Family Benefits Act, estimated at £82,000, cost £77,480. Governmental expenditure was estimated at £3,247,000; the actual expenditure was £3,214,000, or a decrease of £33,000. Numerous small variations between the actual and estimated figures accounted for this result but, amongst the decreases in expenditure, the most outstanding was that of £42,600 on Education. On account of enlistments of male teachers, salaries were £44,000 less than the estimated figure.

Unforeseen Expenditure.

Against these reductions were increases in the actual expenditure over the estimate on account of unforeseen war expenditure of £53,000, of which £40,000 represented premiums for war damage insurance. Members will recollect that the War Damage Insurance Scheme was commenced in the

middle of the financial year. In regard to the other unforeseen war expenditure, a total of £93,060 was involved and included such items as—

Special police	£18,247
Rail concessions to members of Defence Forces	39,169
Payment of long-service leave to Government officers on enlist- ment	8,138
Superannuation contributions and life assurance premiums paid on behalf of Government officers enlisting	13,302
Emergency reserve stocks expendi- ture	4,024

Other departmental expenditure not included in the Estimates was as follows:—

Grant to Hospital Fund	6,000
Retiring allowances	425
Adjustment State Shipping account	30,000

Two vessels normally in our trade are not now operating. Great difficulty is experienced in in arranging and adhering to schedules; severe dislocations have been experienced everywhere, mainly due to war circumstances.

Public Utilities Expenditure.

Particulars of the estimated and actual expenditure on State utilities are—

	Estimate. £	Actual. £	Increase. £	Decrease. £
Goldfields Water Supply	139,400	145,022	5,622	—
Kalgoorlie Abattoirs	4,090	4,551	—	139
Metropolitan Abattoirs	35,400	40,975	5,575	—
Metropolitan Water Supply	110,825	138,205	27,380	—
Other Hydraulic Undertakings	65,665	61,093	—	4,572
Railways	2,800,000	2,988,484	188,484	—
Tramways	277,000	299,684	22,684	—
Ferries	8,180	8,650	476	—
Electricity Supply	322,800	344,577	21,777	—
State Batteries	95,970	88,350	—	7,611
Caves House	12,308	11,300	—	948

Net Increase over anticipated Expenditure—£268,780.

The causes for the principal variations were as follows:—

Goldfields Water Supply—Pumping expenses were incurred for pumping water from Canning Dam to Mundaring during the summer months.

Metropolitan Abattoirs—Increased expenditure was necessary to earn increased revenue.

Metropolitan Water Supply—Work was done on behalf of the Commonwealth Government, the cost of which was refunded.

Eight Surpluses.

The result of the year's operations is very satisfactory. Only on two previous occasions since Federation has this State enjoyed surpluses in successive years. Those periods were 1901-2 and 1902-3, and again in 1909-1910 and 1910-11. Since 1900 we have had eight surpluses, five of which have been achieved while Labour Governments have been in office.

Hon. C. G. Latham: They have been in office most of the time. It is not to say that there has been good government.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: These results should dispel any suggestion that Labour is unable to exercise efficient financial control.

Hon. C. G. Latham: We will talk about that later.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: Last year's surplus was not achieved without maintaining a very rigorous control over expenditure during the year.

State Assistance to Commonwealth.

Though the activities of some departments have decreased since the war commenced, it should not be overlooked that many officers of the State Government are carrying out functions directly associated with the war or on behalf of the Commonwealth Government, for which no recoup is obtained from that Government. For example, many officers of the Mines Department are engaged on work connected with the Civil Defence Council, though their salaries are still charged to the Mines Department. The Secretary of the Premier's Office and some of his staff, together with most of the staff of the Employment Department, are still engaged on work entirely connected with manpower, though the State Government is still meeting the cost of their salaries. The Auditor General is engaged for part of his time on duties associated with the Department of War Organisation of Industry.

Hon. C. G. Latham: How can a busy man like the Auditor General be spared by the department?

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: The hon. member will always notice that if one wants to get a job done, one goes to a busy man.

Hon. C. G. Latham: He must unload his work on to somebody else.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: Many of the technical officers of the Public Works

Department are supervising works being done for the Commonwealth Government and, though a refund of their salaries is obtained, the salaries are still charged to the departmental votes. This State has made a very substantial contribution to the Commonwealth in this way. Take the departments under the Premier. He has lost the Conservator of Forests and the secretary of his department and some of his staff, and also the services for part of the time of the Auditor General. The Department of Agriculture is in close collaboration with Commonwealth officers working on Commonwealth projects. Another aspect that has to be borne in mind is that, whereas a large proportion of the salaries paid to officers of the Public Works Department and the Metropolitan Water Supply Department was charged to loan funds, because those officers were supervising loan works, with the curtailment of loan expenditure more of their salaries has had to be charged to revenue.

Seasonal Operations.

Fortunately the State enjoyed a good season and agricultural production was well up to the average. I mentioned on the Address-in-reply the seriousness of the position in the pastoral industry in spite of a very good season. We have had an experience in the North-West which I hope will never be repeated in good seasons or bad. The losses during this season in the pastoral districts of the North have been greater than the losses due to drought in one year. Those losses have been caused by blowflies. In the Pilbara district some station losses have been over 25 per cent. of the total of the flock. There are stations such as DeGray which have lost 11,000 head; Mundabullangana has lost 10,000; Warrambie in the district of Roebourne has lost 30 per cent. of its flocks; Mileura, in the Murchison district has lost over 30 per cent. of its flocks that survived the drought; Brickhouse, in the Gascoyne, has had losses approaching 25 per cent. It is shocking to find that when the pastoral industry had returned to the prospect of good seasons, it should meet in the first year with such a disastrous experience. Members will recall having heard the Premier say on several occasions that if this State could enjoy a few good seasons in succession, accompanied by reasonable prices, it would be on a better

financial footing. In this respect we have been somewhat unfortunate as, during the depression, when seasons were good, prices were low. As we emerged from the depression and prices rose, we suffered a drought which, in the pastoral areas, was the worst in the history of the State.

Deficits.

In the years prior to the depression we had accumulated a very substantial deficit; and, when the borrowing to meet the deficits during and after the depression is added, we find that the State had accumulated an unfunded deficit of just on £6,000,000. The annual debt charges on this deficit cost revenue £120,000 annually, and that charge will continue until the debt is redeemed. It is regrettable that the financial relationships existing between the Commonwealth and Western Australia had not been adjusted many years ago, because the accumulated deficit of £6,000,000 is not the only part of the public debt which is a burden on revenue. It is a very serious impost upon revenue collection in such a State as this.

Hon. C. G. Latham: You are paying a very low rate of interest on the £6,000,000.

Public Debt.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: Our public debt stands at approximately £98,000,000; and the cost of servicing this debt—that is, the interest charge, sinking fund for redemption, plus exchange on the amount of debt owing to borrowers outside Australia—is approximately £4,500,000 per annum. A fairly substantial part of our public debt which is not fully productive relates to money spent on the development of agriculture; and though I am confident that given good conditions the money spent in this direction will show an increased return, we have had to shoulder a fairly heavy burden during and since the depression. While the burden of net revenue losses on loan expenditure is sufficiently serious to cause us to take a very sober view of future loan expenditure, there is no reason to be pessimistic about our chances of keeping the finances of the State on an even keel. But to do this we must get a fair opportunity to govern our own affairs. Much of the loan money that we have spent has been directed towards the development of the

State, and revenue collectable by way of taxation and from other sources would not have been open to us if we had not incurred the expenditure. Our future and continuing policy must be one of consolidation. We must make of our loan spendings remunerative investments.

Western Australia's Development.

We have passed the development or elementary stage, and have now reached the stage when we should endeavour to reap the benefit of our past expenditure. Western Australia's first stage was, I think, the gold-mining era, when after the first early settlement we had large rushes of population attracted by the discovery of gold. That period could be deemed to have come to an end about 1910. During the next 10 or 15 years we were in the agricultural stage, and in that period very rapid expansion of our agricultural industries took place. From being a poorly developed agricultural country, forced to import many of its foodstuffs, we rapidly became the greatest exporter of foodstuffs in the Commonwealth. It has been this Government's policy to encourage as far as possible any worthwhile secondary industry, and already much good work has been done and foundations have been laid for the development of some of the basic industries.

Whilst it is necessary that we should direct our energies towards the development of secondary industries, it would be bad for our internal economy if at the same time we did not use every endeavour to see that we reaped the full benefit of our ability further to develop our agricultural industries. For this there is still much scope, as we have barely scratched the surface of rural capacity in the areas south of the capital. I realise that it is foolish to prophesy, but I feel it is fairly safe to suggest that, with victory won, in the years immediately following peace, with international trade expanding, there will be a very great demand for primary products. Freedom in international trade is likely to create a great stimulus. We are in an exceptionally favourable position to meet the demand that will arise, and huge quantities of food will be needed in the countries which have been devastated as a result of the war. I may add that the recently published comments of the Commonwealth Grants Commission on

the subject of Western Australia's rural investments are extremely interesting.

Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure.

The estimated figures of Revenue and Expenditure for the present financial year as follows:—

	£
Revenue	12,394,502
Expenditure	12,428,312
Deficit	£33,810

It may appear to be unwise to budget for a small deficit, and it may be said that by an adjustment of the figures of revenue and expenditure a surplus could have been anticipated. The figures contained in these Estimates are a true anticipation of what the various departments feel will be achieved. No attempt has been made either to build up the revenue figures or to depress the figures of expenditure. With the advent of the Commonwealth's uniform tax scheme we are deprived of an expanding source of revenue which, if retained, would have enabled us to budget for a small surplus. We are conscious of the extreme care necessary to cope with the situation if we are not to meet greater troubles than anticipated in the deficit of £33,810.

The sources of revenue left to us which may increase beyond the estimated figures are the earnings of public utilities; but in such cases increased revenue generally means increased expenditure, and the net result may not show any appreciable change. In preparing these Estimates, no radical changes have been anticipated. The same sources of revenue, with the exception of taxation, as were open to the State last year are reflected in the Estimates for this year. The expenditure figures have made allowance for increased costs where such are anticipated, and provision has been made for savings where it has been felt that such could be effected.

Estimated Revenue.

I shall now briefly run through the figures of estimated revenue, and where necessary make explanations. Taxation is estimated to yield £3,300,750, which is an increase of £189,500 over the revenue from taxation received last year. I would like members to understand clearly the reason for the in-

crease. Under the heading of income tax is included an amount of £2,546,000, representing the compensation we shall receive from the Commonwealth Government. That compensation includes an amount of £275,750 which will have to be transferred to the Hospital Fund. Thus Hospital Fund payments appear in general revenue for the first time. The transfer of that amount is included under the expenditure in the section dealing with Treasury Miscellaneous expenditure. The compensation is also based on the tax collections, less cost of collection. The cost deducted in order to arrive at the compensation is £27,450.

To ascertain the true position of the income tax receipts for this year it is necessary to add £27,450 to the compensation, and from this sum to deduct the amount transferred to the Hospital Fund. When this is done, the result will be £2,297,700. Income tax collections last year were £2,333,867, or £36,167 more than we should receive this year under the Uniform Tax Scheme. The reduction in total tax receipts estimated for this year, as compared with the actual receipts last year, is £58,800. The Hospital Tax collections last year were £292,700. To compare this sum with the compensation to be received this year, namely, £275,750, it is necessary to deduct from last year's receipts the cost of collection, which was £2,550. The result is £290,150, or £14,400 more than the Hospital Fund will receive this year.

Tax Collections.

So that members may view the position more clearly, I shall give the figures of taxation collections last year and our estimates for this year, after allowing for the transfer of the amount to the Hospital Fund.

	Actual, 1941-42.	Estimate, 1942-43.	Increase.	Decrease*
	£	£	£	£
Land Tax	136,455	136,000	....	455
Income Tax, Financial Emergency Tax, Dividend Duty, Goldmining Profits Tax	2,333,867	2,270,250	....	*63,617
Totalsator Duty	48,045	48,000	....	45
Stamp Duty	229,082	220,000	....	9,082
Probate Duty	182,559	175,000	....	7,559
Entertainments Tax	98,284	100,000	1,716	....
Licenses—				
Liquor	77,917	71,150	....	6,767
Other	5,041	4,600	....	441
	3,111,250	3,025,000	....	†86,250

* From this sum has to be deducted the cost of collection, namely, £27,450.
† Net Decrease.

Entertainments Tax.

With regard to the Entertainments Tax, it is confidently expected that we will receive £100,000 this year, despite the fact that the tax has been taken over by the Commonwealth Government and that our compensation has been reduced to the average of the collections for the two years ended June last. The Commonwealth Entertainments Tax will not operate until the end of this month; the collections for the State Entertainments Tax so far have shown a fairly substantial increase on those of the same period during the last financial year. We shall therefore enjoy the collection of our own tax for the first quarter of the year; and, when these collections are added to the compensation we shall obtain from the Commonwealth, we expect to receive an amount of £100,000. In the following year, of course, there will be a reduction because our compensation will be £97,443. As I stated earlier, when we were requested by the Prime Minister to agree to the Commonwealth taking over this tax, we asked that the compensation should be based on the round figure of £100,000 because we felt that we would be able to collect this year slightly more than that sum. Unfortunately, the Commonwealth Treasurer would not agree to our proposal and, as the Commonwealth had decided to impose an Entertainments Tax whether or not the States agreed to evacuate the field, we were placed in an impossible position. The facts are that the rates of Entertainments Tax in this State are the highest in the Commonwealth, and had we not agreed to forgo our tax and had the Commonwealth concurrently with us imposed a much higher tax, I am sure the effect would have been that we would collect less revenue than the compensation to be paid to us by the Commonwealth. In addition, there would have been very strong protests from many sources because of the double taxation that would exist in this State.

Territorial Revenue.

Territorial revenue is expected to be about £22,000 less than the revenue collected last year. This is because we expect to receive a smaller revenue from mining, owing to the contraction in mining activities, as well as a smaller revenue from timber because of the almost total cessation of sales of sandal-

wood, due to Japan's entry into the war. The figures of actual revenue for last year and estimates for this year are—

	Actual, 1941-42.	Estimate, 1942-43.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Land	127,157	130,000	2,843	....
Mining	32,579	20,800	....	11,779
Timber	150,083	137,000	....	13,083
	309,819	287,800	....	*22,019

* Net Decrease.

Forests Department Revenue.

The estimated departmental revenue of £1,146,717 is roughly £45,000 above the collections last year. I shall not weary members with a detailed statement of all the departments concerned, but will cite only those which show a major change. The revenue of the Forests Department is expected to be £25,391 greater than that of last year, but the increase is the result of a bookkeeping change rather than an actual increase in revenue. For a number of years this department has been engaged in some activities not reflected in the revenue figures. The revenue and expenditure of such activities were kept in trust accounts and the net results only were shown in the Estimates. The Auditor General is doubtful as to the propriety of this procedure, and it has now been arranged that the gross revenue and expenditure will be shown in the Estimates. The activities to which I have referred were, until last year, confined to the provision of firewood for two pumping stations near Mundaring Weir. On account of the difficulty in securing suitable contractors, the department arranged to sell the timber cut in the thinning process to the Goldfields Water Supply Department. The department is also concerned in assisting in the production of charcoal.

Last year, on account of the shortage of firewood, first for Government institutions and then for the metropolitan areas generally, it was decided that the department should cut and despatch to the metropolitan area certain quantities of firewood. While it may not be within the general scope of a Government's functions, the decision to use the Forests Department to provide the metropolitan area with firewood has relieved to some extent an exceedingly difficult situation. Another new activity undertaken by the Forests Department is the growing of

vegetables to assist in meeting military requirements and to provide seed for future growings. Many of the forestry employees' homes are situated in locations where a sufficient area of suitable land is available to grow vegetables and raise seed. The Conservator of Forests has provided these employees with seed, and the prospects are that an extremely useful contribution will be made in this direction.

Public Works Department Revenue.

The revenue of the Public Works Department is estimated to be greater than the collections last year by approximately £12,000, owing to the fact that recoups by the Commonwealth Government for work done for that Government will be greater this year than last.

Treasury Revenue.

Treasury revenue is estimated to exceed last year's actual collections by £6,000. Treasury collections come from a number of miscellaneous accounts. The main cause of the increase is an amount of £100,000 that is expected to be received from profits made by the State Government Insurance Office. The same amount was estimated last year, but only £63,000 was transferred to revenue. If the financial position is sufficiently buoyant to render it unnecessary to transfer £100,000 from the profits of the State Government Insurance Office, a reduced amount will be transferred.

Royal Mint Revenue.

It is expected that the revenue from the Royal Mint will be £28,000 less than that received last year. There will be a reduction in the expenditure of the Mint, but not equal to the fall in revenue. With the decline in goldmining, it is but natural that the revenues available to the Mint should be less than they were. Last year the Mint received a coinage contract from the Commonwealth Government which will expire early in this financial year. Up to the time of the preparation of these Estimates, however, we have had no word as to whether another contract will be given. Inquiries are being made of the Commonwealth Government and, if our efforts are successful, the revenue returns will be better than those shown in the Estimates.

Commonwealth Grant.

The Ninth Report of the Commonwealth Grants Commission has just been received and I am extremely pleased to announce that the special grant recommended to and approved by the Commonwealth Government for this year is £800,000, compared with the grant of £630,000 received last year. I shall make a copy of the report available to the Leader of the Opposition and the Leader of the National Party, so that they may peruse it before Thursday next.

Hon. C. G. Latham: We shall have plenty to do!

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: Copies will be available to members in ample time for them to peruse the report before they make their contribution to this debate. The report shows that, according to the methods adopted by the Commission, the grant due to this State this year is £970,000, but the Commission says that, from its estimates of our needs this year, it is satisfied that that amount will be more than necessary to enable us to finance our obligations. The Commission recommended that the grant be reduced to £800,000, and that the balance, £170,000, be held in suspense and paid to us next year. This method of varying the actual grant to be paid from the amount shown to be payable according to the Commission's methods is not a new one. Members may recall that some years ago the Commission decided to recommend the payment of an additional grant to Western Australia because of drought conditions then existing in this State. We accordingly received an advance which was to be deductible from the following year's grant. Last year the Commission recommended that the grant payable to South Australia should be less than the amount which the Commission's calculation showed to be payable to that State. The Ninth Report is smaller than any of the preceding reports published by the Commission, and it is not possible to ascertain from it whether any variations have been made in the methods adopted to calculate the grants recommended. It is obvious, from the conclusions drawn by the Commission, that its original system of calculating grants is causing difficulties. In 1934 I made a lengthy speech on the report for that year and pointed out then the fallacy of the basis of many of the Commission's calculations.

Grants Commission Formula.

The Commission is now finding extreme difficulty in adhering to its formula. Members will recall that Sir Frederick Eggleston, who had been Chairman of the Commission from its inception until the middle of last year, retired from that position, and that he was succeeded by Professor R. C. Mills. It is clear from the present report that the principles enunciated by the first Grants Commission have been adopted by the Commission under the chairmanship of Professor Mills. At this stage I do not propose to enter into a long discourse on the methods of the Commission and the basis of the claim submitted by this State. The position, in brief, is that the State's claim is based on disabilities resulting from Federal policy. The original Commission rejected this basis and adopted the basis of what it called "needs," needs being determined by a comparison of the budgetary position of a claimant State with the average budgetary position of the non-claimant States.

Numerous adjustments were made by the Commission after arriving at the first comparison of the budgets. One adjustment is to impose a penalty, or what the Commission prefers to call a "degree of effort" on a claimant State, where the inferior budgetary position of that State is the result of past mistakes or extravagances reflected in a burden of unproductive debt. Past mistakes and extravagances include such matters as irrigation projects, country water supplies and many other undertakings which may be, in the view of the claimant State, essential to the internal economy of that State. It is interesting to note that the case submitted so solidly and ultimately so successfully by my colleague, the Minister for Works, in regard to traffic fees has been amply borne out. No mention is made in the ninth report of an allowance or adjustment being made because of our agreeing, under legislation introduced by the Minister for Works last year, to take license fees into revenue, but a telegram has been received which reads as follows:—

It may assist your Treasurer when preparing his Budget to know that no adjustment was made in our ninth report on account road debt charges stop. Our decision was governed by special circumstances affecting road finance including reduced Federal road grants, declining motor taxation and action of Government in using part of license fees to meet annual charges on road debt.

Hon. C. G. Latham: They could not do less than that in view of what they did before.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: It is gratifying to know that the efforts of the Minister for Works have had this result.

Hon. C. G. Latham: It is not so much to help him as to help themselves. It is the poorest thing I have ever read.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: On the occasion of the visit of the Commission, the Premier gave evidence. It has been customary for a Minister to submit evidence, and for a year or two the Minister for Industrial Development has appeared before the Commission. As usual, I gave evidence in connection with land matters and rural difficulties generally. For several years past I have given evidence in regard to matters affecting our primary industries, and for two years have made a special review in connection with difficulties and disabilities pertaining to the North-West. Evidence was also submitted by expert officers and a very strong case presented for the Commission's consideration.

Expenditure on Defence Projects.

It is clear that the expenditure of large sums by the Commonwealth on defence projects in the other States has tended to raise the degree of prosperity in those States. Every opportunity has been taken by the Premier and other Ministers to confer with the chairman or members of the Commission, if they happened to be in Melbourne, and to present some particular aspect of the State's position that might have arisen since the previous visit of the Commission to Western Australia. There are many aspects affecting loan programmes and expenditure which the Treasurer himself intends to deal with when introducing the Loan Estimates at a later stage.

Professor Mills.

Professor Mills appeared to me to be a very worthy successor to Sir Frederick Eggleston. He is a keen student of constitutional matters and I am sure he is anxious to consider fully and fairly the cases presented to him by the claimant States. He is not unfamiliar with our problems. He is the author of a book entitled "The Coloni-

sation of Australia," in which a special chapter is devoted to the early difficulties of settlement in Western Australia. Consequently we can expect a scrutiny of our case by a gentleman who knows something of our circumstances.

Current Revenue from Trading Concerns.

The total estimated revenue from trading concerns this year is £128,003, as against receipts last year of £100,281. The figures showing the actual revenue last year and the Estimates for this year are as follows:—

	Actual, 1941-42. £	Estimate, 1942-43. £
Profits—		
State Saw Mills	53,995	70,000
State Hotels	...	3,000
	53,995	73,000
Recomp Departmental Charges, Interest, and Sinking Fund—		
State Engineering Works	367	22,275
State Quarries	3,034	25
W.A. Meat Works	...	12,078
State Brickworks	2,084	50
State Hotels	4,654	3,456
State Shipping Service	3,464	681
State Saw Mills	16,188	16,288
Wyndham Freezing Works	16,345	150
State Insurance	250	...
	46,286	55,003
Total State Trading Concerns	£100,281	£128,003

The State Sawmills had a very successful year, which accounts for the increased profit from that concern. The profits from State Hotels for 1940-41 were taken into Revenue account that year, and the profit shown in the estimate column for this year is the actual profit earned last year. The amount received from the W.A. Meat Works is included this year under the heading of "trading concerns," whereas previously the interest due by the works was included under "Treasury, Miscellaneous revenue." As members probably know, the works were purchased by the Government towards the end of last financial year and the authority of Parliament will be sought shortly to have these works brought within the provisions of the State Trading Concerns Act. The Wyndham Freezing Works did not open this season, and no revenue will be received from them.

Public Utilities, Revenue.

The estimated receipts for this year are £6,138,800, as against £6,066,451 re-

ceived last year—an increase of £72,349. The details are as follows:—

	Actual. 1941-42. £	Estimate. 1942-43. £	Increase. £	Decrease. £
Bonbury Harbour	11,500	10,000	...	1,500
Fremantle Harbour	185,344	193,000	7,656	...
Goldfields Trust	...	...	...	...
Supply	300,198	250,000	...	50,198
Kalgoorlie Abattoirs	6,225	5,800	...	425
Metropolitan Abattoirs	67,370	65,000	...	2,370
Metropolitan Water Supply	561,628	556,000	...	5,628
Other Hydraulic	...	...	...	...
Undertakings	78,483	75,000	...	3,483
Railways	3,893,800	4,015,000	116,191	...
Tramways	402,693	425,000	22,307	...
State Ferries	9,964	10,000	36	...
Electricity Supply	462,789	467,000	4,211	...
State Batteries	70,750	56,000	...	14,750
Caves House	10,639	11,000	311	...
	6,066,451	6,138,800	*72,349	...

* Net Increase.

The outstanding decreases are those affecting the Goldfields Water Supply and the State Batteries, and in both cases they are due to the declining activity in the goldmining industry.

Metropolitan Water Supply.

In the Metropolitan Water Supply Department it is anticipated that the receipts will be smaller than those of last year because of the fact that last year a considerable amount of work was done for the Commonwealth Government, payment for which was included in the receipts.

Railway Finances.

Railway revenue is expected to be slightly better than last year, though the figures show a fairly substantial increase. Of this, £102,000 is money received from the Commonwealth for the sale of locomotives and rolling-stock, and this amount is also included on the expenditure side, the money having been paid into a trust fund to finance the provision of additional locomotives and rolling-stock for the department. As I stated in my speech on the Address-in-reply, the coal shortage is causing serious embarrassment to the Railways, and other instrumentalities, and if a speedy improvement cannot be made, it will react unfavourably on the department's finances. It is hoped that the steps being taken by the Government will result in the full requirements of the Railway Department being met.

Transportation of Wheat.

Another factor which will have an important effect on the railway revenue is the transportation of wheat. At present there is a considerable quantity of wheat in the country and, with the prospect of a good season, there is likely to be an increased quantity to be moved. If the Wheat Board arranges for the wheat to be transported to the ports, or to certain storage bins in the country, the Railway Department will be busy for many months to the full capacity of the suitable and available rolling-stock, and revenue should benefit. There are difficulties because of demands made by the military authorities for suitable rolling-stock.

Tramways, Electricity and Ferries.

The improvement in the collections by the tramways is in anticipation of the continued patronage which the trams are enjoying as a result of petrol restrictions. The receipts of the Electricity Department are estimated not to be much above those of last year. Black-out conditions have curtailed sales, and the difficulty in obtaining coal supplies may make further inroads into the sale of electricity. A very small increase is anticipated in the revenue of the State Ferries, but this position may be improved upon by both earnings and economies when the new ferry-boat, which is almost complete, is put into commission.

Expenditure for 1942-43.

The total estimated expenditure for 1942-43 is £12,428,312, and will be made as follows:—

	£
Special Acts	4,629,131
Governmental	3,511,011
Public Utilities	4,288,170
	<hr/>
	£12,428,312

The actual expenditure last year totalled £11,938,381. The increase estimated this year, compared with the actual expenditure last year, is £489,931. I will refer briefly to the outstanding items of expenditure under the three headings I have mentioned.

Special Acts.

Interest estimated to be payable under this heading amounts to £3,529,389, com-

pared with an actual payment last year of £3,546,625, a reduction of £17,236. This reduction is the result of the large conversion loan last year under which the loan which had been at 4 per cent. was converted to interest rates of $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. for the longer period and $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for the shorter period. An offset to the saving under this conversion is, of course, the interest payable on the new money borrowed last year.

Sinking Fund Payments.

Sinking fund payments are estimated at £594,750, as against actual payments last year of £555,296—an increase of £39,454. The chief cause of the substantial rise in the sinking fund payments is our obligation under the Financial Agreement to pay interest at the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on stock purchased and cancelled by the National Debt Commissioners out of sinking fund. Members are aware of the operations of the sinking fund, under which the National Debt Commissioners use the funds in their possession to purchase stock on the market, which is cancelled. When the Financial Agreement was entered into in 1927 interest rates generally were in excess of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. so that the purchase of stock by the National Debt Commissioners meant a saving to the States. Since 1927 interest rates have fallen with the result that the cancellation of stock throws an added burden on the States for payment of interest on that cancelled stock to the sinking fund.

Superannuation, etc.

Other Special Acts are estimated to require an expenditure this year of £488,082. The actual payments last year were £464,687. The increase is almost entirely accounted for by the additional payments to be made under the Superannuation and Family Benefits Act. The pensions payable last year amounted to £77,480. The estimate for this year is £108,000.

General Governmental Expenditure.

Governmental expenditure covers the operations of the departments excluding the Public Utilities and the Trading Concerns. The estimated expenditure is £3,511,011 as against an actual expenditure last year of £3,213,882—an increase of £297,129. Before I am interrupted by an interjection by the Leader of the Opposition regarding extra-

vagance, let me explain that these figures include an amount of £275,750 transferred to the Hospital Fund of the compensation received from the Commonwealth Government under the uniform tax scheme.

Hon. W. D. Johnson: But that would not be equal to what was received last year.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: It is slightly less.

Hon. C. G. Latham: We pay to the Commissioner of Taxation the sum which is collected.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: It will be remembered that in dealing with the Revenue Estimates I explained that taxation revenue included the gross amount received from the Commonwealth under the uniform tax scheme, and that the amount included the average of the hospital tax collections for the two years ended June, 1941. The expenditure under Governmental, Public Utilities and Trading Concerns includes the increased basic wage payment. In total, the cost of the basic wage increases, so far as they affect revenue, amounts to approximately £160,000. I shall refer only to the larger departments.

Treasury.

Treasury miscellaneous expenditure is estimated at £1,111,428 as against actual expenditure last year of £837,157—an increase of £274,271. As I explained, this includes the transfer to the Hospital Fund of £275,750. It also includes the war damage insurance premium on State property. This year the premium for the whole year, amounting to £60,000 has to be paid. Last year the premium was paid for six months only, namely, £40,000. The savings are due to the non-inclusion this year of expenditure incurred last year, which it is hoped will be non-recurring.

Forests Department.

The estimated expenditure for the Forests Department this year is £54,000; actual expenditure last year was £28,456—an increase of £25,634. The increase is due almost entirely to the inclusion of items which were hitherto operated through suspense accounts. I explained this when the Revenue Estimates were being dealt with. Revenue has also been increased, the net result being a slight betterment of the finances of the department.

Public Works Department.

The estimated expenditure on account of the Public Works Department is £122,720; the actual expenditure last year was £98,602—an increase of £24,118. The greater expenditure this year is due to the fact that a smaller proportion of the salaries vote of the Public Works Department will be recovered from loan funds. These will now be recovered from revenue rather than from loan funds. Many of the officers of the Public Works Department are, however, carrying out works for the Commonwealth Government and a recoup of the salaries involved will be secured from the Commonwealth.

Unemployment Relief.

Unemployment Relief and State Labour Bureau: The estimated expenditure under this heading is £8,600; the actual amount last year was £13,355—a decrease of £4,755. The officers who are still engaged in this department are carrying out work on behalf of the Commonwealth in connection with the control of manpower. It was agreed with the Commonwealth that the officers attached to the Minister for Labour would be available for this work.

Lands Department.

Lands Department: The estimate for the year is £56,900, and the actual amount last year was £54,202—an increase of £2,698. Actually there has been a reduction in the expenditure of the Lands Department, but on account of no loan work being undertaken this year no amount can be transferred to loan funds. The gross expenditure last year, before some of it was transferred to loan, was £58,052 compared with £56,900.

Agricultural Bank.

Agricultural Bank: The estimated expenditure this year is £88,700; last year's actual expenditure was £90,546—a decrease of £1,846.

Agricultural Department.

Agricultural Department: The estimated expenditure for this year is £94,370. The actual amount last year was £93,670, so that the estimate provides for an increase of £700. The College of Agriculture at Muresk shows a saving this year of £7,765, the estimated

expenditure being £6,124 as against the actual amount last year of £13,889. The college has been taken over by the military authorities though some of the staff are still engaged on supervising work connected with the college. The principal, whose salary appears as a charge against the College of Agriculture, is doing work for the Commonwealth Manpower authorities and his salary is recouped by the Commonwealth Government.

Child Welfare.

Child Welfare and Outdoor Relief: The estimated expenditure is £79,550; actual expenditure last year £108,833—a decrease of £29,283. This saving is principally the result of fewer cases requiring assistance; also due to the commencement of the Commonwealth Widows' Pension Scheme, which has relieved the State of this responsibility.

Mines Department.

Mines Department: The estimate for the year is £117,994; the actual amount last year was £123,341—a decrease of £5,347. The saving in expenditure is an indication of the lessened activity in the goldmining industry. A further saving would be effected if the salaries of the officers of the Mines Department, who are engaged on work connected with civil defence, were charged to that organisation. These salaries have, however, been retained under their own department.

Public Health.

Minister for Health: The estimate in the case of this Minister is £220,318 whereas the actual expenditure last year was £217,856—an increase of £2,462. The additional expenditure is due to the increased cost of maintaining the homes under the control of the Minister.

Chief Secretary.

The estimate of the Chief Secretary this year is £77,008, or an increase of £7,195 over the actual expenditure last year, which was £69,813. These figures include an increase in the cost of Registry and Friendly Societies of £1,844, brought about by greater activity in the provision of certificates, mostly for military purposes. A net saving in salaries will be effected over and above what is shown in the Estimates, because the Commonwealth Government has borrowed the services of the Government Statistician and will be responsible for the payment of his

salary during the time he is employed by the Commonwealth Government. Prisons show an increased cost of £3,868 due to the greater cost of maintaining the gaol at Barton's Mill, and the work in connection with the transfer there.

Education.

The estimate for the Minister for Education is £851,100, or an increase of £20,105 over last year's expenditure which amounted to £831,095. The increase is entirely due to increased cost of salaries arising from the reclassification which was made last year.

Police.

Police: The estimate of £297,213 provides for an increase of £17,470 over the actual expenditure last year amounting to £279,743. Due to war conditions, the strength of the Police Force has been increased and that accounts for the greater estimated expenditure.

Justice.

The estimate for the Minister for Justice is £95,028, or an increase of £6,756 over the actual expenditure last year, £88,272. Were it not for provision made for a general election this year, the estimate of expenditure would be less than the actual amount last year. If no election is held this year there will be a saving compared with last year's figures.

North-West.

The estimated expenditure on account of the Minister for the North-West amounts to £80,250 and provides for a decrease of £1,329 on the expenditure of last year, which was £81,579.

Expenditure on Public Utilities.

Public Utilities: Details of the estimated expenditure this year and the actual amount last year are as follows:—

	Actual. 1941-42.	Estimate. 1942-43.	Increase. £	Decrease £
Goldfields Water				
Supply	146,022	126,870	....	18,152
Kalbarrie Abattoirs	4,551	4,500	....	51
Metropolitan Abattoirs	40,976	38,338	....	2,637
Metropolitan Water				
Supply	188,205	138,400	....	1,715
Other Hydraulic				
Undertakings	61,093	62,855	1,762	....
Railways	2,998,484	3,157,000	158,516	....
Tramways	209,684	350,000	30,316	....
Ferries	3,656	8,400	....	256
Electricity Supply	344,577	347,500	2,923	....
State Batteries	88,350	85,882	....	22,477
Caves House	11,360	10,385	....	1,025
	4,140,966	4,288,170	*147,204	....

* Net Increase.

The decline in the Goldfields Water Supply expenditure is the result of reduced sales of water, with corresponding reduced costs of pumping, due to the decline in the goldmining industry. Railways expenditure figures include an amount of £102,000—the proceeds of the sale of locomotives and rolling stock to the Commonwealth—transferred to a suspense account to finance the manufacture of new equipment for the department. The increased expenditure in the tramways is necessary to meet increased traffic. The same remarks apply to the electricity supply. The reduction in the expenditure on State Batteries is another indication of the reduced activity in the goldmining industry.

Hon. W. D. Johnson: That was an extraordinary procedure.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: It may have been an extraordinary procedure but when serious impending happenings require action, the procedure may frequently be extraordinary.

Hon. C. G. Latham: New South Wales sent away many more engines as well.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: In view of the urgent necessity for supplies in a country where there was a 3ft. 6in. railway gauge, this State agreed to the request by the Commonwealth to make engines available for service elsewhere.

[Mr. Seward took the Chair.]

Hon. W. D. Johnson: You know there were repercussions.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: Of course there were repercussions, but the hon. member must appreciate that war has repercussions in many directions. The State did whatever was possible to meet the severe pressure due to the demands of war conditions.

Contrast Between 1900-01 and 1910-11.

I have almost concluded my review of the financial position. I observed when looking over the revenue and expenditure figures set out in the Estimates for the current financial year that they were approximately four times greater than the revenue and expenditure figures for the year 1900-01 when, I think, Mr. Throssell was Premier. The compara-

tive figures under the following headings for those two periods are interesting:—

Expenditure.	1940-41.	1900-01.
	£	£
Education	958,398	86,930
Medical and Health	264,717	91,585
Railways	3,573,970	1,071,676

The medical and health figures for 1940-41 exclude the maintenance expenditure from the Hospitals Trust Fund, which accounted for a further £273,630. Another interesting comparison is the mileage of railways opened for traffic. In 1900-01 the mileage opened was 1,355, whereas in 1940-41 the mileage had risen to 4,381.

Unthinking Criticism.

Some people unthinkingly criticise State operations and seem to be of the opinion that with increasing revenue the financial position of the Government should be correspondingly improved. Such criticism is not well founded because obviously as revenue increases so must expenditure increase. Much of our revenue is derived from the earnings of Public Utilities and that revenue cannot be secured without the expenditure of substantial amounts. The functions of government include provision for the development of the country, for the education of the people and for the distribution of incomes, by taxing the wealthier people in order to provide social services for those whose lower incomes prevent them from enjoying privileges available to their more fortunately circumstanced neighbours.

Aiming at an Almost Balanced Budget.

Members will have noticed that the Government has again aimed at achieving an almost balanced Budget and has endeavoured to make proper provision for the redemption of State debts. That satisfactory result was achieved in the two preceding financial years, and last year the Government was in the happy position of balancing the Budget and at the same time showing a net reduction in the Public Debt. During the war period Western Australia will experience great difficulty in avoiding deficits unless additional financial assistance is rendered to the State by the Commonwealth. The introduction of the uniform tax scheme and the taking over of the entertainments tax by the Commonwealth Government has meant that this State's main source of revenue is now fixed, and we shall not be in a position to enjoy

the benefits of the distribution of large sums of money by the Commonwealth in connection with work for war and defence purposes. In that respect other States are more fortunately circumstanced. Nevertheless our expenditure is sure to rise. Although we may save a little on account of certain social services, the costs of which rise when times are not prosperous, it is almost inevitable that costs generally will rise, and those increased costs will be reflected in the additional expenditure forced upon the Government.

Commonwealth Grants Commission.

As members are aware, the Commonwealth uniform taxation proposals contemplate requests being submitted by the States to the Commonwealth Government for additional compensation. Those requests will be heard and determined by the Commonwealth Grants Commission. The principles upon which the Commission will judge the merits of the claims of a State are not known, but it would be foolish for that body to reject any just claim made by a State respecting any increased deficit that may be incurred. I am convinced that if the Commonwealth Grants Commission is satisfied that the expenditure was not incurred extravagantly, the State is most likely to receive a reasonable reply to its application for financial aid as a set-off against the deficit. If the State has a fair and just case to submit in explanation of the deficit, I am sure the Commission will accede to the request for assistance and that under the scheme now operating the State will not have to provide for the deficit from loan funds.

Hon. C. G. Latham: It has always been provided for from loan funds in the past.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: That is so, but under the new scheme if a just case can be made out in support of the claim presented to the Commonwealth Grants Commission, that body will now make the necessary funds available instead of the State as formerly having to borrow the required amount under its ordinary loan programme. Certainly it would be foolish for the Commonwealth to force a State into the position of having to borrow money with which to finance a deficit when the Commonwealth, by its uniform tax proposal and its assumption of the right to levy the entertainments tax, has deprived the State of the means by which a deficit can be avoided.

Commonwealth and States.

The future is full of uncertainties, and it is obviously necessary for us to bend all the available resources of the nation towards the successful prosecution of the war. I have every sympathy with the Commonwealth Government respecting the difficulties it must experience in an endeavour to provide a maximum war effort, under a system of government whereby sovereign rights are divided amongst seven Governments. Nevertheless, the Commonwealth Government would be wise if it co-operated with the States in times such as the present. It has not availed itself to the full of the many opportunities to co-operate and collaborate with them. The tendency should be in these days towards co-operation and collaboration rather than, as at times would seem to be the objective of the Commonwealth, to secure the extermination of the States as such. At times that would certainly seem to be the trend and I hope that the States will receive greater consideration in the future than past history discloses.

States and Their Rights.

The people of Australia have already surrendered many of their rights in order to assist the nation in its war effort. I am sure they will gladly surrender still more rights for the achievement of victory. What the States must do is to be always on the alert to see that, under the guise of the necessities of war, rights are not taken from them by the Commonwealth. All the States and all individuals in those States will resent very much encroachments upon State rights under the guise of the necessities of war, unless such actions are entirely warranted. In administrative matters the Commonwealth should use to the full the States' Departments and the Executives of the States.

Conclusion.

As is customary, Ministers, when they introduce their respective Departmental Estimates, will give full details regarding the figures that I have placed before members this afternoon. That will furnish the opportunity for a discussion on items that members may wish to criticise and enable them to comment upon anything done in the past or anticipated in the future. In presenting the Budget to the Committee I have made my humble

endeavour to do justice to the task on behalf of the Treasurer himself. The outline presented represents an earnest and painstaking effort to estimate what the position will be during the ensuing 12 months. Much can alter the anticipated position.

I refer not merely to actions by the Commonwealth Government or other actions within Australia, but to many actions that may be taken from without the confines of the Commonwealth. The position of our international trade, the position of our exporting industries and the situation in which we find ourselves regarding contracts made with the British Government render the outlook for many of our primary industries very uncertain and insecure. We are hoping that shipping will be available so that the position

will not be more difficult than it at present appears for those who are engaged in primary production. As for the trend of the war, I had much to say on that subject recently and I do not intend to delay members further at this stage. All I wish to add is that I trust, with every member, that before the next Estimates are introduced, there will be something substantial in the military gains achieved by this nation and its Allies. Let us hope that our nearest enemy will be driven, not merely from Australian soil, but also back to the country where he belongs. I move the first division of the Estimates, namely—

Legislative Council, £1,890.

Progress reported.

House adjourned at 5.27 p.m.

**CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND.
ESTIMATE FOR 1942-43 YEAR.**

	£	£	£	£
SURPLUS FOR 1941-42				1,788
Add Increases in Estimated Revenue, 1942-43—				
Taxation:				
Uniform Tax (replacing Income Tax, Financial Emergency Tax, Dividend Duty, and Gold Mining Tax) (a)	212,133			
Entertainment Tax	1,716			
			213,849	
Departmental:				
Forests		25,301		
Public Works		16,754		
Treasury:				
Savings Bank Profits	8,452			
State Insurance Profits	38,000			
War Damage Insurance Refunds	34,439			
		80,891		
			123,036	
Law Courts			188	
Commonwealth—Disabilities Grant			170,000	
Trading Concerns:				
Profits Recovered:				
State Saw Mills		16,005		
State Hotels		3,000		
			19,005	
Recoups of Charges, Interest, etc:				
Increases:				
W.A. Meat Works		12,078		
State Engineering Works		21,008		
		33,086		
Less Sundry Decreases		9,074		
			24,012	
Public Utilities:				
Fremantle Harbour Trust		7,656		
Railways		116,191		
Tramways		22,307		
Electricity		4,211		
Sundry Increases		347		
			150,712	
				701,702
Add Decreases in Estimated Expenditure, 1942-43—				
Departmental:				
Taxation Department		30,805		
College of Agriculture		7,765		
Child Welfare Department		29,283		
Mines Department		5,347		
Treasury:				
Expenditure owing to War Conditions	13,000			
Royal Mint Grant	8,000			
State Shipping Losses	30,000			
		51,000		
			124,200	
Public Utilities:				
Goldfields Water Supply		18,152		
State Batteries		22,477		
Sundry Decreases		5,684		
			46,313	
				170,513
				873,983
Less Decreases in Estimated Revenue, 1942-43—				
Taxation:				
Stamp Duty		9,082		
Probate Duty		7,559		
Liquor Licenses		6,767		
Sundry Minor Variations		941		
			24,349	
Territorial:				
Mining		11,779		
Timber		13,803		
		24,862		
Less Increase in Land		2,843		
			22,019	
Departmental:				
Treasury:				
Agricultural Bank Interest		31,595		
Sewerage Capitalised Interest		9,240		
W.A. Meat Works Interest (b)		6,216		
Interest on Bank Accounts		5,347		
Metropolitan Traffic Fees		6,198		
State Saw Mills—Revenue Capital		19,328		
		77,924		
Sundry Minor Variations (Net)		208		
			78,132	

CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND—continued.

Departmental—continued.	£	£	£	£
Royal Mint .....	.....	.....	28,291	.....
Trading Concerns—Wyndham Freezing Works .....	.....	.....	16,193	.....
Public Utilities:				
Goldfields Water Supply .....	.....	50,198		
State Batteries .....	.....	14,750		
Metropolitan Water Supply .....	.....	5,628		
Sundry Decreases .....	.....	7,778		
			78,863	247,349
Less Increases in Estimated Expenditure, 1942-43—				
Special Acts:				626,634
Superannuation .....	.....	30,520		
Interest Sinking Fund .....	.....	22,218		
		52,738		
Less Sundry Decreases .....	.....	7,140		
			45,598	
Departmental:				
Treasury:				
Government Printer	6,475			
War Damage Insurance	40,000			
Hospital Fund Allocation (c)	275,750			
Sundry Variations	3,246			
		325,471		
Forestry		25,034		
Public Works Department		24,118		
Education Department		20,103		
Police Department		17,470		
Crown Law Department		6,778		
Sundry Variations		1,753		
			421,329	
Public Utilities:				
Railways		158,516		
Tramways		30,316		
Other Increases		4,685		
			193,517	660,444
ESTIMATED DEFICIT, 1942-43 .....	.....	.....	.....	£33,810

Notes—

(a) This includes an amount of £275,750 payable to the Hospital Fund Trust Account which has been allowed for in the expenditure item in Division 23, page 43, item 44. The Hospital Tax was not previously taken into revenue and transferred as expenditure but was taken direct into the Trust Fund. Actually, revenue will be £63,615 worse off under the new Uniform Tax scheme when compared with 1941-42 year.

(b) Now shown in Trading Concerns from 1st July, 1942. Previously this interest was shown in Treasury revenue.

(c) See Note (a). This item did not previously appear in Revenue Estimates.

INDEX TO RETURNS,

	Return No.
Agricultural Lands Purchase	28
Balance Sheet	1
Commonwealth Grants paid to Trust Funds	36
Consolidated Revenue Fund—	
Expenditure—Statement of	4, 29
Receipts from Commonwealth	36
Revenue and Expenditure, 1941-42, compared with Estimate	2
Revenue—Statement of Receipts	3
Surpluses and Deficiencies for Financial Years 1900-01 to 1941-42	5
Expenditure not subject to Parliamentary Appropriation	31
Forests Improvement and Re-forestation Fund	33
General Loan Fund—	
Loan Assets—Detailed Classification, 1941-42	11
Loan Assets—Summarised Classification, 1941-42	10
Loan Expenditure for 1940-41 compared with previous years	6
Loan Repayments—Receipts and Expenditure	30
Grants from Commonwealth, paid to Trust Funds	36
Hospital Fund	32
Public Debt—	
Contingent Liabilities	7 (e)
Loan Authorisations and Flotations	7 (a)
Loan Indebtedness	7 (b)
Loan Liability—Statement showing amounts maturing each year	8
Net Public Debt per head of population	7 (d)
Sinking Fund	9
Summary of Gross Loan Raisings and Disbursements	7 (c)
Public Utilities—	
Electricity	16
Goldfields Water Supply	18
Metropolitan Water Supply	17
Other Utilities	19
Railways	14
Summary—Year 1941-42	13
Summary—Years 1936-37 to 1941-42	12
Tramways	15
Railways—	
Return relating to	14
Tonnage and Earnings on Goods Carried	38
Road Funds	34
Social Services	37
Taxation—	
Statement of Amount Paid to Consolidated Revenue Fund, Trust Funds, and Special Accounts	35
Trade, Production, Population, etc.	39
Trading Concerns—	
State Brick Works	21
State Hotels	25
State Implement Works	22
State Quarries	23
State Sawmills	26
State Shipping	24
Summary—Years 1935-36 to 1940-41	20
Wyndham Freezing Works	27

[Return No. 1.]

BALANCE SHEET OF THE GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA AT 30th JUNE, 1941, AND 30th JUNE, 1942.

	30th June, 1941.	30th June, 1942.		30th June, 1941.	30th June, 1942.
	£	£		£	£
Public Debt	97,791,724	97,359,245	Invested in Works and Services, etc. Balance—General Loan Fund c/d. ...	96,886,142 905,582	96,374,803 984,382
	97,791,724	97,359,245		97,791,724	97,359,245
Balance General Loan Fund ...	905,582	984,382	Consolidated Revenue Fund ...	5,966,200	5,964,432
Advances to Revenue Fund ...	5,966,200	5,966,200	Advances (under Appropriation "Ad- vance to Treasurer") ...	187,969	458,927
Reserve Accounts	29,229	14,853	Stores on Hand	524,477	678,876
Suspense Accounts ... ..	...	62,421	Suspense Accounts—Expenditure in Suspense	84,288	...
Trading Concerns	117,436	111,856	Trust Fund Investments—		
Trust Funds—			Governmental	1,617,234	1,714,241
Governmental	3,257,944	3,543,801	Private	1,892,516	1,770,422
Private	2,034,812	1,972,198	Banking Account	1,512,235	1,746,189
			Cash in hand, etc.—		
			Banks Current Account ...	105,825	194,337
			Banks in Eastern States ...	44,027	43,653
			In London	3,579	4,766
			In Transitu	314,217	9,582
			In Hand	58,836	70,286
	12,311,203	12,655,711		12,311,203	12,655,711

[15 SEPTEMBER, 1942.]

[Return No. 2.]

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1941-42, COMPARED WITH ESTIMATE.

SUMMARY

	Estimate.	Actual.	Comparison with Estimate.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Revenue	11,527,138	11,940,149	413,011	...
Expenditure	11,725,435	11,938,381	212,946	...
Deficit	198,297	...	...	198,297
Surplus ... ..	...	1,768	...	...
Net Improvement ...			£200,065	

DETAILS.

Revenue.	Estimate.	Actual.	Comparison with Estimate.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Taxation	3,033,790	3,111,250	77,460	...
Territorial	315,250	309,819	...	5,431
Law Courts	82,000	81,812	...	188
Departmental	1,121,546	1,101,813	...	19,733
Royal Mint	60,000	65,291	5,291	...
Commonwealth	1,103,432	1,103,432	...	...
Trading Concerns	116,570	100,281	...	16,289
Public Utilities	5,694,530	6,066,451	371,901	...
Total Revenue	11,527,138	11,940,149	454,652	41,641
Net Increase			£413,011	

Expenditure.	Estimate.	Actual.	Comparison with Estimate.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
SPECIAL ACTS—				
Constitution Act	17,100	16,925	...	175
Interest—Overseas	1,785,364	1,785,363	...	1
Interest—Australia	1,797,592	1,761,262	...	36,330
Sinking Fund	542,000	555,296	13,296	...
Other Special Acts	464,001	464,687	686	...
GOVERNMENTAL—				
Departmental	2,741,142	2,711,007	...	30,135
Exchange	500,000	498,242	...	1,758
Unemployment Relief	6,000	4,633	...	1,367
PUBLIC UTILITIES	3,872,236	4,140,966	268,730	...
Total Expenditure	11,725,435	11,938,381	282,712	69,766
Net Increase			£212,946	

UNFUNDED DEFICIT.

	£
Unfunded Deficit to 30th June, 1941	5,968,200
Surplus for 1941-42 year	1,768
Total Unfunded Deficit to 30th June, 1942 ...	5,964,432

[Return No. 3.]

REVENUE.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS FROM 1933-34 TO 1941-42 AND ESTIMATE FOR 1942-43.

Heads.	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.	1941-42.	Estimate 1942-43.
TAXATION—	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Land Tax	118,973	121,895	117,682	117,249	124,089	115,220	90,880	122,063	136,455	136,000
Income Tax	173,255	235,331	274,704	283,539	582,097	741,178	859,617	1,874,400	2,141,332	...
Financial Emergency Tax	411,716	684,980	827,119	971,372	1,074,561	1,214,695	1,263,700	295,288	43,200	2,546,000
Dividend Duty	190,880	318,058	361,367	427,966	184,026	141,030	150,440	186,570	149,329	...
Totalsator Tax	47,739	53,398	59,892	60,782	57,041	57,146	51,669	48,423	48,045	48,000
Stamp Duty	216,779	259,732	261,192	273,274	290,360	283,921	260,096	245,067	220,082	220,000
Probate Duty	70,154	74,076	112,657	93,320	101,681	123,798	122,023	165,006	182,550	175,000
Entertainment Tax ...	75,262	83,951	89,246	95,232	98,610	103,463	98,722	96,802	98,284	100,000
Licenses	63,061	70,670	81,851	80,841	82,578	83,757	88,993	94,185	82,958	75,750
Other	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	1,368,720	1,902,086	2,185,800	2,403,575	2,594,987	2,864,223	2,996,054	3,127,604	3,111,250	3,300,760
TERRITORIAL AND DE- PARTMENTAL—										
Land	201,856	250,668	206,831	189,111	170,600	138,176	132,757	133,190	127,157	130,000
Mining	27,768	45,049	42,242	41,838	38,884	41,201	39,863	34,559	32,579	20,800
Timber	83,194	110,504	134,318	155,469	165,126	137,395	143,585	151,079	150,083	137,000
Royal Mint	24,952	25,653	28,621	30,750	33,959	34,980	43,274	57,038	65,291	37,000
Departmental Fees, etc.	1,110,820	780,819	838,374	863,670	989,951	892,926	971,047	958,122	1,101,813	1,146,717
Law Courts	49,782	55,590	65,242	75,722	81,957	88,158	84,966	84,704	81,812	82,000
Commonwealth	600,000	600,000	800,000	500,000	575,000	570,000	595,000	650,000	630,000	800,000
Do. Special Grant	...	133,000	35,000	33,000	...	...	...	...	...	...
Do. Interest Contributions	473,432	473,432	473,432	473,432	473,432	473,432	473,432	473,432	473,432	473,432
Total	2,560,819	2,474,735	2,824,060	2,383,001	2,528,909	2,376,263	2,483,924	2,542,124	2,662,167	2,826,949
PUBLIC UTILITIES—										
Native Stations	2,920	3,703	4,785	5,005	4,277	...	...	...	...	...
Bunbury Harbour Board	8,000	8,400	8,500	...	...	...	...	500	11,500	10,000
Fremantle Harbour Trust	216,853	236,686	231,307	238,429	257,413	261,537	242,333	192,160	185,344	193,000
Goldfields Water Supply	174,546	187,940	240,461	286,848	293,873	296,994	310,723	347,748	300,198	250,000
Kalgoorlie Abattoirs Metropolitan Abat- toirs and Sale Yards	5,035	5,926	6,003	6,638	6,496	5,896	6,504	6,092	6,225	5,800
Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewer- age	39,201	42,675	52,260	52,719	52,227	50,615	54,909	61,442	67,370	65,000
Other Hydraulic Undertakings	355,687	364,240	376,608	412,546	439,184	463,762	501,219	527,180	561,628	556,000
Perth City Markets ...	44,898	52,664	61,755	58,147	61,104	54,055	61,308	68,502	78,483	75,000
Railways	1,320	1,118	866	66	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tramways, Perth	2,884,531	3,277,544	3,424,494	3,468,657	3,646,942	3,596,013	3,497,529	3,673,979	3,898,800	4,015,000
Electric	281,063	284,818	287,103	285,797	286,568	302,354	304,856	334,561	402,693	425,000
Electricity Supply ...	295,207	322,074	348,425	364,668	387,037	414,519	425,715	437,988	462,780	467,000
State Ferries	8,603	8,799	8,514	8,455	8,231	8,148	7,762	8,404	9,964	10,000
State Batteries	110,496	116,062	126,298	122,532	125,072	120,095	124,424	110,756	70,759	56,000
Cave Houses, etc.	4,557	5,212	5,670	5,804	6,585	10,372	13,641	13,861	10,689	11,000
Metropolitan Markets	159	37	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	4,433,390	4,913,502	5,183,249	5,316,308	5,574,009	5,579,360	5,550,923	5,663,173	5,066,451	6,138,800
TRADING CONCERNS	98,774	30,107	40,612	102,549	121,137	129,809	89,042	79,167	100,281	128,003
GRAND TOTAL	8,481,697	9,331,430	10,033,721	10,185,433	10,810,042	10,940,660	11,119,943	11,432,068	11,940,140	12,394,502

[Return No. 4.]

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FROM 1933-34 TO 1941-42, AND ESTIMATE FOR 1942-43.

Head.	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.	1941-42.	Estimate 1942-43.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Special Acts ...	3,811,437	3,842,339	3,918,351	3,997,418	4,181,908	4,270,903	4,402,863	4,511,542	4,583,533	4,629,131
Parliamentary ...	12,123	12,279	13,374	14,992	14,544	14,809	14,992	14,882	15,887	16,122
Premier ...	16,542	22,613	20,626	21,901	18,146	19,046	17,718	17,998	16,687	15,608
Governor ...	1,807	1,980	2,339	2,419	2,487	2,474	2,401	2,382	2,437	2,470
London Agency ...	9,225	9,029	10,156	10,160	12,039	12,361	10,478	10,000	10,610	10,192
Public Service Commission	1,246	1,196	1,571	1,520	1,540	1,788	1,675	1,727	957	1,580
Government Motor Cars	3,698	4,357	2,236	3,584	3,507	3,161	3,383	2,024	2,443	2,323
Printing ...	51,513	52,673	53,564	56,905	61,049	69,914	68,356	66,921	67,425	78,900
Tourist and Publicity Bureau	1,646	1,760	2,112	3,752	4,387	6,638	7,144	7,109	3,887	2,348
Literary and Scientific Fisheries	8,690	8,935	11,148	11,101	11,150	11,320	11,150	11,249	11,802	11,550
Superannuation Board	3,554	3,600	4,158	4,583	4,563	6,189	6,189	6,982	7,980	7,580
Treasury ...	20,187	21,738	23,781	26,454	27,211	28,780	29,788	34,205	34,313	30,658
Audit ...	11,039	11,261	12,420	13,333	14,190	15,739	16,416	16,653	16,425	16,250
Workers' Homes Board	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Compassionate Allowances	8,150	5,176	6,711	8,182	7,162	8,992	6,230	2,590	3,386	1,647
Government Stores	11,714	12,357	13,733	14,587	15,643	16,862	17,135	17,769	16,956	17,382
Taxation	32,657	33,640	33,594	33,599	33,860	33,795	33,968	43,730	40,805	10,090
Miscellaneous and Refunds	560,128	569,385	605,939	751,688	778,467	825,650	640,075	777,850	837,157	1,111,428
Lands and Surveys	46,416	48,723	51,094	51,743	52,237	56,785	58,077	56,510	54,202	56,900
Immigration	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Group Settlement	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Farmers' Debts Adjustment and Rural Relief	2,224	2,154	3,944	8,681	7,024	6,057	5,072	3,987	2,989	2,774
Agricultural Bank	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Mines, Explosives, Geological, etc.	109,985	120,665	145,720	144,092	142,504	144,103	139,608	120,847	123,341	117,994
Forests	14,742	18,524	22,289	25,453	27,105	28,474	28,698	29,146	28,466	54,090
Agriculture	66,640	75,535	87,254	100,419	118,174	117,049	112,640	108,885	107,550	100,494
College of Agriculture	66,711	65,767	78,874	74,194	84,683	92,204	91,694	87,588	88,272	95,028
Crown Law & Branches	211,929	219,683	228,394	239,458	243,124	255,378	258,846	269,795	279,743	297,213
Police	50,668	49,206	87,827	103,335	93,682	100,757	98,416	90,453	98,602	122,720
Factories	3,979	4,344	4,806	5,250	5,570	6,765	7,402	7,308	7,824	7,600
Arbitration Court	(a) 3,479	4,777	4,148	6,523	7,688	6,477	5,782	5,593	5,277	5,375
State Insurance	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Town Planning	931	930	1,374	1,414	1,478	1,653	1,725	1,670	1,787	1,713
Office of Chief Secretary	23,274	24,845	26,634	28,610	28,794	31,339	33,705	35,157	37,440	40,768
Natives	11,330	12,608	14,083	20,008	25,202	39,000	44,644	44,900	44,000	42,200
Prisons	25,709	25,520	26,674	28,084	28,015	29,513	29,940	32,870	32,373	36,240
Harbour and Light and Jetties	19,375	19,830	22,957	24,140	27,240	28,743	28,411	28,135	20,513	30,270
Mental Hospitals	93,933	98,218	101,248	107,269	112,004	120,453	124,490	128,423	134,578	135,550
Child Welfare	128,863	125,957	118,502	116,338	120,957	126,309	133,081	132,145	108,893	79,550
Labour	...	...	891	908	913	1,118	1,428	1,538	1,506	1,218
Unemployment Relief	244,457	92,445	68,605	69,578	69,826	64,183	73,132	41,353	13,355	8,600
State Labour Bureau	7,715	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Department of Industrial Development	1,202	1,559	1,572	2,235	1,884	2,518	3,891	3,639	8,176	5,007
Medical and Health	69,419	64,560	69,095	83,112	78,194	80,090	83,287	81,986	83,278	84,768
Education	578,298	612,703	665,284	715,957	756,917	757,051	772,656	784,009	831,095	851,200
North-West	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	143	86	200
Total, Departmental...	2,524,391	2,460,818	2,648,836	2,935,670	3,023,170	2,970,790	3,032,089	3,142,615	3,213,882	3,511,911
PUBLIC UTILITIES.										
Native Stations	4,751	5,190	6,902	6,599	6,777	...	...	...	...	...
Goldfields Water Supply	113,258	128,589	114,411	120,334	125,155	135,389	130,055	136,753	145,022	126,870
Kalgoorlie Abattoirs	2,900	2,990	3,584	4,802	4,559	4,029	4,531	4,738	4,551	4,500
Metropolitan Abattoirs	26,952	27,586	30,231	33,550	30,830	33,912	34,480	35,172	40,975	38,338
Metropolitan Water Supply	96,802	97,133	99,202	101,357	97,088	101,990	105,268	106,665	138,205	136,400
Other Hydraulic Undertakings	29,953	47,095	51,092	60,142	61,090	68,685	64,980	63,316	61,093	62,855
Perth City Markets	500	720	675	110	...	...	...	...	...	...
Railways	2,156,664	2,343,550	2,493,412	2,691,698	2,669,131	2,902,677	2,800,850	2,733,203	2,998,484	3,157,000
Tramways	205,069	199,672	204,392	205,646	211,013	247,071	249,438	255,506	290,684	330,000
Electricity Supply	192,804	220,079	241,653	270,384	290,879	312,719	307,695	304,023	344,577	347,500
State Ferries	7,823	7,993	7,996	8,083	8,452	8,380	8,506	8,157	8,650	8,400
State Batteries	91,733	103,739	113,643	113,100	112,225	118,806	112,918	108,416	98,350	65,882
Cave House	5,627	5,636	5,760	7,786	7,458	6,751	11,925	12,261	11,360	10,395
Total Public Utilities	2,934,781	3,195,368	3,378,156	3,623,550	3,624,657	3,928,409	3,830,918	3,766,800	4,140,060	4,288,170
GRAND TOTAL ...	9,270,699	9,498,525	9,945,343	10,556,633	10,829,735	11,170,102	11,267,768	11,420,957	11,938,381	12,428,312

(a) Previously under Crown Law.

Return No. 5.]

STATEMENT SHOWING ANNUAL SURPLUSES AND DEFICIENCIES OF CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND,
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEARS 1900-01 TO 1941-42.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Annual.	
			Surplus.	Deficiency.
	£	£	£	£
1900-01	3,078,033	3,165,244	...	87,211
1901-02	3,688,049	3,490,026	198,023	...
1902-03	3,630,238	3,521,763	108,475	...
1903-04	3,550,016	3,698,311	...	148,295
1904-05	3,815,340	3,745,225	...	129,885
1905-06	3,558,939	3,632,318	...	73,379
1906-07	3,401,354	3,490,183	...	88,829
1907-08	3,378,641	3,378,006	...	2,365
1908-09	3,267,014	3,368,651	...	101,537
1909-1910	3,657,670	3,447,731	209,939	...
1910-1911	3,850,439	3,734,448	115,991	...
1911-1912	3,966,673	4,101,082	...	134,409
1912-1913	4,596,659	4,787,084	...	190,405
1913-1914	5,205,343	5,340,754	...	135,411
1914-1915	5,140,725	5,706,541	...	565,816
1915-1916	5,358,978	5,705,201	...	346,223
1916-1917	4,577,007	5,276,764	...	699,757
1917-1918	4,622,536	5,328,279	...	705,743
1918-1919	4,944,851	5,596,866	...	652,015
1919-1920	5,863,601	6,531,725	...	668,225
1920-1921	6,789,666	7,476,291	...	686,725
1921-1922	6,907,107	7,639,242	...	732,135
1922-1923	7,207,492	7,612,856	...	405,364
1923-1924	7,865,595	8,094,753	...	229,158
1924-1925	8,381,446	8,439,844	...	58,398
1925-1926	8,808,166	8,907,309	...	99,143
1926-1927	9,750,833	9,722,688	28,245	...
1927-1928	9,807,949	9,834,415	...	26,466
1928-1929	9,947,951	10,223,919	...	275,968
1929-1930	9,750,516	10,268,519	...	518,004
1930-1931	8,686,758	10,107,295	...	1,420,539
1931-1932	8,035,316	9,593,212	...	1,557,896
1932-1933	8,332,153	9,196,234	...	864,081
1933-1934	8,481,697	9,270,609	...	788,912
1934-1935	9,331,430	9,498,525	...	167,095
1935-1936	10,033,721	9,945,343	88,378	...
1936-1937	10,185,433	10,556,638	...	371,205
1937-1938	10,819,042	10,829,735	...	10,693
1938-1939	10,949,660	11,170,102	...	220,442
1939-1940	11,119,943	11,266,768	...	146,825
1940-1941	11,432,068	11,420,957	11,111	...
1941-1942	11,940,149	11,938,381	1,768	...

LOAN EXPENDITURE FOR 1941-42 COMPARED WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.

(EXCLUSIVE OF LOAN SUSPENSE EXPENDITURE)

Undertakings.	1941-42.	1940-41.	1939-40.	1938-39.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.	1934-35.	1933-34.	1932-33.	1931-32.	1930-31.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways, including Land Resumptions	29,899	102,476	102,163	198,065	349,393	178,882	116,240	295,076	316,124	180,587	187,168	454,395
Tramways—Perth Electric	26,867	9,109	125	8,042	8,512	35,591	...	...	11,290	5,801	...	9,580
Electric Power Station	22,578	15,125	1,097	17,919	39,977	109,337	291,165	203,268	2,069	918	3,681	11,289
Fremantle Harbour Works	97,168	51,853	15,845	34,003	31,691	78,781	100,058	98,688	91,975	169,616	37,694	69,396
Harbours and Rivers generally	3,251	24,518	36,081	57,089	70,240	108,065	200,049	206,830	144,169	78,302	89,332	63,810
Sewerage—Perth and Fremantle	71,112	115,438	242,105	361,400	253,490	361,334	455,901	330,199	177,673	125,055	90,669	42,102
Water Supplies a	270,451	754,457	611,559	584,132	708,742	831,638	816,339	784,605	656,072	656,640	437,315	197,238
Development of Goldfields b	17,790	43,453	55,806	42,015	29,071	20,550	27,187	59,682	74,166	30,041	27,932	29,077
Development of Agriculture	91,814	165,737	205,611	179,462	154,653	187,711	217,544	341,850	366,116	287,150	125,004	61,490
Assistance to Settlers, Industries, etc.	8,429	12,895	9,198	442	5,471	8,870	9,239	6,921	113,585	94,679	79,516	235,580
Agricultural Group Settlement	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,518	26,075	115,904	79,646	67,518	215,298
Land Settlement for Soldiers	8	...	417	540	87	434	427	331	1,199	403	12,284	39,369
College of Agriculture	775	1,116	443	879	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Immigration	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	132	...	500	1,063
Agricultural Bank—Working Capital	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60,000	325,000	303,237	317,460	298,734
Steamships	...	417	3,000	15,023	215,325	53,385	...	...	...	...	...	...
Workers' Homes—Working Capital	...	10,000	10,000	...	25,000	35,000	...	35,000	35,000	35,000	...	...
State Hotels	147	20,702	9,173	4,999	18,922	4,647	8,000	...	519	...	413	...
Ferries	2,848	1,648	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
State Engineering Works	39,429	7,571	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Public Buildings	35,289	57,231	103,586	114,954	91,720	89,182	84,454	100,418	98,020	94,634	...	...
Hospital Buildings and Equipment, including Grants	59,291	300,000	3,194	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Roads and Bridges	...	41,734	325,000	65,000	180,038	83,294	182,902	213,804	124,047	89,004	...	...
Sundries	613	5,000	9,416	9,000	...	5,448	593	d 25,103	c 412	1	b 2,244	a 5,072
Bulk Handling of Wheat	...	5,204	4,478	7,049	62,493	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Boys' Quarries	...	...	2,645	1,588	609	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Native Stations, Hospitals, etc.	11,207	14,000	8,294	5,500	5,508	470	421	337	...	...	...	...
Discount and Flotation Expenses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	78,007	...	...
Totals	791,851	1,780,366	1,769,174	1,698,111	2,315,004	2,193,117	2,404,167	2,784,185	2,664,022	2,217,982	1,380,225	1,759,263
Less Expenditure from Loan Repayments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Receipts	89,867	140,203	101,086	158,105	154,825	78,376	74,791	97,064	216,740	249,275	171,800	...
Net Expenditure from Loan Raisings	702,084	1,620,163	1,668,088	1,645,006	2,160,179	2,114,741	2,389,376	2,687,121	2,448,282	1,968,707	1,208,425	1,759,263

Includes Loans to Local Authorities for erection of Country Hospitals, etc., a £3,019; b £1,442; c £400; d £103.

a Including Goldfields Districts.

b Excluding Water Supplies.

[Return No. 7.]

PUBLIC DEBT.

(a) LOAN AUTHORISATIONS AND FLOTATIONS.

	£	£	£
Authorisations to 30th June, 1941 ... ..	...	118,625,858	
Authorisations, 1941-42 ... ..	...	922,967	
		<u>119,548,825</u>	
Flotations—			
Inscribed Stock, Debentures, Treasury Bonds, etc., issued in Australia and Overseas—Net proceeds:—			
For Works and Services... ..	98,712,168		
For Funding Deficits	6,140,087		
	<u>104,852,255</u>		
Discounts and Flotation Expenses (including Cost of Conversion Loans), net:—			
On Works Loans... ..	3,898,673		
On Deficit Loans... ..	198,807		
	<u>4,097,480</u>		
		108,949,735	
Short Term Debt current at 30th June, 1942—			
London	2,998,014		
Australia	6,305,000		
	<u>9,303,014</u>		
Total Flotations ... ..	...	118,252,749	
Balance available for Flotation ... ..	...	* £1,296,076	

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

(b) LOAN INDEBTEDNESS.

	£	£
Total Amount raised to 30th June, 1941 ... ..	...	117,618,509
Flotations during the year—		
Counter Sales	34,240	
Instalment Stock	600,000	
	<u>634,240</u>	
		118,252,749
Redemptions—		
Total to 30th June, 1941	19,826,785	
During the year:		
National Debt Commission:		
	£	
Securities repurchased	353,060	
Instalment Stock redeemed (Australia)	13,491	
Do. do. do. (London)	26,013	
Inscribed Stock redeemed at maturity	674,155	
	<u>1,066,719</u>	
		20,893,504
Gross Public Debt at 30th June, 1942... ..	...	97,359,245
Sinking Fund ... ..	...	267,426
Net Public Debt at 30th June, 1942 ... ..	...	<u>£97,081,819</u>

[Return No. 7—continued.]

(c) SUMMARY OF GROSS LOAN RAISINGS AND DISBURSEMENTS.

<i>Raisings.</i>		<i>Disbursements.</i>	
	£		£
Total Flotations, as per Return		Discounts and Expenses—	
7 (b)—		To 30th June, 1941 (Net) ...	3,890,088
To 30th June, 1941 ...	117,618,509	During Year 1941-42 ...	8,585
During Year 1941-42 ...	634,240	Redemption of Agricultural	
		Bank Mortgage Bonds ...	1,566,000
Receipts from Loan Repayments—		Deficits Funded (including Dis-	
To 30th June, 1941 ...	1,850,639	count and Expenses) ...	6,338,894
During Year 1941-42 ...	171,232	Advances to meet Expenditure	
		pending receipt of Revenue ...	5,966,200
		Expenditure on Works and Ser-	
		vices ...	101,383,410
		Loan Suspense Expenditure ...	137,061
		Balance of General Loan Fund	994,382
	120,274,620		120,274,620

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

Year.			Debt per Head.			Year.			Debt per Head.		
			£	s.	d.				£	s.	d.
1942 ...	...	...	*206	9	0	1929 ...	...	...	182	6	9
1941 ...	...	...	207	7	4	1928 ...	...	...	165	10	7
1940 ...	...	...	205	0	8	1927 ...	...	...	157	14	4
1939 ...	...	...	204	7	1	1926 ...	...	...	155	14	8
1938 ...	...	...	202	19	8	1925 ...	...	...	146	3	11
1937 ...	...	...	201	15	2	1924 ...	...	...	146	13	6
1936 ...	...	...	199	7	10	1923 ...	...	...	142	9	6
1935 ...	...	...	197	11	11	1922 ...	...	...	137	1	0
1934 ...	...	...	193	7	6	1921 ...	...	...	†124	15	11
1933 ...	...	...	187	4	8	1920 ...	...	...	119	7	3
1932 ...	...	...	180	3	8	1919 ...	...	...	116	7	0
1931 ...	...	...	174	2	6	1918 ...	...	...	118	0	8
1930 ...	...	...	163	9	9	1917 ...	...	...	116	5	5

* Calculated on population at 31st March, 1942—latest date for which figures are available.

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

(e) CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AT 30TH JUNE, 1942.

	Securities Issued.	Re- deemed.	In Circu- lation.	Funds Invested.
Finance and Development Board Act ...	700,000	306,974	393,026	...
Metropolitan Market Act ...	19,000	632	18,368	...
Workers' Homes Act ...	189,000	5,635	183,365	...
Agricultural Lands Purchase Act ...	587,471	351,579	235,892	118,616
	1,495,471	664,820	830,651	118,616
Bank Guarantees in force ...			158,480	
Metropolitan Water Supply Act *			87,932	
Land Drainage Act *			815	
Total, Contingent Liabilities ...			1,077,878	

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

[Return No. 8.]

LOAN LIABILITY—STATEMENT SHOWING AMOUNTS MATURING EACH YEAR.

Earliest Date of Maturity.	Latest Date of Maturity.	Interest Rate.	Repayable in—		
			London.	New York.	Australia.
		%	£	£	£
...	1942	1½	...	...	*6,305,000
...	1942	2½	*2,998,014	...	...
...	1942	3½	...	...	287,000
...	1942	3½	...	...	3,061,750
...	1942	4-2025	...	...	61,691
1941	1943	2½	3,228,661	...	...
...	1943	3½	...	...	1,831,820
...	1943	3½	...	...	277,930
...	1943	4-2025	...	...	1,100
...	1943	4-65	...	...	755,000
...	1943	3½	...	...	287,000
...	1944	3	...	...	72,500
...	1944	3½	...	...	286,000
...	1944	4	...	...	1,607,494
...	1945	2½	...	...	215,090
...	1945	3½	...	...	463,000
1945	1946	2½	...	...	247,233
...	1946	2½	...	...	286,000
1927	1947	3½	1,417,801	...	...
1946	1947	2½	...	...	3,000
...	1947	3½	...	...	32,630
...	1947	4	...	...	1,274,724
...	1947	5-0375	...	...	250,000
...	1948	3	...	...	1,443,925
...	1948	3½	...	...	1,147,070
...	1948	3-4875	...	...	281,055
...	1948	3½	144,508	...	...
...	1948	3½	...	...	1,461,380
1943	1948	4	2,716,302	...	...
...	1949	3½	...	...	1,304,220
...	1949	3½	...	...	1,741,310
...	1950	4	...	...	1,341,198
...	1951	3½	...	...	3,952,210
1948	1953	3½	864,393	...	...
...	1953	4	...	...	1,238,774
1952	1954	3½	...	...	587,800
...	1954	3½	...	...	3,167,950
1935	1955	3½	3,204,904	...	...
...	1955	4	...	...	1,239,763
1953	1955	3½	...	...	2,467,805
1952	1955	5	...	1,498,444	...
1950	1956	3½	...	...	1,449,260
1950	1956	3½	...	...	476,000
1950	1957	3½	...	...	2,854,281
...	1957	3	...	...	148,140
...	1957	4	...	...	1,174,159
1947	1957	5	...	516,992	...
1950	1958	3½	...	...	13,390
...	1958	3	...	...	170,158
...	1959	3	...	...	366,720
...	1959	4	...	...	1,167,005
...	1960	3	...	...	448,316
1940	1960	3½	877,408	...	...
1956	1961	3½	1,739,527	...	...
...	1961	4	...	...	1,216,546
...	1961	3	...	...	308,286
...	1962	3	...	...	182,531
1942	1962	4	4,866,583	...	...
...	1963	3	...	...	192,412
...	1964	3-1	...	...	1,566,000
...	1964	3	...	...	155,878
...	1965	3	...	...	31,673
...	1966	3	...	...	449,872
...	1967	3	...	...	140,000
1964	1974	3½	8,829,191	...	...
1946	1975	5	12,976,462	...	...
Average Rate 3-622%			43,863,754	2,016,436	51,480,055
			£97,359,245		

* Floating Debt.

[Return No. 9.]

SINKING FUND.

TRANSACTIONS DURING THE YEAR 1941-42.

Receipts:	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balances brought forward, 1st July, 1941—						
National Debt Commission				573,576	1	2
Contributions:						
State—						
5s. per cent. on loan liability	257,400	3	7			
4½ per cent. on cancelled securities	277,186	2	4			
3 per cent. under Federal Aid Roads Act	17,023	6	11			
Special contribution on account loan for purchase of M.V. "Koolama"	20,690	10	10			
Exchange on contribution re M.V. "Koolama"	5,250	4	6			
Commonwealth—						
5s. and 2s. 6d. per cent. on loan liability	181,808	6	9			
Net earnings on investments	7,200	8	9			
				767,183	18	8
				1,840,759	19	10
Disbursements:						
Redemptions and Repurchases, etc., at net Cost (including Exchange)				1,073,333	19	11
Balance, Sinking Fund, 30th June, 1942				267,425	10	11
				1,840,759	19	10

TRANSACTIONS FROM 1ST JULY, 1927, TO 30TH JUNE, 1942.

Receipts:	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balances brought forward—						
1st July, 1927—Endowment Policy (M.V. "Kangaroo"), Premiums paid	57,607	10	0			
1st July, 1929—Crown Agents	897,347	0	10			
				955,044	10	10
Contributions:						
On account M.V. "Kangaroo"	47,250	0	0			
On account, Crown Agents	40,312	13	5			
State—						
5s. per cent. on loan liability	3,213,850	15	1			
4½ per cent. on cancelled securities	1,647,113	15	4			
3 per cent. under Federal Aid Roads Act	257,006	10	6			
Special contribution on account loan for purchase of M.V. "Koolama"	93,107	8	9			
Exchange on contribution re M.V. "Koolama"	23,626	0	3			
Commonwealth—						
5s. and 2s. 6d. per cent. on Loan Liability	2,071,755	12	7			
Net earnings on investments	372,340	8	5			
Accretions to Endowment Policy at maturity	35,052	10	0			
Exchange on remittances	20,504	6	1	7,831,620	0	5
				8,786,664	11	3
Disbursements						
Redemptions and Repurchases, etc.	7,293,070	3	6			
Contributions refunded to the State	630	17	11			
Contributions to Crown Agents	39,934	2	8			
Premiums on Policy account M.V. "Kangaroo"	47,250	0	0			
Repayment of 1934 Loan	998,353	7	3			
Repayment of 1936 Loan	140,000	0	0			
				8,519,238	11	4
Balance, 30th June, 1942.—						
National Debt Commission				267,425	19	11
				8,786,664	11	3

Return No. 10.]

SUMMARISED CLASSIFICATION OF LOAN ASSETS, 1941-42. (a)

Undertaking.*	Loan Liability. (b)	Capital Charges (c).			Net Earnings.	Surplus.	De- ficiency.
		Interest.	Sinking Fund.	Exchange.			
FULLY REPRODUCTIVE.							
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Electricity Supply	1,064,756	74,488	10,719	10,174	118,212	22,831	
State Saw Mills	268,110	10,165	1,480	1,388	69,042	56,009	
State Hotels	85,600	3,160	467	433	4,419	350	
Metropolitan Markets	154,464	5,856	853	800	9,132	1,623	
Abattoirs, Sale Yards, Grain Sheds, and Cold Stores	314,620	11,028	1,723	1,629	28,345	13,065	
Workers' Homes Board	721,142	27,340	3,979	3,734	40,837	5,784	
Stock Suspense	24,027	911	132	124	3,325	2,156	
Tramways	1,278,624	48,286	6,835	6,566	103,008	41,291	
Small Loans Scheme	18,282	693	117	95	917	12	
State Ferries	7,904	300	30	40	1,808	938	
State Quarries	39,931	1,514	219	207	3,000	1,060	
	4,870,460	184,650	26,554	25,220	381,545	145,121	

PARTIALLY PRODUCTIVE.

Railways (e)	26,668,828	1,011,069	146,238	138,104	898,325		387,086
Harbours and Rivers (d)	6,497,178	246,321	35,480	33,646	192,911		122,536
Water Supply, Sewerage, and Drainage	17,024,596	645,437	92,020	88,162	623,667		201,952
Wyndham Meat Works	1,072,380	40,656	5,886	5,553	16,000		36,095
Loans to Public Bodies	70,500	2,676	373	366	3,233		182
Mining Generally	843,848	31,992	4,564	4,370	235		40,691
Roads and Bridges	3,443,985	130,568	18,005	17,835	7,398		159,912
Plant Suspense	154,401	5,854	848	800	2,435		5,067
Pine Planting and Reforestation	986,097	37,385	5,157	5,107	45,053		2,596
Assistance to Industries	444,645	16,857	2,430	2,303	8,009		14,681
Agricultural Bank (f)	8,729,558	330,955	48,145	45,206	249,810		174,496
Soldiers' Land Settlement (g)	2,059,984	78,098	11,308	10,668	15,339		84,735
Group Settlement	4,280,310	162,616	23,558	22,212	32,110		176,276
Agriculture Generally	3,349,847	127,000	18,230	17,348	11,300		151,278
Bulk Handling of Wheat—Bunbury	71,208	2,700	891	369	650		2,810
State Engineering Works	168,554	6,390	777	873	110		7,930
State Brickworks	52,231	1,980	287	270	2,000		537
	75,927,240	2,878,554	414,507	393,192	2,107,483		1,578,860

TOTALLY UNPRODUCTIVE.

State Shipping Service	631,751	23,951	22,699	8,521			55,171
Miscellaneous	198,874	7,540	792	1,031	Dr. 1,896		11,259
Rabbit-proof Fence	334,548	12,683	1,836	1,732	Dr. 6,179		22,430
Public Buildings, including Schools, Police Stations, Gaols, Court Houses, Hospitals, and Institutions	4,117,136	156,088	22,362	21,320	Dr. 6,093		205,863
Campan Alumite Deposits	8,386	318		43			361
West Australian Meat Exports	74,064	2,808		384			3,192
Aborigines, Stations, etc.	94,144	3,569	454	487	Dr. 2,294		6,804
State Batteries	421,150	15,967	2,310	2,181	Dr. 17,600		38,058
Tourist Resorts	75,314	2,855	413	390	Dr. 671		4,329
	5,955,367	225,779	50,866	36,089	Dr. 34,733		347,467

SUMMARY.

Fully Reproductive	4,870,460	184,650	26,554	25,220	381,545	145,121	
Partially Reproductive	75,927,240	2,878,554	414,597	393,192	2,107,483		1,578,860
Totally Unproductive	5,955,367	225,779	50,866	36,089	Dr. 34,733		347,467
Capital Adjustments and Unallocated Costs of Raisings	3,655,596	138,592	25,559	18,929			183,080
Advances to C.R. Fund	5,066,200	89,493	32,749				122,242
Balance of General Loan Fund	984,382	20,557	4,071	3,345			37,873
	97,359,245	3,546,025	555,296	476,773	2,454,295	145,121	2,269,522

Public Debt, 30th June, 1942 £97,359,245

NET DEFICIENCY—£2,124,401

* For details see Return No. 11.

(a) This statement distributes the net cost of loan charges for the year over the various assets. (b) Total expenditure from loan funds (including proportionate cost of raising), after allowing for sinking fund redemptions and other adjustments. (c) Actual expenditure averaged over all assets. (d) To this should be added £571,846 included in Railway Capital. (e) Includes £371,346 being part of Capital Expenditure on Harbours and Jetties controlled by Railway Department. (f) Includes £3,550,299 in respect of advances to settlers under Soldiers' Land Settlement Scheme. (g) Represents expenditure by F.W.D. on roads, bridges and drainage, and by Lands Department on repurchased estates.

[Return No. 11]

DETAILED CLASSIFICATION OF LOAN ASSETS 1941-42*

Undertaking.	Loan Liability.	Capital Charges. (a)			Net Earnings.	Surplus.	De-ficiency.
		Interest.	Sinking Fund.	Ex-change.			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways (b)	26,668,828	1,011,069	146,238	138,104	898,325	...	397,086
Tramways	1,273,624	48,286	6,835	6,590	103,008	41,291	...
Electricity Supply ...	1,964,756	74,488	10,719	10,174	118,212	22,831	...
	29,907,208	1,133,843	163,792	154,874	1,119,545	...	332,964
<i>Harbours and Rivers.</i>							
Fremantle (c)	3,517,806	133,368	18,898	18,217	193,103	22,620	...
Bunbury (c)	690,607	26,182	3,791	3,576	11,223	...	22,326
Geraldton (d)	699,305	26,512	3,839	3,621	Dr. 415	...	34,387
Albany (d)	153,292	5,812	841	794	Dr. 907	...	8,354
Esperance (d)	15,951	605	88	83	Dr. 42	...	818
Busselton (d)	20,351	772	112	105	...	...	989
North-West Ports (d) ...	576,475	21,855	3,154	2,985	Dr. 5,979	...	33,973
Swan River	445,677	16,897	2,446	2,308	351	...	21,300
Dredges, Steamers and Plant	231,988	8,795	1,517	1,201	Dr. 603	...	12,116
Other Jetties and Works	145,727	5,524	794	755	Dr. 3,820	...	10,893
(d)	6,497,178	246,321	35,480	33,646	192,911	...	122,536
<i>Water Supplies.</i>							
Metropolitan	8,136,927	308,488	44,479	42,137	437,663	42,559	...
Goldfields Water Scheme	3,024,197	114,653	16,163	15,661	163,249	16,772	...
Country Towns	1,075,725	40,783	5,822	5,571	24,318	...	27,858
Country Areas... ..	1,140,191	43,227	6,220	5,905	3,042	...	52,310
Goldfields Areas	950,422	36,260	5,247	4,953	1,518	...	44,942
Irrigation and Drainage.	2,516,357	95,400	13,130	13,030	Dr. 5,811	...	127,371
Other Works	174,777	6,626	959	905	Dr. 312	...	8,802
	17,024,596	645,437	92,020	88,162	623,667	...	201,952
<i>Trading Concerns.</i>							
Wyndham Meatworks...	1,072,380	40,656	5,886	5,553	16,000	...	36,095
Quarries	39,931	1,514	210	207	3,000	1,060	...
Brickworks	52,231	1,980	287	270	2,000	...	537
Engineering Works ...	168,554	6,390	777	873	110	...	7,930
Saw Mills	268,110	10,165	1,480	1,388	69,042	56,009	...
Shipping Service	631,751	23,951	22,699	8,521	...	...	55,171
Hotels	83,600	3,169	467	433	4,419	350	...
West Australian Meat Export	74,064	2,808	...	384	...	...	3,192
	2,390,621	90,633	31,815	17,629	94,571	...	45,506
<i>Development of Agriculture.</i>							
Agricultural Bank (e)...	8,729,558	330,955	48,145	45,206	249,810	...	174,496
Soldiers' Land Settlement (f)	2,059,984	78,098	11,308	10,668	15,339	...	84,735
Group Settlement	4,289,310	162,616	23,558	22,212	32,110	...	176,276
Rabbit-proof Fence ...	334,548	12,683	1,836	1,732	Dr. 6,179	...	22,430
Generally	3,349,847	127,000	18,230	17,348	11,300	...	151,278
	18,763,247	711,352	103,077	97,166	302,380	...	609,215

* See footnote (a) on Return No 10.

[Return No. 11—continued.]

DETAILED CLASSIFICATION OF LOAN ASSETS 1941-42—continued.

Undertaking.	Loan Liability.	Capital Charges. (a)			Net Earnings.	Surplus.	Deficiency.
		Interest.	Sinking Fund.	Ex-change.			
<i>Abattoirs, Slaughterhouses, etc.</i>	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Metropolitan Abattoirs	222,272	8,426	1,216	1,151	26,396	15,603	
Kalgoorlie Abattoirs ...	25,613	971	141	133	1,674	429	
Generally ...	66,735	2,531	366	345	275	...	2,967
	314,620	11,928	1,723	1,629	28,345	13,065	
<i>Development of Mining.</i>							
State Batteries ...	421,150	15,967	2,310	2,181	Dr. 17,600	...	38,058
Generally ...	843,848	31,992	4,564	4,370	235	...	40,691
	1,264,998	47,959	6,874	6,551	Dr. 17,365	...	78,749
<i>Public Buildings.</i>							
Education (including Narrogin School of Agriculture and Muresk College of Agriculture) ...	1,647,449	62,458	8,922	8,531	Dr. 16,191	...	96,102
Police Stations, Quarters, etc. ...	171,132	6,488	936	886	Dr. 2,749	...	11,059
Court Houses, Quarters, etc. ...	44,276	1,679	242	229	Dr. 48	...	2,198
Gaols ...	55,180	2,092	299	286	Dr. 2,339	...	5,016
Hospitals ...	1,062,287	40,272	5,811	5,501	17,052	...	34,532
Institutions ...	626,903	23,767	3,403	3,246	2,818	...	27,598
Buildings generally ...	509,909	19,332	2,749	2,641	Dr. 4,636	...	29,358
	4,117,136	156,088	22,362	21,320	Dr. 6,093	...	205,863
<i>All Other.</i>							
Aborigines Stations ...	94,144	3,569	454	487	Dr. 2,294	...	6,804
Assistance to Industries	444,645	16,857	2,430	2,303	6,909	...	14,681
Bulk Handling, Bunbury	71,208	2,700	391	369	650	...	2,810
Ferries ...	7,904	300	30	40	1,308	938	
Loans to Public Bodies	70,590	2,676	373	366	3,233	...	182
Metropolitan Markets...	154,464	5,856	853	800	9,132	1,623	
Miscellaneous ...	198,874	7,540	792	1,031	Dr. 1,896	...	11,259
Pine Planting and Re-forestation ...	986,097	37,385	5,157	5,107	45,053	...	2,596
Plant Suspense ...	154,401	5,854	848	800	2,435	...	5,067
Roads and Bridges ...	3,443,985	130,568	18,905	17,835	7,396	...	159,912
Small Loans Scheme—Workers' Homes Board ...	18,282	693	117	95	917	12	
Stock Suspense ...	24,027	911	132	124	3,325	2,158	
Tourist Resorts ...	75,314	2,855	413	390	Dr. 671	...	4,329
Workers' Homes Board	721,142	27,340	3,979	3,734	40,837	5,784	
Campion Alunite Deposits ...	8,386	318	...	43	...	...	361
Capital Adjustments and Unallocated Costs of Raisings ...	3,655,596	138,592	25,559	18,929	...	...	183,080
Advances to C.R. Fund	5,966,200	89,493	32,749	...	...	...	122,242
Balance of General Loan Fund ...	984,382	29,557	4,971	3,345	...	...	37,873
	17,079,641	503,064	98,153	55,798	116,334	...	540,320
TOTAL ...	...	3,546,625	555,296	476,775	2,454,295	145,121	2,269,522
					Net Deficiency ...	£2,124,401	
Public Debt, 30th June, 1942 ...	97,359,245						

(a) Actual Expenditure averaged over all assets.

(b) Includes £571,709 being part of Capital Expenditure on Harbours and Jetties controlled by Railway Dept.

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

(d) To this should be added £571,709 included in Railway Capital in respect of the following Harbours and Jetties—Albany, £119,077; Busselton, £34,794; Geraldton, £330,471; Esperance, £83,225; Port Hedland, £24,142.

(e) Includes £3,551,535 in respect of advances to settlers under Soldiers' Land Settlement Scheme.

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

In Returns 12-19 the average cost of servicing the Public Debt has been applied. The Returns do not show the same result as disclosed in the Commercial Accounts of the Utilities.

[Return No. 12.]

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES.

Year.	Capital.	Working Expenses.	Interest, Sinking Fund and Exchange.	Total Annual Cost.	Gross Revenue.	Surplus.	Deficiency.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1936-37	43,663,984	3,590,309	1,054,297	5,544,096	5,333,103	....	211,593
1937-38	45,045,476	3,594,399	2,072,407	5,666,866	5,593,320	....	73,546
1938-39	46,028,171	3,900,517	2,141,120	6,041,037	5,611,081	....	429,656
1939-40	46,424,972	3,706,428	2,208,074	6,004,502	5,572,612	....	431,890
1940-41	47,044,756	3,734,331	2,224,932	5,959,263	5,701,213	....	258,050
1941-42	46,699,167	4,107,754	2,267,125	6,374,879	6,070,262	....	304,617

[Return No. 13.]

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES FOR YEAR 1941-42.

Utilities.	Loan Capital.	Working Expenses.	Interest, Sinking Fund and Exchange.	Total Annual Cost.	Gross Revenue.	Surplus.	Deficiency
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways	26,668,828	3,000,484	1,295,411	4,295,895	3,898,809	....	397,086
Tramways	1,273,624	209,684	61,717	361,401	402,692	41,291	....
Electricity	1,064,750	344,677	95,381	439,058	462,789	22,831	....
Metropolitan Water Supply	8,136,927	138,205	395,104	533,309	575,868	42,509	....
Goldfields Water Supply	3,024,197	145,022	146,477	291,499	308,272	16,773	....
All other	5,630,835	179,782	273,035	452,817	421,832	....	30,935
Totals	46,699,167	4,107,754	2,267,125	6,374,879	6,070,262	123,454	428,071
NET DEFICIENCY ....	....	....	....	....	....	£304,617	

(a) Includes Revenue Capital £633,808.

[Return No. 14.]

RETURN RELATING TO RAILWAYS.

	1941-42.	1940-41.	1939-40.	1938-39.	1937-38.
	miles.	miles.	miles.	miles.	miles.
Number of Miles Open	4,381	4,381	4,381	4,378	4,376
	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital	26,668,828	26,641,437	26,545,146	26,442,349	26,251,503
Revenue Capital	633,808	633,808	633,338	633,338	640,020
Total	27,302,636	27,275,245	27,178,484	27,075,687	26,891,523
Working Expenses	3,000,484	2,735,203	2,802,850	2,904,677	2,671,131
Interest, Sinking Fund, and Exchange	1,295,411	1,279,756	1,280,048	1,249,042	1,227,178
Total Annual Cost	4,295,895	4,014,959	4,083,498	4,153,719	3,898,309
Gross Revenue	3,898,809	3,573,979	3,497,529	3,586,013	3,645,942
Deficiency	397,086	440,980	585,969	567,706	252,367

[Return No. 15.]

RETURN RELATING TO TRAMWAYS.

	1941-42.	1940-41.	1939-40.	1938-39.	1937-38.
	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital	1,273,624	1,245,207	1,236,471	1,236,503	1,228,675
Working Expenses	299,684	258,713	254,837	251,571	218,013
Interest, Sinking Fund, and Exchange	61,717	59,793	59,678	58,413	57,127
Total Annual Cost	361,401	318,506	314,515	309,984	275,140
Gross Revenue	402,692	334,501	304,856	302,354	286,568
Surplus	41,291	16,055	...	...	11,428
Deficiency ... ..	...	...	9,659	7,630	...

[Return No. 16.]

RETURN RELATING TO ELECTRICITY.

	1941-42.	1940-41.	1939-40.	1938-39.	1937-38.
	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital	1,964,756	1,952,751	1,949,556	1,952,884	1,927,957
Working Expenses	344,577	304,623	307,895	312,719	290,879
Interest, Sinking Fund, and Exchange	95,381	93,823	94,110	92,196	90,124
Total Annual Cost	439,958	398,446	402,005	404,915	381,003
Gross Revenue	462,789	437,988	425,715	414,519	387,037
Surplus	22,831	39,542	23,710	9,604	6,034

[Return No. 17.]

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

	1941-42.	1940-41.	1939-40.	1938-39.	1937-38.
	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital	8,136,927	8,103,056	7,934,136	7,826,447	7,373,243
Working Expenses	138,205	106,656	105,268	101,990	97,088
Interest, Sinking Fund, and Exchange	395,104	388,519	382,387	367,792	342,755
Total Annual Cost	533,309	495,175	487,655	469,782	439,843
Gross Revenue (a)	575,868	549,209	526,530	494,390	463,042
Surplus	42,559	54,034	38,875	24,608	23,199
Deficiency ... ..	...	...	...	...	...

(a) Includes amount taken to Treasury Revenue as interest on capital expenditure on works in course of construction.

[Return No. 18.]

RETURN RELATING TO GOLDFIELDS WATER SUPPLY.

	1941-42.	1940-41.	1939-40.	1938-39.	1937-38.
	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital	3,024,197	2,944,478	2,724,111	2,548,042	2,325,012
Working Expenses	145,022	136,753	130,055	135,388	125,155
Interest, Sinking Fund, and Exchange	146,477	140,358	130,587	119,379	107,855
Total Annual Cost	291,499	277,111	260,642	254,767	233,010
Gross Revenue	308,272	351,360	314,335	300,610	293,873
Surplus	16,773	74,249	53,693	45,843	60,863

[Return No. 19.]

RETURN RELATING TO OTHER UTILITIES FOR 1941-42.

Utilities	Loan Capital.	Working Expenses.	Interest, Sinking Fund and Exchange.	Total Annual Cost.	Gross Revenue.	Surplus.	Deficiency.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fremantle Harbour Trust	2,968,445	(a)	144,785	144,765	185,349	40,578	
Bunbury Harbour Board	611,209	(a)	29,692	29,692	11,500	....	18,192
State Batteries	421,150	88,359	20,458	108,817	70,759	....	38,058
Bunbury Bulk Handling	71,208	....	3,460	3,460	650	....	2,810
Metropolitan Abattoirs	222,272	40,974	10,798	51,767	67,870	15,603	
Kalgoorlie Abattoirs	25,013	4,551	1,245	5,796	6,225	429	
Cave House	52,845	11,360	2,567	13,927	10,689	....	3,238
State Ferries	7,905	8,656	370	9,026	9,964	938	
Metropolitan Markets Trust	154,464	(a)	7,509	7,509	9,332	1,823	
Water Supplies—Country Towns	1,075,725	25,882	52,178	78,458	50,200	....	27,856
Totals	5,630,835	179,782	278,035	452,817	421,832	59,171	90,156
NET DEFICIT ....	....	....	....	....	....	£30,985	

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

[Return No. 20.]

SUMMARY OF TRADING CONCERNS.

	1940-41.	1939-40.	1938-39.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital	2,292,595	2,275,597	2,249,545	2,251,247	2,041,263	1,997,237
Revenue Capital	192,974	157,794	157,794	162,794	163,035	178,319
	2,485,569	2,433,391	2,407,339	2,414,041	2,204,298	2,175,556
Gross Revenue	1,427,369	1,477,420	1,454,296	1,516,771	1,347,971	1,218,099
Increase in Stocks	8,640	1,657	73,066	206	9,562	4,885
Decrease in Stocks	34,928	75,253	111	52,865	8,949	7,191
	1,401,081	1,403,824	1,527,251	1,464,112	1,348,584	1,215,793
Working Expenditure (a)	1,318,216	1,331,462	1,444,176	1,341,466	1,244,740	1,120,076
Interest and Sinking Fund	132,853	132,740	146,999	116,319	115,273	116,491
Depreciation	31,675	38,080	49,673	37,741	41,361	31,938
Total Annual Cost	1,482,744	1,502,282	1,640,848	1,495,526	1,401,374	1,268,505
Profit ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Loss	81,663	98,458	113,597	31,414	52,790	52,712

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

Note.—Wyndham Meat Works—Financial years end 31st January, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941.

State Shipping Service—Financial year now ends 31st December. 18 months to 31st December, 1939, included in above figures for 1938-39.

[Return No. 21.]

RETURN RELATING TO STATE BRICKWORKS.

	1940-41.	1939-40.	1938-39.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital	52,231	52,231	52,231	52,238	52,238	52,238
Revenue Capital	1,774	1,774	1,774	1,774	1,774	1,774
	54,005	54,005	54,005	54,012	54,012	54,012
Gross Revenue	37,667	33,498	42,605	32,848	25,279	26,027
Increase in Stocks	854	...	87	206	...	1,078
Decrease in Stocks ... ..	...	10	...	...	353	...
	38,521	33,488	42,692	33,054	24,926	27,105
Working Expenditure	35,409	31,981	38,008	30,620	24,359	23,657
Interest and Sinking Fund	2,820	2,819	2,828	2,849	2,821	2,846
Depreciation	1,557	1,463	1,743	1,685	1,838	1,896
Total Annual Cost	39,786	36,263	42,579	35,154	29,018	28,399
Profit ... ..	...	...	113	...	...	...
Loss	1,265	2,775	...	2,100	4,092	1,294

[Return No. 22.]

RETURN RELATING TO STATE ENGINEERING WORKS.

—	1940-41.	1939-40.	1938-39.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital	141,554	121,554	121,554	121,554	121,816	121,816
Revenue Capital	123,461	123,509	123,509	123,509	118,750	119,034
	265,015	245,063	245,063	245,063	240,566	240,850
Gross Revenue	61,723	67,753	66,547	63,603	63,211	72,958
Increase in Stocks	5,270	...	...	...	...	...
Decrease in Stocks ... ..	...	822	111	518	6,801	5,309
	66,993	66,931	66,436	63,085	56,410	67,649
Working Expenditure	60,422	58,041	62,634	60,861	55,389	68,500
Interest and Sinking Fund (a)	12,448	12,390	12,390	12,443	11,726	11,752
Depreciation	3,848	3,848	...	...	4,091	...
Total Annual Cost	76,718	74,279	75,024	73,304	71,206	80,252
Profit ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Loss	9,725	7,348	8,588	10,219	14,796	12,603

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

£366	£304	£304	£305	£305	£305
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[Return No. 23.]

RETURN RELATING TO STATE QUARRIES.

—	1940-41.	1939-40.	1938-39.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital	39,931	39,931	39,953	35,596	34,996	34,996
Revenue Capital	872	872	872	872	872	872
	40,803	40,803	40,825	36,468	35,868	35,868
Gross Revenue	12,603	26,337	20,704	17,388	10,598	16,445
Increase in Stocks ... ..	...	1,657	1,385	...	104	160
Decrease in Stocks	1,091	...	...	394	...	...
	11,512	27,994	22,089	16,994	10,702	16,605
Working Expenditure	12,430	26,978	21,727	15,072	10,029	14,420
Interest and Sinking Fund	2,131	2,133	1,804	1,884	1,872	1,942
Depreciation	2,254	2,343	1,625	1,600	1,637	1,621
Total Annual Cost	16,815	31,454	25,256	18,550	13,538	17,983
Profit ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Loss	5,303	3,460	3,167	1,562	2,836	1,378

[Return No. 24.]

RETURN RELATING TO STATE SHIPPING SERVICE.

	1941.	1940.	18 months to 31-12-39.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital	631,751	631,751	629,956	634,204	421,879	368,494
Revenue Capital	45,000	...	...	...	...	...
Gross Revenue	247,842	241,353	317,877	189,148	189,748	180,345
Working Expenditure	275,682	263,940	339,568	195,785	196,978	171,026
Interest and Sinking Fund (a)	38,141	38,046	53,676	22,426	22,292	25,600
Depreciation	23,589	23,512	37,873	25,118	25,118	19,427
Total Annual Cost	337,412	325,498	431,117	243,329	244,388	216,053
Profit ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Loss	89,570	84,145	113,240	54,181	54,640	35,708

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

1,579	£1,575	£2,373	£1,055	£921	£1,271
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[Return No. 25.]

RETURN RELATING TO STATE HOTELS.

	1940-41.	1939-40.	1938-39.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital	85,069	86,569	60,853	61,154	61,441	59,987
Revenue Capital	2,539	5,524	5,524	5,524	5,524	5,524
	87,608	92,093	66,377	66,678	66,965	65,511
Gross Revenue	60,572	63,547	62,429	63,456	61,434	55,285
Working Expenditure	52,543	53,229	52,461	52,034	49,937	44,375
Interest and Sinking Fund	4,818	4,772	3,607	3,609	3,401	3,406
Depreciation	210	353	240	80	129	345
Total Annual Cost	57,571	58,354	56,308	55,723	53,467	48,126
Profit	3,001	5,193	6,121	7,733	7,967	7,159
Loss ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...

[Return No. 26.]

RETURN RELATING TO STATE SAW MILLS.

	1940-41.	1939-40.	1938-39.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital	269,679	271,181	272,618	274,121	276,513	287,326
Revenue Capital	19,328	26,115	26,115	31,115	36,115	51,115
	289,007	297,296	298,733	305,236	312,628	338,441
Gross Revenue	696,551	578,349	574,192	660,707	592,754	588,272
Increase in Stocks ... ..	...	...	2,332	...	...	...
Decrease in Stocks	33,837	113	...	14,889	1,795	1,882
	662,714	578,236	576,524	645,818	590,959	586,390
Working Expenditure	(a) 592,307	559,944	538,575	(a) 579,868	534,350	529,515
Interest and Sinking Fund	16,195	16,280	16,284	16,808	16,869	18,201
Depreciation	(b) 217	6,561	7,523	8,697	8,548	8,639
Total Annual Cost	608,710	582,785	562,392	600,373	559,767	556,355
Profit	53,995	...	14,132	40,445	31,192	30,035
Loss ... ..	...	4,549	...	...	...	...

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

(b) On new assets only. Temporarily suspended on existing asset.

[Return No. 27.]

RETURN RELATING TO WYNDHAM MEAT WORKS.

	1-2-41 to 31-1-42.	1-2-40 to 31-1-41.	1-2-39 to 31-1-40.	1-2-38 to 31-1-39.	1-2-37 to 31-1-38.	1-2-36 to 31-1-37.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital	1,072,380	1,072,380	1,072,380	1,072,380	1,072,380	1,072,380
Gross Revenue	310,411	466,583	369,942	489,621	404,947	278,767
Increase in Stocks	2,516	...	69,262	...	9,458	3,647
Decrease in Stocks ... ..	...	74,308	...	37,064	...	...
	312,927	392,275	439,204	452,557	414,405	282,414
Working Expenditure	289,423	337,349	391,203	407,226	373,698	268,583
Interest and Sinking Fund (a)	56,300	56,300	56,300	56,300	56,292	52,744
Depreciation (b) ... ..	...	...	669	561	...	10
Total Annual Cost	345,723	393,649	448,172	464,087	429,990	321,337
Profit ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Loss	32,796	1,374	8,968	11,530	15,585	38,923

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

£2,681	£2,681	£2,681	£2,681	£2,681	£2,623
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(b) Depreciation on Stores.

[Return No. 28.]

THE AGRICULTURAL LANDS PURCHASE ACT, 1909, and AMENDMENTS.

Position of Estates under the above Act, at 30th June, 1942.

[Amount Authorised £1,500,000.]

Estates.	Receipts.				Payments.				Balances.		
	Proceeds of De-bentures.	Sale of Lots, Rents, etc.	In-terest.	Total.	Purchase Money.	Survey Expenses, Interest, etc.	De-bentures Re-deemed.	Total.	Amount Over-drawn.	In Hand.	Invested.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Anniebrook ...	4,902	940	...	5,941	4,902	3,218	...	8,210	2,269	...	...
Avondale ...	40,949	64,775	3,417	118,141	40,949	61,021	40,949	160,919	42,778	...	...
Baeton ...	32,875	15,702	...	48,577	32,875	26,705	...	59,580	11,003	...	...
Bowes ...	54,352	94,513	17,588	166,453	54,352	60,891	54,352	169,595	8,143	...	...
Brunswick ...	5,650	9,075	1,005	16,030	5,650	5,925	5,650	17,225	204	...	...
Bucklands ...	30,162	10,858	...	47,020	30,162	15,602	30,162	75,926	28,906	...	...
Henry ...	4,527	8,877	34	13,438	4,527	4,608	4,527	13,661	223	...	...
Homebush ...	1,250	1,979	742	3,971	1,250	1,471	1,250	3,971	...	...	...
Jelobline ...	8,320	18,043	361	26,724	8,320	10,296	8,320	26,935	211	...	...
Jingalup ...	2,734	2,714	15	5,463	2,734	2,850	2,734	8,327	2,864	...	...
Kookatea ...	16,170	6,507	...	22,677	16,170	9,520	...	25,690	3,022	...	...
Marildin ...	4,432	7,908	1,749	14,109	4,432	5,216	4,432	14,120	11	...	...
Mendel ...	16,586	8,982	224	25,792	16,586	10,608	...	27,294	1,492	...	...
Narra Tarra ...	24,119	40,533	3,881	68,533	24,119	3,747	24,119	69,650	1,117	...	...
Norman ...	7,000	11,444	4,303	22,747	7,000	8,747	7,000	22,747	...	...	...
Oakabella ...	22,000	30,492	12,013	73,510	22,000	26,315	22,000	70,315	...	3,105	...
Pickering ...	4,295	1,983	106	6,384	4,295	2,091	...	7,286	902	...	...
Porongorup ...	1,764	910	39	2,723	1,764	1,083	...	2,847	124	...	...
Ullingulup ...	3,350	4,902	724	8,975	3,350	2,421	...	5,771	...	67	3,037
Wells ...	700	...	...	700	700	420	...	1,120	420	...	...
Wongoodly ...	42,260	10,083	...	53,243	42,260	24,546	...	66,806	13,563	...	...
Yandanoeka ...	140,000	289,902	14,917	444,819	140,000	163,429	27,100	330,529	1,288	...	115,579
Estates under S.S. Scheme	...	307,210	...	307,210	...	237,252	...	237,252	...	60,966	...
	477,507	964,750	61,723	1,503,980	477,507	706,663	241,614	1,425,784	118,630	73,228	118,616
										£101,844	
										Credit Balance	£78,205

[Return No. 29.]

DISSECTION OF CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND EXPENDITURE, 1934-35 to 1941-42.

Item.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.	1941-42.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Interest	3,281,562	3,229,161	3,258,860	3,391,569	3,440,331	3,523,758	3,540,508	3,546,625
Sinking Fund	318,305	338,471	359,759	397,827	449,074	481,561	516,635	555,296
Exchange	469,237	454,250	460,459	453,902	470,829	492,989	503,482	498,242
Unemployment Relief	72,496	49,870	51,144	51,966	46,859	63,580	26,215	4,624
Salaries and Wages	3,432,644	3,618,271	3,917,527	4,006,298	4,306,034	4,435,780	4,323,006	4,599,107
Materials	727,015	787,970	920,284	905,021	1,049,207	1,009,158	995,293	1,008,618
Grants	138,909	154,754	155,756	186,644	189,815	138,533	166,092	151,038
Pensions	100,762	118,014	124,570	131,097	134,241	142,525	190,017	232,300
All other	1,007,695	1,194,582	1,308,279	1,305,411	1,083,712	983,884	1,147,809	1,285,441
Total	9,498,625	9,945,343	10,556,638	10,820,735	11,170,102	11,266,768	11,420,957	11,938,381

[Return No. 30.]

LOAN REPAYMENTS.
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE.

Year ended 30th June.	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Balance in hand.
	£	£	£
1928	154,108	...	154,108
1929	235,404	33,297	356,215
1930	153,583	216,647	293,151
1931	84,248	...	377,399
1932	112,361	171,800	317,960
1933	91,751	249,275	160,436
1934	100,935	215,740	45,631
1935	150,507	97,064	99,074
1936	107,906	74,791	132,189
1937	122,975	78,376	176,788
1938	134,462	154,825	156,425
1939	147,040	153,105	150,360
1940	127,470	101,086	176,744
1941	127,889	140,202	164,431
1942	171,232	69,867	245,796

[Return No. 31.]

**SUMMARY OF TRANSACTIONS OF FUNDS, THE EXPENDITURE OF WHICH IS NOT SUBJECT TO
PARLIAMENTARY APPROPRIATION. FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1942.**

Fund.	Balance, 1st July, 1941.	Receipts during Year.	Payments during Year.	Balance, 30th June, 1942.
	£	£	£	£
Hospital Fund (<i>see</i> Return No. 32)...	5,560	300,907	288,567	17,900
Forest Improvement and Reforestation Fund (<i>see</i> Return No. 33) ...	97,853	64,163	54,544	107,472
Road Funds (<i>see</i> Return No. 34) ...	245,555	599,167	430,997	413,725
Metropolitan Markets Trust ...	932	20,560	(a) 20,771	721
Fremantle Harbour Trust ...	...	564,809	(b) 564,809	...
Bunbury Harbour Board ...	2,879	20,049	(c) 20,779	2,149
	352,779	1,569,655	1,380,467	541,967

(a) Includes payments on account of—Interest, £7,768 ; Sinking Fund, £910 ; and Profits, £453.

(b) Includes payments on account of—Interest, £145,671 ; Sinking Fund, £22,101 ; Replacement Fund, £2,000 ; and Surplus Cash, £17,872.

(c) Includes payments on account of—Interest, £11,500.

[Return No. 32.]

HOSPITAL FUND.—TRANSACTIONS DURING THE YEARS 1937-38 TO 1941-42.

—	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.	1941-42.
<i>Receipts.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Balance from previous year ...	7,889	17,465	2,684	25,154	5,560
Hospital Tax Collections ...	245,660	264,072	271,689	284,910	292,700
Treasury Grants ...	12,936	1,502	61,000	26,703	6,000
Recoup of Expenditure on Buildings	7,000	25,000	...	...	...
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	780	...	3,080	2,106	2,207
Overdraft at end of year ...	...	...	...	...	...
	274,265	308,039	338,453	338,873	306,467
<i>Payments.</i>					
Overdraft at beginning of year ...	...	...	...	...	...
Administration Expenditure ...	4,569	4,481	4,555	5,198	5,133
Hospitals Expenditure—					
Departmental ...	91,898	123,978	128,138	119,885	101,908
Non-Departmental Subsidies, etc.	160,245	174,658	180,606	199,091	179,416
Miscellaneous ...	88	2,238	...	9,139	2,110
Balance at end of year ...	17,465	2,684	25,154	5,560	17,900
	274,265	308,039	338,453	338,873	306,467

[Return No. 33.]

FORESTS IMPROVEMENT AND RE-FORESTATION FUND—TRANSACTIONS DURING THE YEARS 1937-38 TO 1941-42.

—	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.	1941-42.
<i>Receipts.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Balance from previous year ...	80,512	89,043	88,814	100,164	97,853
Appropriation from Revenue Fund	54,765	46,964	49,234	53,230	52,206
Sundry Receipts ...	14,026	4,970	16,375	8,846	11,957
	149,303	140,977	154,423	162,240	162,016
<i>Payments.</i>					
Expenditure on Forest Improve- ments and Re-forestation during the year ...	60,260	52,163	54,259	64,387	54,544
Balance at end of year ...	89,043	88,814	100,164	97,853	107,472
	149,303	140,977	154,423	162,240	162,016

[Return No. 34.]

ROAD FUNDS.—TRANSACTIONS DURING THE YEAR 1941-42.

	Main Roads Contri- butions Trust Account.	Metro- politan Traffic Trust Account.	Transport Co-ordina- tion Fund.	Federal Aid Roads Agree- ment Account.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
Balances from Year 1940-41	3,061	6,783	332	235,379	245,555
Receipts during Year—					
License Fees and Permits	293	149,020	23,153	...	177,182
Contributions by Local Authorities ... ..	...	...	...	...	293
Premiums on Omnibus Routes ... ..	...	...	220	...	220
Commonwealth Grant ... ..	...	...	...	421,342	421,342
Miscellaneous Receipts ... ..	...	...	...	11	11
Other Receipts in Suspense ... ..	...	...	40	...	40
	3,354	155,812	23,745	656,732	844,643
Transfers to other Funds	30,226	30,226	79	...	30,226
Transfers from other Funds ... ..	...	...	...	...	30,305
Totals	33,580	125,566	23,824	656,732	844,722
Payments during Year—					
Administration, Plant, Office Equip- ment, etc. ... ..	...	18,833	7,640	20,289	46,762
National Debt Commission Sinking Fund ... ..	...	...	...	17,623	17,623
Treasury—Interest, Sinking Fund, and Premiums ... ..	...	7,396	220	...	7,616
Road Construction, Maintenance, Surveys, etc.	6,950	3,604	...	250,741	261,295
Distributions to Local and Statutory Authorities ... ..	...	77,000	18,432	...	95,432
Other Payments in Suspense ... ..	...	...	421	10	431
Subsidies paid for the operation of various Road Transport Services ... ..	...	...	1,788	...	1,788
	6,950	106,833	28,551	288,063	430,997
Balances in hand at 30th June, 1941-42	26,630	18,753	273	368,069	413,725

[Return No. 35.]

TOTAL NET COLLECTIONS OF STATE TAXATION TAKEN TO THE CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND, TRUST ACCOUNTS, AND SPECIAL ACCOUNTS, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1942.

Particulars.	Paid to C.R. Fund.	Paid to Trust or Special Accounts.	Total.	Taxation per Head. (a)
	£	£	£	£ s. d.
Probate and Succession Duties	180,240	...	180,240	0 7 8
Other Stamp Duties	219,452	...	219,452	0 9 4
Land Tax	135,939	...	135,939	0 5 8
Income Tax—				
State Income Tax and Dividend Duty (b)	2,290,661	...	2,290,661	4 17 9
Financial Emergency Tax	40,768	...	40,768	0 1 0
Hospital Tax (c) ... ..	...	292,700	292,700	0 12 0
Liquor Licenses	77,909	...	77,909	0 3 4
Racing—				
Entertainments Tax on Admission	8,942	...	8,942	0 0 5
Stamp Duty on Betting Tickets	8,999	...	8,999	0 0 5
Income Tax on Stakes	1,256	...	1,256	0 0 1
Totalisator Duty	48,045	...	48,045	0 2 1
Totalisator Licenses	653	...	653	...
Stamp Duty on Tote Dividends	471	...	471	...
Motor Taxation	19,115	354,275	373,390	0 15 11
Other Vehicles ... ..	...	7,868	7,868	0 0 4
Entertainments	89,196	...	89,196	0 3 10
Vermin Tax ... ..	...	29,104	29,104	0 1 3
Licenses, not elsewhere included	11,894	...	11,894	0 0 6
	3,133,540	683,947	3,817,387	8 2 10

(a) Based on population as at 31st December, 1942, viz. 468,800.

(b) Income Tax—Stamp Sales and Deductions, £543,181; Assessments, £1,598,151; Gold Mining Profits Tax, £149,329.

(c) Hospital Tax:—Stamp Sales and Deductions, £181,342; Assessments, £111,358.

[Return No. 36.]

STATEMENT SHOWING RECEIPTS FROM COMMONWEALTH, 1901-02 TO 1941-42.

Year.	Contri- bution to Sinking Fund.	Contri- bution towards Interest.	Surplus Revenue Re- turned.	Payment per Head, 25/-.	Special Payment to W.A.	Interest on Trans- ferred Prop- erties.	Dis- abilities Grant.	Total.
PERIOD COVERED BY BRADDON CLAUSE.								
*1901-02 to 1910-11	£ ...	£ ...	£ 8,872,722	£ ...	£ ...	£ ...	£ ...	£ 8,872,722
PERIOD COVERED BY PER CAPITA PAYMENTS AND SPECIAL PAYMENT TO W.A.								
1911-12 to 1926-27	...	...	...	8,632,264	2,556,248	462,010	565,905	10,216,427
PERIOD COVERED BY FINANCIAL AGREEMENT ACT.								
1927-28 ...	77,908	1483,286	...	...	...	25,775	300,000	886,969
1928-29 ...	91,598	1463,578	...	...	...	47,868	300,000	903,044
1929-30 ...	97,863	473,432	...	...	...	...	300,000	871,295
1930-31 ...	106,166	473,432	...	...	...	...	300,000	879,598
1931-32 ...	118,946	473,432	...	...	...	...	300,000	892,378
1932-33 ...	126,781	473,432	...	...	...	...	500,000	1,100,213
1933-34 ...	136,826	473,432	...	...	...	...	600,000	1,210,258
1934-35 ...	143,871	473,432	\$133,000	...	...	...	600,000	1,350,303
1935-36 ...	151,247	473,432	\$35,000	...	...	...	800,000	1,459,679
1936-37 ...	157,016	473,432	\$33,000	...	...	...	500,000	1,163,448
1937-38 ...	162,524	473,432	...	...	...	...	875,000	1,210,956
1938-39 ...	167,013	473,432	...	...	...	...	570,000	1,210,445
1939-40 ...	174,765	473,432	...	...	...	...	595,000	1,243,197
1940-41 ...	177,423	473,432	...	...	...	...	650,000	1,300,855
1941-42 ...	181,608	473,432	...	...	...	...	630,000	1,285,240
Total, 15 years ...	2,071,755	7,101,480	201,000	...	...	73,643	7,520,000	16,967,878

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

GRANTS FOR ROADS, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND ASSISTANCE TO INDUSTRIES FOR YEAR 1941-42—PAID TO TRUST FUNDS.

<i>Federal Roads Agreement Act—</i>					£	£
Contribution from Petrol Tax:						
For Roads	...	...	...	...	403,719	
For Sinking Fund	...	...	...	...	17,623	
						421,342
<i>Assistance to Industries—</i>						
Relief to North-West Cattle-owners	...	...	...	...	10,000	
Rural Relief	...	...	...	...	30,000	
Relief to Primary Producers	...	...	...	...	197,000	
						237,000
<i>Other Grants—</i>						
Local Public Works	...	...	...	...	6,650	
Tobacco Investigation	...	...	...	...	2,500	
						9,150
						667,492

Service	Loan Li- ability.	Expenditure :					Receipts.	Net Ex- penditure.	Cost per Head. (*)
		Indirect.		Direct.		Total.			
		Interest and Ex- change.	Sinking Fund.	Con- solidated Revenue Fund.	Trust and Special Accounts.				
1.—Education—	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
(a) Education Department and Schools ...	1,409,918	60,754	7,631	779,615	...	848,000	17,370	830,630	1 15 5
(b) University	34,115	1,470	187	42,962	...	44,619	...	44,619	0 1 11
(c) Technical Education	101,800	4,388	551	69,163	...	74,102	3,122	70,980	0 3 0
(d) Agricultural Education	101,616	4,379	553	23,185	...	28,117	8,200	19,917	0 0 10
(e) Library, Museum, Observatory ...	35,956	1,549	198	9,850	...	11,597	514	11,083	0 0 6
(f) Deaf, Dumb and Blind	884	39	5	3,300	...	3,344	...	3,344	0 0 2
Total 1	1,684,289	72,579	9,125	928,075	...	1,009,779	29,206	980,573	2 1 10
2.—Health, Hospitals, and Charities—									
(a) Public Health ... ..	...	...	...	41,072	...	41,072	11,610	29,462	0 1 3
(b) Care of Sick and Mentally Afflicted, Health of Mothers and Children	1,617,047	69,680	8,722	150,856	364,773	594,031	101,623	492,408	1 1 0
(c) Recreation Facilities ... ..	...	...	...	8,420	...	8,420	...	8,420	0 0 4
(d) Relief of Aged, Indigent and Infirm, Child Welfare	90,047	3,880	488	136,600	...	140,968	33,373	107,595	0 4 7
(e) Miner's Phthisis ... ..	...	...	...	61,096	...	61,096	25,000	36,096	0 1 7
(f) Natives... ..	94,144	4,056	454	60,888	...	65,398	11,293	54,105	0 2 4
(g) Unemployment Relief ... ..	...	...	...	8,393	...	8,393	429	7,964	0 0 4
Total 2	1,801,238	77,616	9,664	467,325	364,773	919,378†	183,328	736,050	1 11 5
3.—Law, Order and Public Safety—									
(a) Administration of Justice	44,276	1,908	242	89,207	...	91,367	107,923	Cr. 16,566	Cr. 0 0 8
(b) Police	191,743	8,262	1,049	276,660	...	285,971	49,810	236,161	0 10 1
(c) Gaols and Reformatories	55,180	2,378	299	35,577	...	38,254	2,322	35,932	0 1 6
(d) Public Safety ... ..	...	...	...	26,591	...	26,591	11,221	15,370	0 0 8
Total 3	291,199	12,548	1,590	428,035	...	442,173	171,276	270,897	0 11 7
GRAND TOTAL	3,776,726	162,743	20,379	1,823,435	304,773	2,371,330	383,810	1,987,520	4 4 10

(*) Based on Population as at 31st December, 1941, viz., 468,800.

(†) Includes £76,206 Patients' Fees paid to Hospital Fund.

[Return No. 38.]

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

Class of Goods.	1941-1942.		1940-1941.		1939-1940.		1938-1939.		1937-1938.	
	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.
Coal, Coke, and Charcoal ...	238,726	10.95	257,389	9.88	267,203	10.05	299,048	10.46	307,096	10.03
Ores and other Minerals ...	200,968	7.62	192,456	7.39	252,030	9.48	280,478	9.81	297,075	9.70
Wool ...	32,621	1.24	28,696	1.10	31,430	1.18	28,426	0.99	26,714	0.87
Hay, Straw, and Chaff ...	33,631	1.27	39,931	1.53	39,046	1.47	46,074	1.68	42,469	1.39
Wheat ...	666,860	25.27	681,758	26.16	671,453	25.25	750,495	26.24	768,838	25.11
Other Grain and Flour ...	143,359	5.43	182,088	6.23	159,568	6.00	163,449	5.72	140,378	4.58
Firewood ...	83,777	3.18	43,407	1.67	43,117	1.62	43,495	1.52	151,312	4.94
Local Timber ...	332,600	12.61	348,063	13.37	298,424	11.22	317,339	11.10	403,663	13.18
Imported Timber ...	597	.02	985	.04	1,571	0.06	2,298	0.08	1,810	0.06
Fruit and Garden Produce ...	84,039	3.19	88,171	3.39	95,810	3.60	118,062	4.13	80,308	2.62
Fertilisers ...	178,939	6.78	251,053	9.64	271,509	10.21	279,563	9.78	293,574	9.59
All other goods ...	592,352	22.44	509,860	19.56	527,716	19.86	531,414	18.59	548,684	17.93
Total ...	2,638,469	100.00	2,603,857	100.00	2,658,876	100.00	2,859,141	100.00	3,061,921	100.00

Class of Goods.	1941-1942.		1940-1941.		1939-1940.		1938-1939.		1937-1938.	
	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.
Coal, Coke, and Charcoal ...	£ 181,038	6.88	£ 152,020	5.92	£ 158,344	5.94	£ 179,659	6.67	£ 180,670	6.62
Ores and other Minerals ...	74,912	2.83	72,872	2.84	86,693	3.25	96,386	3.58	109,922	3.97
Wool ...	84,748	3.20	75,628	2.95	85,927	3.22	74,079	2.76	69,966	2.62
Hay, Straw, and Chaff ...	26,780	1.01	34,317	1.34	33,169	1.24	38,498	1.43	36,587	1.32
Wheat ...	419,308	15.85	443,112	17.46	451,073	16.93	478,759	17.78	495,174	17.88
Other Grain and Flour ...	75,857	2.88	87,390	3.40	90,774	3.42	95,535	3.55	82,275	2.97
Firewood ...	19,875	.75	10,733	.42	10,673	0.40	10,929	0.41	13,734	0.50
Local Timber ...	207,670	10.12	296,903	11.67	250,281	9.39	255,451	9.48	316,131	11.42
Imported Timber ...	907	.03	1,328	.05	3,558	0.13	3,190	0.12	2,261	0.08
Fruit and Garden Produce ...	99,327	3.75	101,603	3.98	110,406	4.15	126,367	4.69	99,824	3.60
Fertilisers ...	46,529	1.77	67,378	2.63	73,555	2.76	75,735	2.81	79,934	2.89
All other goods ...	1,346,871	50.93	1,218,519	47.46	1,310,161	49.17	1,258,896	46.73	1,283,033	46.93
Total ...	£2,644,422	100.00	£2,566,808	100.00	£2,664,674	100.00	£2,693,484	100.00	£2,769,401	100.00

[Return No. 39.]

TRADE, PRODUCTION, POPULATION, Etc.

	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.	1941-42.
Railway and Tram way Revenue	£3,183,977	£3,203,018	£3,165,593	£3,562,357	£3,711,597	£3,754,454	£3,032,510	£3,683,367	£3,802,385	£3,908,540	£4,301,502
Railway Mileage	4,235	4,338	4,360	4,359	4,358	4,357	4,376	4,378	4,381	4,381	4,381
(Route)											
Wool exported ...	£2,345,570	£2,553,592	£4,810,846	£3,413,589	£4,671,736	£4,164,433	£1,161,540	£3,270,580	(a)	(a)	(a)
Wool produced (c)—											
(quantity—lbs.)	71,614,145	75,147,012	78,424,200	80,991,658	85,706,700	63,537,200	64,739,400	72,475,000	75,400,000	69,427,000	74,985,000
(value)	£2,504,406	£2,601,905	£5,103,128	£3,419,308	£4,703,147	£4,020,713	£3,183,641	£2,962,860	£4,054,729	£3,858,084	£4,055,000
* Wheat produced (bushels)	41,521,245	41,791,866	37,305,100	26,985,000	23,315,417	21,549,000	36,224,800	36,843,600	40,861,000	21,000,000	37,500,000
Wheat produced (value)	£6,477,314	£6,352,364	£5,483,650	£4,317,600	£4,039,768	£5,047,524	£7,426,084	£4,494,919	£7,269,316	£4,114,911	(c)
* Hay produced ... (tons)	453,353	485,368	512,489	462,947	504,571	412,982	450,419	437,809	475,677	375,143	†438,000
Gold produced (b) ... (value)	£3,794,035	£4,610,376	£5,306,102	£5,213,534	£6,713,027	£3,191,168	£9,438,078	£10,784,852	£12,957,448	£12,000,027	£10,770,977
Coal produced	£281,174	£292,285	£269,302	£297,581	£334,707	£326,756	£362,196	£371,713	£361,152	£367,403	£431,006
Other Minerals produced (c)	£19,608	£47,348	£65,178	£63,391	£113,140	£140,446	£200,817	£187,592	£129,636	268,100	(c)
Timber exported ...	£367,053	£258,510	£484,241	£631,228	£675,932	£699,613	£932,394	£721,941	(a)	(a)	(a)
Timber produced	£418,975	£437,213	£683,391	£987,231	£1,161,031	£1,388,591	£1,425,342	£1,341,975	£1,317,031	£1,301,777	(c)
‡ Number of Sheep...	10,098,104	10,417,031	10,322,350	11,197,156	11,082,972	9,007,535	8,732,076	9,177,531	9,574,443	9,516,272	†9,715,821
‡ Number of Cattle...	826,632	857,473	885,669	912,016	882,761	792,508	740,241	767,680	799,175	788,928	†832,484
‡ Number of Horses	156,489	157,443	159,646	161,038	160,181	155,177	151,067	143,679	139,207	130,037	†124,472
Area of land selected (acres)	533,572	469,356	351,313	310,170	281,921	521,117	718,823	627,443	305,213	346,365	172,120
Area of land leased (acres)	3,492,791	3,281,418	7,543,950	5,327,978	4,613,172	3,926,517	3,888,060	3,201,701	2,795,988	2,509,275	2,244,360
Area of land under cultivation (d)	14,214,482	14,200,631	14,020,556	14,530,020	14,908,072	15,218,254	15,670,801	15,852,029	16,112,071	15,931,281	†16,000,000
* Area of land under crop (acres)	3,663,172	4,262,884	4,217,260	3,840,530	3,726,324	3,851,876	4,168,021	4,683,333	4,286,935	3,998,308	†4,000,000
Tonnage Shipping, Inwards	3,555,403	3,549,604	3,564,705	3,757,174	3,827,038	3,729,523	4,104,922	4,251,368	(a)	(a)	(a)
Tonnage Shipping, Outwards	3,530,279	3,563,679	3,567,884	3,775,162	3,831,105	3,773,586	4,111,171	4,326,529	(a)	(a)	(a)
Exports, including Gold	£16,296,086	£15,537,412	£17,291,577	£16,879,166	£18,891,679	£20,901,133	£23,100,537	£23,006,410	(a)	(a)	(a)
Exports, excluding Gold	£11,374,476	£10,803,066	£11,964,436	£11,717,923	£12,165,281	£13,040,135	£13,746,172	£12,296,535	(a)	(a)	(a)
Imports ...	£10,655,821	£12,166,760	£12,832,517	£14,226,405	£16,111,631	£18,028,359	£19,334,013	£18,048,238	(a)	(a)	(a)
Savings Bank Deposits	£7,864,997	£7,447,503	£8,182,395	£8,967,577	£9,468,344	£9,716,932	£10,004,412	£10,602,936	£10,039,271	£10,103,000	(a)
Savings Bank Withdrawals	£8,734,317	£7,747,633	£7,968,122	£8,501,441	£8,958,576	£9,425,588	£9,853,281	£10,285,055	£10,641,171	£9,657,739	(a)
Population end of Financial Year	435,111	438,852	442,027	445,692	450,243	454,231	460,161	465,429	467,855	468,819	(f)470,241

* Season ended 28th February. ‡ As at 31st December of year first mentioned. † Preliminary figures, liable to slight revision. (a) Information not available for publication. (b) Australian Currency Value. (c) Calendar year first mentioned. (d) Area cropped, cleared, fallowed, ringbarked, etc. (e) Not yet available. (f) As at 31st March, 1942.