

that is required, and more demands are being made on it all the time. This also applies in the agricultural areas where the Government is proceeding to give the people the water they want.

Those people are entitled to water, but not at the expense of the residents on the Goldfields. After all, the pipeline was constructed to supply water to the Goldfields. If the Government wishes to make provision for the people in the agricultural areas, it should first see that all the facilities are adequate for lifting the water and supplying it to everyone who requires it. It is not good enough that people on the Goldfields should go on year after year having these serious water restrictions imposed on them. We must remember, too, that we pay more than enough for water in comparison with what people in the metropolitan area pay. I understand that the Government has set up a committee of inquiry to see whether it is feasible to institute a flat rate for water supplies.

Progress reported.

*House adjourned at 12.25 a.m.  
(Thursday)*

## Legislative Assembly

Thursday, 20th November, 1952.

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

### QUESTIONS.

#### MILK, POWDERED.

*As to Shortage of Supplies, Goldfields.*

Mr. O'BRIEN asked the Minister for Health:

(1) Is she aware that powdered milk is in short supply and urgently required on the North-Eastern and Murchison Goldfields, and particularly at Mt. Ida?

(2) Is she in a position to indicate when supplies of this essential commodity are likely to be forwarded to those areas?

The MINISTER replied:

(1) Yes.

(2) Powdered milk supplies for the Eastern Goldfields are distributed from Kalgoorlie, which receives such supplies direct from the manufacturing centre in Victoria, some of which is railed to Kalgoorlie direct from Victoria, and some shipped via Esperance. A telegram had to be sent to the distributors in Kalgoorlie in order to answer this question, and their answer is, "Supplies of powdered milk were despatched to centres on the Menzies-Mt. Ida line on the 13th November, and to Leonora on the 3rd November."

### GAS.

#### *As to Heating Value and Consumption.*

Mr. GRAYDEN asked the Minister for Works:

(1) What is the heating value of gas supplied by East Perth to-day as compared with that supplied 12 months ago?

(2) Is the same pressure applied to the mains supply at the East Perth works to-day as was applied 12 months ago?

(3) What has been the consumption of gas in three-monthly periods since the 30th June, 1949?

The CHIEF SECRETARY (for the Minister for Works) replied:

(1) The same heating value, the declared value being 478 B.T.U.s.

(2) Yes. Nedlands district is supplied from a district gas holder in Nedlands. This holder maintains through a regulator a correct pressure in the street mains of the Nedlands area. From time to time through age the service piping capacity is reduced, giving a poor pressure to that consumer. This is local to the individual consumer and the consumer should immediately get in touch with the Electricity and Gas Branch of the Commission, when the service pipe will be cleared promptly, restoring the pressure to normal.

(3)—

Millions of  
Cubic Feet.

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### RAILWAYS.

#### *(a) As to Payment to Midland Railway Co.*

Mr. JOHNSON asked the Treasurer:

Under the heading "New Items created (No Provision on Estimates)" on page 11 of Auditor General's Report appears the item "Payment to Midland Railway Co. consequent upon the adjustment of 'port to port' freight rate," what is the explanation of this item?

The TREASURER replied:

A dispute developed between the Government and the Midland Railway Company regarding the freight rates applicable to the port to port charge made by the company. Under the terms of the agreement between the Government and the company, any dispute has to be submitted to arbitration. This particular dispute was referred to His Honour the Chief Justice, who decided in favour of the company. As the company had lost some months' revenue at the higher rate it proposed to charge, and which the Government tried unsuccessfully to resist, it claimed compensation. After negotiation, the claim was settled for £19,000.

#### *(b) As to Alterations to Stock Vehicles.*

Mr. STYANTS asked the Minister representing the Minister for Railways:

Is it correct that the new V.E. stock vehicles, after delivery from the construction contractors, are being sent to the Midland Junction Workshops to have certain alterations made, particularly to the brake-gear?

The MINISTER FOR EDUCATION replied:

A number of "BE" cattle wagons have been sent to the Midland Junction Workshops for inspection and trial of brake gear, but no alterations have been necessary.

#### *(c) As to Timber Used in Truck Construction.*

Mr. STYANTS asked the Minister representing the Minister for Railways:

(1) Is it correct that imported softwood is being used as the sides of new G.M. class trucks for the Railway Department?

(2) If the answer to (1) is in the affirmative what is wrong with our local timbers, wandoo or karri, for this purpose?

The MINISTER FOR EDUCATION replied:

(1) The timber referred to was imported with the wagons as complete units as provided for in the original contract. This timber is similar to that used in the British railways.

(2) Local timber is quite suitable but was not readily available in sufficient quantities when the contracts were lodged.

(d) *As to Alterations to Vice-regal Car.*

Mr. STYANTS asked the Minister representing the Minister for Railways:

(1) What is the cost of alterations made to the special railway car at the suggestion of His Excellency?

(2) How many times has this coach been used by His Excellency during the past 12 months?

The MINISTER FOR EDUCATION replied:

(1) No alterations have been made to the Vice-regal car.

(2) Five.

## STATE ELECTRICITY COMMISSION.

*As to Subscriptions to Loan.*

Mr. JOHNSON asked the Treasurer:

In reply to my query on the S.E.C. loan of last week, he stated that £339,000 came from outside Western Australia, £700,000 from private persons in Western Australia, and £35,000 from Government sources in Western Australia. Will he indicate from what source the balance of the loan was subscribed?

The TREASURER replied:

From companies, institutions and societies in Western Australia other than private individuals.

## HOSPITALS.

*As to Additions, Pinjarra.*

Mr. CORNELL asked the Minister for Works:

What limitations, financial or otherwise (if any), are being imposed on the contractor for the additions to the Pinjarra hospital?

The CHIEF SECRETARY (for the Minister for Works) replied:

The contractor is limited to a total expenditure of £25,000 during the present financial year.

## POTATOES FOR EXPORT.

*As to Movements of Chartered Ships.*

Mr. GUTHRIE asked the Minister for Supply and Shipping:

Will she inform the House of the movements of ships chartered for export of potatoes from this State?

The MINISTER replied:

The "Baroota," on completion of discharge at Fremantle, will load some cargo and approximately 300 tons of potatoes for Melbourne at Fremantle. She will then proceed to Bunbury to lift approximately 1,200 tons of potatoes also for Melbourne.

The "Bungaree" and "Kooringa," which will be going to the timber ports to pick up timber for Adelaide, will also lift any potatoes which are available for that port.

The shipping authorities have not yet been advised by the Potato Board of what they have available for Adelaide.

## HARBOURS.

*As to Extension Work, Bunbury.*

Mr. GUTHRIE asked the Minister for Works:

As the material and equipment are on the job and will deteriorate if not used, will he inform the House whether or not he can obtain the money to continue work on the Bunbury harbour extension, including the jetty?

The CHIEF SECRETARY (for the Minister for Works) replied:

Funds available will enable jetty work to be continued but at a slower rate than was originally intended.

Almost all the materials on site are for the jetty construction and deterioration will not occur before it is placed in the structure.

Any equipment not in use has been suitably attended to in order to ensure its proper protection.

## WUNDOWIE INDUSTRIES.

*As to Valuation of Capital Assets.*

Hon. A. R. G. HAWKE asked the Minister for Industrial Development:

Will he authorise immediately the making of an up-to-date valuation of the capital assets associated with the charcoal iron and wood distillation industries at Wundowie?

The MINISTER replied:

The action suggested would involve the employment of an expert valuer from outside the State at considerable cost and, therefore, is not thought to be justified.

## WORKERS' COMPENSATION.

*As to Country Hospital Charges.*

Mr. MANNING asked the Minister for Health:

(1) What authority has the Workers' Compensation Board to fix the rates to country hospitals in regard to workers' compensation cases?

(2) As the injured worker cannot be expected to meet any medical expenses, how can compensation cases recover the difference between hospital charges and rates fixed by the Workers' Compensation Board?

The MINISTER replied:

(1) Workers' Compensation Act, 1912-1951, First Schedule, paragraph (d).

(2) The rates fixed are sufficient to meet hospital charges in all but exceptional cases, but where they are not the difference cannot be recovered except

where the worker is a contributor under a hospital benefit fund, when a further amount of upwards to 9s. per day can be recovered.

### TRAFFIC.

#### *As to Causeway Regulations.*

Mr. NALDER asked the Minister for Local Government:

(1) Have regulations been gazetted to regulate traffic on the Causeway?

(2) Is it correct that traffic travelling to Belmont must travel in the lane on the extreme left, traffic to Victoria Park in centre lane and traffic to South Perth in lane on right?

(3) If so, can an officer of the Police Traffic Branch intercept a traveller on changing from one lane to another?

(4) What publicity—in the form of signs or notices in the Press—has been given to inform the public of the regulations?

The MINISTER replied:

(1) No. The framing of a suitable regulation is now receiving consideration from the Perth Traffic Office.

(2) There is not yet any regulation to require traffic to adhere to particular lanes but through the Press Government departments have requested motorists to use the lanes as specified.

(3) At the present time, so long as traffic regulations in regard to the safe driving of vehicles are observed, a traveller can change from one lane to another.

(4) Answered by No. (1).

### BETTING.

#### *As to Tax on Winning Bets.*

Hon. J. T. TONKIN (without notice) asked the Premier:

(1) Has he seen the statement in this morning's issue of "The West Australian" that a bookmaker in Victoria would have difficulty in recovering winning bets tax from women because it was illegal for bookmakers to bet with women?

(2) Before he decided to introduce winning bets tax legislation here, was consideration given to the fact that it was illegal for bookmakers to bet with men or women on or off the course in this State and that winning bets are unlawful transactions?

(3) Does he believe that the legal difficulty can be overcome and that his proposed tax can be applied?

The PREMIER replied:

(1) Yes.

(2) and (3) I do not anticipate there will be any legal difficulty in applying this tax.

### AIRPORT.

#### *As to Name.*

Mr. HUTCHINSON (without notice) asked the Premier:

(1) Has he seen the report in this afternoon's "Daily News" at page 8 headed "Airport's Name Causes Confusion"?

(2) Is he aware that Captain Holyman, managing director of Australian National Airways considers—

(a) that our international airport should be called Perth instead of Guildford, so obviating the considerable confusion that has arisen overseas;

(b) that our airport now called Guildford will eventually become the most important airport into Australia for European and Near East air traffic?

(3) In view of this expert opinion, will he once again press for a change of name for the airport and once again represent to the Prime Minister that our airport be used as the principal airport of entry into Australia for United Kingdom air traffic?

The PREMIER replied:

(1), (2) and (3) The hon. member drew my attention to this item in the "Daily News" a few minutes ago. I think this is a matter for the Commonwealth Government, because it deals with international air transport. But from what I can gather, there are numerous airports throughout the world adjacent to capital cities, and in very many instances they do not take the names of the capital cities. Personally I cannot see that any benefit would be derived by changing the name of the Guildford airport. If a person is coming to Western Australia, he knows Perth is the capital and I do not think there would be any confusion. I admit that Captain Holyman has great experience in regard to air transport, but I do not see that there is any need for a change of name.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION.

*Hon. J. B. Sleeman and Interview with His Excellency the Governor.*

Hon. J. B. SLEEMAN: Have I your permission, Mr. Speaker, to make a statement?

Mr. SPEAKER: A personal explanation, yes.

Hon. J. B. SLEEMAN: This morning I waited on His Excellency the Governor and was received with the greatest courtesy. His Excellency agreed with me that it was the duty of the Governor to uphold the laws of the land. He asked me, if I thought the law had been broken, to put the matter in writing so that he and his legal officers could consider it, and he will give me an answer as soon as he can.

**ASSENT TO BILLS.**

Message from the Governor received and read notifying assent to the following Bills:—

- 1, State Housing Act Amendment.
- 2, Mining Act Amendment (No. 2).
- 3, Albany Public Cemeteries Subsidies.
- 4, Coogee-Kwinana Railway.

**BILLS (2)—FIRST READING.**

- 1, Factories and Shops Act Amendment.  
Introduced by the Minister for Labour.
- 2, Government Employees (Promotions Appeal Board) Act Amendment.  
Introduced by the Premier.

**BILL—TRAFFIC ACT AMENDMENT (No. 3).**

Read a third time and transmitted to the Council.

**BILL—FREMANTLE MUNICIPAL TRAMWAYS AND ELECTRIC LIGHTING ACT AMENDMENT.**

Report of Committee adopted.

**BILL—STATE GOVERNMENT INSURANCE OFFICE ACT AMENDMENT.***Message.*

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

*Second Reading.*

**THE ATTORNEY GENERAL** (Hon. A. V. R. Abbott—Mt. Lawley) [4.50] in moving the second reading said: The principal object of the Bill is to amend the Act to enable the State Government Insurance Office to invest its reserve funds. Members will appreciate that any company or corporation carrying on insurance business must create large reserves to meet contingent liabilities and to carry on its undertaking in a proper and safe fashion. The State Government Insurance Office Act gives the State Government Insurance Office no authority at all to invest its funds.

Hon. E. Nulsen: What has it been doing with its reserve funds up to date?

The ATTORNEY GENERAL: As a fact, it has been investing them, but legal advice is to the effect that it has no statutory authority to do so. Large sums of money, of course, have been invested, and the Bill is to authorise such investments in the future and also to validate those already made. The second object of the Bill is to ensure that the reserve funds of the State Government Insurance Office are fully protected. At the moment, these funds are at the mercy of the Treasurer because, as members know, all funds

belonging to the State Government Insurance Office are held by him. It is advisable that these funds should not be utilised by the Treasurer other than with the consent of the Auditor General. The Bill will empower the Auditor General to make such investigations as he thinks fit, and any unnecessary reserve funds can, with his consent, then be applied to the ordinary revenues of the Crown. I think members will agree that in a corporation of this nature the reserve funds should be properly protected.

Hon. E. Nulsen: What does the Treasurer think about that?

The ATTORNEY GENERAL: The present Treasurer has consented to it; otherwise the Bill would not be here.

Mr. May: Under duress, I bet!

The ATTORNEY GENERAL: I can assure members that the Bill has been introduced with the Treasurer's full approval. These are the two amendments in the measure, and I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

On motion by Hon. A. R. G. Hawke, debate adjourned.

**BILL—BULK HANDLING ACT AMENDMENT.***Message.*

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

*Second Reading.*

**THE MINISTER FOR LANDS** (Hon. L. Thorn—Toodyay) [4.55] in moving the second reading said: When the parent Act was passed, in 1935, Co-operative Bulk Handling Ltd. was given a life of 20 years, and this period will terminate on the 31st December, 1955. Perhaps it may seem strange that permission is now sought to extend the company's franchise for a further period of 20 years, or until 1975, when it could still operate for a further three years. However, the amendment is desirable as the company is anxious to know what the future holds so that it can plan in advance. Its position may become untenable unless Parliament gives it this security.

Before explaining other amendments in the Bill, I will briefly state the history of the bulk-handling of wheat in this State. Tests were made until the 1931-32 season, when growers agreed to proceed with a bulk scheme. Five sidings were equipped, and 1,265,000 bushels, or 3.4 per cent., of the harvest was handled in bulk. Rail wagons were scarce, and the Government of the day had no money to provide more. Accordingly, the company financed the conversion of 200 steel trucks, and later trucks were fitted out with hessian liners

and canvas extensions. They were maintained by the company until 1951, but have since been taken over by the railways.

In 1933, joint action between the trustees of the Wheat Pool and Westralian Farmers Co-operative Ltd. led to the registration of Co-operative Bulk Handling Ltd. As a result of a successful 1933-34 season, and growers' acclaim for bulk-handling, a Royal Commission recommended that the company be permitted to extend and introduce State-wide bulk-handling. Since the 1935-36 season, the company has expanded rapidly. At that time, it had facilities at 53 sidings, and handled 42.9 per cent. of the total crop, while four seasons later it had facilities at 207 sidings, and handled 94.8 per cent. of the marketable crop. At the present time, the entire harvest is handled in bulk. The shareholders of the company are the growers, and a £1 share is issued to each one who delivers wheat. However, if he fails to deliver wheat for two seasons, his share is transferred to another grower. In this way the company is actively controlled by the growers.

The directors of the company total nine, of whom five are elected by growers in each of the five districts into which the wheatbelt is divided, and four by growers throughout the State. Portion of the harvest these days is carted by road, and the reference to "rail" in the parent Act is deleted by the Bill. Even should the railways eventually handle the whole of the harvest, there will always be some necessity for road transport to operate from facilities erected away from a railway line. I refer to the Yarramony-Eastward survey and the Lakes district. In 1943, the parent Act was amended to include the words "until the management and control of the company be handed over to the growers in terms of the deed of trust." These words introduced the whole of Section 26 instead of commencing Subsection (1) to which they refer. A correction is contained in this Bill. The words remain unaltered, but will apply to the correct subsection.

The Act at present provides for the company to make a charge in return for such services as handling and storage. This charge has to be approved by the Governor, but must not exceed one-and-one-eighth pence per bushel. Under present day conditions it is not desirable to have a ceiling price contained in the Act as costs are continually rising. The Bill provides for an amount to be approved by the Governor. This should safeguard the position, and the amendment will prevent the charges agreed upon between the company and the Australian Wheat Board from conflicting with the Act.

In addition to a handling charge, provision exists in the Act for the payment of a toll, which at present is fixed at

a maximum of five-eighths of a penny per bushel. This toll is actually an advance by the growers to the company to enable it to fulfil its obligations, pay off its indebtedness and establish country facilities. It represents a debt owing by the company to the growers and is repaid by way of the issue of debentures. The maximum toll payable is increased by the Bill to one penny per bushel, but any variation up to this amount must receive the approval of the Governor. The new maximum will allow rising costs to be met and will be in keeping with present-day values.

Provision is made for a new toll not exceeding two pence per bushel, to be known as a port equipment toll. The actual amount to be paid by growers will be fixed by the Governor. It was the intention of the Government to provide bulk terminal facilities at Albany and Geraldton, but owing to a shortage of funds for this work, it is unable to proceed. However, the port equipment toll will enable growers, through the company, to finance the construction of these facilities, subject to satisfactory arrangements being made between the Government and the company. The new toll will operate in a similar manner to the toll already contained in the Act, which will in future be known as a foundation toll.

Growers will advance the port equipment toll to the company for every bushel of wheat delivered and they will be credited with the amount, which will be recorded separately and distinctly from the foundation toll. The amount collected from growers will be repaid over five yearly periods by way of debentures. The money collected by the company will enable work to proceed which is now held up due to lack of Government finance. Members know the history of bulkhandling in this State. I was a member of this Chamber when the original Bill was introduced. We know that the company is controlled by the growers of wheat and that it has done a wonderful job for the wheatgrowing industry. It has reduced considerably the cost of marketing wheat and I think it will be agreed that we were fortunate to have this well equipped scheme in operation in Western Australia during the war years and since then.

Apart from considerably reducing the handling costs of wheat it enabled us to carry on when there was an acute shortage of jute, whereas other States were in great difficulties. I believe that this State, through its successful bulk-handling scheme, has to some extent contributed to the return to the wheatgrowers in other States, because the operation of the scheme has had an effect on the overall price. I believe that as the result of this the wheatgrowers in other States do derive some benefit from the cheaper handling of wheat in this State. There

have been many interesting debates in this House on the subject of bulk-handling. This system, which has been of such great assistance to the wheatgrowers, is now benefiting the oatgrowers and apparently, before very long, will be of value to the barley growing industry also. The company is successfully managed and operated and we should encourage and help it in every possible way. I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

On motion by Hon. J. T. Tonkin, debate adjourned.

**BILL—STATE (WESTERN AUSTRALIAN) ALUNITE INDUSTRY ACT AMENDMENT.**

*Message.*

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

*Second Reading.*

**THE MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT** (Hon. A. F. Watts—Stirling) [5.6] in moving the second reading said: This Bill is to repeal the proviso to Section 9 of the Act Subsection (1) (b), which was inserted in the Act by Statute No. 57 of 1950. That proviso followed the authority to the Minister to "sell, lease, let on hire or otherwise dispose of, upon such terms and conditions as the Minister shall think fit any property vested in or required by the Minister or the board." The proviso read, "That none of such property shall be sold without the approval of Parliament to the sale and the terms and conditions thereof if, as the result of the sale the Minister would be unable to maintain and carry on works, plant and undertakings for the purpose of producing products."

The parent Act defined "products" as meaning the products of the alunite deposits at the works. I hope in a moment to be able to satisfy the House that it is impracticable to expect that the existing plant and equipment would be of any substantial use if it were possible to resume the manufacture of the products, and that a great deal of it, if not made use of, would rapidly deteriorate, but that it will be of great advantage to other industries, including Wundowie, if steps can be taken to dispose of it, a large portion of it anyway, in their favour. It will be remembered that, consequent upon the opinion of the board of management some three years ago that potash could no longer be produced with any hope of economical results, they decided to cease the production of it. Subsequently a lease was entered into with Australian Plaster Industries for one year with an option of two years renewal for the manufacture of plaster. Unfortunately that lease was never renewed for the optional period of two years, for reasons I will give in a few moments.

After the expiration of the first 12 months the company expressed a wish to carry on temporarily from month to month, giving as a reason that their market in the Eastern States, the market for which they were manufacturing, was steadily deteriorating and that they could not be certain that they could proceed for any considerable period of time. Therefore, they desired, for the time being, a monthly tenancy. That was agreed to for the reasons and along the lines I have just mentioned, but approximately at the beginning of April this year, the company notified the Director of Industrial Development that it was unable to proceed and perhaps I can best explain the reasons by reading an extract from a copy of the minute forwarded to me by the Director of Industrial Development on the 4th April, 1952. He says—

I understand that the solicitors for A.P.I. have given notice of intention to terminate that company's lease of Chandler at the end of this month.

In an interview with Mr. Innes of A.P.I. on 19th ult., he told me of difficulties being experienced in disposing of the plaster output, and in a telephone call from Melbourne on 26th ult. he advised that a meeting of A.P.I. directors had decided not to continue the lease. This verbal advice was passed on to you.

The reason for closing down is simply one of overproduction. This was forecast by Mr. Innes when he was in Perth towards the end of 1951, when he told me that the issue of building permits in Victoria had declined by 500-600 per month, and he anticipated a repercussion on the plaster industry in a few months' time. The demand for plaster and plaster products has now fallen off to an extent where A.P.I. have reduced production by a shift in Melbourne, and C.S.R. have similarly reduced in Sydney. All plaster producers have now a surplus over demand and the high priced Chandler plaster cannot be placed.

Mr. Innes was personally very reluctant to abandon Chandler, where production was being efficiently maintained at about 100 tons per day, and he would have liked to keep the plant in commission, perhaps on a reduced basis, if only as an insurance against interruption of Eastern States' supplies. He has energetically endeavoured to obtain shipping from W.A. to New Zealand, where there is an unsatisfied demand, but this could not be arranged.

Unfortunately the large Chandler plant is only efficient at full production and for technical reasons could only be operated at part production with very steeply increased costs. The

rental paid to us was not a major issue, as this only amounts to about 9s. per ton, whereas Chandler plaster in the Eastern States is £5 per ton (about) above local plaster prices. There is a stock of some 5000 tons accumulated here, and storage space is strained. The capital tied up in these large stocks is also an embarrassment to the company.

I must now seek instructions as to the course of action to be followed at Chandler. I can see no alternative use for the plant and equipment there. If A.P.I. cannot produce plaster, with the advantages of their Australia-wide interests, no one else can. The possibility of future potash production is so indefinite that it cannot be relied on within any foreseeable period. In any case, I feel certain that, should potash production again be undertaken, little of the existing plant and equipment would be of economic use. I therefore consider that the whole project should be viewed as the Commonwealth viewed its various wartime activities; that is, establish to meet a need and dispose of when further use cannot be reasonably forecast. In brief, I consider that all assets should be progressively disposed of.

Mr. Kelly: Including buildings?

**The MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT:** I will deal with that in a little while. Upon receipt of that communication I had some discussion with the Director and of course I recollected that in the course of earlier discussions with the Commonwealth it had been agreed that C.S.I.R.O. should investigate the possibilities of an economical process for the recovery of a better quality  $K_2O$  potash than had been possible of recovery before. The approach to the Commonwealth, as I think is well known, was based on the belief that at some future time there might be a demand for it but, as I mentioned earlier, because of competition and the low grade of the potash produced, that belief completely failed.

As a result of the C.S.I.R.O. intervention in this matter arrangements were made for the investigations to be conducted in two parts, one in the Eastern States at the C.S.I.R.O. headquarters and the other at the University of Western Australia. Professor Bayliss, a Professor of Chemistry and now the Acting Vice-Chancellor, was entrusted with that part of the work which was to be done in Western Australia. I inquired from Professor Bayliss whether he would let me know what his views were as to the possible future developments as a result of the research, and his opinion as to the usability of the plant or any part thereof. Under date the 8th April he wrote—

Work on the potash problem is still being carried on in a small way in this department, and also at the Division of Industrial Chemistry of C.S.I.R.O. At the present stage of the work it cannot be said that the obvious difficulties in the way of the economical production of potash have been overcome. On the other hand, several new chemical facts have been discovered which partly explain the difficulties that were encountered in the large scale production of potash at Chandler.

I therefore regard it as not impossible that potash production may be resumed in the future, but I do think it will be a long time ahead unless there is a war.

If potash production ever is resumed, I think it will require an almost completely redesigned plant to make the production economical. In particular, I have always regarded the present kiln as not suitable for the calcination of alunite, and it appears that the major items of plant and equipment at Chandler would not be required except possibly the leaching machine and the storage bins. While it is possible that use could be made of a number of the minor items (e.g., electric motors) these are of course liable to deterioration, and if the time ever comes they could be readily purchased anew. I therefore feel that I am in agreement with the policy you have outlined in your letter with regard to the prompt disposal of small items of plant and equipment. If a suitable offer can be obtained for the kiln I think that this should also be disposed of for the reasons mentioned above.

I agree that it might be wise to retain for the present such equipment as the "A" frame and the bins, which are not so liable to depreciation. If the leaching machine can be maintained in reasonably good condition, I would recommend for your consideration that it be retained for the time being, at least until we are able to assess the results of the current research investigations.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) N. S. Bayliss,  
Professor of Chemistry.

On the strength of that letter it has occurred to me that the net result of the maintenance of the premises and plant at Chandler would be a recurring source of expense to the Crown. Already, according to the Treasury, a loss of £616,000 has been incurred. It would be impossible to leave the plant, implements and machinery and so forth that lie up there, quite apart from the houses and other premises, without at least two caretakers, and they could

not be provided for a sum less than £25 or £30 per week. In addition, as I will show in a minute, a great part of the plant is of considerable value for other purposes.

I issued instructions that nothing should be disposed of because of the terms of the Act, except items of a perishable nature. The Director of Industrial Development had, however, entered into discussions with Mr. Harris at Wundowie, the Bureau of Resources, where Mr. Fitzgerald is occupied, and other Government departments, and it became apparent that much use could be made of the gear at Chandler to the advantage of other State operations. For example, I have here a letter dated the 4th August, 1952, from Mr. Harris, addressed to the Director of Industrial Development, which reads—

**Chandler Plant, Equipment  
and Stores.**

Further to your letter of 25th June and our discussion of 1st August, I forward herewith a list of the material in which we are interested.

A special list marked Top Priority is attached.

The dragline, conveyors and bins are particularly required for developments at Koolyanobbing, to cheapen our ore handling. The transport items are also important to us, and perhaps some could be made available shortly.

The weighbridge is needed for weighing our iron in trucks on the railway line as produced, to save double handling and assist in keeping accurate daily records of production.

We had to cancel our order for a lathe due to financial stringency.

(Sgd.) A. C. Harris,  
General Manager.

As mentioned by Mr. Harris in his letter, a list of the gear at Chandler which he regards as being "Top Priority," is attached. I do not propose to read the list but if any member cares to examine it, it is available. Also, there is a list forwarded of items of the State alunite industry plant required by the Bureau of Resources primarily for an experimental coking plant which I mentioned some days ago when I discussed another matter in this House, and in which Mr. Fitzgerald and his colleagues are interested among other investigations, and there are a dozen or more items required by them. Considerable interest has also been taken in the houses at Chandler. Requests have been received from such organisations as the Merredin Road Board as to the possibility of their being purchased for re-erection in that district.

A short time ago the member for Mt. Marshall asked about them in this House, and I replied that no decision had been reached because I had this matter in mind.

Some of those houses are comparatively new; others, of course, are older and have been re-erected more than once. But if they stand there unoccupied, as it appears they will, without considerable maintenance at very heavy cost, they will rapidly deteriorate and become of no use at all, whereas it is possible to remove them on jinkers to neighbouring towns and dispose of them with advantage to people who require such a type of dwelling. That would not apply to all of them but to the majority, which I am told are fit for that purpose. Finally, on the 31st October, I received a minute from the Under Treasurer, which reads—

Arising out of our discussion this morning regarding the question of seeking Parliament's approval this session to the disposal of the assets of the Alunite Industry, and my statement to you that Professor Bayliss had informed me that his Research Chemist had discovered in the alunite an element which would be useful for the production of atomic energy, I had a conversation with Professor Bayliss later in the day.

The Professor says that, although his investigations are not complete, they have reached such a stage that he is able to say that he would not recommend the retention of the assets at Chandler merely because of this latest discovery. He still feels that, apart from the items he refers to in his letter of the 8th April last on D.I.D. file 2781-50, there is no justification for retaining the rest of the plant.

If Parliament's approval to the sale is not obtained this session, caretakers—probably two—will have to be appointed to watch the property at Chandler, and it is unlikely that they would have much work to do. The cost would be fairly heavy, probably amounting to at least £25 a week in wages. It might be difficult also to secure the services of reliable men for this work. This caretaking would have to continue until Parliament met in 1953.

So far as I know, there is no settlement within close proximity to the Works at Chandler where a local resident could be appointed caretaker part-time, and as the Works are isolated, it would be most unsafe to leave any plant, machinery or buildings there unattended.

If Parliament's approval to the sale of the assets is obtained this year, it need not, of course, be put into operation until it was felt that a suitable time had arrived to effect a sale.

There are several good houses at Chandler and these could, no doubt, be removed and sold at a profit.

Others of the houses were second-hand before they went there, and it is doubtful if they could be removed again.

Some of the stores, at least, and, I think, some of the equipment, could be used in other Government undertakings. Therefore, it would appear to be wise to secure Parliament's approval this session.

So this Bill is before the House. I will say at this stage that I have already informed Mr. Harris that if approval is given, we will arrange for him to have the gear he requires. I think that is the most obvious thing to do for whatever is required for that industry. I understand that, although there will be some expense involved in shifting, erecting and so forth, in his opinion it will effect a saving of approximately £24,000 on what it would otherwise cost to clear. Discussion will, of course, have to take place between the two organisations or departments concerned as to what arrangements shall be made for a transfer of these assets, and also of the necessary bookkeeping adjustments that have to be made.

When the requirements of that organisation and the Bureau of Research to which I referred are satisfied, then it seems to me that further discussions should take place with Professor Bayliss and, if he is still of opinion that it would be worth while retaining the items he mentioned, in all the circumstances, some steps should be taken to look after them. Beyond that, the balance of the plant should be sold by tender. This is my attitude in the matter, and I think it is a proper course to pursue. On the grounds I have given to the House, I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

On motion by Hon. A. R. G. Hawke, debate adjourned.

## ANNUAL ESTIMATES, 1952-53.

### *In Committee of Supply.*

Debate resumed from the previous day on the Treasurer's Financial Statement and on the Annual Estimates; Mr. Hill in the Chair.

*Vote—Legislative Council, £5,702:*

**MR. GRAHAM** (East Perth) [5.34]: The other evening the member for Kalgoorlie gave quite a number of instances where the Government has discriminated against public transport in favour of transport conducted by private concerns. I desire to refer to another case of this unfairness being allowed by the Government. Members will appreciate that for some time Government vehicles—I am speaking particularly of trolley-buses—have been proceeding eastwards along Wellington-st., and then turning around Wellington

Square to make a further trip to the northern and western suburbs. That was done to alleviate congestion that occurs in central Wellington-st., immediately in front of the Perth railway station. I feel it was quite a good move although it entailed considerable distances of extra travel by those Government vehicles. But, for some unaccountable reason, the Government has allowed private bus services to continue to turn in front of Perth railway station, and many of the vehicles concerned are of an enormous semi-trailer type of omnibus, and because of that they cut completely across the flow of traffic, whether it be proceeding east or west.

Surely, if it was fair and reasonable for Government vehicles to turn about out of town where they would not interfere with the flow of traffic in the heart of the city, the same treatment should have been accorded to private concerns. The job has been only half done; it has been done to the disadvantage of public-owned transport vehicles and has allowed private vehicles to interrupt the flow of traffic. Either the proposition is right or it is wrong. But apparently in the eyes of this Government it does not matter a snap of the fingers if there is additional cost, waste of time and other considerations in connection with public transport. By no means, however, should private transport be interfered with, irrespective of the effect it is having upon the free movement of traffic in the city! So, without seeking to go further afield, there is surely abundant evidence of unfair discrimination. It is grossly unfair.

The Government is surely charged primarily with protecting the assets that belong to the people, but in spite of this all its bias seems to be in the opposite direction. More of this will be discussed and heard of when the elections are held in a few months' time. I think it shocking that Conservative Governments throughout the Commonwealth of Australia—the Western Australian Government and the Commonwealth Government particularly—should be disposing of and sacrificing and placing all sorts of obstructions in the way of public utilities. There is no need to mention all of them. We have had a lengthy debate with regard to what the Government has done in sacrificing certain assets by way of iron-ore deposits in the North; we have had lengthy debates in this Chamber on the question of the Government handing over to private enterprise the Black Diamond coal leases; evidence is mounting of the unfairness generally in the matter of the allocation of bus routes to private concerns. They are being given the best and most suitable routes, and what is left, namely, the areas that will not be touched by private transport companies, the State instrumentalities are compelled to serve. Then we are faced with the position that

the Treasurer is unable to balance his budget. In the Commonwealth field, of course—

The Premier: Do you think if we socialised all these things that I could balance the budget?

Mr. GRAHAM: I am certain that the position would be immeasurably improved if there were an element of fairness in this matter. If there are to be certain areas granted to certain omnibus concerns, whether privately or publicly owned, then they should be made to take the bad with the good, but to allow private companies to pick the eyes out of these areas, and compel Government-owned transport to deal with what is left, is simply not cricket. This attitude certainly has no regard for the interests of the people. As I was about to say, in the Commonwealth field we are aware of the shocking action taken by that Government in the matter of the air lines. There is no need to discuss the details, because they are known to practically every one of us.

We know what has been done with regard to the Commonwealth Oil Refineries; we know what has happened to Amalgamated Wireless; we know what is taking place concerning the closing down of Glen Davis; and we are aware that negotiations are proceeding to give away the Commonwealth Shipping Service. Goodness knows where this is all going to end. One would imagine that some outside authority had entered the Commonwealth for the purpose of pirating the assets and possessions of the people of Australia so as to hand them over to a favoured few at what, in some instances, are most ridiculous prices. History shows us what occurred regarding the Commonwealth Shipping Line and the woollen mills in the earlier part of the century. I feel sure that when the public is fully apprised of what is going on, there will be considerable revolt on its part.

If a Labour Government were disposing of valuable assets that belonged to the people to certain selected and favoured sections of the community, the fact would not be mentioned in the newspapers as a small item of news and then forgotten. There would be a repetition of what happened with regard to the banking question. The subject would be kept alive for months and a full campaign against the transaction would have proceeded on the part of the Press. On the other hand, conservative Governments are allowed to take such actions and in a few days these organs of expression of what is allegedly public opinion, clamp down on the matter and the whole thing can be conveniently forgotten.

I am concerned about another trend that is developing in the Commonwealth and which was also manifest half a century or so ago and was responsible for

the establishment of the organisation known as the Australian Natives' Association for the purpose of fighting for Australia and Australians. It appears that, in the eyes of certain political forces in the country, there is no merit in an Australian in his own country. Before dealing more specifically with that phase, I want to touch on a subject that is related to it and has to do with the traffic problem. The announcement has been made by the Government that it intends to install a lighting system to control the flow of traffic at certain chosen points.

Some 12 or 15 years ago a Western Australian citizen devised a scheme of traffic lights for regulating the flow of traffic. Over the course of the years he consulted all the authorities who in any way had anything to do with handling of traffic. I understand that in one instance only was any objection raised to his scheme. That objection came from a public official who, I should say, was a little too steeped in prejudice and previous practices. His mind was not receptive of modern ideas. The person I refer to is a young Western Australian named A. W. Dunn, who resides now in Bunbury. I am told he was given an undertaking by the Public Works Department and other authorities that if ever consideration was given to the installation of traffic signals, he would be consulted and given an opportunity to explain his system. That has not been done.

I confess I am not a specialist or expert in this matter, but from his explanation and the viewing of diagrams he furnished, I am certain that Mr. Dunn has a scheme that is more satisfactory than any operating in other parts of the Commonwealth today. He has devised an ingenious scheme under which it is possible for traffic from opposite directions to turn left and right simultaneously, without any crossing of lines of traffic in a dangerous manner.

The Chief Secretary: Has Mr. Dunn been pressing his scheme lately?

Mr. GRAHAM: Yes.

The Chief Secretary: Without any result satisfactory to him?

Mr. GRAHAM: Without any result at all. From what I understand of the system to be introduced in Perth, it will be impossible for traffic to make a right-hand turn or, alternatively, there will be at busy intersections a banking up of traffic and congestion. All that is required is one timid driver to be slow in turning and a queue will be constantly increasing of vehicles waiting opportunities to slip through other streams of traffic. Thus there will be traffic jams or unnecessary delays at intersections at which there is some of the heaviest traffic in the metropolitan area.

I suppose the sin committed by this individual of whom I have spoken, is that he is a Western Australian citizen. Had he come from another part of the world, full and proper consideration would have been given to his scheme. I understand that in 1939 he went to great pains in manufacturing a complete model to demonstrate the effectiveness of his system for regulating the flow of traffic, showing that traffic could turn in either direction while at the same time making proper provision for the safety and flow of pedestrian traffic, which is exceedingly important. If traffic is to turn at intersections it must now cross through the flow of pedestrians. Mr. Dunn's scheme has been ignored by the Government. Its effectiveness has been proved, because it has been tried out by Mr. Dunn who secured a number of vehicles, took them to an intersection outside the confines of the city and tested it out. It was proved that the scheme worked. It has all this to commend it.

I point out to the Minister that most of the departmental officials interested in the problem have approved of the scheme. Nevertheless, for some unaccountable reason the Government is going outside Australia and spending many thousands of pounds in order to install a system of traffic signals that will lead to inconvenience for the public.

The Chief Secretary: Is the cost of Mr. Dunn's appliance reasonable?

Mr. GRAHAM: I cannot answer that question with any degree of certainty, but I should say that it would be cheaper than the scheme proposed by the Government because there is no necessity for the device, which I understand is to register the approach of vehicles. For the rest it would be merely a set of signals and the cost should be considerably less.

The Chief Secretary: Has it, or anything like it, been tried elsewhere?

Mr. GRAHAM: So far as I am aware, it has not.

The Chief Secretary: If it is not overcostly and is as attractive as you say, that is in its favour.

Mr. GRAHAM: When approaches were first made, the only person who was opposed to it or who found any fault with it was the then Chief Traffic Inspector, but the Transport Board, the Local Government Department, the Public Works Department and so forth were all pleased and satisfied with the invention. I have before me some papers that were lent to me by the member for Bunbury, containing diagrams and photographs of working models to explain how the device operates. Before the Government finally commits itself—I hope it has not already done so—I hope it will investigate this invention from the point of view of cost as well as of practicability.

I understand that Mr. Dunn is not seeking unnecessarily to obtain any gain for himself. I believe he is prepared to allow several of these traffic signals to be placed at certain points without his receiving any consideration whatever. He holds the patent rights—the world patent rights, I believe—for this invention and will permit a full-scale working model to be tested for any period. So confident is he that it would be adopted, not only by Western Australia but also by other parts of the world, that he would rely upon a small royalty accruing to him. This is an offer that is well worthy of consideration by the Government, and I hope that no attempt will be made to find a few finicky faults, but that the matter will be dealt with constructively to ascertain whether it measures up to the claims of the inventor.

I revert to my previous theme that here is another illustration of the Government's showing scant consideration for its own citizens. On a previous occasion, I protested against the action of the Government in importing a gentleman to fill the position of Governor of Western Australia, instead of appointing one of our own citizens, particularly after the outstanding success of the gentleman who previously occupied that post.

Mr. Manning: We have an outstanding man now.

Mr. GRAHAM: I suppose it would be possible to find an outstanding man to fill any and every position in the State, but there should be some avenues of promotion here and the highest positions should be available to outstanding men in the State. Members will have read in the Press during the last few days the announcement of the appointment of an executive officer and secretary for the the Public Library Board. A large salary is to be paid to a man who, apparently in conformity with the established policy of the present Government, is to be imported from overseas. The same thing happened in relation to the appointment of a Town Planner. Apparently there was nobody in Western Australia who was good enough to occupy the position of Government Printer, and the Chief Railways Commissioner had to be imported. The manager of the Royal Perth Hospital was obtained from another part of the world.

The Attorney General: Do you think we could prevent Western Australians from going elsewhere to earn a living? Do you think we should keep them here? I understand that is your argument.

Mr. GRAHAM: There are exceedingly rare occasions when it is necessary or desirable to obtain persons of experience and special knowledge from another part of the world.

The Attorney General: Do you think we should prevent our people from going abroad to earn a living?

Mr. GRAHAM: Nothing of the sort.

The Attorney General: I thought that was what you were arguing.

Mr. Grayden: What would happen if other places thought the same thing?

Mr. GRAHAM: Most countries give the important posts to their own citizens and it is exceedingly rare for them to make appointments from other countries. What I am protesting against is this trend on the part of the Government to go outside the State for men to fill important positions. It is occurring far too often. Towards the end of last century, there was an agitation in Australia that led to the birth of the Australian Natives Association which, for a time, was a strong and virile organisation. Apparently the need exists for the resuscitation of that organisation or the formation of another to fight for the rights of citizens of this country. We are reverting to the stage where we were regarded by officialdom as being mere colonials, though in those days the term was generally prefixed by an adjective beginning with "b."

I remind the Premier that some time ago I introduced to him a deputation representing the professional officers of the Railway Department, who pointed out that practically every engineering position in the Midland Junction Workshops had been filled by appointees from outside the State, notwithstanding that there were engineers of capacity and experience in our own State.

The Attorney General: But not of equal ability.

Mr. GRAHAM: If we adopt the attitude that nobody in Western Australia has ability, surely there must be something wrong with our outlook! My brother was trained in this State and passed through our University and apparently was good enough to become second engineer to the Geelong Harbour Trust and take over a job where several thousand men were employed at Morwell, mining coal for the Yallourn Power Station, but he was not good enough to be given a position in this State.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: According to the Minister for Industrial Development today, there is no-one in the whole of Western Australia capable of valuing the capital assets at Wundowie.

The Premier: I admit we have had some bad importations into Western Australia!

Mr. GRAHAM: Apart from this rotten trend to deny these higher positions to our own citizens, there is, unfortunately, an anti-Australian trend. I have been making inquiries—so far unsuccessfully—to ascertain whether it would be possible to introduce a measure to deal with what one might describe as un-Australian activities. I could hope that such a measure

would prove acceptable to members, but judging by the anti-Australian bias that has been displayed, I feel somewhat doubtful. It is shocking to find such instances of disloyalty to one's own country. Twelve months ago, I pointed out that children sitting for the junior certificate examination in history were given a series of questions to answer and it was possible for them to deal with all the required questions without answering a single one related to Australia, let alone Western Australia.

I have complained in the Press about the absence of the Australian coat of arms from the florin issued to commemorate the Jubilee of the Commonwealth of Australia. There is a crossed mace and a crossed sword on the reverse side of the coin, and both those tokens come from the old world. There is nothing typically Australian about them. And this was a coin specially issued to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Commonwealth of Australia! Again, no citizen in the whole of the Commonwealth could be found suitable to occupy the position of Governor General. He had to be an importation. So somebody who knows practically nothing about the Commonwealth of Australia is to come here and occupy that distinguished post.

Members will recall the fight there was and the period of half a century which elapsed before, for the first time, an Australian flag flew from the mast-head at Parliament House. All these things surely emphasise the point that there is far too little loyalty and devotion to and pride in our own country on the part of certain interests. Many seek to cover up that fact, that weakness in their make-up, by flapping a Union Jack. Nobody responsible has any animus or bias against the Mother Country or the Union Jack. But surely our first loyalty is to our own country, which we know and which is real to us.

That brings me to the point concerning our Western Australian Governor or, as it is set down in the Estimates, the Governor's Establishment. Some people consider it improper for a member of Parliament, or for that matter anybody else, to make any criticism of or pass any comment on the Governor's establishment. Members will recall that just recently the State President of the Returned Servicemen's League said he was disgusted at the fact that a certain newspaper had made some comment on the increasing cost of the Governor's establishment.

Mr. Yates: Rightly so, too.

Mr. GRAHAM: I do not know what authority Mr. Chaney had to speak on behalf of the servicemen of Western Australia.

Mr. Yates: He has every right.

Mr. GRAHAM: And I do not see that anyone has the right to express disgust at the fact that any responsible authority, in which I include units of the Press—provided that authority conforms to certain established principles of decency—should give expression to an opinion on such a matter. It is certainly the duty of a member of Parliament to express himself on that subject if he feels so disposed.

Mr. Yates: When the full facts are known, I agree.

Mr. GRAHAM: Perhaps the facts should be placed before us. An item appeared on the Estimates last year for the first time covering a special allowance to the Governor of £1,000. That sum was considerably exceeded, and now the Government has increased the figure to £4,500.

Mr. Grayden: Rightly so.

Mr. GRAHAM: It is all very well for first one member and then another to declare, "Rightly so." Perhaps if they were patient for a moment and would listen, they might come to a different conclusion. If the Governor, whoever he may be, is worthy of a greater salary than is now paid, there is a proper course to follow, and that is to amend the schedule to the Constitution Acts Amendment Act for the purpose of increasing the salary from the present £4,000 per annum to whatever is regarded as being a reasonable sum.

Mr. Grayden: Have you ever seen the expense account of the former Viceroy of India? They had a comparatively small salary but an enormous expense account.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: You mean Rita Hayworth's husband?

Mr. GRAHAM: Here we see this tendency again to travel to other parts of the world. If the hon. member will allow me to continue, perhaps he will grasp the point I am endeavouring to make. So far as I have been able to ascertain by going through the records, no such allowance has ever been granted to Governors of Western Australia. A certain amount has been provided by way of salary and then special allocations have been made for staff or incidentals, such as travelling, garden upkeep and the rest of it. Those items, with the exception of salary, have been adjusted annually for the purpose of meeting the usual increased costs. Very rarely have the costs decreased, so the movement has been in one direction.

Nobody is complaining about reasonable increases along those lines; but if Sir James Mitchell was not only able but was compelled to carry out his duties without an additional allowance, the purpose of which is unspecified in the Estimates, surely it is extraordinary that as soon as Sir James vacated his office,

£1,000 was set aside and 12 months later the amount of £4,500 is put under this heading, in addition to very substantial increases under other headings. We find that salaries in 1951-52 were £1,642, and the estimate for the current financial years is £3,067—almost double.

Mr. Yates: The basic wage is double.

Mr. GRAHAM: That is so, but it has not doubled in that short space of time. The upkeep of the gardens, which includes wages, amounted, in the last year that Sir James Mitchell was in office, to £4,149. It has now risen to £8,140—again almost double.

Mr. Manning: It is the inflationary trend.

Mr. GRAHAM: I wonder whether there has been inflation to the extent of 100 per cent. in the short period between last July and now.

Mr. Yates: The gardens certainly look 100 per cent. better.

Mr. GRAHAM: That may be so, but I can think of more important things to do than making neglected gardens look beautiful.

Mr. Grayden: You seem to think we should let Government House fall apart at the seams.

Mr. GRAHAM: No one suggests that. Many thousands of pounds have been spent for the purpose of renovating and maintaining the building.

Mr. Bovell: Have you ever seen Government Houses in other States?

Mr. GRAHAM: I am concerned with Government House in this State. I want to know why it suddenly becomes necessary to spend almost unlimited money on Government House as soon as an Australian citizen is out of the job, and why Sir James Mitchell, who was representing the Sovereign in the same way as the present occupant of the office—

Mr. Grayden: Did he ask for these things to be done?

Mr. GRAHAM: I do not know, but I object to the additional £90 a week, beyond the extra for the gardens, wages, maintenance and staff, which has been placed on the Estimates for the purpose of running cocktail parties, sherry parties and all the rest of it. It is possible to pay all respect and loyalty to the Sovereign and to her representative in this State without going to undue lengths to indulge in unnecessary pomp and circumstance.

Mr. Grayden: We object to snide attacks on a man who cannot answer them.

Mr. GRAHAM: I have made no derogatory reference to the occupant of the position. This matter is in the hands of the Government which could well have said to Sir Charles, or whoever else might have been occupying the position, "Because of the period of financial stringency through

which we are passing, much as we would like you to continue to extend the same degree of hospitality and hold the social functions that you are holding now at Government House, we regret that it is impossible for you to do so, and that you will have to curtail them to some extent." This is a tremendous increase, from nothing up to £90 a week, since the present person has occupied the position. I repeat, I am saying nothing whatever in criticism of the individual himself.

Mr. Yates: It is still the cheapest Governor's establishment in Australia; cheaper even than that in Tasmania.

Mr. GRAHAM: That has nothing to do with it.

Mr. Yates: Of course it has.

Mr. GRAHAM: When money becomes tight, it is the wrong time to indulge in lavishness, and to extend lavishness on an unprecedented scale so far as the commitments of the State are concerned. Previous Governors have been brought here from Great Britain but no special allowance was made to them, as far as I am able to ascertain. Why is it being made now, and why this tremendous increase in a short period?

The Minister for Lands: The member for Fremantle was down accepting His Excellency's hospitality today.

Mr. GRAHAM: That may be so. I could dispense a lot of hospitality to a number of people if the Government would make me an allowance of £90 a week.

The Premier: No!

Mr. GRAHAM: In these times it is surely necessary for the Government to show some balance and sense of proportion.

Mr. Bovell: And it is surely unnecessary for you to make comments such as these in the Chamber. It is a disgrace.

Mr. GRAHAM: The member for Vasse has apparently just entered the Chamber. I have already told members, and he will acknowledge this if he is fair, that it is the bounden duty of every member to pass comment on each item that appears in the Estimates if he is so disposed. The Governor is entitled to an increase in salary. So far as I am aware, no increase has been made since 1898. Whereas £4,000 was adequate then, it surely is not at present, but let the Government do this the proper way. From what one reads in the paper of this lavish entertainment, Government House is becoming the social centre for certain selected people. Sir James Mitchell was able to mix with the ordinary everyday people.

Mr. Oldfield: Your Deputy Leader had dinner there.

Mr. GRAHAM: I suppose any member would pay a courtesy call. My point is that so far as Royalty itself is concerned, there is a tendency for a lot of this stiffness and formality to be dispensed with,

and for members of the Royal Family to mix unobtrusively with the people. I think the representative of the Crown should adopt more of that procedure and hold fewer parties, which must cost a considerable sum of money.

If the occupant of the office is able to dispense this hospitality, and feels disposed to do so, well and good; but at a time like this, the taxpayers should not be called upon to meet a tremendously increased commitment when there are other matters of outstanding importance requiring attention. I understand there are more than 500 hapless women looking for a home, or somewhere to go. They are unable to obtain access to hospitals, convalescent homes or other institutions run by the Government. Surely it is more important that we should do something for them than that we should allow money to be spent on entertainment on the scale I have mentioned.

*Sitting suspended from 6.15 to 7.30 p.m.*

MR. O'BRIEN (Murchison) [7.30]: I am thankful, Mr. Chairman, for this, my first opportunity of addressing this Chamber. I wish, first of all, to pay a tribute to my predecessor, the late W. M. Marshall, who, as member for Murchison for 31 years, was well known to members of this Chamber. He was a great fighter on behalf of the worker and of him I think it could truly be said that he fought the good fight and kept the faith. I am proud to succeed such a man and trust that, in my efforts to follow his example, I will receive from members the same co-operation as he received.

The people of the Murchison area are confronted with many problems at the present time and one of the most important is the critical position of the gold mining industry due to increased costs. As a new member I will not pursue that aspect of the matter further at this time, but I do ask for all possible assistance for the prospectors, on whom we depend for the discovery of new goldmines and who, it may well be, will eventually help Australia out of its present difficulties. I ask the Government to join in a threefold movement of co-operation, between it, the employers and the employees. A spirit of mutual assistance already exists in the Murchison electorate between the employers and the employees, but I am sorry to say that so far co-operation on the part of the Government has been limited.

I would like to see formed a minerals bank for the purpose of assisting prospectors who discover deposits of minerals or gold, but particularly minerals, because such men are often handicapped by lack of finance. A minerals bank, such as I suggest, and controlled by the Mines Department, would meet a long felt need.

Having listened attentively to the speech of my colleague, the member for Boulder, I agree with everything he said, as I know it to be correct.

I ask the Government to do all it can to improve the rail services in my electorate and to refrain from the curtailment or the dismantling of any existing line in that area as that would be a retrogressive step. Having recently travelled by train from Yalgoo to Perth I can say, from my own knowledge, that that service leaves room for great improvement, but I feel sure that the Minister for Railways will do all he can to meet the situation when the matter is put before him.

I commend the Minister for Health and recall that on one occasion when I was obliged to present a case to her she gave a great deal of help in securing the services of a doctor for the Big Bell hospital and district. The pastoral industry in the Murchison electorate is in need of help and I am convinced that an acreage irrigation plan should be put into operation. A reduction in taxation would enable the pastoralists to spend money on such a scheme. In the Cue district at present there is one pastoralist spending thousands of pounds on experimental work and it is my belief that, if we cannot obtain the water we require from the surface, it will have to be secured by boring.

A sound irrigation plan, if given sufficient assistance at this stage, will, within a few years, be of great benefit to the State by protecting the pastoralists from the effects of drought. For seven years I battled along with my family on a pastoral lease, but eventually, because of stock losses caused through drought, followed by low prices, I was obliged to abandon the property in the depression years and seek employment. I believe in a fair day's work for a fair day's pay, but I maintain that the people of the Murchison are not at present receiving a fair deal. Even the best is not good enough for them, and I repeat that money spent on assistance to the goldmining industry will be of great ultimate benefit to the State.

The hospital plan that is in operation at present is not considered satisfactory by the people of the Murchison. Only today I received a letter from Mt. Magnet and this man has received a bill for hospital expenses. He spent 13 days in hospital at a cost of £2 a day and that made a total of £26. Theatre fees were £2 12s. 6d., making a grand total of £28 12s. 6d. He has been allowed 8s. a day for Commonwealth hospital benefits, which makes a total of £5 4s. and his net account thus totalled £23 8s. 6d. Then he had a doctor's bill of £9 18s. 6d. Over a few years this man has paid to a hospital fund known as the mine fund a sum of £51. These people are already paying into a fund and yet they are obliged to find all these extra fees. Consequently they contend

that they are not getting a fair deal. Why should they have to be insured this way and that way and yet still have to pay hospital accounts? So I ask that the Government endeavour to lighten the burden that is placed on these people and that some new hospital plan, similar to the one proposed by the Chifley Government, be put into operation.

There is also another matter in connection with main roads and cattle ramps. Throughout the district there are main roads and I would like to see the department given the power to erect main road cattle ramps of a uniform size. Provisions sent to the Murchison during the summer months arrive in a very bad condition. During a visit to the Murchison the Minister for Railways promised that a cold storage van would be provided to convey perishable goods to the district. I was the chairman of a deputation that waited on the Minister, and he promised that a van would be fitted out and attached to the train. So I ask the Government to co-operate in this matter and assist the member for the district in order to make the life of people who live in those remote areas a far happier one than it is at the moment.

**HON. E. NULSEN (Eyre)** [7.45]: I do not intend to speak for long on this debate. I was going to deal with railways, transport, goldmining, the pastoral industry and a few other items, but as the Treasurer is anxious to press on with the debate and deal with the items in the Estimates, I will content myself with discussing only a few small local problems. The first concerns Norseman where the Western Mining Corporation has decided to build a swimming pool at its own expense. All the necessary material is on the job, including the cement, but the Government has let the people of the district down because it will not supply the 180,000 gallons of water required to fill the pool. The Government promised that this water would be made available, and the Dundas Road Board and the people of the district are anxious that this amenity should be provided. I want to know, from the Minister, whether anything can be done to help these people.

We have been promised all sorts of amenities for country people and we talk about decentralisation but everything we do seems to be towards centralisation; we should do everything possible to help the people who live in these remote areas. Norseman has a bright future and the quantity of gold produced in the district is equal to that produced in any other part of Australia. They are restricted as to the amount of gold they mine because if they produce too much the value will drop. Also they are producing pyrites. The main trouble seems to be to keep the people in the district. In regard to the swimming pool project, I

think the Government has fallen down on its job because it will not provide the amount of water required. The Minister for Agriculture was down there recently and when members of the Dundas Road Board discussed the question with him he said that he would do all he could to assist. Apparently his efforts have been in vain.

When Mr. Boylen, M.L.C., and I went through the district about a week ago a deputation waited upon us and discussed this question. The deputation included Mr. Dodd, Mr. Fuller, Mr. Deering, Mr. Kerr and the local butcher; they are all members of the Dundas Road Board and they were anxious to see this amenity provided for the people of the district. They are prepared to clutch at every straw in order to have this swimming pool built.

Mr. Yates: How does the daily inflow compare with consumption?

Hon. E. NULSEN: The daily inflow is not sufficient because when the pipeline was put down in the first place they put a 10-in. main as far as Spargoville and an 8-in. main from there on. At that time I protested against the size of the main and advocated that at least a 12-in. main should be installed. My argument was that it would not cost much more to do that than to install the size of pipe they proposed.

Mr. Yates: The water gravitates.

Hon. E. NULSEN: Yes, it gravitates from Coolgardie and with a 12-in. main there would be no trouble. Four boosters are to be installed, which will cost at least £50,000 apart from the maintenance. I ask the Government, if it intends to go on with the installation of this smaller sized pipe, to make it only a temporary job in order that a 12-in. main may be laid down permanently, which would reduce maintenance and other costs. Also, the size of the district warrants a 12-in. main and from an economical point of view it would be most desirable. Norseman is one of the most solid Goldfields towns in Australia.

Mr. Yates: It has a long life ahead of it.

Hon. E. NULSEN: Yes, it has a very long life ahead of it. The pyrites industry has given new life to the district, and that product is the major constituent of super which is the lifeblood of the State. I hope the Government will heed my requests on behalf of the people of that district and make some investigation to provide, by some means or other, 180,000 gallons of water to fill the swimming pool.

On the 12th of this month a field day was held at Esperance and it was a huge success. It is called the Esperance Downs field day. The pasture was good and with special treatment the clover, on small lots, would produce from 2½ to 3 tons of hay

to the acre. The wheat crop, in portions of the district, will produce 8 bags to the acre with special super treatment. They clipped, I think, about 120 or 150 sheep which averaged approximately 9 lb. of wool per sheep. Although most of them were wethers, there were a few ewes and anyone who knows anything about sheep will realise that the result was very good. I give credit to Mr. Downs who is working on the Salmon Gums research station, and also to the young man in charge, who is doing a wonderful job. Those men set an excellent example to the workers of the State.

I now wish to speak on the origin of the Goldfields Water Scheme. From what I can learn of knowledge obtained from the pioneers of the Kanowna and Kurnalpi goldfields, they are definitely of the opinion that Mr. Nat Harper was extremely enthusiastic about establishing this scheme, and they consider that a great deal of the credit is due to him. They remember him vividly in 1885 and the years following, and they are fully aware of the work he did in endeavouring to have the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme established. Although Mr. Harper means nothing to me, I like to be fair and I am glad the Premier has agreed to a further investigation to ascertain who first mooted this scheme, and I hope it will be met with success. I think Mr. Harper first got his idea for the scheme in New Zealand and he was of the opinion that if water could be obtained from a shaft it could be pumped 100 miles with suitable machinery.

I am therefore pleased that a final investigation is to be made in an effort to give due credit for the work of a man who is still living. He is certainly entitled to some recognition if he was the one responsible for getting water to the Goldfields, because without it they would never have developed and expanded to the extent that they have. As is known, of course, that scheme now serves many agricultural areas. We should give more consideration to the establishment of similar schemes. We have not been water-minded enough and, instead of having only the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme, we should have a dozen similar schemes throughout the State.

MR. HEARMAN (Blackwood) [7.55]: I did not intend to speak on the Estimates, but last night the Leader of the Opposition asked some questions of the Premier about flax, and the Premier answered them. Possibly members may have got a wrong impression from both the wording of the questions and the nature of the answers given. I am not suggesting that there was any intention on the part of the Leader of the Opposition or the Premier to mislead any member, but it has occurred to me that there is a basic difference between the flax industry now

carried on in Western Australia and that in the Eastern States. In order that members may appreciate what the difference is, I think it is necessary to traverse briefly the history of the industry in this State. It was first established during the war as a war-time measure by the Commonwealth Government.

Two flax mills commenced operation in Western Australia and 11 or 12 in South Australia and Victoria. When hostilities ceased and the Commonwealth Government's commitments on flax were finalised, the Commonwealth Government of the day decided, in conjunction with the Flax Production Committee, to continue the industry in the Eastern States and endeavour to close it down in Western Australia. Mr. Stevenson, the chairman of the Flax Production Committee, was of the opinion that Western Australia was too far away and, as there was only one mill at Boyup Brook that had any prospect of showing any promise, he advised the then Minister for Commerce and Agriculture, Mr. Pollard, to close completely the industry in Western Australia and to carry on the mills in the Eastern States as Government concerns.

The growers at Boyup Brook did not wish the industry to pass from them and they made representations to the Commonwealth Government to purchase the mill and carry on by themselves. The Minister in charge at the time was not sympathetically disposed to their request. However, I think, largely due to the efforts of the then member for Forrest, Mr. Nelson Lemmon, who was also a member of the Commonwealth Cabinet, as Minister for Works and Housing, the Commonwealth granted financial assistance which enabled the growers in the district to form a co-operative company to take the mill over and operate it as a co-operative undertaking.

They did not have the blessing of the Federal Minister or the chairman of the Flax Production Committee. In fact, they had considerable difficulty in disposing of the first season's crop and it had to be carried for an extra year. The Flax Production Committee would not take it from them and the Rural Bank had to carry it, and at one stage their overdraft was a matter of some concern. However, having established the industry in Western Australia and bought into it, as it were, the growers themselves decided they would make it prosper.

It did flourish to a greater extent than it did in the Eastern States, and the result is that today about half Australia's flax production comes from Boyup Brook. There is more production from one mill at Boyup Brook than there is from the 12 mills in the Eastern States. One can readily understand the choice of words of the Leader of the Opposition when he talked about revitalising the industry in

this State. It has done quite well in this State, and in the last financial year a 6 per cent. dividend was paid, and this is the biggest dividend that a co-operative company has been able to pay under the Act.

As members know, co-operative companies are limited as to the dividends they can pay. On top of that, they paid £1 a ton bonus for straw received into the mill, which meant that the growers got more than they needed. The highest production at Boyup Brook is 30 cwt. to the acre, which is a sound average, and so growers are finding flax-production quite profitable.

Mr. Brady: What is the average holding?

Mr. HEARMAN: It varies considerably, but there is a total in this State of about 3,000 acres of flax planted this year as against 5,000 acres in the Eastern States. Our annual production of fibre here is good, because the mill at Boyup Brook is by far the most efficient in Australia. It is the only mill in Australia which is known as water-retted, and it always has been. The mills in the Eastern States are still on the old dry-retted process, which is very expensive and not so efficient.

A lot of the money being expended by the Commonwealth Flax Production Committee is spent in installing retting tanks in some of the Eastern States mills to enable them to achieve the same degree of efficiency as that attained at the mill at Boyup Brook. In any case, in view of the fact that the mill at Boyup Brook is owned by the millers and not by the Commonwealth, it could hardly be expected that the Vote for the Commonwealth Flax Committee would include any money to be spent at Boyup Brook. It would be like asking the National Airlines Commission to spend money on A.N.A., whereas we could understand their spending it on T.A.A.

Mr. Butcher: Could the mill handle more straw?

Mr. HEARMAN: It could; it is a continuous process. It is tucked by the binders during the harvesting season and stacked in the mill. The process of reseeded and the grading of fibre, etc., is carried on more or less continuously. Today there is no trouble at all in disposing of fibre, because the Commonwealth is constantly asking for it. At one stage we had a complete season's production stored at Boyup Brook, but today there is no accumulation at all. As soon as a sufficient quantity can be obtained, it is shipped to the Eastern States for spinning, because there is no spinning industry in this State. I think Commonwealth assistance could perhaps best be given indirectly. Firstly there is still scope for agricultural research.

I must say that the local Department of Agriculture has done a very good job. It has developed a new strain of flax

known as "Wada" which is disease resistant and a good yielder. It is also suitable to the climate of Boyup Brook and if a spinning industry could be established here it would obviate the need for flax to be sent to the Eastern States to be spun. This would reduce the cost of canvas goods in Western Australia because the Boyup Brook area just about supplies the requirements of Western Australia so far as flax products are concerned. At present the stuff has to go to the Eastern States to be spun and the finished product brought back here. As we are producing as much here as they are in the Eastern States, it seems to me logical to establish a spinning industry in Western Australia as they have in the Eastern States.

Mr. Butcher: Have they many?

Mr. HEARMAN: Davies Cooper are the main people who do the spinning, and they are a Melbourne firm. There is considerable need for flax in Australia, and in fact Australian production does not nearly meet our requirements. I understand the Australian production is estimated to fall about 1,500 tons short of Australian requirements, so there is ample room for expansion, and I think it could be expanded at Boyup Brook. Flax is working in very well as a rotational crop with normal agricultural products. In fact, growing a flax crop on ploughed land is proving to be a very satisfactory rotation and it is helping to maintain the standard of pastures in that area. At one time it was thought flax-growing was bad for the soil, but I think that is now largely discounted. Growers have developed and learnt the proper technique for growing flax, and I am certain that within an economic radius of the mill at Boyup Brook a considerably greater quantity could be produced.

At present there are factors which perhaps make greater production impossible, and about which I do not think either the State or the Commonwealth Government can do a great deal. The price of sheep and wool is one of them. Seeing that Boyup Brook is a good sheep and cattle district, the majority of farmers there have concentrated on sheep and not so much on the growing of flax. Had other forms of agriculture not been so attractive, doubtless far more flax would have been produced at Boyup Brook. I think the industry is permanent in Western Australia, and the next step is to endeavour to establish a spinning industry in this State. That would probably give it a degree of permanency that at present it does not enjoy. That seems to me to be the logical approach to render further assistance to the industry in Western Australia.

I mention these matters because I feel the growers at Boyup Brook have done an excellent job in promoting the production of flax and are to be commended for that.

Their efforts are to the advantage not only of themselves, but of the State and the Commonwealth as a whole. They are not beholden to anyone but have paid their way. That is a good indication of what can be achieved by people possessing initiative and incentive. There is a substantial and fundamental difference between the industry in this State where it is a grower-run concern, and the industry in the Eastern States where it is more or less conducted by the Government. I mention these points to let members know that the industry at Boyup Brook is not in need of revitalisation.

**THE PREMIER** (Hon. D. R. McLarty—Murray—in reply) [8.11]: More often than not there has been no reply to the debate on the Budget during the 20 odd years I have been a member of Parliament. On this occasion I feel there are a few matters to which I would like to make reference. The tendency regarding the Budget debate has been to use it as a sort of Address-in-reply discussion, members covering many fields such as they do when speaking to the earlier debate on the motion for the adoption of the Address-in-reply. In fact, very few members actually dealt with the budgetary side.

Looking now towards the member for Murchison, I would like to offer him my congratulations on his being elected to the House. In his maiden speech he remarked upon some of the needs of his district, and said he hoped favourable consideration would be extended by the Government to the matters he dealt with. I recognise that he represents one of the outback areas of the State that suffers because of its long distance from the capital city and its difficulties regarding transport. It has problems throughout its huge area, including a sparsity of population. These present a problem not only from the hon. member's point of view, but from that of the Government as well. Like many other members, he had his complaints to make and he urged that justice had not been done to the district he represents.

At this stage I shall say to him only that I hope the representations he has made will receive the consideration they should, and that if it is possible to help the electors in the Murchison to have some of the needs met that he says are so vital, circumstances will permit of that being done. In the course of the general debate, I am afraid some members rather tended to get the Revenue Estimates mixed up with the Loan Estimates. I may inform them that I expect to bring the Loan Estimates down on Tuesday next. It is from that source that expenditure is provided for the many requirements to which members have made reference.

Hon. J. B. Sleeman: There is not much discussion on the Loan Estimates as a rule.

The PREMIER: No, but members are aware that it is from that source that money is made available for developmental works. In my reply I do not intend to cover the very wide field that many members traversed. Taking a quick glance round the Chamber and omitting the Leader of the Opposition for the time being—I suppose I should, as a matter of courtesy, make reference to him first and in omitting to deal with his remarks for the time being no discourtesy is meant—the member for Boulder catches my eye. He spoke last night at considerable length.

Hon. J. B. Sleeman: It was a good speech.

The PREMIER: Yes, the member for Boulder always makes a good speech. He has a practical knowledge of the matters with which he deals. I always give credit where credit is due. I regretted hearing him say last night that he did not think the Goldfields areas were receiving the consideration from the Government that they should. He made reference to a number of requirements of his electorate and the Goldfields generally. I may inform him that I fully realise—naturally I speak for the Government as a whole—just what the Goldfields mean to the State.

When I have attended Premiers' Conferences and Loan Council meetings, I have always stressed what the goldmining industry means to Western Australia and the need for additional finance in order to help it. We know that the Goldfields provides for the requirements of the great bulk of the population in that part of the State. Should goldmining diminish, it would have a very serious effect upon the State and particularly upon the huge Goldfields areas, because we appreciate that the only other industry in existence there is the pastoral industry which, of course, employs a small number of people compared with the goldmining industry.

Mr. Moir: And the goldmining industry is slowly disappearing.

The PREMIER: I realise the difficulties that industry is confronted with and I repeat that should it decline, even to a small extent, the effect upon the economy of the State will be detrimental. When I have attended Premiers' Conferences, I have endeavoured to do something regarding an increase in the price of gold. I am very concerned regarding the increased costs with which the industry is faced. The member for Boulder made reference to such matters as transport and water charges, both very important to the people in that part of the State. The other day when I appeared before the Grants Commission, I stressed the need for adequate water supplies in the

outback areas. Water is the lifeblood of our country. When we think of the position on the Goldfields where the prospect of getting water in any quantity is severely limited apart from the supply that is piped to the fields and for which the people there have to pay, I realise that any increase in the charges in that respect would constitute a very serious drawback to those concerned.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: The Government recently asked the Goldfields community to pay half the cost of the water supply.

The PREMIER: The hon. gentleman had better measure his words in case of what might happen at some future time.

Hon. J. B. Sleeman: What will happen!

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: We would not ask that community to meet half the cost of the water supply.

The PREMIER: The revenue position in this State is difficult.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: This is Loan expenditure.

The PREMIER: I am dealing with the Revenue Estimates.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: You are wandering all over the place.

The PREMIER: I suggest that the hon. member keep quiet. I am not wandering all over the place. The money we get from water supplies is revenue; the money we spend on water supplies is loan. I am trying to explain that water charges are high. I told the Grants Commission that they should be treated as a national problem, and that water should be provided for people in our outback areas at such a cost that they would not be afraid to use it. I realise, too, what the hon. member said about education and hospitals. All these necessities must be provided in the outback and rural areas, and the Government is extremely anxious to keep the population on the Goldfields and to give the people all the necessities to which the hon. member referred.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: Do you think it a fair proposition to ask the community on the Goldfields to meet half the capital cost of the water supply?

The PREMIER: Half the capital cost would be payable over a very long period, and we have to bear in mind that this is a matter of finance. We tried to provide for this work, the money is not available, and an effort has to be made to provide funds from some other source. That is the continuous experience of the Treasury.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: There seems to be plenty of money for other purposes.

The PREMIER: There is not. If the hon. member could indicate ways in which money has been wrongly spent, I should be glad to hear him.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: It was wrongly spent in paying a subsidy on imported cement.

The PREMIER: I shall deal with that presently. The member for Melville should let his obsession rest for a moment.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: You wanted an example.

The PREMIER: If the hon. gentleman can tell me where money has been wrongly spent or where, in the spending of millions of revenue and loan money, there have been extravagances, I should be only too happy to hear him. Perhaps there has been some unjustifiable expenditure and, if there has been, I should try to rectify the matter.

The member for Moore is not in his seat at the moment, but he complained of the Government's lack of interest in his district. He told us what a great wealth-producer it is and the great amount of taxation that is raised from it. I am quite certain that the hon. member's district has not been neglected by design. I may say to him, as I said to the member for Boulder, that the needs of his district in regard to water supplies, hospitals, schools, etc., are recognised, but the question of finance arises, and if funds had not been curtailed to the extent they have, many of those requirements would have been supplied. The hon. member went on to say that he considered a vigorous policy of agricultural development should be undertaken. I fully agree with him. I know that his district is capable of very much greater production than is being obtained at present, and it would be a sound policy on the part of any Government to push ahead with land development as rapidly as circumstances would permit.

The member for Gascoyne, too, told us of the difficulties that confront the people in the northern part of the State. I am fully aware of those difficulties, but I do not want him to feel that the Government is unmindful of the needs of that huge area, and when I speak of that huge area, I refer to the whole of the territory north of the twenty-sixth parallel. As members know, on the State ships alone last year, we lost over £460,000 and the loss continues to increase. That is on the Revenue side. Further, we provided subsidies that bring the total to half-a-million. The hon. member had a complaint about the cost of water. This is a common complaint throughout the State; yet I appreciate that his position in regard to water is more difficult than is the position in some of the rural areas.

I told the Grants Commission of the position in regard to water in the North and the desire of the Government to provide it at a reasonable cost. I could go on speaking of other directions in which we are not squaring on the Revenue side

and where I do not expect to square, but there is a limit to which we can go, and the Under Treasurer frequently draws my attention to certain matters affecting Revenue. When these demands are made upon me as Treasurer—as they are made every day in the week—I just cannot provide all the money that is required today, not by any means. Of course, when more revenue is required and additional charges or taxation must be imposed to obtain it, there is always the most strenuous objection from many members.

Mr. Lawrence: Why do not you tell us the reason for the shortage of revenue?

The PREMIER: I think I explained that to the hon. member when I introduced the Budget.

The Minister for Lands: The hon. member was not present on that occasion.

The PREMIER: Well, he has had time to read the report since. There has been a demand by almost every member for the spending of money, but Heaven only knows how many millions would be required if all the requests were acceded to! However, when an attempt is made to raise money by additional imposts, vigorous objections are voiced by many members.

I referred to the fact that the Grants Commission was visiting this State. When I gave evidence before it the other day, I was reminded by the Chairman that an obligation rested upon the State for the finding of revenue as well as upon the Grants Commission for making a recommendation to the Commonwealth Government as to what amount should be paid to this State on account of its disabilities. This year, as members know, we shall receive £8,041,000 on this account. It is just a question of how long these huge amounts will be made available to the State.

When it is realised that £60,000,000 has been made available this year to the claimant States and only a few years ago the total was about £3,000,000, it indicates the huge increase that has taken place. Fortunately for us, the Commonwealth has not refused to provide the amounts which have been disbursed but, as pointed out to me by the chairman of the Grants Commission, it is expected by the Commission that the States will do something to assist on the revenue side.

Mr. Needham: Will you tell the Committee your attitude towards the proposal to return taxing powers to the States?

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: That is somewhat difficult, is it not?

The PREMIER: Yes. I have on at least a dozen occasions explained my attitude in regard to the return of taxing powers to the States.

Mr. Needham: You were not definite in your Budget speech.

The PREMIER: I have made many references to the matter.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: Especially in 1947, when you made an interesting one.

The PREMIER: The hon. member told me all about that the other night.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: We should not let you forget it.

The PREMIER: The hon. member does not. Let it not become another of his obsessions!

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: You do not like being reminded of these things.

The PREMIER: I do not mind a bit. Replying to the member for North Perth, I would point out that I have said repeatedly I am not prepared to accept the return of our taxing rights—or the return of income taxation to the States, which is a better way to put it—unless I know what fields of taxation will be left to them.

Mr. Needham: There will be none left.

The PREMIER: The hon. member may be right. The Commonwealth today has tremendous obligations in regard to defence and social services. It has first share of taxation, and that would be very considerable. So I would want to know what fields of taxation were left to the States. As I said to the Leader of the Opposition the other night, the Prime Minister, when discussing the question at the recent Premiers' Conference, said he considered it would still be necessary for the Grants Commission to function; and, of course, it would. But let me assure the member for North Perth that I am not going to rush in to take back our powers of taxation unless I have a full knowledge of what is left to tax and how much taxation can be derived thereby.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: What will you do if the powers are handed back?

The PREMIER: As the hon. member knows, certain conferences are taking place at present between State and Commonwealth financial advisers, and before these taxation powers could be returned to us there would have to be another Premiers' Conference. I believe that would not be sufficient, and I think that before such action could be taken, in view of the changed financial conditions that apply to the Commonwealth and the States, a conference would have to be called to consider the whole position.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: It is a novel feature, is it not, to have the Commonwealth Government offering or threatening to hand powers back to the States?

The PREMIER: I think that any Commonwealth Government under existing conditions would be only too glad to hand taxation powers back if it could persuade the States to accept them.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: I agree with that; but what is the reason for its being anxious?

The PREMIER: Because of its own financial difficulties and the increasing demands of the States upon its financial resources.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: Mainly because the imposition of high taxation is politically unpopular.

The PREMIER: I agree with the hon. member. I have put in a good deal of time on these Estimates. Under "Treasury, Miscellaneous" there are over 90 items, and I have had to know something about every one of them. For that reason I have taken them home at weekends and studied them at nights when I have had the time so that I would have a full knowledge of the many items that will come up for discussion.

Hon. J. B. Sleeman: Do you believe in putting monkeys, snakes and skunks before children?

The PREMIER: No.

Hon. J. B. Sleeman: Then why have you put £15,000 on the Estimates for monkeys, snakes and skunks?

The PREMIER: Leave that until we come to the item! I want to make some reference now to the remarks of the Leader of the Opposition. He raised the question—as did the Deputy Leader of the Opposition—of the amount overdrawn in the Treasurer's Account. He said that whereas the Appropriation Act of 1951 had provided for £2,000,000 for this account, the Auditor General has pointed out that the amount was overdrawn to the extent of £6,900,000. That is true. While the overdraft this year is greater than usual, it is not unusual for the amount appropriated for Advance to Treasurer to be overdrawn. I told the hon. member that when he was speaking the other evening, and of course he knows it. For example, in the year 1942-43, when the hon. member was in the Government, the amount appropriated was £500,000, whereas the actual expenditure was £1,237,000. The following year the account was overdrawn by £467,000 and in 1945-46, despite the fact that the appropriation increased to £1,000,000, the account was overdrawn by £310,000.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: That is hardly to be compared with an overdrawn amount of £6,000,000.

The PREMIER: I am coming to that. It has to be borne in mind that all excesses, both Revenue and Loan, have to be met in the first place from the Advance to Treasurer and approval of those excesses is then obtained when the appropriation is submitted to Parliament the following year. The excesses for the year 1951-52 were heavier than usual, due mainly in regard to Revenue to the basic wage increases which were considerable. As mem-

bers know, it has been the practice for some years to provide a lump sum under the "Treasury, Miscellaneous" section of the Estimates for anticipated increases in the basic wage.

The increases occur over the various departments and the Votes have to be excessed to provide this cost. In 1951-52 the actual cost of the basic wage increases was greater than the £1,250,000 provided. The Deputy Leader of the Opposition assumes that the Government must have drawn heavily on Treasury bills to provide money for the overdraft on the Advance to Treasurer's Account. That is not correct. Moneys in the public accounts are used for these excesses, and they are repaid out of either Revenue or Loan when the Appropriation Bill is passed.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: But you are using Treasury bills, are you not?

The PREMIER: Some finance for Revenue deficits is being obtained by the Commonwealth through Treasury bills, but we are getting them at the rate of 1 per cent. The hon. member also referred to the use of trust moneys to meet certain overdrawn accounts which he said would have to be adjusted from the General Loan Fund. That is true, and it has been the practice followed for years. The hon. member knows that is so, and it applied even during the time he was a member of the Government. It is common practice to use trust moneys in anticipation of Loan Funds, and, when those funds are available, the trust funds are reimbursed. I have many a time heard the charge made from each side of the House about the use of trust moneys. Private trust funds are never used, of course! This is a practice that has grown up over the years.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: But not to anything like the present extent.

The PREMIER: There are more trust funds today and I suppose on that account there is a heavier draw. The Deputy Leader of the Opposition also raised the question of non-provision in the Estimates for the interest which will be due on the amounts chargeable to loan which have been deferred. These are oversea deferments.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: Deferred contractual commitments.

The PREMIER: Yes, mainly oversea. It is true there is no special appropriation appearing in the Estimates for them, the reason being that it is not anticipated that any great sum will be involved in this financial year.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: It will be £180,000.

The PREMIER: No. The goods are coming to hand all the time. In the main, interest will be paid next financial year when the deferred payments have to be met.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: That will mean that interest and principle will have to be paid by the incoming Government.

The PREMIER: I do not think there will be an incoming Government.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: There has to be an incoming Government—

Mr. Needham: —of some sort.

The PREMIER: The hon. member got on to one of his pet subjects, and that was the subsidy on cement.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: A subsidy out of Loan Funds.

The PREMIER: No, not out of Loan Funds.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: Yes, out of Loan Funds; that is what the Auditor General said.

The PREMIER: There was no subsidy out of Loan Funds.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: Yes, there was.

The PREMIER: That is where the hon. member and I disagree.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: It was a subsidy charged to Loan and not to Revenue.

The PREMIER: It was, but whether it should be charged to Revenue—

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: It was charged to Loan.

The PREMIER: Yes.

Hon. J. B. Sleeman: You should leave this alone.

The PREMIER: No, I will not.

Hon. J. B. Sleeman: If there was any decency about you, you would leave this to the Governor now.

The PREMIER: I would not speak too much about decency if I were the hon. member. It was, as the member for Melville said, charged to Loan.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: Now we agree.

The PREMIER: Yes. I believe that had it been charged to Revenue, the Grants Commission would have offered an objection.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: Surely it was not done to dodge the Grants Commission's objection.

The PREMIER: No. It was charged to Loan because that was considered the proper Vote to charge it to. I have by answers to questions on several occasions, and by statements in the House, explained the position in regard to cement. I have told members that at that time there was an acute shortage of cement in the State, and the Government decided to make local cement available to local people.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: To some local people.

The PREMIER: To local people engaged in the building industry, and no attempt has been made to hide the names. The hon. member knows exactly who they are. It was decided to make imported cement available to some local people at the price of local cement, and that was done, and local cement was used on the Mundaring Weir.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: Not the same quantity.

The PREMIER: It could be used in bulk. It was cheaper to use local cement than imported cement. If the facts could be ascertained, I believe it would be found that the Government saved money on that job by using the local cement and letting the local people have the imported cement at the local price.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: That is a curious conclusion.

The PREMIER: I do not think there is anything peculiar about it. There was certainly nothing improper in charging the cost of imported cement to the Mundaring Weir.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: Just that it was unlawful.

The PREMIER: As has already been stated, the matter has been discussed with the Auditor General who agrees that the point queried was a technical one of bookkeeping.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: No, he does not.

The PREMIER: At no time does he suggest that anything improper had been done.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: Where does he say it was a question of bookkeeping?

The PREMIER: If the hon. member likes to look at the Auditor General's report, he will find it only makes reference to the matter. The Auditor General does not again insist that anything should be done.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: He says he has not sighted any correction.

The PREMIER: It has been pointed out here by the hon. gentleman that the Auditor General is the servant of Parliament. The Auditor General drew attention to this matter so that Parliament could discuss it and take action if it thought it necessary. Parliament has discussed the question, and the Auditor General knows all about the discussion. So far as he is concerned, he has done his duty.

Mr. Needham: But the Government has not done its duty.

The PREMIER: Parliament has given no direction, and the main object of the Auditor General in drawing attention to the matter was to allow discussion in Parliament, and that has taken place.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: I have no complaint against the Auditor General. He has certainly done his job.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: Parliament should not have to instruct the Government to obey the law.

The PREMIER: As the Leader of the Opposition knows, he takes advice from the advisers around him, and my advice

on this occasion is that the procedure is correct and that it is purely a technical matter of bookkeeping.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: Have you had legal advice?

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: Have you been advised by a Treasury officer or a Crown Law officer?

The PREMIER: The Treasury officials discussed the matter with the Auditor General. This is just making a mountain out of a molehill. Every member knows where the expenditure has gone. The only thing is that there is some difference of opinion about where it should have appeared.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: The Auditor General would not have mentioned it in his report if he had not thought it was of some importance.

The PREMIER: He drew attention to it, but it is admitted that this is purely a technical matter of bookkeeping. Even the hon. member does not suggest that there is any dishonesty in regard to it.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: None whatever.

The PREMIER: I remember the decision made in Cabinet. We were concerned about the shortage of cement and were anxious to keep the building industry going. After a lot of discussion, and having again taken advice, we decided it would be wise for the Government to use all the local cement and let other users have the imported cement at the price of local cement.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: But the Government bought back some of the products manufactured from that cement.

The PREMIER: That may be.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: It is a fact. The Government bought tiles from the Peter Pan Tile Co. and pipes from Hume Pipes Ltd.

The PREMIER: And all to be used to provide housing, and so on.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: Did the Government have any reduction in price because of that?

The Attorney General: Yes, because the price-fixing organisation watched all those things carefully.

The PREMIER: As the Deputy Premier has said, if these manufacturers could get cement at a cheaper price all their products would be available to the public more cheaply, and that was our object in letting them have it.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: I saw no evidence in the files of the State Housing Commission of any reduction in the price of Peter Pan tiles.

The PREMIER: That may have been so, as they were paying the price of local cement.

The Minister for Education: If they had had to pay the price of imported cement there would have been an increase.

The PREMIER: This matter has been brought forward in this Chamber many times and there the position remains, so far as I am concerned. I regret that I must say something in reply to the member for East Perth, in regard to his criticism of the increased expenditure that comes under the heading of "Governor's Establishment," Division No. 9 of the Estimates. As members know, every country in the British Commonwealth has a Vice-Regal representative and, of course, countries outside it have a similar set-up. It is necessary that we should uphold the prestige and dignity of our Vice-Regal representative and of Government House.

Members: Hear, hear!

The PREMIER: The Government has tried to do that, and if members examine this expenditure carefully I think they will agree that there has been no extravagance and that only a reasonable thing has been done. The hon. member objected to what he termed, "an imported Governor," but that is a matter of opinion. I know some people believe that the Vice-Regal representative should be a local man and I freely admit that the only local man who has filled the position of Governor in this State did so with great credit to himself and to the satisfaction of the people. I believe, however, that it is a good thing—at least occasionally—to have someone from the Old Country to fill this important position.

Mr. Needham: You should have got a man from this country.

The PREMIER: That is a matter of opinion.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: I have heard it said that the Premier would fill the position very well.

Mr. Needham: And very gracefully.

The PREMIER: When I was in London I met the Rt. Hon. P. C. Gordon-Walker, whom members had the pleasure of meeting here some time ago and who was Secretary for Commonwealth Relations in the British Labour Government. I there discussed with him the appointment of a Governor to Western Australia and again when he was in Perth. I told him the type of man that the people of this State would like to have, and I told him all about the late Sir James Mitchell. Of course he had the papers before him and he said to me, "You do not pay enough money. I could recommend to you a gentleman of high standing whom I believe would be acceptable to Western Australia, but he is not by any means a wealthy man. He is not seeking a position, but would be glad to serve in any useful capacity, yet the amount of money you are paying is insufficient." I told him I was aware of that and that, after the Governor had been

here for six months or so, I would examine the position, see what the expenditure was, and, if I felt there was justification for it, do something about it.

The CHAIRMAN: The Premier's time has expired.

Hon. A. R. G. HAWKE: I move—  
That the time be extended.

The CHAIRMAN: That cannot be done.

The PREMIER: I thought there was no limit when I was replying to this debate.

The CHAIRMAN: I am afraid the Premier cannot get around the Standing Orders that have been decided on by this Chamber.

The PREMIER: Very well!

General debate concluded; Votes and items discussed as follows:

The CHAIRMAN: The question is that the Vote be agreed to.

Item—Salaries and Allowances generally, £4,484.

Hon. J. B. SLEEMAN: I am sorry we cannot do anything about the salaries of members of another place, as they come under a Special Act, but if we disagree to this item we will deprive another place of the services of the Clerk of the Council, Clerk Assistant and Usher of the Black Rod, Clerk of Records and Accounts and the Hall Porter. The time has arrived when something should be done about it. The Legislative Council has long been called a House of review, but I would call it a House of destruction. It might be handy at times for the Government to have Bills sent up there and thrown out of the window, but I do not think we should pay such a large sum for that service.

I can remember when the Leader of the Opposition introduced a Bill, but the Premier said that what was contained in the measure was the policy of the Government. He put the Bill of the Leader of the Opposition at the bottom of the notice paper and brought down one of his own. It was passed through this Chamber and we all know what happened to it in another place. If the Government wants to know how to save money, it can be done in this way. If we could get rid of another place it would mean a saving of £50,000 or £60,000 per year.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I am afraid the member for Fremantle is getting away from the item.

Hon. J. B. SLEEMAN: I am dealing with the staff of another place, from the Clerk of the Council to the Hall Porter. Without these people the Legislative Council could not carry on and if it could not carry on the Premier would be £50,000 or £60,000 to the good. We should not allow these members of the staff to help the Council to carry on its work.

The Minister for Education: We could not pass legislation then.

Hon. J. B. SLEEMAN: Could we not? How does Queensland do it?

The Minister for Education: You could not get rid of the Legislative Council in this way.

Hon. J. B. SLEEMAN: We will talk about that afterwards; Queensland is doing all right without a Legislative Council. The Legislative Council can throw out a Bill 33 times but in Conservative England a Bill cannot be thrown out more than three times, and then if it is introduced again it becomes law. We could find some work for these members of the staff; they would not become unemployed.

Mr. Yates: Who is "we"?

The CHAIRMAN: Order! The hon. member would get on better if he addressed the Chair.

Hon. J. B. SLEEMAN: The member for South Perth is interrupting me. I have not spoken to him and I do not want to speak to him. I move an amendment—

That the item be reduced by £4,000.

Hon. A. R. G. HAWKE: I want to know among whom the balance of £484 will be distributed. However, that is not the purpose of my rising. Will the Premier be good enough to have a discussion with his Ministers in the Legislative Council for the purpose of trying to induce them to make some more impressive attempt than they have done up to date and give more consideration to the Bill to amend the Constitution Act. I do not want to go through any tortuous discussion on this matter and if the Chairman will permit me to speak for two or three minutes that is all I need. But if I am compelled to go through and around the circle, and then across it, I might take half an hour and I do not want to do that.

The CHAIRMAN: The Leader of the Opposition cannot do that under the Standing Orders.

The Minister for Lands: Is the hon. member supporting the amendment?

Hon. A. R. G. HAWKE: I am discussing the amendment and I think we would be justified in spending upon the Officers of the Council the amount which is set out in the Vote, without alteration, provided the Council was more democratically based. I would not be in favour of the reduction if there were some prospect of the franchise for the Council being extended, but if there is no prospect of that I would not be in favour of employing all these people. There is no justification for providing members of the Legislative Council with any assistance, through men employed and paid for by the taxpayers, if those Council members are going to continue stubbornly year after

year to deny to 66 per cent. of the adult population of Western Australia the right to have a voice in their election. Why should we provide such members with paid help and why should we provide them with a hall porter, for instance, messengers, or a Clerk of Records and Accounts? Probably under the Constitution we would have to provide them with a Clerk of the Council and an Usher of the Black Rod, but it is quite on the cards that all the essential activities could be carried on by one employee.

Mr. Brady: Particularly this week. They are doing nothing.

Mr. Yates: Leave that to the House Committee.

Hon. A. R. G. HAWKE: I am prepared to leave it to the House Committee, but my purpose in rising was to obtain an assurance from the Premier that he would discuss with members of the Government in the Council the question whether those Ministers could see their way clear to taking some action to achieve more progress in the consideration of the Bill to extend the franchise. That Bill was sent to the Council about the second week in October and since then little progress has been made. My attitude towards the amendment will be conditioned by the reply the Premier gives to my inquiry. If he is in a position to give me a straight-out assurance that he will make representations to his Ministers in the Council along the lines I have suggested, and in addition give me an unqualified assurance that members of his party, and members of the Deputy Premier's party, will support the Bill in the Council as they wholeheartedly supported it in this House, I will not support the amendment moved by the member for Fremantle.

The PREMIER: I hope this amendment will be defeated. The member for Fremantle does not make any secret of the fact that his objective is to abolish the Legislative Council, but if that Chamber is to be abolished this is not the correct way to do it.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: It could be the only way.

Hon. J. B. Sleeman: Give us an idea how to do it.

The PREMIER: The Leader of the Opposition asked me for some assurances.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: The first one should be easy.

The PREMIER: In regard to the first query, I will discuss the matter with the Leader of the Government in the Upper House, and ask him when it is proposed to bring on the Bill which the Leader of the Opposition introduced into this Chamber. It will be introduced, I can assure him.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: It has been introduced.

The PREMIER: It will be dealt with, rather, well before this session closes. As to his second request, I regret I am not prepared to give that assurance. I cannot answer for members of the Upper House and I know the Leader of the Opposition does not expect me to. There is nothing more I can say on this Vote, except to hope that the motion for the reduction will be defeated.

Amendment put and negatived.

Vote put and passed.

*Votes—Legislative Assembly, £8,015; Joint House Committee, £19,615; Joint Printing Committee, £14,701; Joint Library Committee, £420; Premier's Department, £31,600; Treasury, £87,115—agreed to.*

*Vote—Governor's Establishment, £18,147:*

The PREMIER: I would like to continue my remarks on this Vote. When I was speaking on the General Estimates I was saying that every effort should be made to preserve the dignity of this position and that when the appointment was made I promised that consideration would be given to the financial position of the Governor and the upkeep of Government House after he had been here about six months. As we know, every State in the Commonwealth has a Governor and I have figures here relating to the claimant States, South Australia, Tasmania and Western Australia.

Mr. McCulloch: What about Queensland?

The PREMIER: I have not included Queensland, Victoria and New South Wales because I know the upkeep of Government House in each of those States is much in excess of what it is in our State, South Australia and Tasmania. For instance, the Governor of Victoria receives a salary of £10,000 a year and the upkeep of his establishment costs considerably more than that in this State and others. In South Australia the salary of the Governor is £5,000; in Tasmania, £3,000; and in Western Australia, £4,000; The allowances provided in South Australia are £4,000, Tasmania £1,700 and Western Australia £4,700. In Tasmania there is a payment of £5,500 for a domestic staff of 15. South Australia provides a total of £9,000, Tasmania £10,200, and Western Australia £8,700 for salaries and allowances. Western Australia provides less than any other State in Australia for the upkeep of Government House. In South Australia there is an official staff of four, in Tasmania four, and in Western Australia four. The Governor in South Australia provides and maintains two cars and pays a chauffeur.

In Tasmania the Governor maintains five cars, three of which are provided by the State and two by the Governor and the Government pays two chauffeurs. In Western Australia the Governor provides and maintains one car and a chauffeur and also provides a second car when re-

quired. The Government reimburses the Governor for petrol used in his private car on official country trips. As members know, the salary of the Governor is £4,000 a year. That salary was fixed some 50 years ago or more and has never been altered. As from the 1st January, 1952, the special allowance paid to the Governor was £4,500. This amount will be adjusted, in multiples of £100, by the same percentage as any variation in the "C" series index number subsequent to the March quarter of 1952; such adjustment to be made on the first of the month following the Arbitration Court's declaration.

The State will furnish and maintain Government House and gardens, including the provision of water, light and fuel. The State will provide and pay the salaries of one official secretary; one shorthand-typist; and one orderly. Such other clerical assistance as is required may be approved from time to time. As from the 1st June, 1952, the State will pay an allowance of £600 per annum for one private secretary or A.D.C. The Governor will provide all domestic staff required, including the cleaning of Government House offices and the provision of any livery or uniforms. The State will meet incidental expenditure, including stationery, telephone charges, postages, etc.

The cost of all entertaining at Government House will be borne by the Governor, with the exception of visits of Royalty or the Governor General. The State will provide equipment but not food or staff for garden parties held by the Governor. The State will also provide free travel on railways and State ships but will make no allowance for any travelling expenses.

Hon. J. B. Sleeman: Can you tell me how you are able to get a private secretary for £100 per annum?

The PREMIER: He receives £600 altogether. In addition to the £100 in these Estimates, the sum of £500 is provided in the Constitution Act. That is little enough.

Hon. J. B. Sleeman: I should say it was, for a private secretary.

The PREMIER: When the present Governor was appointed, his allowance was temporarily fixed at £1,500 per annum, with the proviso that at the end of six or 12 months the position would be re-examined in the light of actual costs to determine whether the provision was adequate to meet the extent of the services which the Government considered reasonable. After a period of approximately six months an examination was made of the Governor's actual expenditure and also of the provision made in the other States. It was obvious that not only was our provision grossly inadequate as compared with every other State, but also that the Governor was incurring a substantial financial loss in carrying out the reasonable duties of his office.

The Governor's allowance was therefore increased to £4,500 per annum as from the 1st January, 1952. Subsequent basic wage variations have brought the present figure up to £4,700. If we are to have a Governor we have to ensure that sufficient finance is made available to uphold the dignity of the position. I was very struck the other day when I attended a show at Byford. There were several thousand people present. His Excellency opened the show. I did not count them, but I suppose there were at least 2,000 people gathered round to hear him and they gave him a very good reception. When he drove away from the show-ground there was much applause.

I know that throughout the country districts of this State there is a great demand for His Excellency to make visits to them, and as members on both sides of the Chamber know, whenever he visits their electorates he is received with enthusiasm and the people are very glad to see him.

Hon. E. Nulsen: I must invite him down to Esperance.

The PREMIER: I am sure he would like to go and the hon. member would enjoy his company. I am sure he would enjoy the hon. member's too. I am sorry one hon. member referred to certain social activities at Government House. I think such references were quite unjustified. He referred to the late Sir James Mitchell being a good mixer. There is no question about our present Governor being a good mixer.

Members: Hear, hear!

The PREMIER: His Excellency certainly makes every endeavour to meet people wherever he goes. If we consider the position at Buckingham Palace, though there are always huge crowds outside waiting to see the Royal Family, very few get inside the Palace. It is not possible to invite the whole populace to Government House. I do not go to Government House very often myself but I gather that people who have placed their names in the visitors' book have received invitations. As the representative of Her Majesty, the Governor is the recognised social head of the State, and it is natural that the upkeep of Government House cannot be compared with that of any other set-up in Western Australia.

Mr. McCulloch: The same would apply to any future Governor.

The PREMIER: One cannot differentiate; it would depend upon the circumstances existing at the time. It is unfortunate that this reference to the Governor was made at all. It was not justified and I hope the explanation I have made to the Committee will be found satisfactory. I am sure it will be satisfactory to an overwhelming number of people in this State.

Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. JOHNSON: The Premier mentioned something about adjusting the Governor's salary with the C series index.

The Premier: His allowance; not his salary.

Mr. JOHNSON: This is a principle in which I think the Arbitration Court would be interested, and is a matter over which there was some industrial dispute a short time ago. The principle is one that the union to which I belong has for a long time been trying to have accepted. If the Premier has arranged with the Governor that his allowance is to be increased in proportion to the "C" series index, the same privilege should be extended even to our own salaries.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: We should extend it to everybody on pensions.

Mr. JOHNSON: Yes, and to everybody who, like the Governor, is a recipient of either a salary, an allowance or a gratuity from the Government. Other people besides the Governor are affected in their standard of living by the proportional or percentage rise in the "C" series index. I trust I have not misunderstood what the Premier said in that regard, and I think he should give serious consideration to extending the same privilege to other people whose requirements in relation to the basic wage are much more real than those of the Governor whose salary is considerably in excess of that received by the vast majority of people doing productive work in Western Australia.

The PREMIER: This increase is given because the Governor has to pay the staff, and, when a quarterly adjustment is made by the Arbitration Court, that amount of his allowance—not his salary—is adjusted accordingly in the same way in which wages are adjusted by the Arbitration Court. The increase is given to His Excellency so that he can pass it on to his employees.

Item, Incidental, Travelling, Postages, Cables, Telephones, etc., £2,440:

Mr. J. HEGNEY: The Estimate for this item shows an increase of nearly £1,000 and the Vote was exceeded by £800. I cannot understand why there should be more expenditure in the Governor's establishment under this item than that under the London agency for a similar item. Surely, the Agent General would have greater expense in regard to telephones and incidentals than would the Governor. The amount provided under this item is £2,440, and possibly the Premier can explain why this should be more than that for the London agency.

The PREMIER: The item refers to general administration charges of the Governor's establishment, telephone and cable charges, postages, conductors' wages

on vice-regal coach, travelling expenses for staff, chauffeurs' expenses, motorcar expenses and so forth.

Vote put and passed.

*Votes—Executive Council, £5; London Agency, £29,026; Public Service Commissioner, £10,250; Government Motor Car Service, £9,888; Audit, £52,150; Compassionate Allowances, etc., £5,686; Government Stores, £83,663; Taxation, £12,000—agreed to.*

*Vote—Superannuation Board, £11,379:*

Mr. BRADY: During the general debate I raised the question of superannuation payments for public servants, particularly those formerly associated with the Railway Department. Old-age pensions have been increased considerably and the basic wage has gone up as well as the price of goods. Can the Premier say whether there is any possibility of the Government increasing the superannuation payments that are now payable?

The PREMIER: No provision for any increase in superannuation payments is made. From time to time those payments are reviewed by the Government and, as members are aware, two increases have been provided. Investigations are also made regarding superannuated people with a view to ascertaining what should be done.

Vote put and passed.

*Vote—Printing, £316,335—agreed to.*

*Vote—North-West Generally, £200:*

Mr. RODOREDA: The Vote shows that £200 has been provided and that for the previous year a similar amount was provided, but the expenditure was nil. That highlights the experience of the North during the last 20 years.

The Minister for the North-West: The hon. member will notice that in Division No. 21 which deals with Miscellaneous Services, quite a number of items have reference to expenditure in the North.

Mr. RODOREDA: That is what I am complaining about. Every year I am more than ever firmly convinced that the North-West will not progress until we have a real Minister, not merely one who is Minister in name. I am not speaking personally regarding the Premier who is the Minister for the North-West. My complaint is that he, as Minister for the North-West, has no funds at his disposal and he cannot authorise the expenditure of one penny. If he desires to secure any expenditure, he has to make application to one or other of the Ministers for the necessary provision.

I have at intervals complained about this situation. Until we, as a State, establish a real Department of the North-West with a Minister in charge, having his own funds to dispose of, we shall

not make progress in the North, any more than we have experienced during the last 10 or 15 years. I would like the Department of the North-West to be stationed in the North, although I realise the Minister would have to remain in the city. The officials of the department should be in the North-West where they would get to know the country they were dealing with, secure a local atmosphere and understand the requirements of the people there. I would like the Premier to express an opinion as the practicability of doing something of the sort.

The MINISTER FOR THE NORTH-WEST: The provision on the Estimates under the heading of "North-West Generally" does not give any indication of the expenditure undertaken in the North. If members look at the division dealing with "Miscellaneous Services," they will find a number of references there to expenditure in the North. I agree with the member for Pilbara regarding the difficulties confronting the North-West. If I may make reference again to the Grants Commission, I may say that I told the members of that body that the development of that part of the State should be treated as a national problem, not only from the point of view of the development of the country, but from the defence angle as well.

There is no doubt that the North suffers because of remoteness from the centres of population and the seat of government. As a State we know the disabilities we suffer from being far away from the centre of Government. On previous occasions, the hon. member has told us of the disabilities suffered by the people in the North through not having officers permanently located on the spot, to whom representations could be made and who would have some power with regard to expenditure. When I travelled through the North—the hon. member accompanied me part of the way—I appreciated the disabilities, and on my return considered what could be done.

We have done something through the Department of Agriculture by providing a setup to deal with problems affecting the North. The Main Roads Board has its engineer in the North and there are other Government officials in that area. The hon. member complained that they have no power in regard to expenditure. What he would like is a sort of commission which, when work was required, could make the money available. If we could decentralise in that way, it would undoubtedly be to the benefit of the North.

I have said before that special financial provision should be made for the North. I should like to see a special allotment for development, and if the Grants Commission could make a special recommendation to meet northern disabilities, it would

be desirable. That should not be difficult because we know of the problems of transport, water etc., to which members have referred. If a scheme could be devised whereby the Commonwealth made a special allotment both of Loan funds and Revenue, a practical approach could be made. At Premiers' Conferences, I have explained the difficulties, and I think I can claim that many requests placed before me by North-West members have been sympathetically considered. The suggestions of the hon. member appeal to me and I believe that something practical could be done in the direction he has mentioned.

Mr. RODOREDA: I am not complaining so much of the lack of funds for the North, although that is serious, because I know that various amounts are scattered through the Estimates for expenditure in the North. What I complain about and what the Minister did not reply to is that we have not a real Minister with power to deal with those funds. This has been holding up the development of the North. The Minister for the North-West has not time to devote to the problems; he is not interested.

The Minister for the North-West: He is interested.

Mr. RODOREDA: Not sufficiently interested to get anything done.

The Minister for the North-West: That is wrong.

Mr. RODOREDA: It is not wrong. When I returned from the North recently, I complained bitterly and succeeded in getting some action taken. If that is the only way I can get action, I shall continue along those lines.

The Minister for the North-West: You got a water scheme for Port Hedland.

Mr. RODOREDA: Still on paper.

The Minister for the North-West: No, in progress.

Mr. RODOREDA: Nineteen miles of 5in. piping not yet laid after four or five years, and the Government can put in a pipeline to Kwinana in a few months. The money is available, but there is no interest because it is nobody's pigeon. If all the money were grouped under one Minister and he had power to go ahead, we might get somewhere. At present he has to consult the Main Roads Department, the Public Works Department, the State Shipping Service and all the other ramifications of red tape, and we get nowhere. The remarks of the Minister were very interesting. He suggested that the Grants Commission might make a special grant.

The Minister for the North-West: I said a special grant, both Loan and Revenue.

Mr. RODOREDA: If a special grant were made, the State Government could not be bound down as to how it should be expended.

The Minister for the North-West: Or the Commonwealth.

Mr. RODOREDA: That is one of the weaknesses.

The Minister for the North-West: It would have to be spent in the North.

Mr. RODOREDA: No. The Grants Commission has recommended increases following its visit to the North, but cannot bind the State Government as to where the money shall be spent.

The Minister for the North-West: I should like the members of the Commission to go there again.

Mr. RODOREDA: How much of that money has been spent in the North-West? Very little indeed. It has been treated by the State as general revenue. I regret that the Minister's speech during the general debate was cut short by the time limit. He mentioned the huge loss on State ships. This was a fourth or fifth time this session that he has referred to this loss. Everybody knows that the Grants Commission recoups every penny of that loss, so I see no reason for his reiterating it as something being done for the North. What he has done has been to increase the freights again.

I do not hear many complaints about the loss on the railways, and I see no reason why so many references should be made to the loss on the State ships. What is at the back of the Minister's mind? All those losses are recouped by the Grants Commission and recouped a couple of times over. It is a good thing that the Minister can go to the Grants Commission and ask for increases on account of loss incurred on the Wyndham Meat Works and the State Shipping Service. The extra money has been granted on account of the disabilities suffered by the North-West.

The Minister for the North-West: No specific sum has been mentioned.

Mr. RODOREDA: But the Minister knows what the increases were granted for. They were granted as a result of the visit of the Commission to the North-West.

The Minister for the North-West: No!

Mr. RODOREDA: But the Minister agreed earlier that that was so.

The Minister for the North-West: If I did agree, I did not mean to. I agree that the Grants Commission had a realisation of the difficulties of the North and took a sympathetic view of costs.

Mr. RODOREDA: We will say that it did not penalise the Government for the losses on the State ships and the Wyndham Meat Works in the way that there has been penalisation in previous years. Would the Minister agree with that?

The Minister for the North-West: I will agree that it took a sympathetic view.

Mr. RODOREDA: It was a terrific advantage to the State revenue that the Commission went to the North-West and, with the Premier, I would like to see it go there again. I want the Premier to give solid consideration to the establishment of a North-West Department under a Minister with his own revenue to spend, instead of its being scattered around Ministers on the front bench, as has been the case for the last 20 years.

Vote put and passed.

Vote—Miscellaneous Services, £4,720,167:

Item, Kindergarten Union, £17,000.

Hon. J. T. TONKIN: The Vote last year was £24,000 and the expenditure was £24,875. I notice that there is a reduction of £7,000 this year in comparison with the Vote for last year. Does that mean that the Premier is anticipating the decision of the Royal Commission, or has this reduction been forced upon him because of the shortage of Revenue funds. So far as I can see, the activities of the Kindergarten Union are not expected to be reduced or curtailed in any way, and under existing rising costs I would assume that to carry out the same amount of work that is being done at present would require more funds than it had last year.

The Premier: I think I can explain the position to the hon. member.

Mr. Brady called attention to the state of the Committee.

Bells rung and a quorum formed.

The PREMIER: The decrease in the Estimates this year is to be accounted for by the fact that in order to enable the Kindergarten Union to meet certain liabilities last year, an additional grant was paid.

Item, Goldfields Fresh Air League, £200.

Hon. E. NULSEN: I notice that the estimate for this year is only £200.

The Premier: I have agreed to a further increase of £300.

Hon. E. NULSEN: Then I have nothing further to say.

Item, Alexandra Home—Mothercraft, £6,000.

Hon. J. T. TONKIN: In dealing with this item, I will also make reference to a later item, namely, Wanslea Home, because they are similar provisions. I notice that the Premier believes that he can find some substantially increased amounts for these two institutions. Both carry out excellent work, and I thoroughly approve of providing the maximum amount which can be made available to permit that work to be continued. But in view of the severe financial stringency which the Premier is experiencing, I am wondering how he can contemplate providing £6,000 for the Alexandra Home, whereas last year the

Vote was £3,900, although he was obliged to provide £5,100. In the case of Wanslea Home, he proposes to provide £3,000, whereas the estimate last year was £1,000 and the expenditure £1,600. At this rate, the Premier's deficit will not be kept within the bounds of half a million pounds. I would like to know the reasons for the proposed increases. Is the work to be extended, or is the extra grant to make greater provision for the same amount of work as was previously carried out?

The PREMIER: The hon. member knows that there have been increased costs in regard to the Alexandra Home, but the subsidy is to help in mothercraft training and to provide for trainees. Some time ago this home was largely supported by public subscriptions, but I am afraid they have dropped off and the responsibility has devolved upon the Government. Increasing numbers of people are using the home, which has meant that an increase in the Vote has been necessary.

Item Wanslea Home, £3,000.

Hon. J. T. TONKIN: Persons who take advantage of the facilities at Wanslea have to pay and, in most cases, do so. What is the explanation for doubling the amount of the Vote? I hope it has not any association with the fact that the principal person in connection with Wanslea is a Liberal candidate for the next State election.

The Premier: I hope not! As a matter of fact, I can assure the hon. member that I did not decide this Vote. It came to me in the usual way and, until I saw the increase, I did not know it had been agreed too.

Hon. J. T. TONKIN: I am wondering how it can be justified. This home is not run upon a purely charitable basis. The people who take advantage of it are women approaching maternity, who find it necessary to place their children where they may be looked after. In most cases the father is working and is expected to pay the charge that is levied. To provide for double the previous amount requires explanation. It is an extraordinary increase having regard to what has been provided for other items, and also to the fact that most people entering this home pay for the service. Maybe it is an indication of increased unemployment in Western Australia.

The Premier: I do not think so.

Hon. J. T. TONKIN: Well, what is it?

The PREMIER: I assure the hon. member there is nothing political in this.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: I did not say it was political; I said, "Was it?"

The PREMIER: It is not. The grant is made to assist the home in caring for children of sick mothers. This is another item about which I made inquiries. The

home got into difficulties last year and, had finance not been provided, it would probably have closed. I am told that the sum now provided is considered to be the minimum to finance the home for this financial year. The home renders a valuable service to the community and it would be a pity if it closed.

**Mr. J. HEGNEY:** Wanslea is a fine organisation and, while the people who use it are expected to pay, I understand the service is available if they are unable to do so. The progress associations around the metropolitan area are keenly interested in Wanslea. When a woman is expecting a child and has nowhere to place her young children, this organisation provides a shelter for them and to that extent it is deserving of the best possible support from the State. It is analogous to the housekeeping emergency scheme to which the Commonwealth Government makes a sum available. If a farmer's wife in the country is sick and needs assistance, this organisation makes a nurse available. It would be a pity if there were not financial support to keep these places going.

**Item, Mc Ness Housing Trust.**

**Hon. J. T. TONKIN:** I am disappointed that there is no Vote for this item this year. I would like to know what the £5,000 was spent on last year when there was no Vote. The trust has done an excellent job over the years, and there is still a great need for this type of house. Can the Premier say what was done with the money last year, and why no amount is provided this year?

**The CHAIRMAN:** Order! There cannot be a debate on something for which there is no Estimate.

**Hon. J. T. TONKIN:** It is an item.

**The CHAIRMAN:** There is no Estimate, but if the Premier desires to make a short explanation, I will allow him to do so, after Standing Orders do not provide for it.

**The PREMIER:** In order to assist in the provision of homes for the indigent, the State Government contributed £5,000, subject to the Lotteries Commission agreeing to make a similar amount available, together with £5,000 from the Mc Ness Trust funds, making £15,000 in all towards this building programme.

**Hon. J. T. Tonkin:** Is there likely to be any activity this year?

**The PREMIER:** The Minister for Housing says, yes, that some houses are under construction now.

**Item, State Shipping Service, Freight Subsidy, £10,000.**

**Mr. RODOREDA:** I would like to know the exact purpose of the subsidy. Who gets the benefit of it, and what is it all about?

**The PREMIER:** This amount is provided to recoup the State Shipping Service for concession freights charged for North-West cargo. Petrol and certain developmental cargoes are carried at a lower rate than that applying to normal cargoes. On petrol there is a flat rate. The rate for petrol between Fremantle and Geraldton is the same as that applying between Fremantle and Wyndham. That is where the subsidy comes in.

**Mr. RODOREDA:** It is a pity the Prices Branch does not know of it.

**Item, Purchase of Motor Vehicles for Departmental Officers to be Credited to a Trust Account and Applied as Earned, £14,000.**

**Mr. BRADY:** I was wondering whether the Premier could say what the Government policy is in regard to this item. On what basis are these cars bought, and is any concession given to the Government or the employees as a consequence of this purchasing scheme?

**The PREMIER:** Many officers require motorcars to perform their official duties effectively. Experience has shown that cars are kept in better running order if an officer owns a car instead of having one provided for him. For the official running of his car he receives a mileage allowance according to the horsepower of the vehicle and the district in which he is travelling. An officer driving a car where the horsepower exceeds 12 receives an allowance of 7.4d. per mile in the metropolitan area. Owing to the high cost of new cars, it has been necessary to assist officers to buy them. The alternative would be to increase the mileage allowance. As all officers are not affected, this would mean different allowances for different officers, with consequential administrative difficulties. Instead of doing that, it was decided to subsidise the purchase of new cars on the following basis:—

Twelve horse power vehicles and over, subsidy £187 10s.; under twelve horse power vehicles, subsidy £131 5s.

To qualify for the subsidy an officer has to be certified by his officer-in-charge as using 75 per cent. of his car running on official business. The subsidy is written off against a Vote of the department concerned as a travelling allowance over a period of five years.

**Mr. RODOREDA:** Is the subsidy actually a decrease in the prime cost of the car to the purchaser?

**The Premier:** Yes.

**Mr. RODOREDA:** If the civil servant purchased a car costing £1,000 it would actually cost him that sum less £187 10s.?

**The Premier:** Yes.

**Mr. RODOREDA:** I have previously asked for that privilege to be extended to members of Parliament, many of whom

find it a heavy burden to have to pay £1,000 for what is said to be the working man's car. Could not the scheme be extended to cover members of Parliament, with a period of repayment over three years?

**The PREMIER:** The member for Pilbara raised this question on a previous occasion and consideration was given to it. The position of a member of Parliament is different from that of a civil servant inasmuch as the latter has continuity of employment for a known period, whereas a member of Parliament has a certain tenure of three years only. That was one of the problems to be considered in this regard. I am sympathetic, but cannot promise to do anything about it at this stage.

Item, East Perth Cemetery, £1,000:

**Hon. J. B. SLEEMAN:** Although I have every respect for the pioneers buried in the East Perth cemetery I do not think that all this expenditure is necessary when we are short of a few pounds to improve school grounds and things of that nature. Is this sum required to be spent straight-away?

**The PREMIER:** The East Perth cemetery over the years became very dilapidated and did not reflect any credit on the community as a whole. There were protests from all sections of the community and when the work of restoration was decided on it was hoped that it could be done for a reasonable sum. When this work is completed the cemetery will be something in the nature of a memorial park and the City Council will take a hand in beautifying the spot. The work is proceeding and it would be a pity at this stage to make a halt.

Item, Zoological Gardens, £15,000:

**Mr. BRADY:** At first this expenditure seemed to me to be excessive, but on consideration I am in favour of it as I think our children are entitled to the education and entertainment provided for them by the Zoological Gardens. Owing to transport difficulties children from my electorate are unable to take advantage of it. Would the Premier consult the Minister for Transport and see whether transport can be provided direct to the Zoo? People from Midland who wish to visit the Zoo have to travel by train to Perth, by tram to the ferry, across the river by ferry and then by tram again to the Zoo. They have to "embus" and "debus" four times in the course of the journey.

**Mr. YATES:** Apparently the member for Fremantle has very little time for the Zoological Gardens because over the past couple of sittings he has referred to them in a facetious manner. Actually the zoo belongs to the people of the State and there are many fine institutions in most of the capital cities of the Commonwealth and in other parts of the world.

The zoo happens to be in the centre of my electorate and the local authority concerned gains no revenue from this vast expanse of land. I know that the local authority would be pleased to see the gardens removed but I do not think any other local authority would be happy to have them set up in their district. A reserve was set aside at Point Walter but I do not think the Melville Road Board would be pleased to have the gardens established there.

**Hon. E. Nulsen:** What about putting them in National Park?

**Mr. YATES:** Yes, but there are transport difficulties such as the member for Guildford-Midland mentioned. However, I have a proposition to put to the Premier and I think it might bring in a vast amount of revenue.

**Hon. J. T. Tonkin:** The Premier will be keen about that.

**Mr. YATES:** Those members who know the layout of the zoo will realise that the land slopes from the top of the hill down towards Mends-st. and at the lower end there is a natural spring. A bore has been placed there and water at a temperature of about 98 degrees is running all the time. That has been going on for the last 30 or 40 years. It is mineral water and it is being utilised by the lessee of the mineral baths. People go there and bathe in the water in the hope that they will receive some beneficial results. We have no Olympic Pool in the metropolitan area and, as we have plenty of ground available at the top end of the zoo, a modern Olympic Pool could be built and water could be taken by pipe from the bore. The temperature of the water would be about normal body heat and people could bathe in the pool all the year round. It would have ideal surroundings and if a family wished to go to the pool the gardens could be used as a sort of picnic ground. The younger population particularly would be attracted to it and also many visitors from other parts of the Commonwealth.

**Mr. McCulloch:** There is a pool on the Goldfields but the people had to supply that themselves.

**Mr. YATES:** The people on the Goldfields have an Olympic Pool now.

**Mr. McCulloch:** They supplied it themselves. Why do you want the rest of the people to pay for something that will be of benefit to the people of South Perth?

**Mr. YATES:** The Government will be able to get some revenue from this.

**Mr. J. Hegney:** What about the one at Nedlands?

**Mr. YATES:** An Olympic Pool cannot be built there. This need not be run by the Government; it could be leased, or if the Government does not want to build

it the land could be leased and the pool built by private enterprise. It would still bring in a good deal of revenue. I have spoken to many people, including the present superintendent of the zoo and he is in favour of it. It would make a beauty spot of what at the moment is a barren piece of ground. With regard to the estimate of £15,000, I take it that that is for much needed improvements at the zoo. I believe that because there has been no Vote for the past couple of years.

The Premier: Yes there has. See page 41, Item 3.

Mr. YATES: I think the £15,000 is for additional animals and the repairing of existing cages and so on.

The Minister for Lands: That is so.

Mr. YATES: I have a good deal of admiration for the superintendent and his staff. They have had a difficult job to do and they have done it well. It is difficult when an animal becomes sick, because there are no expert veterinary surgeons in this State who know how to deal with all different types of animals.

Mr. J. Hegney: What about the officers of the Agricultural Department?

Mr. YATES: They have been called in on occasions but expert veterinary surgeons are needed for that type of work. If the Government could make provision for one man from the Zoological Gardens to take a course to bring him up to date with modern veterinary practice it would help considerably in keeping the animals in a fit condition.

Hon. J. B. SLEEMAN: I think the zoo is visited by many people apart from the electors in South Perth, but whilst it may be all right to have a zoo, the most important things come first. The average child does not visit the zoo twice in a year, but children do use their school-grounds and play-grounds five days a week. Whilst we cannot obtain money for the provision of school-grounds, apparently we can provide £15,000 for the zoo. I think that the zoo would get most of its patronage from Fremantle. I know that the largest picnic party comes from there to visit the zoo, but I still say that the most important things must come first. Unless the Minister can assure me that more money will be forthcoming for school-grounds, I will move for the item to be reduced.

The PREMIER: This amount is provided to enable the Zoological Gardens to be maintained and to provide the wages for employees and the cost of maintenance, etc. The member for South Perth said that no money was expended on the zoo last year, but £15,000 was spent. If we are to have a zoo we must maintain it and make it presentable. Almost every country has a zoo and it seems to be part of the recreation of the people. It is some years since I visited it, but a few years ago there were many complaints because

it was becoming neglected and dilapidated and considerable pressure was brought to bear to have that state of affairs rectified. I know that the minimum amount has been provided for its upkeep this year. Naturally, there is considerable expense on the upkeep of the grounds alone and the cost of feeding the animals and the renovations required must be provided.

Mr. J. Hegney: Has the Premier any information on the revenue that is obtained from the zoo?

The PREMIER: I do not know what revenue is secured, but I suggest that if the hon. member would call at the Treasury the information could be given to him.

Hon. J. B. Sleeman: Earlier in the year, by interjection, you said you were not in favour of keeping the zoo open whilst children were going short of play-grounds.

The PREMIER: I am afraid we have those peculiar circumstances arising always. It was decided to establish the zoo many years ago and every Government has kept it going. If it is to continue, a certain amount of finance is necessary and this is the minimum amount required for its upkeep.

Item, Departmental Advertising (not otherwise provided for).

Hon. J. T. TONKIN: I am interested in this item. Does the Government intend to provide money for pre-election advertising?

The Premier: I do not think so.

Hon. J. T. TONKIN: Then what is the need for advertising if it is not to boost the activities of the Government? It seems to me that the provision of money for the completion of the school-grounds at North Fremantle would take priority over advertising for the Premier's Department. If there is £10,000 available for that purpose, which will not get the Government anywhere as far as I can see, unless it is to boost its activities for election purposes—

The Premier: I have not heard of any such intention.

Hon. J. T. TONKIN: Well, on what is it to be expended? Are brochures to be printed, depicting what the Government has done during its term of office? What is to be advertised? The Government is not selling anything.

The PREMIER: The note I have here says that the amount covers the cost of general advertising, exclusive of railways and trading concerns. The system is under the control of one officer and was adopted for the sake of economy.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: That does not tell us much.

The PREMIER: As the hon. member knows, considerable advertising is required by the Government in normal circumstances and it is unavoidable in many directions. I am not aware of any elec-

tion stunting in relation to this but, if there is any, I have had no part in it. I think the hon. member's fears are groundless.

**Hon. J. T. TONKIN:** The Government is extremely short of money; it is living on Treasury bills from month to month. In fact, I would like to know what number of Treasury bills is out. The Government could save money under this item. It is exclusive of the Railway Department and some other department, which means that they will have their own advertising, and this item will be associated with the Premier's Department.

**The Minister for Education:** I think the amount covers advertising for many departments now, but it all comes under one officer.

**Hon. J. T. TONKIN:** It is exclusive of the Railway Department and what other?

**The Premier:** Trading Concerns!

**Hon. J. T. TONKIN:** Instead of providing more money for advertising than last year, in view of the Government's financial difficulty I would have expected the Treasurer to say, "Here is an opportunity to save some money." But he intends to spend more. I cannot see what advantage the State will derive from the advertising.

**The Minister for Lands:** Not unless we know what the advertising is for.

**Hon. J. T. TONKIN:** That is the point; we do not. If we did we would be in a better position to assess whether it is a reasonable item or not. Without that information I object to it. It is quite wrong that a job such as the North Fremantle school-ground, which work was authorised a couple of years ago and was held up because the department could not get on with the job, now cannot be completed because of insufficient money, and yet it is possible for the Treasurer to find \$9,000 for advertising.

**The PREMIER:** I can only say this is a departmental estimate and as the hon. member knows there is advertising of all kinds; statutory, land sales, vacancies of many descriptions and advertising probably for public works. We could enumerate a large number of advertisements which are all necessary. If this sum of money is not necessary it will not be spent. I can assure the hon. member that I do not want to spend money on unnecessary advertising. I will have another look at this and try to indicate to the hon. member in just what direction this money is being spent.

**Item, Stamp Duty on Transfers of Inscribed Stock, £10,000.**

**Mr. JOHNSON:** This is merely by way of inquiry. Stamp duties are a State charge; as far as I know there are no Commonwealth stamp duties. This appears

to be a case of charging ourselves and paying stamp duty from one department to another. Can the Premier explain what this stamp duty is on?

**The PREMIER:** The amount represents stamp duty on inscribed stock in London. When the loan was floated originally, the prospectus provided that the Government would meet the stamp duty on subsequent transfers of stock. I was having another look at this after I got my Estimates. When a sale is made, stamp duty is paid on the sale. Our debt in Britain is about £36,000,000 but I understand that few sales are now taking place.

**Item, Interest and Exchange, £7,000.**

**Hon. J. T. TONKIN:** When replying earlier this evening to the general debate on the Estimates, the Premier said there was no provision in the Estimates this year for the interest which would have to be paid on deferred contractual commitments, because that interest would be paid in the next financial year. I cannot follow that, because these Estimates are to cover the period from the 1st July, 1952, to the 30th June, 1953. These debts were deferred some months ago; I understand some of them were deferred before the end of June. That being so, the Government will have to pay interest on those deferred debts within 12 months of deferment because, according to the Premier's statement, the debts themselves will have to be paid at the end of 12 months.

**The Premier:** Unless we get a further deferment.

**Hon. J. T. TONKIN:** Suppose it is not possible? I find it difficult to follow how the Premier expects to get away with only £7,000 on interest and exchange payments.

**The Premier:** This item does not deal with it.

**Hon. J. T. TONKIN:** Will the Premier then explain the position?

**The PREMIER:** This amount is to provide for any miscellaneous interest on moneys deposited with the Treasury in trust. The exchange relates to interest exchange only. Further elaborating this, the main item of expenditure represents interest on Rural Bank moneys held by the Treasury in trust.

**Item, Contribution Towards Establishment of a Green Belt to Abate Dust Nuisance at Kalgoorlie and Boulder, £2,000.**

**Mr. McCULLOCH:** This amount of £2,000 has been on the Estimates for several years. The last time I discussed the matter, the three local authorities could not agree on an allocation of the shares for the upkeep of this green belt at Kalgoorlie and Boulder. It is obvious that £2,000 would not be sufficient to subsidise the other requirements. Furthermore we could not get water to meet

domestic requirements on the Goldfields, nor can market gardeners get sufficient to grow vegetables. I do not see why this should appear on the Estimates year after year. There is no point in showing £2,000 because they are not getting that amount, and I think it should be struck off unless the local authorities indicate that they intend to proceed with the project.

**The PREMIER:** This amount is provided towards the cost of planting trees at Boulder and Kalgoorlie to avoid the dust nuisance. The hon. member is right inasmuch as no expenditure has been incurred. The reason for this, I understand, is that there was a difference of opinion between local authorities regarding what expenditure they would provide. I think the hon. member is right and that, if nothing is going to be done about it, it should be struck off the Estimates.

**Mr. W. Hegney:** When was it first created?

**The PREMIER:** In 1948, I am informed. I shall certainly draw the attention of the Treasury to the hon. member's remarks.

**Item, Estimated Cost of Basic Wage Increases, £744,000.**

**Hon. J. T. TONKIN:** The Premier has several times referred to basic wage increases, and their cost to the State. I cannot follow this item. Last year there was a vote of £1,250,000, and according to the Estimates there was no expenditure. Surely there must have been some expenditure.

**The PREMIER:** I knew an explanation would probably be required on this item. Owing to the prevailing conditions, it is considered advisable to show the estimated increase in the basic wage for the current financial year for the bulk figure. As more increases become payable, the amounts will be charged against the appropriate Votes of the departments concerned, with the exception of the Railway Department which provides £256,000 in its own section of the Revenue Estimates. I think the hon. member will see what the position is from my explanation.

**Hon. J. T. Tonkin:** I understand.

**Item, Chamber of Mines, Payment re Gold Stealing Detection, £6,000.**

**Hon. A. R. G. HAWKE:** Apparently the Treasury makes a payment of £6,000 to the Chamber of Mines under this heading. I am not at all well-informed about the position. I was under the impression that the officers engaged in gold stealing detection were employed directly by the Government through the Police Force. Can the Treasurer clear the point up?

**The PREMIER:** The amount provided represents a partial recoup to the Chamber of Mines for the expense incurred by it in helping in the detection of gold stealing. The Chamber will receive half of the value of the stolen gold recovered, and the amount so payable is not to exceed £6,000 in the calendar year.

**Hon. A. R. G. Hawke:** Presumably the gold belongs to the companies.

**The Minister for Education:** The payment is based on the gold recovery.

**Item, State Electricity Commission Loss, £110,000.**

**Hon. E. NULSEN:** Last year the Vote was £61,000 and the expenditure was £71,947, showing an increase over the amount provided of £10,947. This year the estimate is £110,000, or an increase of £38,053 compared with the expenditure for the previous year. The Minister for Works assured us that the State Electricity Commission was getting on its feet and balancing its budget. I would like an explanation of the item.

**The PREMIER:** The item relates to the South-West power scheme and the plants at Welshpool and Midland Junction. The object is to recoup the loss on operations of those plants during the previous financial year.

**Item, Loss on Purchase of Frozen Meat for Local Requirements, £11,500.**

**Hon. J. T. TONKIN:** I would like the Premier to explain why it is anticipated that such a considerable loss will be incurred this year. I thoroughly agree with what has been done regarding the stockpiling of meat so that adequate supplies will be available for consumers at a reasonable price. I can understand that some loss has to be faced in that regard. I would like to know what has occasioned the anticipated extraordinarily high loss anticipated for the coming year as compared with the previous experience. Apparently it is expected that the loss this year will be double what was experienced last year. Has the plant become defective or has there been a loss of meat?

**The PREMIER:** This provision was made by the Government in an endeavour to keep the public supplied with meat throughout the year at reasonable prices and to prevent the creation of a black-market. Meat was stored at Robbs Jetty and, with the availability of frozen meat, it was anticipated that the price of meat would be kept at a reasonable level. The losses have been mainly due to distribution and storage costs. Beef was purchased from Wyndham and mutton from the local market and Victoria during the flush season and released when necessary. This year the season has developed very well and large numbers of stock came forward, with the result that there has been no demand for frozen meat. We still have

a considerable quantity on hand. It is very difficult to make an estimate of the quantity that will be required. We were told that we were not storing enough and we would be in trouble. The reverse has been the experience, and there has been no call upon the meat stored.

Item, State Electricity Commission, Recoup of Cost of Administering Regulations, £10,000.

Hon. A. R. G. HAWKE: Apparently the regulations are not such as come under the control of the State Electricity Commission. Will the Premier explain what the regulations are and how it comes about that the Commission controls and administers them?

The PREMIER: The item relates to a recoup to the State Electricity Commission regarding the cost incurred in administering regulations which have been framed for the benefit of the public, and registration fees received will be paid to Consolidated Revenue. I have no further information on the point.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: Will the Premier inform me later on what regulations they are?

The PREMIER: I will do that.

Item, Reimbursement of Sundry Railway Concessions, £25,000.

Mr. KELLY: I would like an explanation of this item.

The PREMIER: In previous years the cost of various concessions and unremunerated services provided by the railways has been borne by the department except for certain recoups made by the Premier's Department. The item deals with such recoups and relates to travelling concessions to members of Parliament, passes for disabled soldiers, soldiers from Faversham, organisers for charitable institutions and their collectors, concessions to Goldfields women and families, the Fresh Air League, Goldfields water supply workers and their families, wives and children of farmers, passes for justices, permanent heads of departments and the like. The item also includes provision for reimbursements applicable to the previous financial year.

Item, Agricultural Land Purchase, Provision to meet maturing Debentures, £20,000.

Mr. BOVELL: No amount was provided last year and I should like some information about this item.

The PREMIER: This sum is required to pay off debentures falling due this financial year. For the purchase of estates for closer settlement, such as Yandanooka and Avondale, a trust fund was created which now amounts to £50,000 and this is about £10,000 short. When this is paid off, the

land rents will go to Revenue. As payments are received, they are paid into the trust fund.

Item, Excess Freight Cost for Petrol landed North-West Ports, £20,000.

Mr. RODOREDA: This is apparently a new item, no amount having been provided last year. I spoke previously on the freight subsidy of £10,000 for the State Shipping Service and I am wondering whether the two items are inter-related. I have asked for information for three or four years, but have received no satisfactory reply.

The PREMIER: In view of the inability of the State Shipping Service to carry all the petrol required in the North-West, it became necessary for the Shell Company of Australia to bring direct shipments from Singapore. These resulted in considerable loss to the company by reason of heavy freight charges as compared with the low and subsidised State Shipping Service freights on which petrol prices in the North-West are fixed. Freight on petrol consigned through the State Shipping Service to ports north of Geraldton is charged at the Fremantle-Geraldton rate.

The Shell Company was not prepared to continue direct shipments from Singapore at considerable expense, and in order to avoid a petrol shortage in the North-West, an undertaking had to be given to the company that it would be paid the difference between the State Shipping Service freight rate and the freight rate from Singapore. The difference means approximately 10½d. per gallon and, for two shipments totalling some 10,000 drums, the total cost of the subsidy for this financial year is estimated at £20,000. With the return of the "Dulverton" to the State Shipping Service, it is expected that the total petrol requirements of the North-West can now be carried by the service and that no further direct shipments from Singapore will be necessary.

Mr. RODOREDA: I am pleased to have that explanation. There was some propaganda in the North to the effect that the Shell Company would not provide any more petrol because of the heavy loss. This seems to be an extraordinary amount to pay to the company, which could purchase its petrol cheaper at Singapore than at Fremantle. The freight might be heavier, but that would not apply to petrol carried on the company's tankers. I think that the company has put something over the Government.

The Premier: I assure you that this matter was thoroughly investigated.

Mr. RODOREDA: I think it should receive a lot more investigation.

The Premier: You know that we are carrying petrol to Wyndham at the Fremantle-Geraldton rate.

Mr. RODOREDA: I am aware of that. The freight to every North-West port is the same as to Geraldton.

The Premier: That is, on petrol.

Mr. RODOREDA: Then why are different prices charged for petrol at every port?

The Premier: I cannot answer that.

Mr. RODOREDA: I have been trying to arrive at what the cost should be. I think the Geraldton price should be the price at every port in the North-West.

Mr. Owen: What about handling charges?

Mr. RODOREDA: The handling charges vary slightly, but the wharfage charges are the same. Apparently the companies are making a welter of petrol sales in the North-West, charging up to 2s. a gallon more than they should. I have been trying to get some decision from the Prices

Branch as to the price of petrol, but I have been put off with statements about the extraordinary difficulty of finding the cost, which precludes the branch from fixing the price.

I am pleased that we have got to the bottom of this at last. I brought this matter up last year and wanted the Premier to cut out the subsidy because the consumers were not getting the benefit of it. The people of the North-West will be glad to have the explanation given by the Premier and somebody will have to toe the mark as regards the prices being charged for petrol. At Marble Bar the price is 6s. 1d. per gallon, whereas it should be the Geraldton price plus freight on 120 miles of cartage. The matter will not be allowed to rest here.

Vote put and passed.

Progress reported.

*House adjourned at 11.10 p.m.*

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## APPENDICES TO BUDGET.

**CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND.**

## ESTIMATE FOR 1952-53.

	\$	\$	\$	\$
DEFICIT FOR YEAR 1951-52 .....				561,611
Add Decreases in Estimated Revenue—				
Taxation:				
Probate Duty .....			85,076	
Territorial:				
Land .....			7,842	
Departmental:				
Medical .....		14,452		
Native Affairs .....		11,797		
Department of Industrial Development .....		22,582		
Crown Law .....		2,426		
Government Motor Cars .....		7,731		
Lands Titles .....		3,841		
Minor Variations .....		2,862		
Treasury Miscellaneous:				
Rural Bank—Government Agency .....	6,499			
Trust Investments .....	3,774			
Rural Bank .....	5,400			
Government Workers' Compensation Surplus .....	45,598			
Unclaimed Money .....	2,142			
Export of Timber—Surcharge .....	36,198			
Government Property Sales .....	1,974			
Rural Bank—Employers' Contribution—Superannuation .....	13,397			
Minor Variations .....	3,225			
		123,203		189,194
Public Utilities:				
Fremantle Harbour Trust .....		27,514		
Railways .....		1,468,051		
State Batteries .....		16,377		
			1,509,942	
Add Increases in Estimated Expenditure—				
Special Acts				
Interest and Sinking Fund .....		481,262		
Coal Miners' Pensions .....		2,400		
Fire Brigade Contributions .....		9,450		
Forest Act .....		38,392		
Library Board .....		5,000		
Parliamentary Allowances .....		3,983		
Superannuation and Family Benefits .....		34,719		
Minor Variations .....		4,584		
			578,050	
Departmental:				
Legislative .....		3,209		
Treasury .....		7,890		
Governor's Establishment .....		4,102		
London Agency .....		2,970		
Audit .....		4,725		
Compassionate Allowances .....		2,417		
Government Stores .....		10,749		
Government Printer .....		7,892		
Education .....		471,407		
Child Welfare .....		39,368		
Department of Industrial Development .....		42,899		
Public Works .....		280,308		
Lands and Surveys .....		39,279		
Factories .....		3,547		
Crown Law .....		40,050		
Arbitration Court .....		3,830		
Police .....		120,571		
Chief Secretary .....		6,667		
Registry and Friendly Societies .....		13,292		
Prisons .....		12,015		
Tourist Bureau .....		2,282		
Harbour and Light .....		16,977		
Local Government .....		5,516		
Native Affairs .....		8,775		
Medical .....		39,103		
Public Health .....		131,809		
Mental Hospital .....		61,561		
Mines .....		34,140		
Agriculture .....		103,839		
College of Agriculture .....		5,945		
Forests .....		73,876		
Minor Variations .....		3,991		

## CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND—continued.

## Miscellaneous Services :

University—Additional Grant	9,024
Reforestation Fund	6,000
Literary and Scientific Grants	1,631
Bulk Wheat Installation	4,802
Air Transport of Beef	3,039
King's Park Board	2,000
East Perth Cemetery	9,046
Exchange—Overseas	20,102
Payroll	4,826
State Shipping Service—Loss	3,408
Basic Wage	744,000
Excess of acquiring holdings for War Service Land Settlement	10,000
State Electricity Commission—Loss	88,853
Loss on Purchase of Frozen Meat	6,249
Sundry Railway Concessions	12,782
Charcoal Iron and Steel Industry—Loss	38,084
Agricultural Land Purchase	10,000
Excess Freight for Petrol Landed at North-West Ports	20,000
Minor Variations	21,471

959,514

2,544,543

## Public Utilities :

Country Areas Water Supplies	78,458
Other Hydraulic Undertakings	72,634
State Abattoirs	26,206
Metropolitan Water Supply	107,035
Railways	585,653
Tramways	157,206

1,025,212

5,969,559

6,531,470

## Less Increases in Estimated Revenue—

## Taxation :

Land Tax	25,906
Income Tax	1,400,000
Totalsator Duty	8,870
Stamp Duty	76,463
Licenses	29,747

1,540,886

## Territorial :

Mining	742
Timber	71,038

71,780

3,879

## Law Courts

## Departmental :

Agriculture	10,172
Child Welfare	1,241
College of Agriculture	2,245
Education	2,259
Forests	111,485
Harbour and Light	14,394
Local Government	2,477
Mental Hospital	4,682
Police	49,297
Public Health	211,568
Public Works	96,028
Minor Variations	4,624

## Treasury Miscellaneous :

Hospital Contributions	4,821
State Electricity Commission	8,400
Bunbury Bulk Handling	7,900
Fremantle Bulk Handling	10,300
State Housing Commission	6,228
Saving Bank Profit	4,630
State Insurance—Assessed Tax	3,521
Superannuation—Departmental Charges	4,824
Government Stores—Surplus Stores	3,000
Agricultural Land Purchase	10,000
Price Control	2,068
Surcharge on Rail Freight	20,000
Minor Variations	6,653

92,343

602,706

4,457

## Royal Mint

## Commonwealth:

Grant under Section 96	2,953,000
Surplus for 1950-51	169,000

3,112,000

2,311

## Trading Concerns

## Public Utilities :

Country Areas Water Supplies	16,262
State Abattoirs	48,306
Metropolitan Water Supply	65,146
Other Hydraulic Undertakings	6,837
Tramways	142,783
Minor Variations	1,847

230,081

## CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND—continued.

Less Decreases in Estimated Expenditure—				
Departmental:				
Premiums .....			5,315	
Audit .....			4,859	
State Housing Commission .....			38,071	
Miscellaneous Services:				
Kindergarten Union .....			7,375	
McNess Housing Trust .....			5,000	
Transport of Superphosphate by Road .....			127,185	
Australian Blue Asbestos, Ltd. ....			5,564	
School Sites .....			11,328	
Stamp Duty on Transfers of Inscribed Stock .....			2,773	
Hospital Fund .....			130,289	
Recoup Rural Bank .....			10,000	
Dairy Cattle Compensation .....			3,293	
Concession Freight on Fittings on Railway Trucks used for Bulk Wheat .....			3,589	
Concession Ball through the MNI—Rebate on Export Flour .....			25,008	
Country Race Clubs Totalisator Duty Concession .....			4,610	
Adjustment of Port to Port Freight Rates .....			19,000	
Assistance to Eastern Goldfields Transport Board .....			6,544	
Minor Variations .....			7,148	
			<u>370,018</u>	
				418,058
Public Utilities:				
State Batteries .....			34,955	
Minor Variation .....			418	
			<u>35,373</u>	
				6,080,530
ESTIMATED DEFICIT, YEAR 1952-53 .....				<u>440,940</u>

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[Return No. 1.]

BALANCE SHEET OF THE GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA AT 30th JUNE, 1951, AND 30th JUNE, 1952.

	30th June, 1951.	30th June, 1952.		30th June, 1951.	30th June, 1952.
	£	£		£	£
Public Debt ....	123,186,766	138,288,531	Invested in Works and Services, etc. ....	117,915,136	134,288,142
			Balance—General Loan Fund c/d. ....	5,271,630	4,000,389
	123,186,766	138,288,531		123,186,766	138,288,531
Balance General Loan Fund ....	5,271,630	4,000,389	Consolidated Revenue Fund ....	....	351,068
Consolidated Revenue Fund ....	240,642	....	Commonwealth Government—Tax Arrears	657,364	667,350
State Taxes, Arrears ....	590,917	600,333	Advances (under Appropriation "Advance to Treasurer") ....	1,380,838	1,655,583
Hospital Fund Contributions, Arrears ....	66,447	67,017	Trading Concerns ....	....	55,167
Reserve Accounts ....	1,034	1,252	Expenditure in Suspense ....	94,658	87,524
Suspense Accounts ....	816,005	504,140	Stores on hand ....	3,024,042	2,985,782
Trading Concerns ....	66,029	....	Trust Fund Investments—		
Trust Funds—			Governmental ....	2,241,651	2,209,475
Governmental ....	7,105,744	5,923,187	Private ....	4,126,825	3,961,833
Private ....	4,992,161	4,936,958	Banking Account ....	1,202,503	232,322
			Cash in hand, etc.—		
			Banks Current Account ....	1,173,594	535,933
			Banks in Eastern States ....	16,835	56,787
			Debenture Deposit ....	5,027,960	3,057,768
			In London ....	97,102	81,216
			In Transit ....	24,823	13,997
			In Hand ....	82,314	81,471
	19,150,509	16,033,276		19,150,509	16,033,276

[Return No. 2.]

## REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1951-52, COMPARED WITH ESTIMATE.

## SUMMARY.

	Estimate.	Actual.	Comparison with Estimate.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Revenue .....	33,096,510	33,955,157	858,647	....
Expenditure .....	33,158,375	34,546,768	1,388,393	....
Deficit .....	61,865	591,611	529,746	....
Surplus .....	....	....	....	....
Net Retrogression .....			£529,746	

## DETAILS.

Revenue.	Estimate.	Actual.	Comparison with Estimate.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Taxation .....	11,391,500	11,716,390	324,890	....
Territorial .....	625,000	650,062	25,062	....
Law Courts .....	138,000	167,121	29,121	....
Departmental .....	3,126,460	3,431,259	304,799	....
Royal Mint .....	115,000	115,543	543	....
Commonwealth .....	5,561,432	5,561,432	....	....
Trading Concerns .....	167,270	145,889	....	11,381
Public Utilities .....	11,981,848	12,167,461	185,613	....
Total Revenue .....	33,096,510	33,955,157	870,028	11,381

Expenditure.	Estimate.	Actual.	Comparison with Estimate.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
SPECIAL ACTS—				
Constitution Act .....	16,810	15,558	....	1,252
Interest—Overseas .....	1,187,102	1,195,534	8,432	....
Interest—Australia .....	2,720,694	2,662,861	....	67,833
Sinking Fund .....	1,025,000	1,022,207	....	2,793
Other Special Acts .....	1,192,968	1,242,637	49,671	....
GOVERNMENTAL—				
Departmental .....	13,944,458	14,282,990	338,532	....
Exchange .....	461,000	389,898	....	71,102
Unemployment Relief .....	150	113	....	37
PUBLIC UTILITIES .....	12,610,195	13,744,970	1,134,775	....
Total Expenditure .....	33,158,375	34,546,768	1,531,410	143,017

# REVENUE.

## STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS FROM 1943-44 TO 1951-52 AND ESTIMATE FOR 1951-52.

Heads.	1943-44.	1944-45.	1945-46.	1946-47.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.	Estimate, 1952-53.
<b>TAXATION—</b>	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Land Tax .....	122,519	118,184	111,353	112,465	111,118	132,243	150,840	180,323	200,094	235,000
Income Tax Reimbursement .....	2,546,000	2,546,000	2,546,000	2,546,000	2,507,000	4,494,632	5,172,433	7,176,426	9,480,000	10,800,000
Totallicator Tax .....	118,210	121,374	172,141	152,450	168,787	177,817	181,520	207,398	241,430	250,000
Stamp Duty .....	221,818	250,829	325,778	417,491	462,122	530,885	704,913	923,788	953,637	1,350,000
Probate Duty .....	233,400	276,477	262,280	285,326	300,467	362,168	412,616	462,648	685,076	600,000
Entertainment Tax .....	98,189	98,384	98,196	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
Licenses .....	63,780	91,924	96,680	124,166	125,682	136,495	160,012	181,468	227,253	257,000
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>3,420,911</b>	<b>3,602,072</b>	<b>3,612,276</b>	<b>4,453,093</b>	<b>4,984,191</b>	<b>5,836,240</b>	<b>6,792,534</b>	<b>9,132,251</b>	<b>11,716,590</b>	<b>13,173,000</b>
<b>TERRITORIAL AND DEPARTMENTAL—</b>										
Land .....	199,254	190,613	193,405	252,181	322,035	326,104	320,510	284,846	257,842	250,000
Mining .....	21,873	20,989	26,308	37,750	36,406	42,318	43,512	43,242	45,258	46,000
Timber .....	129,732	137,840	134,749	236,442	242,363	182,654	248,634	287,141	346,962	418,000
Royal Mint .....	78,099	69,814	47,323	51,794	53,240	68,610	78,966	101,827	115,543	120,000
Departmental Fees, etc. ....	1,434,100	1,709,904	1,259,492	1,552,844	1,787,356	2,232,239	2,666,457	2,956,418	3,431,259	3,844,770
Law Courts .....	50,857	60,341	75,655	79,381	98,569	114,745	131,746	135,770	167,121	171,000
Commonwealth .....	850,000	904,000	950,000	1,245,000	1,977,000	3,600,000	5,180,000	5,021,739	5,083,000	(a) 8,200,000
Commonwealth Special Grant .....			912,556	623,000	1,000,000		681,077			
Commonwealth Interest Contribution .....	473,432	473,432	473,432	473,432	473,432	473,432	473,432	473,432	473,432	473,432
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>3,230,347</b>	<b>3,557,083</b>	<b>4,072,921</b>	<b>4,554,224</b>	<b>5,090,901</b>	<b>7,087,102</b>	<b>9,994,994</b>	<b>9,302,915</b>	<b>9,925,417</b>	<b>13,523,202</b>
<b>PUBLIC UTILITIES—</b>										
Bunbury Harbour Board .....	5,500	3,500								
Fremantle Harbour Trust .....	259,140	326,229	292,209	208,544	263,312	357,478	461,980	303,648	238,514	250,000
Goldfields Water Supply (c) .....	270,277	306,384	306,053	341,798	363,270	349,574	352,425	363,675	362,738	370,000
Kalgoorlie Abattoirs .....	5,854	81,669	79,010	69,839	98,038	140,236	138,805	155,846	178,694	227,000
Metropolitan Abattoirs and Sale Yards .....	81,722									
Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage .....	577,680	600,617	592,584	608,395	649,313	704,090	756,124	804,030	909,854	975,000
Other Hydraulic Undertakings .....	84,057	87,054	88,925	101,787	109,889	121,628	131,453	152,051	181,185	188,000
Railways .....	4,419,766	4,271,298	4,143,413	3,979,404	4,545,376	5,161,218	6,371,770	6,970,696	9,216,051	7,760,000
Tramways, Perth Electric .....	515,163	509,680	521,008	480,622	509,303	591,466	593,928	671,716	915,217	1,080,000
Electricity Supply .....	540,932	577,979	580,148	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)
State Ferries .....	11,546	12,141	10,582	9,878	10,406	11,870	12,665	10,294	11,480	13,000
State Batteries .....	29,674	20,272	25,194	49,002	56,031	60,257	57,667	86,562	74,877	58,500
Caves House, etc. ....	11,718	12,184	14,408	15,276	13,038	17,973	23,988	24,042	31,873	32,000
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>6,812,813</b>	<b>6,808,787</b>	<b>6,651,416</b>	<b>5,884,447</b>	<b>6,621,228</b>	<b>7,516,799</b>	<b>8,895,755</b>	<b>9,542,559</b>	<b>12,167,461</b>	<b>10,938,500</b>
<b>TRADING CONCERNS</b> .....	<b>119,104</b>	<b>85,958</b>	<b>70,944</b>	<b>89,106</b>	<b>114,292</b>	<b>121,505</b>	<b>127,678</b>	<b>173,456</b>	<b>145,889</b>	<b>166,500</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b> .....	<b>13,589,175</b>	<b>13,953,930</b>	<b>14,407,567</b>	<b>14,980,875</b>	<b>17,710,810</b>	<b>20,580,646</b>	<b>25,810,961</b>	<b>28,156,181</b>	<b>33,956,167</b>	<b>37,800,202</b>

(a) Included Income Tax Reimbursement. (b) From 1st July, 1946, taken over by State Electricity Commission. (c) Operating from year 1951-52 as "Country Areas Water Schemes."  
(d) Includes Surplus for 1950-51 £150,000.

## STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FROM 1943-44 TO 1951-52, AND ESTIMATE FOR 1952-53.

Head.	1943-44.	1944-45.	1945-46.	1946-47.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.	Estimate 1952-53.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Special Acts	4,560,235	4,634,706	4,654,844	4,709,004	4,828,367	4,947,557	5,188,288	5,508,667	6,128,797	6,706,847
Parliamentary	16,352	18,227	19,049	20,037	25,535	28,830	31,688	37,161	45,244	48,453
Premier	10,549	9,923	14,285	21,270	28,248	26,367	22,211	27,247	36,375	31,065
Treasury	30,445	30,448	32,460	35,781	39,728	45,899	52,606	62,801	78,225	87,115
Governor	2,733	2,870	3,268	3,388	3,385	4,111	4,708	7,041	14,045	18,147
London Agency	10,319	9,601	9,930	15,061	14,460	16,334	16,750	22,298	26,058	29,028
Public Service Commissioner	1,654	1,882	2,322	2,724	3,238	4,488	4,842	6,400	8,567	10,250
Government Motor Cars	1,313	2,748	3,841	2,679	4,786	4,290	11,249	6,914	14,547	9,888
Audit	18,799	17,909	18,272	21,337	23,737	28,767	32,430	39,355	47,425	62,150
Compassionate Allowances	4,679	4,024	4,716	2,578	8,616	5,153	6,318	2,737	3,269	5,688
Government Stores	18,710	19,568	21,672	24,073	28,914	37,456	51,117	58,394	72,914	88,663
Taxation	12,067	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000
State Housing Commission			4,702	10,006	22,905	24,521	39,007	62,033	66,076	28,005
Superannuation Board	3,259	3,233	3,216	8,411	4,579	6,298	7,493	8,697	10,782	11,379
Printing	70,038	71,065	66,161	102,184	137,821	155,839	184,867	236,621	308,443	316,335
Tourist and Publicity Bureau	482	749	2,467	11,531	12,960	15,028	18,412	21,539	27,713	29,995
Literary and Scientific	11,550	13,150	13,241	15,939	21,952	21,947	27,467	32,968	48,369	
Miscellaneous and Refunds	1,359,102	1,533,811	1,278,720	1,403,057	1,690,819	2,896,322	4,005,909	3,504,899	4,087,297	4,720,167
Forests	137,106	171,380	161,025	84,056	77,272	90,245	108,868	128,491	194,879	
Public Works	233,052	222,370	258,285	276,341	318,468	538,019	655,578	866,868	1,150,434	1,410,740
Local Government	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	16,921	22,019	27,535
Town Planning	1,684	1,831	2,211	2,467	2,939	3,602	4,095	5,649	6,308	7,750
Unemployment Relief										
State Labour Bureau	3,334	2,975	3,611	2,331	1,871	1,659	861	(c)	(c)	(c)
Lands and Surveys	61,892	66,122	65,028	119,910	159,894	186,163	283,334	295,370	407,321	446,605
Farmers Debts Adjustment and Rural Relief	2,002	1,440	1,380	1,273	1,051	428	448	818	(e)	(e)
Rural and Industries Bank										5
Agriculture										
College of Agriculture	112,529	132,920	168,518	182,292	211,863	257,363	345,788	400,894	492,858	602,642
Labour	1,701	2,025	1,990	3,110	4,623	8,847	4,519	5,365	7,378	8,470
Factories	7,798	7,824	8,415	9,420	11,784	13,416	13,724	17,178	20,753	24,800
Arbitration Court	6,594	5,480	6,152	7,620	10,161	11,906	12,909	14,700	15,309	19,199
State Insurance										5
Department of Industrial Development	7,412	5,909	16,875	21,107	21,058	24,499	65,859	118,035	112,669	155,568
Child Welfare	72,674	77,455	76,903	83,142	94,575	112,839	124,280	168,140	198,982	233,380
Mines, Explosives, Geological, etc.	113,507	128,016	133,482	162,539	185,057	193,502	208,362	245,789	281,905	316,045
Medical and Health	104,030	65,203	104,433	115,876	165,466	229,499	454,840	577,846	790,219	961,131
Mental Hospitals	148,796	147,107	159,466	176,969	217,893	255,564	316,759	363,270	508,219	569,610
Office of Chief Secretary	40,888	39,162	43,762	47,873	58,771	69,724	80,632	87,641	129,570	149,833
Prisons	46,682	49,482	51,637	53,741	64,652	74,049	88,082	101,220	120,910	142,626
Education	873,737	898,944	1,002,520	1,223,746	1,643,768	1,759,635	2,079,781	2,634,461	3,630,893	4,132,300
Police	292,563	291,695	302,764	337,326	418,425	518,388	591,877	750,425	959,761	1,090,322
Crown Law and Branches	104,877	99,960	120,810	149,884	157,911	229,979	290,213	319,477	399,235	469,589
Natives	41,250	50,200	60,000	64,800	73,736	95,102	129,008	143,704	168,304	167,079
Harbour and Light and Jetty	42,600	39,155	40,658	42,603	44,313	51,776	62,036	71,210	101,233	118,210
Fisheries	8,145	7,521	9,466	11,029	13,161	17,556	23,844	31,580	39,070	87,047
North-West	243	183	181	140						200
Supply and Shipping							670	2,198	6,395	6,332
Total, Department	4,035,724	4,282,803	4,340,026	4,886,668	6,238,115	8,070,190	10,480,439	11,301,345	14,673,001	18,799,488

Head.	1943-44.	1944-45.	1945-46.	1946-47.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.	Estimate 1952-53.
<b>PUBLIC UTILITIES.</b>	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Goldfields Water Supply (d) ....	141,875	178,602	180,930	195,887	229,024	270,819	313,871	405,405	500,042	576,500
Kalgoorlie Abattoirs ....	5,877	} 82,640	61,972	69,434	77,083	103,721	99,743	121,417	156,593	182,799
Metropolitan Abattoirs ....	57,738									
Metropolitan Water Supply ....	131,860	131,691	159,444	180,780	217,908	239,649	299,343	372, 208	482,255	589,310
Other Hydraulic Undertakings ....	74,289	80,620	83,921	99,412	118,308	158,826	211,604	286,543	340,496	413,130
Railways ....	3,624,320	3,852,094	3,853,437	4,314,899	5,672,312	6,787,662	8,065,616	8,849,200	11,043,347	11,629,000
Tramways ....	386,908	392,106	427,832	466,243	572,183	685,385	996,613	771,963	1,010,794	1,168,000
State Ferries ....	10,585	10,348	18,690	15,583	18,539	15,454	16,985	15,502	16,510	17,000
Electricity Supply ....	461,761	479,259	569,373	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
State Batteries ....	38,702	38,434	44,663	75,283	78,708	80,525	91,209	140,709	162,665	127,710
Cave House ....	11,280	11,237	12,425	15,234	18,695	17,939	24,092	23,875	32,268	31,360
<b>Total Public Utilities</b> ....	<b>4,935,195</b>	<b>5,032,031</b>	<b>5,412,637</b>	<b>5,432,755</b>	<b>6,997,910</b>	<b>8,360,180</b>	<b>10,118,476</b>	<b>10,986,822</b>	<b>13,744,970</b>	<b>14,734,809</b>
<b>GRAND TOTALS</b> ....	<b>13,551,154</b>	<b>13,949,340</b>	<b>14,407,557</b>	<b>15,023,427</b>	<b>16,062,392</b>	<b>21,377,907</b>	<b>25,787,203</b>	<b>27,996,834</b>	<b>34,546,768</b>	<b>38,241,142</b>

(a) From 1st July, 1946, taken over by State Electricity Commission. (b) Previously included in Public Works. (c) Transferred to Supply and Shipping. (d) Operating from year 1951-52 as "Country Areas Water Scheme." (e) Included in Lands and Surveys.

[Return No. 5.]

**STATEMENT SHOWING ANNUAL SURPLUSES AND DEFICIENCIES OF CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND  
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEARS 1900-01 TO 1951-52.**

Published Details.			Published Annual.		(a) Adjusted Annual.	
Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus.	Deficiency.	Surplus.	Deficiency.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1900-01	3,078,933	3,165,244	....	87,211	....	....
1901-02	3,688,049	3,490,026	198,023	....	....	....
1902-03	3,630,238	3,621,763	108,475	....	....	....
1903-04	3,650,016	3,698,311	....	148,295	....	....
1904-05	3,616,340	3,745,225	....	129,885	....	....
1905-06	3,558,939	3,632,318	....	73,379	....	....
1906-07	3,401,354	3,490,183	....	88,829	....	....
1907-08	3,376,641	3,379,006	....	2,365	....	....
1908-09	3,267,014	3,368,551	....	101,537	....	....
1909-10	3,657,670	3,447,731	209,939	....	....	....
1910-11	3,850,439	3,734,449	115,991	....	....	....
1911-12	3,966,673	4,101,082	....	134,409	....	....
1912-13	4,596,659	4,787,084	....	190,405	....	....
1913-14	5,205,343	5,340,754	....	135,411	....	....
1914-15	5,140,725	5,706,541	....	565,816	....	....
1915-16	5,356,978	5,705,201	....	38,223	....	....
1916-17	4,577,007	5,278,704	....	699,757	....	....
1917-18	4,622,536	5,328,279	....	705,743	....	....
1918-19	4,944,851	5,596,866	....	652,015	....	....
1919-20	5,863,601	6,531,725	....	668,225	....	....
1920-21	6,789,665	7,476,291	....	686,725	....	....
1921-22	6,907,107	7,639,242	....	732,135	....	....
1922-23	7,207,492	7,612,856	....	405,364	....	....
1923-24	7,865,595	8,094,753	....	229,158	....	....
1924-25	8,381,446	8,439,844	....	58,398	....	....
1925-26	8,808,166	8,907,309	....	99,143	....	....
1926-27	9,750,833	9,722,588	28,245	....	....	....
1927-28	9,807,949	9,834,415	....	26,466	....	....
1928-29	9,947,951	10,223,919	....	275,968	....	....
1929-30	9,750,515	10,268,519	....	518,004	....	....
1930-31	8,686,756	10,107,295	....	1,420,539	....	....
1931-32	8,035,316	9,593,212	....	1,557,896	....	....
1932-33	8,332,153	9,196,234	....	864,081	....	....
1933-34	8,481,897	9,270,609	....	788,912	....	....
1934-35	9,331,430	9,498,525	....	167,095	....	....
1935-36	10,033,721	9,945,343	88,378	....	....	....
1936-37	10,185,433	10,556,638	....	371,205	....	....
1937-38	10,819,042	10,829,735	....	10,693	....	....
1938-39	10,949,660	11,170,102	....	220,442	....	....
1939-40	11,119,943	11,266,768	....	146,825	....	....
1940-41	11,432,068	11,420,957	11,111	....	....	....
1941-42	11,940,149	11,938,381	1,768	....	....	....
1942-43	13,151,678	13,127,242	24,436	....	....	....
1943-44	13,589,175	13,551,154	38,021	....	....	....
1944-45	13,953,830	13,949,340	4,490	....	....	....
1945-46	14,407,557	14,407,557	....	....	....	....
1946-47	14,980,875	15,028,427	....	47,552	38,448	....
1947-48	17,710,310	18,062,392	....	352,082	....	....
1948-49	20,580,646	21,377,907	....	817,261	....	....
1949-50	25,810,961	25,787,203	23,758	....	....	....
1950-51	28,156,181	27,996,834	159,347	....	....	....
1951-52	33,955,157	34,546,768	....	591,611	....	....

(a) Budget result after bringing to account moneys received on behalf of deficit extinguishment and forming part of the Special Grant paid by the Commonwealth on the recommendation of the Commonwealth Grants Commission under Sec. 96 of the Constitution (see Chapters 4 and 5 of the Sixteenth Report of the Commission for details of the change in procedure enabling these adjustments to be made) and of their significance in overcoming the difficulties caused by the time-lag in assessment.

## LOAN EXPENDITURE FOR 1951-52 COMPARED WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.

(Up to 1945-46 Loan Suspense Expenditure was not charged to Loan Fund until the year following that in which it was incurred. The figures for 1946-47 and after include Loan Suspense Expenditure incurred during the year.)

Undertakings.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944-45.	1945-46.	1946-47.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.
Railways, including Land Resumptions	£ 102,478	£ 29,699	£ 23,781	£ 17,858	£ 72,938	£ 72,637	£ 268,379	£ 286,548	£ 362,844	£ 2,211,693	£ 2,304,880	£ 8,023,913
Tramways—Perth Electric	9,109	28,857	71,949	9,269	6,269	1,393	54,418	97,537	43,279	325,809	325,809	237,587
Electric Power Stations	15,125	22,678	56,138	25,368	15,493	115,081	166,054	735,687	1,085,843	2,346,719	3,326,712	3,341,916
Fremantle Harbour Works	51,853	97,168	63,817	6,228	24,872	31,893	49,049	69,499	61,375	73,115	204,886	647,438
Harbours and Rivers generally	24,518	3,251	3,401	5,917	9,515	6,765	37,584	58,489	165,595	329,100	400,425	850,884
Sewerage—Perth and Fremantle	115,433	71,112	17,494	6,473	10,717	39,831	116,897	168,624	227,386	217,546	314,478	817,933
Sewerage—Country Towns									7,709	23,638	27,849	86,724
Water Supplies (a)	764,457	270,451	73,003	52,595	90,112	202,925	623,749	549,268	600,838	799,895	1,730,486	2,035,897
Development of Goldfields (b)	43,453	17,780	137,854	99,490	99,270	231,722	255,357	281,535	328,224	357,869	460,771	835,962
Development of Agriculture	165,747	91,814	28,997	28,529	15,024	59,235	51,948	78,936	125,103	399,277	317,309	410,065
Assistance to Settlers, Industries, etc.	12,895	8,429	6,948	5,060	2,000	2						
Land Settlement for Soldiers	879	8	121	210	1,207							
College of Agriculture	1,116	776	41					1,159	4,775	1,983	3,427	
Rural and Industries Bank—Working Capital										500,000		
Purchase of Plant (Suspense)							125,000	75,000	50,000	180,000	320,000	165,000
State Brickworks											185,000	245,000
State Saw Mills							50,000		37,550	70,000	197,450	195,950
Steamships	417										42,500	109,002
Worker's Homes—Working Capital	10,000											58,000
Workers' Homes Board—War Housing					120,000							
State Hotels	20,702	147	1						911	1,302	2,729	
Ferries	1,648	2,211	2,211			3,000		609	686	2,833		
State Engineering Works	7,571	89,429	15,571	5,000	4,039				10,000			
Public Buildings	57,231	35,239	53,151	35,608	81,217	116,607	182,045	214,938	(d) 585,902	(d) 718,062	(d) 1,036,492	(d) 1,408,451
Hospital Buildings and Equipment, including Grants	800,000	59,291	75,000	45,000	40,000	110,000	255,000	367,131				
Roads and Bridges	41,734											
Sundries	5,000	613	180					10,724	20,841	3,021	1,980	243,631
Bulk Handling of Wheat	6,204					31,822	35,963	24,301	781	5,928	2,877	45,002
Boys' Quarries												
Air Raid Precautions			60,000	22,368								
West Australian Meat Export Works			35,000	14,064	70,936	50,000			10,000	20,000	10,000	
Welshpool Industries							48,823	64,366	71,100	29,248	161,680	
Native Stations, Hospitals, etc.	14,000	11,807				5,000	15,000			19,000	20,000	1,700
Totals	1,760,366	791,951	774,606	377,330	685,229	1,061,549	(c) 2,230,964	3,030,763	3,813,724	8,351,015	11,404,253	18,757,784
Less Expenditure from Loan Repayments Receipts	140,203	89,867	184,706	198,896	222,494	210,595	192,813	282,155	533,204	298,639	256,901	1,088,671
Net Expenditure from Loan Raisings	1,620,163	702,084	589,900	178,434	472,735	870,954	2,038,146	2,748,608	3,280,520	8,052,376	11,147,352	17,669,113

(a) Including Goldfields Districts. (b) Excluding Water Supplies. (c) Excludes Recoup to Loan Suspense Account 1945-46. Development of Goldfields £360; Purchase of Plant (Suspense) £40,000; W.A. Meat Export Works £30,811; Total £71,161. (d) Includes Hospitals.

Return No. 7.]

## PUBLIC DEBT.

## (a) LOAN AUTHORISATIONS AND FLOTATIONS.

	£	£	£
Authorisations to 30th June, 1951	....	161,532,464	
Authorisations, 1951-52	....	12,546,072	
		<u>174,078,536</u>	
<b>Flotations—</b>			
Inscribed Stock, Debentures, Treasury Bonds, etc., issued in Australia and Overseas—Net proceeds:—			
	£		
For Works and Services	148,254,260		
For Funding Deficits	12,115,087		
	<u>160,369,347</u>		
Discounts and Flotation Expenses (including Cost of Conversion Loans), net:—			
	£		
On Works Loans	5,252,084		
On Deficit Loans	753,279		
	<u>6,005,363</u>		
		160,374,710	
Short Term Debt current at 30th June, 1952—			
London		2,959,714	
		<u>169,334,424</u>	
<b>Total Flotations</b>			169,334,424
<b>Balance available for Flotation</b>			<u>4,744,112</u>

## (b) LOAN INDEBTEDNESS.

	£	£	£
Total Amount raised to 30th June, 1951	....	163,240,504	
<b>Flotations during the year—</b>			
Counter Sales	....	28,920	
Instalment Stock	....	2,073,000	
Commonwealth Loans (Aust.)	....	13,992,000	
		<u>16,093,920</u>	
			169,334,424
<b>Redemptions—</b>			
Total to 30th June, 1951	....	30,053,736	
<b>During the year—</b>			
National Debt Commission:			
Securities repurchased	861,614		
Instalment Stock redeemed (Australia)	57,190		
Inscribed Stock redeemed at maturity	....		
Special Deficit Loans redeemed	78,351		
	<u>992,155</u>		
			31,045,893
Gross Public Debt at 30th June, 1952	....	138,288,531	
Sinking Fund	....	323,313	
		<u>137,965,</u>	
Net Public Debt at 30th June, 1952	....		

[Return No. 7—continued.]

## (c) SUMMARY OF GROSS LOAN RAISINGS AND DISBURSEMENTS.

<i>Raisings.</i>	£	<i>Disbursements.</i>	£
Total Flotations, as per Return 7 (b)—		Discounts and Expenses—	
To 30th June, 1951	153,240,504	To 30th June, 1951 (Net)	5,232,397
During Year 1951-52	16,093,920	During Year 1951-52	19,687
Receipts from Loan Repayments—		Redemption of Agricultural Bank	
To 30th June, 1951	5,322,893	Mortgage Bonds	1,566,000
During Year 1951-52	1,006,310	Deficits Funded (including Discount	
		and Expenses)	12,898,366
		Expenditure on Works and Services	151,976,788
		Balance of General Loan Fund	4,000,389
	175,663,627		175,663,627

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

Year.	Debt per Head.		Debt per Head.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
1920	119 7 3	1936	199 7 10
1921	*124 15 11	1937	201 15 2
1922	137 1 0	1938	202 19 8
1923	142 9 6	1939	204 7 1
1924	146 13 6	1940	203 15 7
1925	146 3 11	1941	204 18 7
1926	155 14 8	1942	202 17 4
1927	157 14 4	1943	202 1 11
1928	165 10 7	1944	198 19 2
1929	162 6 9	1945	195 9 0
1930	163 9 9	1946	195 3 1
1931	174 2 6	1947	195 16 11
1932	180 3 8	1948	194 5 11
1933	187 4 8	1949	194 10 10
1934	193 7 6	1950	196 4 7
1935	197 11 11	1951	†211 16 8
		1952	229 18 10

\* 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.

† Adjusted on corrected figures of population.

## (e) CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AT 30th JUNE, 1952.

	Securities Issued.	Re-deemed.	In Circulation.	Funds Invested.
Metropolitan Market Act	29,000	4,959	24,041	....
Workers' Homes Act	189,000	40,451	148,549	....
Agricultural Lands Purchase Act	587,471	529,041	58,430	....
	805,471	574,451	231,020	....
Bank Guarantees in force	....	....	3,877,317	....
Total, Contingent Liabilities	....	....	4,108,337	....

[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.
		%	£	£	£
....	1952	2½	*2,959,714	....	....
....	1953	2	....	....	4,353,546
....	1954	2	....	....	1,433,420
1952	1954	3½	....	....	570,190
1952	1954	3½	....	....	3,167,950
....	1955	2	....	....	10,591,390
1935	1955	3½	3,204,904	....	....
1953	1955	3½	....	....	2,467,805
1952	1955	5	....	1,498,444	....
1950	1956	3½	....	....	899,800
1950	1957	3½	....	....	2,403,221
....	1957	3	....	....	134,734
....	1957	3½	....	257,886	....
1950	1958	3½	....	....	1,802,570
....	1958	3	....	....	155,884
1955	1958	3½	....	....	1,362,360
1950	1959	3½	....	....	696,240
....	1959	3	....	....	338,008
1956	1959	3½	....	....	4,583,845
....	1960	3	....	....	415,648
1950	1960	3½	....	....	907,030
1957	1960	3½	....	....	1,300,810
1950	1961	3½	....	....	5,160,750
1956	1961	3½	1,739,527	....	....
....	1961	3	....	....	286,533
....	1962	3	....	....	170,171
....	1962	3½	....	....	6,228,810
....	1963	3	....	....	179,837
1960	1963	3½	....	....	11,819,010
....	1964	3½	....	....	1,566,000
....	1964	3	....	....	146,009
1961	1964	3½	....	....	17,653,632
....	1965	3	....	....	29,709
1962	1965	3½	....	....	6,181,100
....	1966	3	....	....	423,409
....	1967	3	....	....	509,135
....	1967	3½	....	258,913	....
....	1969	3	....	....	372,516
1965	1969	3½	8,010,750	....	....
....	1970	3	....	....	374,936
....	1971	3	....	....	377,285
1967	1971	2½	3,150,661	....	....
....	1972	3	....	....	379,565
....	1973	3	....	....	553,952
....	1974	3	....	....	756,920
1964	1974	3½	8,431,300	....	....
1972	1974	3	3,762,250	....	....
....	1975	3	....	....	254,014
1970	1975	2½	4,100,003	....	....
....	1976	3	....	....	4,013,990
....	1977	3	....	....	382,000
1975	1977	3	627,700	....	....
....	1983	1	....	....	4,884,417
Average Rate 2.983 %			35,986,808	2,015,243	100,286,480
				138,288,531	

\* Floating Debt.

[Return No. 9.]

## SINKING FUND.

## TRANSACTIONS DURING THE YEAR, 1951-52.

<i>Receipts:</i>		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balances brought forward, 1st July, 1951—							
National Debt Commission					8,845	12	9
<b>Contributions:</b>							
<i>State—</i>							
5s. per cent. on loan liability		380,880	15	8			
15s. per cent. on Special Deficit Loan		40,425	0	0			
4½ per cent. on cancelled securities		650,901	8	5			
Special contribution under clause 12 (20) of Financial Agreement		864	2	7			
<i>Commonwealth—</i>							
5s. and 2s. 6d. per cent. on loan liability		272,572	8	8			
Net earnings on investments		5,158	9	10			
					1,800,811	15	2
					1,809,157	7	10
<i>Disbursements:</i>							
Redemptions and Repurchases, etc., at net Cost (including Exchange)					985,844	15	9
Balance, Sinking Fund, 30th June, 1952					823,312	12	1
					1,809,157	7	10

## TRANSACTIONS FROM 1st JULY, 1927, TO 30th JUNE, 1952.

<i>Receipts:</i>		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balances brought forward—							
1st July, 1927—Endowment Policy (M.V. "Kangaroo"), Premiums paid		57,897	10	0			
1st July, 1929—Crown Agents		897,347	0	10			
					955,044	10	10
<b>Contributions:</b>							
<i>On account M.V. "Kangaroo"</i>		47,250	0	0			
<i>On account, Crown Agents</i>		40,312	13	5			
<i>State—</i>							
5s. per cent. on loan liability		5,919,703	19	9			
15s. per cent. on Special Deficit Loan		323,400	0	0			
4½ per cent. on cancelled securities		6,409,537	6	11			
Under Federal Aid Roads Act		378,084	13	1			
Special contribution on account loan for purchase of M.V. "Koolama"		206,905	8	4			
Exchange on contributions re M.V. "Koolama"		52,502	5	0			
Payment under Clause 12 (20) of Financial Agreement as amended		78,466	11	7			
Profit arising out of Conversion of a Loan in London		8,312	15	0			
<i>Commonwealth—</i>							
5s. and 2s. 6d. per cent. on Loan Liability		4,144,841	18	8			
Net earnings on investments		415,803	19	7			
Accretions to Endowment Policy at maturity		35,052	10	0			
Exchange on remittances		29,504	6	1			
					18,083,178	7	0
					19,038,222	17	10
<i>Disbursements:</i>							
Redemptions and Repurchases, etc.		17,404,399	9	1			
Repurchase from Special Sinking Fund		84,342	8	10			
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 (Crown Agents)		988,353	7	8			
Repayment of 1936 Loan (M.V. "Kangaroo")		140,000	0	0			
					18,714,910	5	9
Balance, 30th June, 1952—							
National Debt Commission					823,312	12	1
					19,038,222	17	10

[Return No. 10.]

## SUMMARISED CLASSIFICATION OF LOAN ASSETS, 1951-52 (a).

Undertaking.*	Loan Liability. (b)	Capital Charges (c).			Net Earnings.	Surplus.	De- ficiency.
		Interest.	Sinking Fund.	Exchange.			
FULLY REPRODUCTIVE.							
State Engineering Works	152,634	4,346	1,239	443	17,161	11,133	....
State Saw Mills	672,895	19,147	4,374	1,951	65,443	39,971	....
State Hotels	65,094	1,854	545	189	10,373	7,785	....
West Australian Meat Export Works	260,722	7,424	2,137	757	12,691	2,373	....
Metropolitan Markets	149,859	4,297	1,236	435	8,057	2,119	....
Small Loan Scheme	392	11	5	1	19	2	....
State Housing Commission	715,128	20,364	5,416	2,075	28,316	961	....
	2,019,224	57,413	14,952	5,851	142,560	64,344	....
PARTIALLY REPRODUCTIVE.							
Wyndham Meatworks	1,071,545	30,513	8,722	3,109	20,000	....	22,344
Rural and Industries Bank—Government Agency	995,878	28,359	12,451	2,839	6,499	....	37,200
Abattoirs, Sale Yards, Grain Sheds and Cold Stores	779,869	22,208	5,710	2,263	22,101	....	8,030
Electricity Supply	11,502,020	327,532	67,192	33,376	285,681	....	142,419
Harbours and Rivers (d)	9,283,595	264,360	64,557	26,939	257,102	....	98,754
Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage	24,612,349	700,882	181,515	71,419	184,718	....	819,078
State Brickworks	432,197	12,307	1,524	1,254	12,162	....	2,923
Soldiers Land Settlement (f)	1,934,723	55,068	15,768	5,614	11,046	....	65,429
Rural and Industries Bank	6,785,554	193,510	51,228	19,719	203,698	....	60,759
Plant Suspense	1,067,386	30,394	7,345	3,097	35,620	....	5,216
Roads and Bridges	3,429,195	97,650	27,932	9,951	77,669	....	57,884
Welshpool Industries	350,878	9,936	2,859	1,018	1,918	....	11,945
	62,254,969	1,772,774	446,803	180,648	1,068,214	....	1,332,011
TOTALLY UNPRODUCTIVE.							
Railways	26,401,124	751,799	156,733	79,810	†1,720,895	....	2,706,042
Tramways	1,341,123	38,190	13,823	3,892	†84,357	....	140,287
Assessed Expired Capital—(A)						....	
Railways	12,248,075	348,777	98,026	35,542	....	....	432,345
Tramways	593,425	16,893	795	1,723	....	....	19,416
Electricity	1,272,666	36,240	10,359	3,893	....	....	50,292
Frequency Changer—Metropolitan District	178,736	5,090	1,068	519	....	....	6,677
Kent River Mill	118,579	3,377	504	344	....	....	4,225
State Shipping Service	497,898	14,178	3,165	1,445	†446,502	....	485,330
Group Settlement	2,955,747	84,163	24,085	8,677	....	....	116,810
Rabbit-Proof Fence	332,527	9,469	2,707	964	....	....	13,140
Agriculture Generally	3,355,801	104,103	29,737	10,809	†80,615	....	175,084
State Batteries	444,907	12,689	3,610	1,291	†87,788	....	105,358
Mining Generally	1,419,612	40,425	9,506	4,119	....	....	54,050
Public Buildings, including Schools, Police Stations, Gaols, Court Houses, Hospitals and Institutions	9,004,656	258,417	62,590	26,129	†313,511	....	658,647
Aborigines Stations	145,852	4,153	1,173	423	†129,494	....	135,243
Assistance to Industries	213,688	6,065	1,740	620	....	....	8,445
Bulk Handling—Albany	6,787	193	19	20	....	....	232
Bulk Handling—Bunbury	75,019	2,136	606	218	....	....	2,960
Ferries	11,069	315	102	32	†5,029	....	5,478
Loans to Public Bodies	87,347	2,487	659	253	†3,025	....	4,424
Miscellaneous	457,163	13,018	1,839	1,327	†2,630	....	18,884
Pine Planting and Re-forestation	1,662,871	47,352	11,116	4,825	†17,789	....	81,082
Charcoal Iron and Steel Industry	1,186,671	33,792	9,210	3,443	....	....	46,445
Tourist Resorts	133,721	3,603	983	388	†16,711	....	21,890
Campion Alumite Deposits	687,470	19,576	5,640	1,995	....	....	27,211
	65,192,532	1,854,715	449,785	189,001	†2,858,486	....	5,351,937
SUMMARY.							
Fully Reproductive	2,019,224	57,413	14,952	5,851	142,560	64,344	....
Partially Reproductive	62,254,969	1,772,774	446,803	180,648	1,068,214	....	1,332,011
Totally Unproductive	65,192,532	1,854,715	449,785	189,001	†2,858,486	....	5,351,937
Capital Adjustments and Unallocated Cost of Raisings			4,577				4,577
Special Deficit Loan	4,884,417	49,578	59,876				109,454
Balance of General Loan Fund	4,000,389	113,915	46,214	11,608			171,737
	138,238,531	3,843,395	1,022,207	387,103	†1,647,712	....	6,905,422

Public Debt, 30th June, 1952 — £138,288,531

NET DEFICIENCY £5,905,422

\* For details see Return No. 11.

† Debit.

\* For details see Return No. 11. † Debit.

(a) This statement distributes the net cost of loan charges for the year over the various assets. (b) Total expenditure from loan funds (including the 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 £384,002 included in Railway Capital. (f) Represents expenditure by F.W.D. on roads, bridges and drainage, and by Lands Department on repurchased estates. (g) Includes £384,002 being part of Capital Expenditure on Harbours and Jetties controlled by Railway Department. (A) Capital Charges met by Treasury.

[Return No. 11.]

## DETAILED CLASSIFICATION OF LOAN ASSETS 1951-52.\*

Undertaking.	Loan Liability.	Capital Charges (a).			Net Earnings.	Surplus.	De- ficiency.
		Interest.	Sinking Fund.	Ex- change.			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways (b) .....	26,401,124	761,799	166,788	76,610	†1,720,695	.....	2,706,042
Railways—Assessed Expired Capital (a) .....	12,248,075	348,777	98,026	35,542	.....	.....	482,845
Tramways .....	1,341,123	38,190	13,828	3,892	†84,357	.....	140,267
Tramways—Assessed Expired Capital (a) .....	593,425	16,698	795	1,723	.....	.....	19,416
Electricity Supply .....	11,502,020	327,532	67,192	33,976	285,681	.....	142,419
Electricity Supply—Assessed Expired Capital (a) .....	1,272,666	36,240	10,859	3,693	.....	.....	60,292
Frequency Changer—Met. District .....	178,736	5,090	1,068	519	.....	.....	6,577
	53,537,169	1,524,526	346,006	155,855	†1,519,571	.....	3,547,456
<i>Harbours and Rivers.</i>							
Fremantle Harbour Trust .....	3,570,367	101,670	25,392	10,260	283,514	146,092	.....
Fremantle Other .....	605,690	22,942	6,135	2,338	42,426	11,011	.....
Bunbury Harbour Board .....	1,053,653	30,004	6,479	3,057	.....	.....	39,540
Bunbury Other .....	285,671	8,186	2,325	829	†2,018	.....	13,307
Geraldton (c) .....	709,573	20,206	5,776	2,060	189	.....	27,858
Albany .....	994,658	28,323	3,703	2,586	†526	.....	35,438
Esperance (c) .....	15,851	451	129	46	†60	.....	688
Busselton (c) .....	32,572	923	192	96	8	.....	1,207
North-West Ports (c) .....	614,190	17,490	4,372	1,782	†42,833	.....	66,977
Swan River .....	556,983	15,913	4,490	1,622	†4,096	.....	26,126
Dredges, Steamers and Plant .....	487,599	13,685	3,798	1,415	†4,499	.....	23,596
Other Jetties and Works .....	154,793	4,403	1,266	449	†15,004	.....	21,127
(c)	9,288,595	264,360	64,557	26,939	257,102	.....	98,764
<i>Water Supplies.</i>							
Metropolitan .....	11,273,439	321,023	83,022	32,713	427,599	.....	9,159
Goldfields Water Scheme .....	4,670,173	132,998	34,939	13,552	†143,931	.....	325,410
Country Towns .....	1,722,700	49,056	11,288	4,999	†22,032	.....	87,375
Country Areas .....	1,794,105	51,089	13,425	5,206	†58,527	.....	108,247
Goldfields Areas .....	968,671	27,584	7,884	2,811	†4,324	.....	42,903
Irrigation and Drainage .....	3,895,391	106,362	28,604	11,042	†63,622	.....	231,630
Other Works .....	202,064	5,764	1,626	588	†14	.....	7,980
Sewerage for Country Towns .....	176,806	5,068	727	510	†431	.....	6,574
	24,612,349	700,882	181,515	71,419	134,713	.....	819,078
<i>Trading Concerns.</i>							
Wyndham Meatworks .....	1,071,546	30,513	8,722	3,109	20,000	.....	22,344
Brickworks .....	492,197	12,307	1,524	1,254	12,162	.....	2,923
Engineering Works .....	162,684	4,346	1,289	443	17,181	11,183	.....
Saw Mills .....	672,395	19,147	4,374	1,951	65,443	39,971	.....
Kent River Mill .....	118,597	3,377	504	344	.....	.....	4,225
Shipping Service .....	497,828	14,178	3,165	1,445	†446,592	.....	465,380
Hotels .....	65,094	1,854	545	189	10,873	7,785	.....
West Australian Meat Export Works .....	260,722	7,424	2,137	757	12,691	2,873	.....
	3,271,064	93,146	22,210	9,492	†808,782	.....	438,610
<i>Development of Agriculture.</i>							
Soldiers' Land Settlement (d) .....	1,934,723	55,093	15,768	5,614	11,046	.....	65,429
Rural and Industries Bank .....	6,795,554	193,510	51,228	19,719	203,693	.....	90,759
Rural and Industries Bank—Govern- ment Agency .....	995,879	28,359	12,451	2,889	6,499	.....	37,200
Group Settlement .....	2,955,747	84,153	24,065	8,577	.....	.....	116,510
Rabbit-proof Fence .....	332,527	9,439	2,707	984	.....	.....	13,140
Generally .....	3,655,891	104,103	29,737	10,609	†30,615	.....	175,064
	16,670,231	474,702	135,956	48,372	190,623	.....	468,402

\* See footnote (a) on Return No. 10.

† Debit.

(c) Capital Charges met by Treasury.

[Return No. 11—continued.]

## DETAILED CLASSIFICATION OF LOAN ASSETS 1951-52—continued.

Undertaking.	Loan Liability.	Capital Charges. (a)			Net Earnings.	Surplus.	Deficiency.
		Interest.	Sinking Fund.	Ex-change.			
<i>Abattoirs, Slaughterhouses, etc.</i>	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Metropolitan Abattoirs .....	624,078	17,771	4,444	1,811	22,419	....	1,607
Kalgoorlie Abattoirs .....	84,014	2,393	682	244	1,818	....	3,637
Generally .....	71,782	2,044	584	208	....	....	2,836
	779,869	22,208	5,710	2,263	22,101	....	8,080
<i>Development of Mining.</i>							
State Batteries .....	444,907	12,669	8,610	1,291	187,788	....	105,358
Generally .....	1,419,612	40,425	9,506	4,119	....	....	54,350
	1,864,519	53,094	18,116	5,410	187,788	....	159,708
<i>Public Buildings.</i>							
Education (including Narrogin School of Agriculture and Muresk College of Agriculture) .....	3,853,761	109,740	25,275	11,183	158,615	....	299,813
Police Stations, Quarters, etc. ....	221,671	6,313	1,611	643	123,639	....	32,206
Court House, Quarters, etc. ....	47,443	1,351	383	137	15,280	....	7,181
Gaols .....	92,369	2,630	731	268	129,050	....	32,679
Hospitals .....	3,040,078	86,569	21,731	8,822	8,128	....	118,996
Institutions .....	736,731	20,979	5,542	2,138	133,648	....	62,307
Buildings generally .....	1,012,603	28,835	7,317	2,938	171,405	....	110,495
	9,004,656	256,417	62,590	26,129	1,818,511	....	658,647
<i>All Other.</i>							
Aborigine Stations .....	145,852	4,153	1,173	428	1129,494	....	185,243
Assistance to Industries .....	213,686	6,085	1,740	620	....	....	3,445
Bulk Handling—Albany .....	6,787	193	19	20	....	....	232
Bulk Handling—Bunbury .....	75,019	2,136	606	218	....	....	2,060
Ferries .....	11,069	315	102	32	15,029	....	5,478
Loans to Public Bodies .....	87,347	2,487	659	253	13,025	....	6,424
Metropolitan Markets .....	149,859	4,287	1,236	485	8,057	2,119	....
Miscellaneous .....	457,163	18,018	1,589	1,327	12,880	....	18,864
Pine Planting and Re-forestation .....	1,662,871	47,352	11,116	4,325	177,789	....	81,082
Plant Suspense .....	1,067,365	30,394	7,345	3,097	35,620	....	5,218
Roads and Bridges .....	3,428,195	97,650	27,932	9,951	77,669	....	57,864
Small Loans Scheme—State Housing Commission .....	392	11	5	1	19	2	....
Charcoal Iron and Steel Industry .....	1,186,671	33,792	9,210	3,443	....	....	49,445
Tourist Resorts .....	193,721	3,608	983	888	110,711	....	21,590
State Housing Commission .....	715,128	20,364	5,416	2,075	23,516	981	....
Campion Alumite Deposits .....	687,470	19,576	5,840	1,995	....	....	27,211
Welshpool Industries .....	350,678	9,986	2,859	1,018	1,918	....	11,945
Capital Adjustments and Unallocated Costs of Raisings .....	....	....	4,577	....	....	....	4,577
Special Deficit Loans .....	4,894,417	49,578	59,876	....	....	....	109,454
Balance of General Loan Fund .....	4,000,389	113,915	46,214	11,608	....	....	171,737
	19,265,079	459,080	188,547	41,729	122,629	....	711,985
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	138,288,531	3,848,395	1,022,207	387,108	1,847,712	....	6,905,422
Public Debt, 30th June, 1952 .....	138,288,531	....	....	....	....	....	....

† Debit.

(a) Actual Expenditure averaged over all assets.

(b) Includes £384,002 being part of Capital Expenditure on Harbours and Jetties controlled by Railway Dept.

(c) To this should be added £384,002 included in Railway Capital in respect of the following Harbours and Jetties—Busselton, £37,531; Geraldton, £287,432; Esperance, £65,039.

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

*In Return 11 the average cost of servicing the Public Debt has been applied to all undertakings. In Returns 12-13 the figures as shown have been prepared in accordance with the published Commercial Accounts of the Utilities.*

[Return No. 12.]

### RETURN RELATING TO RAILWAYS.

—	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.
Number of Miles Open ....	miles. 4,348	miles. 4,321	miles. 4,252	miles. 4,228	miles 4,113
Loan Capital ....	£ 26,951,413	£ 27,312,438	£ 29,530,921	£ 19,256,385	£ 26,373,279
Loan Capital—non-interest bearing ....	....	....	....	12,326,349	12,326,349
Revenue Capital ....	632,284	637,143	640,062	....	....
Total ....	27,583,697	27,949,581	30,170,983	31,582,734	38,699,646
Working Expenses ....	5,570,000	6,702,254	7,501,395	8,618,363	10,801,917
Interest ....	1,046,333	1,063,023	1,093,087	741,592	744,903
Depreciation ....	....	....	412,834	520,583	660,395
Total Annual Cost ....	6,616,333	7,765,277	9,007,316	9,881,038	12,007,215
Gross Revenue ....	4,598,896	5,214,844	6,472,049	7,196,214	9,163,532
Loss ....	2,017,437	2,550,433	2,535,267	2,684,824	2,843,683

[Return No. 13.]

### RETURN RELATING TO TRAMWAYS.

—	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.
Loan Capital ....	£ 1,304,274	£ 1,427,804	£ 1,575,819	£ 1,796,685	£ 1,341,121
Loan Capital—Non-interest bearing ....	....	....	....	....	593,426
	1,304,274	1,427,804	1,575,819	1,796,685	1,934,547
Working Expenses ....	595,027	668,823	(a) 1,017,574	790,036	1,042,580
Interest ....	50,976	53,277	32,685	37,056	51,140
Total Annual Cost ....	646,003	722,100	1,050,259	827,092	1,093,720
Gross Revenue ....	509,054	589,539	603,778	744,890	982,375
Profit ....	....	....	....	....	....
Loss ....	136,949	132,561	446,481	82,202	111,345

(a) Includes £285,188 for Replacement of Transport Equipment.

*In Return 11 the average cost of servicing the Public Debt has been applied to all undertakings. In Return 14-15 the figures as shown have been prepared in accordance with the published Commercial Accounts of the Utilities.*

[Return No. 14.]

### RETURN RELATING TO ELECTRICITY.

	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.
	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital .....	1,774,310	2,795,836	5,141,555	8,255,022	11,502,021
Loan Capital—Non-interest bearing .....	....	....	....	1,272,666	1,272,666
	1,774,310	2,795,836	5,141,555	9,527,688	12,774,687
Working Expenses .....	911,019	1,365,550	1,948,317	2,617,899	3,695,112
Interest .....	37,648	65,039	108,400	146,903	280,710
Total Annual Cost .....	948,667	1,430,589	2,056,717	2,764,802	3,975,822
Gross Revenue .....	765,397	1,134,667	1,977,699	2,694,610	3,848,843
Profit .....	....	....	....	....	....
Loss .....	183,270	295,922	79,018	70,192	126,979

[Return No. 15.]

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

	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.
	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital .....	9,818,546	10,259,125	10,768,267	11,655,733	12,835,090
Working Expenses .....	169,049	195,680	271,207	347,568	445,033
Interest and Sinking Fund .....	440,578	459,509	421,192	450,508	523,418
Total Annual Cost .....	609,627	655,189	692,399	798,076	968,451
Gross Revenue .....	615,851	676,414	727,069	776,995	883,789
Profit .....	6,224	21,225	34,670	....	....
Loss .....	....	....	....	21,081	84,662

*In Return 11 the average cost of servicing the Public Debt has been applied to all undertakings. In Return 16 the figures as shown have been prepared in accordance with the published Commercial Accounts of the Utilities.*

[Return No. 16.]

### RETURN RELATING TO GOLDFIELDS WATER SUPPLY.

	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.
	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital ....	3,520,316	3,642,096	3,762,485	4,202,884	4,496,944
Working Expenses ....	247,832	289,112	327,805	420,884	518,854
Interest, Sinking Fund and Depreciation ....	232,739	244,739	238,809	252,434	285,876
Total Annual Cost ....	480,571	533,851	566,614	673,318	804,730
Gross Revenue ....	338,892	341,052	346,660	359,468	366,755
Profit Loss ....	141,679	192,799	219,954	313,850	437,975

[Return No. 17.]

### SUMMARY OF TRADING CONCERNS.

	1945-46.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital ....	2,404,401	2,451,826	2,317,105	2,285,648	2,346,890	2,665,451
Revenue Capital ....	49,713	49,713	10,026	10,026	9,154	9,154
	2,454,114	2,501,539	2,327,131	2,305,674	2,356,044	2,674,605
Gross Revenue ....	1,912,251	2,102,680	2,579,444	3,007,064	3,257,551	3,871,237
Increase in Stocks ....	270	16,949	17,544	42,296	12,879	71,494
Decrease in Stocks ....	5,234	5,657	5,944	303	4,099	....
	1,907,287	2,113,972	2,591,044	3,049,057	3,266,331	3,942,731
Working Expenditure (a) ....	1,846,802	1,951,453	2,378,935	2,874,896	3,033,659	3,709,722
Interest and Sinking Fund ....	126,758	116,330	115,754	64,987	103,238	110,445
Depreciation ....	50,617	55,451	60,026	105,711	67,200	75,926
Superannuation ....	796	859	954	1,203	1,219	1,139
Total Annual Cost ....	2,024,973	2,124,093	2,555,669	3,046,797	3,205,316	3,897,232
Profit Loss ....	117,686	10,121	35,375	2,260	61,015	45,499

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

*Note.*—Wyndham Meat Works—Financial year ends 31st January; State Shipping Service—Financial year ends 31st December.

[Return No. 18.]

## RETURN RELATING TO STATE BRICKWORKS.

	1945-46.	1946-47.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital ....	52,097	52,097	52,097	52,197	52,197	187,197
Revenue Capital ....	1,774	1,774	1,774	1,774	1,774	1,774
	53,871	53,871	53,871	53,971	53,971	188,971
Gross Revenue ....	49,898	55,921	60,250	69,692	75,236	92,273
Increase in Stocks ....	270	....	14	....	....	305
Decrease in Stocks ....	....	250	....	303	63	....
	50,168	55,671	60,264	69,389	75,173	92,578
Working Expenditure ....	45,933	50,041	54,112	60,742	68,106	84,374
Interest and Sinking Fund ....	2,813	2,682	2,686	2,689	2,425	3,257
Depreciation ....	2,074	1,884	2,590	2,626	3,213	4,341
Superannuation ....	796	859	954	1,203	1,219	1,139
Total Annual Cost ....	51,616	55,466	60,342	67,260	74,963	93,111
Profit ....	....	205	....	2,129	210	....
Loss ....	1,448	....	78	....	....	533

[Return No. 19.]

## RETURN RELATING TO STATE ENGINEERING WORKS.

	1945-46.	1946-47.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital ....	178,107	178,968	145,888	144,948	153,924	152,255
Gross Revenue ....	281,436	266,077	271,889	270,748	341,306	402,613
Increase in Stocks ....	....	1,716	....	21,256	....	6,487
Decrease in Stocks ....	1,006	....	5,944	....	3,994	....
	280,430	267,793	265,945	292,004	337,312	409,100
Working Expenditure ....	261,023	241,742	238,881	269,007	294,556	361,770
Interest and Sinking Fund ....	(b) 9,486	(b) 9,012	(b) 8,081	(b) 7,504	(b) 6,987	(b) 7,200
Depreciation, Reserves, etc. ....	9,517	14,313	14,090	15,231	26,007	27,360
Total Annual Cost ....	280,026	265,067	261,052	291,742	327,550	396,330
Profit ....	404	2,726	4,893	262	9,762	12,770
Loss ....	....	....	....	....	....	....

(b) Includes Sinking Fund charged, in the accounts of the Concern as follows :—

£531	£1,002	£971	£939	£994	£1,076
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[Return No. 20.]

## RETURN RELATING TO STATE QUARRIES.

—	1945-46.	1946-47.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50. (a)	1950-51. (a)
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital ....	37,324	36,142	36,142	35,612	....	....
Revenue Capital ....	872	872	872	872	....	....
	38,196	37,014	37,014	36,484	....	....
Gross Revenue ....	79	94	68	68	....	....
Increase in Stocks ....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Decrease in Stocks ....	....	....	....	....	....	....
	79	94	68	68	....	....
Working Expenditure ....	24	100	132	7	....	....
Interest and Sinking Fund ....	2,011	1,896	1,894	1,824	....	....
Depreciation ....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Total Annual Cost ....	2,035	1,996	2,026	1,831	....	....
Loss ....	1,956	1,902	1,958	1,763	....	....

(a) Removed from State Trading Concerns Act.

[Return No. 21.]

## RETURN RELATING TO STATE SHIPPING SERVICE.

—	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.	1951.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital ....	346,396	346,396	346,396	346,396	386,396	388,896
Revenue Earnings ....	195,267	177,679	271,470	341,983	421,736	498,578
Treasury Grant ....	87,535	92,475	262,665	437,166	259,316	360,818
Gross Revenue ....	282,802	270,154	534,035	779,149	681,052	859,397
Working Expenditure ....	280,056	276,727	515,411	791,497	681,344	861,397
Interest and Sinking Fund (a) ....	18,714	16,333	16,982	18,266	16,784	18,175
Depreciation ....	12,320	12,115	9,322	9,415	9,361	7,454
Total Annual Cost ....	311,090	305,175	541,715	819,178	707,489	887,026
Loss ....	28,288	35,021	7,680	40,029	26,437	27,629

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

£1,732	£1,732	£1,732	£1,732	£1,932	£1,945
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[Return No. 22.]

## RETURN RELATING TO STATE HOTELS.

	1945-46.	1946-47.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital ....	74,609	72,735	70,805	68,855	66,836	65,589
Gross Revenue ....	89,097	105,644	112,193	129,302	145,005	159,822
Working Expenditure ....	73,524	90,130	96,162	116,038	133,226	147,736
Interest and Sinking Fund ....	5,896	5,229	5,203	5,148	4,773	4,758
Depreciation ....	1,568	318	2,144	874	384	386
Total Annual Cost ....	80,788	95,677	103,509	122,060	138,383	152,878
Profit ....	8,309	9,967	8,684	7,242	6,622	6,944

[Return No. 23.]

## RETURN RELATING TO STATE SAW MILLS.

	1945-46.	1946-47.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital ....	280,996	308,219	305,168	339,504	405,958	537,390
Gross Revenue ....	612,882	689,096	823,723	882,044	1,054,912	1,206,882
Increase in Stocks ....	....	15,233	17,504	21,030	12,879	64,183
Decrease in Stocks ....	3,301	....	....	....	....	....
	609,581	704,329	841,227	883,074	1,067,791	1,270,865
Working Expenditure ....	573,741	645,359	767,657	819,654	975,625	1,201,660
Interest and Sinking Fund ....	15,645	16,166	16,923	17,482	17,866	21,957
Depreciation (a) ....	10,751	13,646	18,543	16,549	14,312	18,147
Total Annual Cost ....	600,137	675,171	803,123	853,685	1,007,802	1,241,764
Profit ....	8,444	29,158	38,104	29,389	59,989	29,101

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

[Return No. 24.]

## RETURN RELATING TO WYNDHAM MEAT WORKS.

	1-2-46 to 31-1-47.	1-2-47 to 31-1-48.	1-2-48 to 31-1-49.	1-2-49 to 31-1-50.	1-2-50 to 31-1-51.	1-2-51 to 31-1-52.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital ....	1,072,322	1,072,322	1,072,322	1,072,322	1,072,272	1,071,545
Gross Revenue ....	405,810	451,339	550,464	667,880	786,395	886,685
Increase in Stocks ....	....	....	26	10	....	519
Decrease in Stocks ....	927	5,407	....	....	42	....
	404,833	445,932	550,490	667,890	786,353	887,204
Working Expenditure ....	372,335	413,153	509,141	618,227	723,411	828,647
Interest and Sinking Fund (a) ....	50,488	48,254	48,254	45,125	42,891	42,868
Total Annual Cost ....	422,823	461,407	557,395	663,352	766,302	871,515
Loss ....	17,940	15,475	6,905	....	....	....
Profit ....	....	....	....	4,538	20,051	15,689

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

£5,362	£5,362	£5,362	£5,362	£5,362	£5,358
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[Return No. 25.]

## WEST AUSTRALIAN MEAT EXPORT WORKS.

	1945-46.	1946-47.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital ....	382,550	386,003	287,519	235,884	254,307	262,579
Revenue Capital ....	47,067	7,600	7,380	7,380	7,380	7,380
	429,617	393,603	294,899	243,244	261,687	269,959
Gross Revenue ....	277,783	264,355	226,822	228,164	173,645	263,765
Working Expenditure ....	240,167	234,201	197,439	199,707	157,391	224,138
Interest and Sinking Fund ....	21,905	18,758	15,731	12,074	11,513	12,232
Depreciation, etc. ....	14,387	13,176	13,337	15,891	13,923	18,238
Total Annual Cost ....	276,459	264,135	226,507	227,672	182,827	254,608
Profit ....	1,324	220	315	492	....	9,157
Loss ....	....	....	....	....	9,182	....

[Return No. 28.]

## DISSECTION OF CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND EXPENDITURE, 1944-45 to 1951-52.

Item.	1944-45.	1945-46.	1946-47.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Interest ....	3,413,765	3,854,082	3,247,497	3,224,876	3,255,839	3,367,761	3,580,583	3,848,395
Sinking Fund ....	711,623	729,732	758,732	819,393	851,885	886,343	916,466	1,022,207
Exchange ....	506,164	471,997	494,251	528,755	608,098	980,526	478,331	389,898
Unemployment Relief ....	591	271	381	744	958	861	124	113
Salaries and Wages ....	5,224,667	5,685,002	6,076,692	7,582,268	9,355,748	10,561,726	12,343,948	15,853,260
Materials ....	1,622,746	1,876,115	1,844,285	2,350,887	2,731,697	3,402,598	3,271,864	4,123,392
Grants ....	215,849	625,538	950,948	1,177,453	1,396,536	1,742,765	2,209,322	3,118,290
Pensions ....	325,331	318,842	360,009	417,898	508,524	563,852	555,926	665,575
All other ....	1,928,904	1,345,978	1,293,983	1,960,172	2,668,622	4,281,272	4,640,270	5,520,629
Total ....	13,949,340	14,407,557	15,028,427	18,062,392	21,377,907	25,787,293	27,996,834	34,546,788

[Return No. 27.]

## 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	89,867	245,796
1943 ....	231,355	184,707	342,444
1944 ....	256,153	198,896	399,701
1945 ....	207,075	222,493	384,283
1946 ....	287,043	210,595	460,731
1947 ....	190,503	192,813	458,416
1948 ....	498,087	282,155	674,348
1949 ....	242,820	538,204	378,964
1950 ....	252,183	298,639	332,508
1951 ....	1,085,802	258,991	1,159,319
1952 ....	1,006,310	1,088,671	1,076,958

[Return No. 28.]

**SUMMARY OF TRANSACTIONS OF FUNDS, THE EXPENDITURE OF WHICH IS NOT SUBJECT TO  
PARLIAMENTARY APPROPRIATION, FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1952.**

Fund.	Balance, 1st July, 1951.	Receipts during Year.	Payments during Year.	Balance, 30th June, 1952.
	£	£	£	£
Hospital Fund ( <i>see</i> Return No. 30)....	....	2,003,479	2,003,479	....
Forest Improvement and Reforestation Fund ( <i>see</i> Return No. 31) ....	400	362,044	360,621	1,883
Road Funds ( <i>see</i> Return No. 32) ....	1,991,852	3,504,558	3,835,321	1,661,089
Metropolitan Markets Trust ....	11,982	38,665	(a) 43,209	7,438
Fremantle Harbour Trust ....	28,627	2,104,732	(b) 2,096,564	36,795
Bunbury Harbour Board ....	3,705	31,601	31,034	4,272
	2,036,626	8,045,079	8,370,228	1,711,477

(a) Includes payments on account of—Interest, £6,074 Sinking Fund, £1,983 and Profits, £ ....

(b) Includes payments on account of—Interest, £124,592 Sinking Fund £36,960 Replacement Fund, £2,000 Surplus Cash, £121,961 and Loan Repayments, £149,445.

[Return No. 29.]

**HOSPITAL FUND.—TRANSACTIONS DURING THE YEARS 1947-48 TO 1951-52.**

	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Receipts.</i>					
Balance from previous year ....	46,549	....	....	744	....
Hospital Tax Collections ....	325,750	325,750	325,750	325,750	325,750
Treasury Grants ....	259,007	581,656	794,603	1,066,297	1,675,519
Miscellaneous Receipts ....	7,436	7,435	1,865	2,043	2,210
	638,742	914,841	1,122,218	1,394,864	2,003,479
<i>Payments.</i>					
Administration Expenditure ....	9,721	16,419	15,607	21,048	30,320
Hospitals Expenditure—					
Departmental ....	200,005	345,081	347,778	410,811	617,370
Non-Departmental Subsidies, etc. ....	353,187	531,399	728,066	921,166	1,264,647
Miscellaneous ....	15,829	21,942	29,993	41,839	91,142
Balance at end of year ....	....	....	774	....	....
	638,742	914,841	1,122,218	1,394,864	2,003,479

[Return No. 30.]

**FORESTS IMPROVEMENT AND RE-FORESTATION FUND—TRANSACTIONS DURING THE YEARS  
1947-48 to 1951-52.**

	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.
<i>Receipts.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Balance from previous year .....	57,703	39,374	393	947	460
Appropriation from Revenue Fund .....	129,755	91,072	130,914	150,314	188,651
Treasury—Special Grant .....	.....	33,000	87,000	112,000	114,000
Sundry Receipts .....	37,233	57,849	52,346	59,179	59,393
	224,691	221,295	270,653	322,440	362,504
<i>Payments.</i>					
Expenditure on Forest Improvements and Re-forestation during the year .....	185,317	220,902	269,706	321,980	360,621
Balance at end of year .....	39,374	393	947	460	1,883
	224,691	221,295	270,653	322,440	362,504

[Return No. 31.]

**ROAD FUNDS.—TRANSACTIONS DURING THE YEAR 1951-52.**

Particulars.	Main Roads Trust.	Common- wealth Aid Roads, 1947.	Common- wealth Aid Roads, 1950.	Metropoli- tan Traffic Trust Account.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
Balances from year 1950-51 .....	244,481	432,983	1,255,243	59,145	1,991,852
Receipts during year—					
License Fees and Permits .....	.....	.....	.....	427,432	427,432
Recoups by Local Authorities .....	231,079	.....	.....	.....	231,079
Commonwealth Government Recoup .....	4,487	.....	.....	.....	4,487
Commonwealth Grants .....	.....	.....	2,841,560	.....	2,841,560
Miscellaneous Receipts .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Other Receipts in Suspense .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	480,047	432,983	4,096,803	486,577	5,496,410
Transfer to Other Funds .....	.....	9,285	172,312	34,925	216,522
Transfer from Other Funds .....	216,522	.....	.....	.....	216,522
Totals .....	696,569	423,698	3,924,491	451,652	5,496,410
Payments during year—					
Administration, Plant, Office Equipment etc. ....	123,080	.....	.....	44,628	172,708
Transferred to Consolidated Revenue Fund ....	.....	.....	.....	70,272	70,272
Treasury—Interest and Sinking Fund .....	7,396	.....	.....	.....	7,396
Road Construction, Maintenance Surveys, etc. ....	267,074	205,003	2,852,376	.....	3,324,453
Distribution to Local and Statutory Authorities .....	.....	.....	.....	260,492	260,492
Other payments in Suspense .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals .....	402,550	205,003	2,852,376	375,392	3,835,321
Balances on hand at 30th June, 1952 .....	294,019	218,695	1,072,115	76,260	1,661,089

[Return No. 32.]

**TOTAL NET COLLECTIONS OF STATE TAXATION TAKEN TO THE CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND,  
TRUST ACCOUNTS, AND SPECIAL ACCOUNTS, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1952.**

Particulars.	Paid to C.R. Fund.	Paid to Trust or Special Accounts.	Total.	Taxation per Head. (c)
	£	£	£	£ s. d.
Probate and Succession Duties .....	682,552	....	682,552	1 3 1
Other Stamp Duties .....	915,750	....	915,750	1 11 0
Land Tax .....	207,950	....	207,950	0 7 0
Income Tax—Commonwealth Reimbursement (a) .....	9,400,000	....	9,400,000	15 18 0
Liquor Licenses .....	215,550	....	215,550	0 7 3
Racing—				
Stamp Duty on Betting Tickets .....	34,550	....	34,550	0 1 3
Totalisator Duty .....	241,430	....	241,430	0 8 1
Totalisator Licenses .....	2,964	....	2,964	0 0 1
Stamp Duty on Tote Dividends .....	2,433	....	2,433	0 0 1
Motor Taxation .....	38,897	1,030,084	1,068,981	1 16 2
Other Vehicles .....	....	3,657	3,657	0 0 1
Entertainments—Commonwealth Reimbursement .....	(b)	....	....	(b)
Vermin Tax .....	....	38,954	38,954	0 1 5
Fruit Fly Eradication .....	....	5,797	5,797	0 0 2
Licenses not elsewhere included .....	23,797	....	23,797	0 0 10
	11,765,873	1,078,492	12,844,365	21 14 6

(a) This amount includes arrears of State Income Tax, £82; Goldmining Profits Tax, £ —; Financial Emergency Tax, £8; and Hospital Tax, £120; Total, £210. From this Commonwealth Reimbursement Grant an amount of £2,001,269 was paid to Hospital Trust Fund.

(b) Now part of Income Tax—Commonwealth Reimbursement.

(c) Based on estimated mean population for year 1951–52, viz. 591,198.

[Return No. 23.]

## STATEMENT SHOWING RECEIPTS FROM COMMONWEALTH, 1901-02 TO 1951-52.

Year.	Contri- bution to Sinking Fund.	Contri- bution towards Interest.	Surplus Revenue • Re- turned.	Payment per Head, 25s.	Special Payment to W.A.	Interest on Trans- ferred Prop- erties.	Grant Under Sec. 95.	Total.
PERIOD COVERED BY BRADDON CLAUSE.								
1901-02 to 1910-11	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
	....	....	18,872,722	....	....	....	....	8,872,722
PERIOD COVERED BY PER CAPITA PAYMENTS AND SPECIAL PAYMENT TO W.A.								
1911-12 to 1926-27	....	....	....	6,632,264	2,556,248	482,010	565,005	10,216,427
PERIOD COVERED BY FINANCIAL AGREEMENT ACT.								
1927-28	77,008	1483,286	....	....	....	25,775	300,000	886,969
1928-29	91,568	1483,578	....	....	....	47,868	300,000	903,044
1929-30	97,863	473,432	....	....	....	....	300,000	871,295
1930-31	106,166	473,432	....	....	....	....	300,000	879,598
1931-32	118,946	473,432	....	....	....	....	300,000	892,378
1932-33	126,781	473,432	....	....	....	....	500,000	1,100,213
1933-34	136,626	473,432	....	....	....	....	600,000	1,210,258
1934-35	143,871	473,432	\$133,000	....	....	....	600,000	1,860,303
1935-36	151,247	473,432	\$55,000	....	....	....	800,000	1,459,679
1936-37	157,016	473,432	\$33,000	....	....	....	500,000	1,163,448
1937-38	162,524	473,432	....	....	....	....	575,000	1,210,956
1938-39	167,013	473,432	....	....	....	....	570,000	1,210,445
1939-40	174,765	473,432	....	....	....	....	595,000	1,243,197
1940-41	177,423	473,432	....	....	....	....	650,000	1,300,855
1941-42	181,808	473,432	....	....	....	....	630,000	1,285,240
1942-43	183,295	473,432	....	....	....	....	800,000	1,466,727
1943-44	183,922	473,432	....	....	....	....	850,000	1,507,354
1944-45	192,447	473,432	....	....	....	....	904,000	1,569,879
1945-46	185,900	473,432	....	....	(a) 912,559	....	950,000	2,521,891
1946-47	188,838	473,432	....	....	....	....	1,959,000	2,621,270
1947-48	197,132	473,432	....	....	....	....	3,329,082	3,999,648
1948-49	204,685	473,432	....	....	....	....	4,417,261	5,099,378
1949-50	219,261	473,432	....	....	(b) 661,677	....	5,180,000	6,534,370
1950-51	245,034	473,432	....	....	....	....	5,839,000	6,657,466
1951-52	272,572	473,432	....	....	....	....	5,088,000	5,834,004
Total, 25 years	4,144,841	11,835,800	201,000	....	1,574,236	73,643	36,836,343	54,665,893

\* 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.

(a) Special payment under the States Grants (Income Tax Reimbursement) Act, 1942.

(b) Special payment on account of Coal Strike.

## GRANTS FOR ROADS, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND ASSISTANCE TO INDUSTRIES FOR YEAR 1951-52—PAID TO TRUST FUNDS.

Commonwealth Aid Roads Act—

Contributions from Petrol Tax for Roads .... £ 2,841,560

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.				
									(*)
<b>1.—Education—</b>									
(a) Education Department and Schools ....	£ 3,388,138	£ 106,311	£ 21,748	£ 3,437,427	£ .....	£ 3,565,486	£ 36,405	£ 3,529,081	£ s. d. 5 19 5
(b) University ....	86,055	2,701	448	261,005	.....	264,154	.....	264,154	0 9 0
(c) Technical Education ....	231,806	7,274	1,882	437,969	.....	447,125	17,724	429,401	0 14 6
(d) Agricultural Education ....	147,762	4,637	1,197	96,309	.....	102,143	34,215	67,928	0 2 3
(e) Library, Museum, Observatory ....	36,912	1,150	293	43,099	.....	44,551	465	44,086	0 1 6
(f) Deaf, Dumb and Blind ....	884	28	7	2,800	.....	2,835	.....	2,835	0 0 1
Total 1 ....	3,891,557	122,110	25,575	4,278,609	.....	4,426,294	88,809	4,337,485	7 6 9
<b>2.—Health, Hospitals and Charities—</b>									
(a) Public Health ....	7,919	249	63	236,882	.....	237,104	78,931	158,263	0 5 4
(b) Care of Sick and Mentally Afflicted, Health of Mothers and Children ....	3,610,927	113,202	26,024	889,329	2,001,269	3,029,824	270,253	2,759,571	4 13 4
(c) Recreation Facilities ....	.....	.....	.....	38,550	.....	38,550	.....	38,550	0 1 4
(d) Relief of Aged, Indigent and Infirm, Child Welfare ....	103,367	3,243	740	374,477	.....	378,460	95,841	282,619	0 9 7
(e) Miner's Phthisis ....	.....	.....	.....	70,035	.....	70,035	1,502	68,533	0 2 4
(f) Natives ....	145,852	4,576	1,173	195,384	.....	201,133	30,497	170,636	0 5 9
(g) Unemployment Relief ....	.....	.....	.....	113	.....	113	.....	113	.....
Total 2 ....	3,868,065	121,270	28,000	1,804,770	2,001,269	3,955,309	477,024	3,478,285	5 17 8
<b>3.—Law, Order and Public Safety—</b>									
(a) Administration of Justice ....	47,443	1,488	383	271,887	.....	273,758	247,994	25,764	0 0 11
(b) Police ....	242,282	7,603	1,779	988,220	.....	997,602	92,147	905,455	1 10 7
(c) Gaols and Reformatories ....	92,369	2,898	731	142,895	.....	146,524	17,861	128,663	0 4 4
(d) Public Safety ....	.....	.....	.....	75,234	.....	75,234	22,777	52,457	0 1 9
Total 3 ....	382,094	11,989	2,893	1,478,236	.....	1,493,118	380,779	1,112,339	1 17 7
GRAND TOTAL ....	8,141,716	255,369	56,468	7,561,615	2,001,269	9,874,721	946,612	8,928,109	15 2 0

(\*) Based on estimated mean population for year 1951-52, viz., 591,198

[Return No. 35.]

## STATEMENT SHOWING TONNAGE AND EARNINGS ON GOODS CARRIED.

Class of Goods.	1947-48.		1948-49.		1949-50.		1950-51.		1951-52.	
	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.
Coal, Coke, and Charcoal	361,507	12.05	376,816	13.77	413,537	14.54	488,130	16.02	515,082	16.32
Ores and other Minerals	166,206	6.87	226,983	8.29	244,774	8.61	258,678	8.53	298,777	9.09
Wool	36,148	1.26	38,433	1.40	38,592	1.39	41,009	1.35	51,997	1.70
Hay, Straw, and Chaff	30,074	1.05	31,771	1.16	28,017	.90	29,240	.87	20,968	.68
Wheat	583,911	20.43	509,786	18.68	575,653	20.25	599,380	19.79	609,419	21.70
Other Grain and Flour	215,342	7.54	195,046	7.13	171,388	6.03	212,294	7.00	212,289	6.98
Firewood	105,219	3.69	91,580	3.35	77,692	2.73	61,279	1.89	45,318	1.48
Local Timber	272,254	9.53	230,464	8.42	225,288	7.92	228,688	7.54	202,325	6.61
Imported Timber	443	.02	779	.03	1,108	.04	493	.01	247	.01
Fruit and Garden Produce	99,894	3.49	115,801	4.23	104,085	3.68	105,579	3.48	105,052	3.43
Fertilisers	260,482	9.43	233,815	8.54	235,271	8.27	219,385	7.23	224,365	7.33
All other goods	687,143	24.05	685,844	25.06	730,057	25.07	804,192	26.52	721,804	23.56
Total	2,857,573	100.00	2,736,720	100.00	2,843,292	100.00	3,038,218	100.00	3,062,641	100.00

## STATEMENT SHOWING TONNAGE AND EARNINGS ON GOODS CARRIED.

Class of Goods.	1947-48.		1948-49.		1949-50.		1950-51.		1951-52.	
	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.
Coal, Coke, and Charcoal	£ 230,182	7.50	£ 300,802	8.64	£ 387,637	8.19	£ 479,786	9.10	£ 692,172	9.93
Ores and other Minerals	137,823	4.60	140,710	3.98	180,248	4.22	228,183	4.37	307,707	5.28
Wool	104,890	3.42	127,018	3.60	131,821	2.94	161,082	2.90	227,771	3.27
Hay, Straw, and Chaff	23,845	.78	31,500	.89	31,025	.71	38,010	.76	48,027	.80
Wheat	361,257	11.70	373,795	10.61	650,799	14.51	687,014	13.10	923,886	13.26
Other Grain and Flour	130,502	4.28	147,637	4.19	177,540	3.96	220,805	4.23	265,570	4.24
Firewood	40,738	1.33	45,849	1.30	49,780	1.11	39,060	.75	80,480	.87
Local Timber	245,965	8.02	245,720	6.97	303,937	6.78	360,623	6.91	475,355	6.82
Imported Timber	585	.02	1,108	.03	2,426	.05	1,242	.02	769	.01
Fruit and Garden Produce	114,460	3.74	151,471	4.30	157,407	3.51	184,382	3.53	250,081	3.59
Fertilisers	82,827	2.70	83,865	2.38	193,969	3.66	131,134	3.47	342,200	4.01
All other goods	1,591,956	51.94	1,874,442	53.20	2,257,297	50.38	2,646,987	50.72	3,283,292	47.13
Total	3,065,008	100.00	3,524,087	100.00	4,483,781	100.00	5,210,218	100.00	6,067,270	100.00

## TRADE, PRODUCTION, POPULATION, ETC.

	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944-45.	1945-46.	1946-47.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.
Railway and Tramway Revenue .....	£4,916,122	£4,934,029	£4,780,818	£4,666,321	£4,459,926	£5,054,677	£5,752,684	£6,965,698	£7,642,412	£10,133,268
Railway Mileage (Route) .....	4,381	4,381	4,381	4,381	4,348	4,348	4,321	4,252	4,228	4,113
Wool exported .....	£2,378,527	£5,879,587	£4,553,439	£9,957,030	£10,260,373	£16,621,984	£21,534,904	£25,461,582	£56,279,477	£33,814,952
Wool produced (a) (c)— (quantity—lbs.) .....	95,718,000	102,759,000	84,140,600	82,067,200	80,524,000	89,527,500	93,769,000	92,750,000	*102,911,000	†116,142,000
(value) .....	£5,967,000	£6,371,000	£5,256,000	£5,212,000	£8,047,000	£14,638,000	£18,731,000	£23,619,000	£59,027,896	†£32,013,626
Wheat Produced (bushels) .....	20,600,000	16,550,000	15,929,000	20,929,000	23,800,000	34,500,000	36,250,000	38,500,000	49,900,000	40,000,000
Wheat produced (value) .....	£4,754,380	£4,523,479	£3,963,936	£7,898,763	£10,890,000	£24,941,000	£20,784,000	£21,528,700	*£28,488,830	(e)
Hay produced (tons) .....	277,957	314,359	338,912	287,476	280,252	267,901	277,329	272,052	226,703	(e)
Gold produced (fine ozs.) .....	685,905	484,019	474,083	498,299	689,345	680,343	693,972	617,284	632,364	659,324
Gold produced (b) (value) .....	£7,167,716	£5,058,476	£5,018,160	£5,363,214	£7,419,077	£7,322,192	£7,468,877	£9,051,302	£9,796,388	£10,214,052
Coal produced (tons) .....	556,361	526,019	571,648	575,500	673,431	719,750	767,112	781,877	835,474	880,015
Coal produced (value) .....	£475,078	£523,724	£598,694	£632,180	£771,351	£847,082	£930,525	£1,150,081	*£1,441,988	†£1,940,574
Other Minerals produced (c) .....	£160,868	£201,999	£250,231	£327,082	£323,778	£446,454	£548,001	£632,318	£668,436	£1,102,310
Timber exported .....	£605,940	£613,994	£570,028	£722,061	£863,140	£1,098,073	£1,006,760	£1,002,150	£918,485	£1,032,909
Timber produced .....	£1,269,932	£1,343,973	£1,339,182	£1,412,677	£1,714,149	£2,114,357	£2,346,464	£3,023,703	£4,194,530	(e)
Number of Sheep† .....	10,424,385	11,102,936	10,049,587	9,765,973	9,787,973	10,443,798	10,443,500	10,923,167	*11,361,908	12,272,684
Number of Cattle† .....	831,231	870,939	852,563	833,567	811,949	815,610	864,131	864,936	*841,204	851,646
Number of Horses .....	112,782	106,743	96,528	88,180	80,746	74,537	68,521	59,166	*55,340	53,549
Area of land selected (acres) .....	123,944	197,373	231,400	229,022	558,676	703,160	804,128	870,802	1,385,380	1,022,956
Area of land leased (acres) .....	1,655,497	1,902,737	1,960,825	1,168,645	5,128,710	5,233,085	6,785,119	3,415,545	4,963,089	2,877,227
Area of land under cultivation (d) .....	(e)	(e)	13,627,548	13,860,553	14,621,424	15,223,328	15,901,130	16,555,472	16,859,349	17,688,011
Area of land under crop (acres) .....	2,784,000	2,744,000	2,756,000	2,875,048	3,532,445	3,938,118	4,102,348	4,292,730	4,532,756	4,507,029
Tonnage Shipping, Inwards .....	1,435,241	1,585,935	1,590,820	2,378,266	2,532,759	3,378,006	4,632,678	5,232,760	*5,506,575	5,459,269
Tonnage Shipping, Outwards .....	1,467,495	1,579,656	1,528,336	2,472,948	2,646,285	3,431,319	4,677,867	5,287,050	*5,552,156	5,536,208
Exports, incl. Gold Bullion .....	£16,362,003	£19,532,146	£19,403,033	£26,544,880	£29,720,015	£55,731,230	£55,593,840	£61,865,636	*£111,857,881	†£97,563,015
Exports, excl. Gold Bullion .....	£8,489,776	£15,907,198	£19,403,033	£26,544,880	£29,720,015	£51,903,380	£55,593,840	£61,864,466	*£111,857,881	†£90,992,721
Imports (Australian Currency) .....	£16,093,080	£17,199,337	£18,039,357	£21,628,149	£30,591,097	£42,819,781	£52,628,846	£69,443,677	*£88,172,421	†£122,340,353
Savings Bank Deposits .....	£17,468,535	£20,346,899	£21,262,769	£32,917,664	£26,140,983	£26,773,839	£28,389,145	£33,528,416	£42,950,423	£44,055,906
Savings Bank Withdrawals .....	£11,626,377	£13,786,931	£15,826,571	£26,826,571	£28,626,316	£27,810,784	£27,634,325	£32,072,387	£38,531,063	£42,285,902
Population end of Financial Year .....	475,281	481,530	487,692	492,510	502,480	515,302	532,667	557,918	*581,486	†600,000

(a) Figures exclude Wool exported on skins.  
ringbarked, etc.

(b) Australian Currency Value.

\* Revised.

† Preliminary figures, liable to revision.

(c) Calendar year first mention

(d) Area cropped, cleared, fallowed,

‡ As at 31st March of year last mentioned.