

the statute to the satisfaction of both the general public and the traders. If this Bill passes, our weights and measures legislation will be quite up to date. The intention is to proclaim the Act as soon as the Bill has gone through. Then we shall see whether the accusations of wrong weights and measures are well founded or not. Until we have proper appliances to test such accusations, we cannot be sure of the position. Sometimes I feel considerable doubt as to whether some of the accusations made are correct. As the member for Perth (Mr. Davy) has said, the Bill has been drafted by expert officers, after due inquiry, to ensure the proper working of our legislation when it is proclaimed.

HON. G. TAYLOR (Mt. Margaret) [8.22]: It was necessary for us to hear some reasons for this amending Bill, and those which have been given by the Minister for Lands are, I think, ample. We have had a Weights and Measures Act on the statute-book for 11 years without its being put in operation, and an officer of the Police Department has proceeded to the Eastern States and observed the operation of corresponding legislation there, this amending Bill being the outcome of his investigations. Therefore we are in almost the same position as if we possessed 11 years' experience of the working of our own Act. We now know its shortcomings almost as well as if it had actually been proclaimed. I hope that when this legislation is in operation we shall not discover that short weights and measures are as frequent as some people would have us believe. If it should turn out to be so, I shall feel grieved, because it will mean that I have been taken down a good deal in the past 11 years.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

House adjourned at 8.24 p.m.

Legislative Assembly,

Thursday, 30th September, 1926.

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

QUESTIONS (2)—EDUCATION.

(1) *Perth Technical School.*

Mr. **HUGHES** asked the Honorary Minister (Hon. J. Cunningham): Is it a fact that an adequate supply of the stores, equipment, and books of reference necessary for the proper instruction of the students is not available to the Science classes at the Perth Technical School?

The **MINISTER FOR LANDS** (for the Honorary Minister) replied: No. The necessity for replenishments and replacements naturally arises from time to time, and is duly considered.

(2) *Newcastle Street State School.*

Mr. **PANTON** asked the Honorary Minister (Hon. J. Cunningham): 1, Is it intended to close the Newcastle Street State School? 2, Is the average daily attendance over 400? 3, Is he aware that the school is situated in a thickly populated centre? 4, If the school is closed, will the children have to go to James Street, Leederville, and Thomas Street schools? 5, If so, has he considered the danger from the dense motor traffic to young children going to these schools? 6, will he give consideration to these matters before deciding to close the school?

The **MINISTER FOR LANDS** (for the Honorary Minister) replied: 1, Yes. It is proposed to enlarge it and convert it into a Junior Technical School, for which it is adapted, and for which a suitable site is not available elsewhere. 2, No. 3, Yes. 4, Yes. 5, Yes; but a similar objection applies to many parts of the metropolitan area. 6, All phases of the question have been considered.

BILLS (2)—FIRST READING.

- 1, War Relief Funds.
 - 2, Land Tax and Income Tax.
- Introduced by the Premier.

BILL—RESERVES.

Read a third time and transmitted to the Council.

BILL—STATE INSURANCE.

Report of Committee adopted.

BILL—METROPOLITAN MARKET.

Report of Committee.

The MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE:
I move—

That the report of the Committee be adopted.

Last night my attention was drawn to the power of the trust to acquire land. The Leader of the Opposition stated that the trust would have power to acquire the necessary land, and that the question of its acquisition need not be referred to the Government. I am advised to-day that the land could only be acquired under the Public Works Act, 1902. Section 17 of that Act says that land of this description must be acquired by the central Government, and it cannot be acquired otherwise.

Hon. G. Taylor: That applies to all works that require land?

The MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE:
Yes. The section says—

Whenever any land is required for any public work, the Governor may, by notice published in the "Government Gazette," declare that the land has been set apart, taken, or resumed under this Act for the public purpose therein expressed, and that a plan and more particular description of such land may be inspected at a convenient place to be stated in such notice.

Hon. G. Taylor: That is sufficient safeguard.

The MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE:
The land must be acquired in that way.

Hon. Sir JAMES MITCHELL: The Minister last night promised to look into this matter. I claimed that the trust would have the right to acquire any land it pleased without reference to the Government. He then said he would have the matter inquired into, and if necessary would recommit the clause. He now says that because this land must be

entered upon, and taken in accordance with the Public Works Act, the Government must be consulted. This is only the method of taking the land, and settling the amount to be paid for it. The actual work of resumption could go on without the Act. It is not necessary to apply the Act if both sides are satisfied with the amount to be paid. The Government should not allow the trust to select the site for the market without first being consulted. The trust should not have power to acquire land without first obtaining the approval of the Government. If the method laid down by the Act is to be applied, namely, that the trust cannot do as it likes but must first consult the Government, it will be all right. But the Bill provides only for the method of settlement, and not that the Government shall resume the land. I think the Minister is wrong.

The Minister for Agriculture: The land could not be resumed without the consent of the Government.

Hon. Sir JAMES MITCHELL: In my view the trust could acquire land in such a way that there would be no need to put into effect the provisions of the Public Works Act; but if any dispute arose that Act would be applied. Another time we will see the wisdom of securing the postponement of clauses like this, before we pass them.

The MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE:
The clause states "whenever any land is required by the trust for the purpose of this Act, such land may be entered upon, surveyed, and taken in accordance with the Public Works Act, 1902." This means that no land at all can be taken except in this way. The Public Works Act says that the land must be taken with the consent of the Government. No amendment to the clause is necessary.

Mr. SAMPSON: I move an amendment—

That the Bill be recommitted for the purpose of further considering Subclause (3) of Clause 13.

There is a reference to the Municipal Corporations Act, 1906, but no reference to the numerous amendments of that Act. My desire is to move, upon recommitment, the insertion of the words "or any amendment thereof" in Subclause 3 of Clause 13.

The Minister for Agriculture: Is there any amendment vital to this Bill?

Mr. SAMPSON: Yes, there is one. When the member for Williams-Narrogin (Mr. E. B. Johnston) moved yesterday that a woman

be appointed to represent the producers, it was stated that there was nothing in the Bill to prevent all five members of the trust from being women; but Section 38 of the Municipal Corporations Act precludes a female and certain other persons—

The Minister for Lands: But the clause you refer to deals with by-laws, not with sections of Acts.

Mr. SAMPSON: Apparently there has been an oversight in the drafting of the clause. Subclause 3 of Clause 20 refers to the Audit Act, and adds a reference to "any amendment thereof." Those words, however, are not added to the reference to the Municipal Corporations Act, 1906.

Mr. Marshall: On a point of order. Can the hon. member move for a recommitment of the Bill on the motion for the adoption of the report of Committee in the same way as on a motion for the third reading?

Mr. SPEAKER: Standing Order 295 provides—

On the motion for the adoption of the report, the whole Bill may, on motion, be re-committed, and further amendments made . . . The member for Swan is therefore in order.

The MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE: I hope the House will not agree to recommit the Bill, as the hon. member has not made out a case for recommitment. The amendment suggested by him is not necessary, and recommitment is not necessary.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: The member for Swan appears to be of the opinion that the Municipal Corporations Act applies to every by-law made since 1906, and he quotes a section of an Act as a by-law. The hon. member has not given the matter any consideration at all.

Mr. Sampson: My amendment to the Minister's motion is a question whether the House will permit of the consideration of an amendment to Clause 13 of the Bill.

Amendment put and negatived.

Question put and passed.

BILL—WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACT AMENDMENT.

In Committee.

Mr. Lutey in the Chair; the Minister for Lands (for the Minister for Justice) in charge of the Bill.

Clauses 1 to 14—agreed to.

Clause 15—Amendment of Section 30:

Mr. SAMPSON: Proposed Subsection (2), which is contained in this clause, puts the position rather awkwardly for anyone who may happen to be carting a load of wood for a friend, say. The proposed subsection says—

Proof that coal or firewood is conveyed on any vehicle shall be prima facie evidence that such coal or firewood is for sale or delivery to a purchaser.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: The proposed subsection refers only to Section 30 of the Act, and that section reads—

All coal and firewood shall be sold by weight, provided that in the case of quantities not exceeding 5 cwt., and the written consent of the purchaser being obtained, it may be sold otherwise as agreed.

Clause put and passed.

Clauses 16, 17—agreed to.

Title—agreed to.

Bill reported without amendment, and the report adopted.

ANNUAL ESTIMATES.

Message from the Governor received and read transmitting the Annual Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the financial year 1926-27, and recommending appropriation.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 1926-27.

In Committee of Supply.

The House resolved into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the year ending 30th June, 1927; Mr. Lutey in the Chair.

THE PREMIER AND TREASURER

(Hon. P. Collier—Boulder) [4.59]: I propose to eliminate entirely this year the detailed information relating to the activities of the various departments which it has been customary to include in past Budget speeches. I desire to avoid speaking at a length which would weary hon. members, besides which I consider that the work of the various departments is best dealt with when their respective Votes come up for consideration and Ministers supply the Committee with an account of the work of the past 12 months. Therefore I shall confine

myself to a plain statement of the financial position of Western Australia as disclosed on the 30th June last, to justify my Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the current year.

Deficit in 1925-26.

The deficit last year was only slightly greater than was estimated when I presented the Budget. The year was not as favourable as was expected, and consequently revenue was influenced in many directions. Although the area under crop for wheat was 2,112,000 acres, as against 1,867,000 acres during the previous year, which shows an increase of 245,000 acres, the yield of wheat was 20,471,000 bushels, or a reduction of 3,416,000 bushels compared with the return for the preceding year. This reduction was felt in many directions, but more particularly in connection with the railways. Last year the railway revenue was estimated at £3,500,000, but the actual collections fell short of that amount by almost £183,000. In other directions my estimates were exceeded, thus compensating for that shortage. Had the season been favourable, the year would have closed with a surplus instead of with a deficit. When submitting my Budget that year, I estimated there would be a deficit of £98,079, and the actual deficit was £99,143. Thus, there was an increase on the estimated deficit of £1,064. I do not imagine for one moment that because of that result I have become enrolled amongst the prophets.

Mr. Stubbs: You won't take a ticket in Tatts?

The PREMIER: But it is very satisfactory to know that the year ended up just about where we anticipated it would. There were many over-estimates and under-estimates, both of revenue and expenditure, so that where I under-estimated expenditure in some directions, it was balanced by under-estimates of revenue in other directions. Hon. members will find particulars regarding these variations in Statement No. 1, with which they will be supplied. The collections over-estimated last year amounted to £24,565. This was the result of the falling off in railway returns to which I have already referred. There were increased revenue returns on account of income tax, amounting to £66,344. of dividend duty to £15,895. of stamp duty £17,407. of timber £16,897. and depart-

mental returns £36,892. There were, in addition, many other minor increases. The revenue of the Fremantle Harbour Trust fell short by £16,817. This was due in a measure to the decrease in the wheat yield, coupled with the effects of the British seamen's strike that took place last year.

Revenue Collections.

The revenue collected, when compared with the returns for the previous year, showed an increase of £426,720. The principal increases were:—

	£
Land tax	31,963
Income tax	87,702
Dividend duty	28,428
Stamp duty	27,299
Probate duty	16,521
Timber	36,854
Departmental	127,474
Electricity supply	18,206
Metropolitan water supply ..	14,343

The revenue decreases compared with the returns for the previous year, included the following:—

	£
Fremantle Harbour Trust ..	£15,000
Railways	16,868

I think it may safely be said that the revenue returns, both as compared with the Estimates for the year and with the collections for the previous year, indicate no signs of falling off in the return of prosperity throughout the State generally. The revenue from taxation showed an increase and that indicates our prosperity. While the total revenue derived from taxation was increased, there was no increase in the rates last year.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: There were some new taxes. For instance, the land-owner had to pay both land and income tax.

The PREMIER: That has been mentioned very often, but it did not benefit Consolidated Revenue, because whatever increase there was in the land tax collections received, it was offset by the reduction in railway rates.

• Hon. Sir James Mitchell: Yes, I know, but both land tax and income tax was collected from the farmers.

The PREMIER: But there was practically no increase, because the additional land tax was offset by the reduced railway rates.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: I was referring to the exemptions.

The PREMIER: There was no increase.

Mr. Thomson: Indirectly there was.

The PREMIER: I do not know what the hon. member means by "indirectly."

Mr. Thomson: Previously the taxpayer was permitted to deduct his land tax from his income tax.

The PREMIER: That was a very small item.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: No, it represented a tremendous amount.

The PREMIER: It is useless for hon. members to attempt to show that there was an increase in taxation; I shall show that there has been a considerable decrease in taxation. I know it is sought to make it appear that there has been an increase because of the added returns received year by year compared with each preceding year. In some quarters it is believed that the increased returns are due to increased taxes. It is really due, of course, to the increase in the number of taxpayers and the increase in values, as well as to the generally improved conditions throughout the State.

Hon. G. Taylor: That is a tribute to the present Government, I suppose.

The Minister for Works: Naturally.

Expenditure compared with Estimates.

The PREMIER: I am not complaining about that. Comparing the expenditure for last year with the Estimates, it will be found that the total expenditure for the financial year 1925-26 was £23,501 below the estimate. There were excesses and savings in respect of many items, but they were of a minor nature. The estimates of expenditure on account of all the Government departments were very reliable indeed. Comparing the expenditure during the last financial year with that of the previous twelve months, there was a considerable increase. The principal items were:—

	£
Interest and sinking fund ..	201,665
Transfers to Reforestation Fund	22,126
Police	22,219
Railways	157,952

These increases were anticipated in last year's Budget and reasons were then given why I expected there would be increases in the items I have enumerated.

Surplus Anticipated.

Coming to the Estimates for this year, I anticipate receiving a total revenue of £9,791,611.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: I suppose that includes the Commonwealth grants.

The PREMIER: I also anticipate being called upon to find £9,780,651 to meet the estimated expenditure of departments for the year. This will leave a small surplus of £10,960.

Hon. G. Taylor: We are around the corner!

The PREMIER: It may not be remiss to remind hon. members that this is the first time, if the result proves as I have indicated, that a surplus has been budgeted for since 1910-11.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: Does that include the Commonwealth grant?

The PREMIER: I think the hon. member had better allow me to explain as I go along. Of course it includes the Commonwealth money.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: I refer to the special grants.

The PREMIER: Yes, the total revenue includes the Commonwealth grants.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: That means £350,000?

The PREMIER: More than that; it means over £560,000, representing grants for two years.

Hon. W. D. Johnson: These interjections are disconcerting! Why not allow the Premier to proceed with his Budget speech in his own way?

The PREMIER: In all the circumstances this must be regarded as highly satisfactory. This is the first time a Treasurer has been able to budget for a surplus after a long series of deficits, showing an accumulated total of £6,297,628. This surplus is not the result of any disabilities' grant received from the Commonwealth Government, but it rests upon the same basis of revenue and expenditure as those upon which we have been carrying on in previous years. I will deal later with the policy of the Government regarding the expenditure of the Commonwealth grants.

Estimated Revenue for 1926-27.

The estimated revenue receipts for the year are as follows:—

	£
Taxation	1,305,500
Territorial	550,160
Departmental	1,546,266
Mint	17,500
Commonwealth	591,080
Public Utilities	5,053,681
Trading Concerns	161,500

To these figures must be added the disabilities grants for two years amounting to £565,924, making a total estimated revenue for the year of £9,791,611. It is interesting to observe how the revenue of the State has been increasing year by year over a considerable period. It is a pretty fair indication that the State has been developing and that there has been an increased measure of prosperity for a considerable number of years. When we remember that in the financial year 1918-19 the total revenue was £4,944,851, it will be seen that within a period of eight years, we have practically doubled our total revenue. That in itself is an indication that the State has been advancing very rapidly.

Commonwealth Grants.

Coming to a consideration of the Commonwealth Grants to Western Australia, the special grant for 1925-26 amounted to £353,112. This was paid as follows:—9/12ths in March, 1926, and 1/12th in each of the three succeeding months, April, May, and June. The whole amount has been placed in the Suspense Account pending allocation by Parliament. For 1926-27 I am advised that the grant will amount to £212,812. The authorisation of this payment was included by the Federal Government in the State Grants Bill. Hon. members no doubt know the history of that measure. One of the provisions included in the Federal Bill, apart from those relating to the payment of the special grants to Western Australia and Tasmania, dealt with the financial relations between the States and the Commonwealth so far as the per capita payments were concerned. Whilst it was discussed in the House of Representatives, the session closed without its being finally dealt with, and so it remains for further consideration when the Federal Parliament meets early next

year. We do not know what the fate of the Bill will be. I have not been able to understand why the payment of the special grants to the two States was included in that Bill at all. The payment to Western Australia for last year, which was received in March of that year, was authorised by a special Bill put through the Federal Parliament. It would have been much better had the Commonwealth Government dealt in a similar manner with the grants for this year to Western Australia and Tasmania. But for some reason or other they have not done so, and it would now appear that if the Federal Parliament should not endorse the financial policy of the Commonwealth as it relates to Federal-State finance, the authority to pay this grant under the Bill will not be given. We know of course that provision was made on the Commonwealth Estimates, which passed both Houses of Parliament. But that does not authorise the Government to pay before they have statutory authority. So the matter is in suspense. When it became evident that the session would end without the Bill being passed, I made representations to the Federal Government, urging that a special Bill in regard to this grant should be introduced and passed. However, that suggestion was not adopted, and so the matter rests there. The Federal Treasurer has agreed to advance one-twelfth of the amount each month. But I have been given to understand distinctly that if the Bill should not pass the Federal Parliament, this money will have to be refunded. For the time being it is to be treated as a loan. The Government have decided to treat it, not as a loan, but as a grant. At the last election both parties in the Federal Parliament pledged themselves to the payment of a special grant to Western Australia. That being so, it is inconceivable that the Commonwealth Parliament should not ultimately decide to make the grant, irrespective of the fate of the Bill before the House.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: We are with you in taking the risk.

The PREMIER: We have decided that we are justified in taking that risk. So we are treating this payment of £212,812 as a grant, not as a loan to be refunded. As I say, I cannot imagine that it will be otherwise finally dealt with by the Federal Parliament.

Hon. W. D. Johnson: Did they explain how they arrived at the amount of £212,812, as compared with last year?

The PREMIER: No. That is the reply of the Federal Government to the recommendation of the Western Australian Disabilities Commission. The recommendation was an annual payment of £450,000 until we were granted our own tariff. The reply of the Federal Government to that is that they will make this grant—it is called £300,000—for five years only. It must be remembered that the £300,000 is less the amount we have been receiving as a special grant, which reduces it for this year to £212,812. It is for a period of five years, after which the Federal Government say the matter will be reviewed. As I have said, for this year it is to be considered only as a loan pending authority by the Federal Parliament, but the Government have decided to treat it as a grant and to regard it as being secured to the State for five years at any rate.

Taxation Reduction.

On that basis we have adjusted our taxation proposals. As I have explained, the grant for 1925-26 was £353,112, and for last year £212,812, making a total of £565,924. It is not often that a Treasurer is embarrassed with riches, but I can assure you, Sir, the disposal of this money has occasioned the Government a good deal of concern. We were not lacking in suggestions from different people as to how best it might be expended; but the Government considered it would serve no good purpose to fritter away any portion of it in small grants here and there, and that a sound policy would be to apply the money in some direction that would give relief to the majority of the people, and in a manner, too, that might be considered fundamentally sound. We have resolved to treat the grant for each year for five years separately from that which was paid last year. After careful consideration we have decided to employ practically the whole of the grant for this year in a reduction of income tax, by £200,000, representing 33½ per cent. reduction on the present tax. Since 1920, including the super tax, the maximum rate of income tax has been 4s. 7d. in the pound. But although the maximum rate was 4s. 7d. in the pound, 7½ per cent. of the 15 per cent. super tax was reduced two years ago, and that super tax disappeared altogether on the 30th June last, bringing the maximum rate down to 4s. in the pound.

Mr. George: Are you going to reduce the super tax on the companies tax as well?

The Minister for Works: The super tax has gone.

The PREMIER: The 15 per cent. super tax on the income tax and on the land tax as well, has disappeared as from June last. That in itself has saved the taxpayers £80,000 during the past two years. I think the reduction in our income tax can be justified on the score that it will put the citizens of this State on something approaching equality with the taxpayers of the Eastern States. So with this reduction of £200,000, our maximum rate of income tax will be 2s. 8d. in the pound, as against 4s. 7d. two years ago and 4s. at present.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: It is a very proper use for the grant.

The PREMIER: Yes, I think so. There were many suggestions. But it is undoubtedly a fact that this State has suffered greatly because of the high rate of tax it was found necessary to impose for many years past. And that rate had to be imposed, in a large measure because of our position in the Federation.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: Altogether.

The PREMIER: Altogether, one might say. Therefore, when financial relief comes from the Federation, I think it is our first duty to apply it towards relieving the burden imposed on the people because of Federation.

Taxation History and Comparison.

It is interesting to note the history of income taxation in this State. Prior to 1918 we had a tax beginning at 4d. in the pound and rising to 1s. on an income of £5,000. In 1918 a graduated tax was introduced, rising to 2s. 6d. in the pound on an income of £4,766. In 1920, because of the war and other reasons, it was found necessary to further increase the tax, and so it was lifted from a maximum of 2s. 6d. to 4s., plus 15 per cent., or 4s. 7d. That is the history of our income taxation. It is interesting to compare our income taxation of the past with income taxation in some of the Eastern States. In Victoria there is a minimum rate of 3d. in the pound, and a maximum rate of 7d. on incomes derived from personal exertion. To that has been added lately a percentage increase rising to 25 per cent. of the rate on incomes of £5,000 and over. But even that only adds something less than another 2d. in the pound to the rate, and so

to-day the rate on incomes from personal exertion in Victoria reaches only 9d. in the pound.

Mr. Stubbs: That is the maximum.

The PREMIER: Yes, the maximum on incomes from personal exertion. It is double that on incomes derived from property. So it would be 1s. 2d., plus 25 per cent., which would bring it up to less than 1s. 6d. in the pound. In Queensland there is a maximum of 3s. in the pound up to a certain income. For £4,000 and over derived from personal exertion it is 3s. in the pound. It is somewhat higher on incomes from property. On such incomes up to £3,000 the minimum rate is 1s. in the pound. On incomes of between £3,000 and £4,000, the rate is 2s. 6d., and on incomes over £4,000 it is 3s. In South Australia on incomes derived from personal exertion the tax is 2s. 3d. in the pound. It reaches that mark when the income is £4,400. On incomes from property there is a maximum rate of 2s. 8d. in the pound, which is reached at £4,200. In Tasmania the income tax graduates from 3d. in the pound upwards, until at £3,000 it is 2s. 3d. On incomes of from £3,000 to £5,000 it remains at 2s. 3d., but on incomes above £5,000 it is 2s. 6d. That is on incomes from personal exertion. On incomes from property the rate is higher, going to a maximum of 3s. in the pound.

A Justifiable Reduction.

So I consider we are justified in making the proposed reduction. The maximum rate of income tax will now be 2s. 8d. in the pound, and our rate will then be somewhat lower than that of Tasmania, South Australia and Queensland, but higher than that of Victoria and New South Wales. The maximum rate in New South Wales is 2s.; I have already given the figure for Victoria. Our rate ending at 2s. 8d. in the pound will bring us, generally speaking, into line with the Eastern States.

Mr. Stubbs: It is very fair.

Hon. W. D. Johnson: It is not proposed to interfere with the assessments?

The PREMIER: It is not proposed to interfere with the present Assessment Act. The exemptions, rebates and deductions contained in the Assessment Act will remain as at present, but 33½ per cent. reduction will be made in the tax from the lowest rate to the highest.

Mr. Stubbs: We shall have to look out for a deficit next year.

The PREMIER: I do not think so. The 33½ per cent. reduction, plus the 15 per cent. super tax that has already disappeared, will mean a reduction of the rate of income tax as it formerly stood by almost one-half.

The Minister for Works: Since the present Government came into office.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: This is due to the Commonwealth grant.

Mr. E. B. Johnston: It will do more to encourage enterprise in Western Australia than anything that has been done for years.

The PREMIER: I feel sure it will. We have carefully considered the situation, and I think we can balance the ledger notwithstanding this reduction. Of course, we should not be entitled to reduce taxation and still have a deficit.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: Of course not.

The PREMIER: But I consider that we can balance the ledger this year and give taxpayers the relief I have indicated.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: The reduction is practically equal to the whole of the Federal grant for this year.

The PREMIER: Yes; the grant this year is £212,000, and I am devoting £200,000 of it to a reduction of taxation. That is the only direction in which I am applying that grant.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: I think that is right and proper.

The PREMIER: I feel sure it will have a reflex action on many of the avenues of revenue. It has been common knowledge for many years that residents of Western Australia have been investing money in the Eastern States. They have declined to invest it in property or business here because of the high rate of taxation, and so money earned in this State has been sent to the Eastern States and invested there.

Mr. Stubbs: In large sums, too.

The PREMIER: It is not to be wondered at. People could not be expected to invest money here when the State alone, to say nothing of Federal or local taxation, has been taking one-fifth of the net income by way of taxation. People were discouraged, and that proved detrimental to the State. I consider the reduction in the rate of income tax a very necessary relief. The Federal Government cannot complain of our devoting the grant to that purpose. It cannot be urged that we are utilising the grant

unjustifiably to relieve ourselves from taxation, because the reduction is justified, more especially as a high rate has obtained for many years.

Allotment of the Special Grant.

The Commonwealth grant of £353,112 for last year is in a different category altogether. Out of that grant it would not be possible to give relief in the way of reducing taxation or charges for services rendered, because the grant was made for one year only and any reductions would be continuing. Thus we feel we would not be serving the best interests of the State if we handed out that money in small sums of £10,000 here and £5,000 there for this little business or that little business. To do so would be to fritter it away. We believe the money can best be utilised in a direction that will give substantial relief over a long period of years, and so, of the £353,112, we have decided to set aside £165,924 for assistance to the gold mining industry generally.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: In what direction?

The PREMIER: In several directions, for the industry generally. The question of how it will be expended will be decided. Some of it will be utilised for the reorganisation of the mines, which question has been under discussion for such a long time. It has been contended, and I believe rightly so, that the mining industry has suffered perhaps more than any other industry as a result of Federal policy extending over many years.

Mr. Marshall: There is no "perhaps" about it. That is generally recognised.

The PREMIER: This industry, which is languishing and is in need of assistance, is entitled to the amount we have allotted to it. If the mining companies will only co-operate with the Government and reorganise their methods, I believe that together we shall be able to do something that will ensure the continuance of the industry for many years to come. I think no one will cavil at the decision of the Government to make available to the mining industry generally the amount of £165,924 out of the first Commonwealth grant. This leaves a balance from that grant of £200,000, which amount we propose to apply towards the extinction of the accumulated deficit. There are many directions in which that money could have been expended, but inasmuch as we have contended that our deficit has been largely the result of Federal policy, we would

not be justified in funding any of the unfunded portion of the deficit and so passing it on to posterity while we have at least some money available from the Commonwealth to meet it. So we are applying the £566,000 received from the Commonwealth in three directions—reduction of the income tax, assistance to mining, and towards the extinction of the deficit.

Hon. W. D. Johnson: Will the £200,000 cover the unfunded portion of the deficit?

The PREMIER: It will more than cover it. The unfunded portion amounts to £157,540. If this were not done I would have to bring in a Bill this session to fund that portion of the deficit, and I consider we would not be justified in doing that when we have received a grant largely on the representation that our financial position was due to Federal policy.

Mr. Stubbs: Will your action in that direction clash with the conditions under which the grant was made.

The PREMIER: The only condition attached to the grant was that it should be appropriated by Parliament, though a remark was made by Senator Pearce—I do not know whether it can be regarded as a condition—that the grant was not made to the Government to be splashed up on State enterprises. I hope Senator Pearce will be satisfied that the Government do not propose to splash up the grant on any wild cat proposals.

Mr. Marshall: He did not admit that he had splashed up a good deal of money on wild cat proposals.

The PREMIER: The reducing of the accumulated deficit by £200,000 will relieve us of the need for finding interest and sinking fund on that amount; it will give more permanent relief than if the money were utilised in some other way: and it is sound finance.

Proposed Transfer of North-West.

Apart from those two grants the Commonwealth have made certain proposals with regard to taking over our North-West territory, and negotiations are still proceeding. Full particulars will be placed before the House and an opportunity will be given for free discussion. The Federal Government propose to make a further grant of £150,000 a year, but that is contingent upon our agreeing to their taking over the North-West portion of the State.

Hon. W. D. Johnson: Will the question of transferring the North-West to the Commonwealth be discussed this session?

The PREMIER: Yes; I hope before many weeks to afford the House an opportunity for a full discussion on the question. If the Federal proposals should be adopted we shall receive a further £150,000 a year, but that is a matter for discussion later on. Briefly, these are the Government's proposals for dealing with the money granted by the Federal Government. While one, in talking of the disposal of the money granted us by the Federal Government, ought not to complain, one cannot help recalling that the amount falls considerably short of what was recommended by the Royal Commission.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: Still, it is something substantial.

The PREMIER: It is something, and at this moment we should not complain too much. We can only hope that the Federal Parliament, before it has run its course, will ratify the policy of the Government and secure this grant to us for a much longer period than the five years intended at present.

Estimated Revenue Increases.

A comparison of the estimated revenue for this year with the revenue received last year shows the following increases:—

	£
Land tax	9,170
Dividend duty	24,105
Stamp duty	18,593
Timber	7,019
Departmental	91,552
Commonwealth	568,493
Trading concerns	13,254
Public utilities	413,573

Members may wonder why the estimated revenue from dividend duty shows such a substantial increase. It is expected that a long disputed payment will be made during the present year. There is a slight increase in the amount that we expect to receive from the Forests Department, but I should like to make it clear that this is not the result of sacrificing our forests for the sake of getting revenue. A definite policy has been adopted and observed with the object of prolonging the life of the timber indus-

try, and as the receipts increase, the amount set aside for reforestation will automatically increase.

Increased Departmental Revenue.

Under the heading of "departmental" the increase includes collections in all departments and recoups of interest on moneys advanced to individuals, largely of course for land settlement. I may at this stage say that the Government have been pursuing, and intend to continue to pursue the policy of development of land settlement which has been in recent years, and in a great measure in the years to come, will prove to be the sheet anchor of the State. The receipts from public utilities are expected to increase by £413,573, due largely to additional railway earnings, as a result of what we hope will be a much larger harvest than that of last year. The metropolitan water supply revenue it is expected will show an increase of £40,271, mainly due to increased water rate and a part due to greater consumption. Last year's operations showed a loss of £22,625. The general taxpayer carried this, which I consider to be quite unfair. These activities must finance themselves and pay interest and sinking fund. I have allowed for a slight increase in the returns of the Fremantle Harbour Trust for the same reason that I allowed in respect of the railway revenue, due to the improvement in the season. Electricity supply will show an increase of £20,927. These figures are the result of the growth of the undertaking, the installation of new machinery and expansion of the department generally. The demand for current is continually increasing. Almost all the other concerns show an increased revenue.

Increased Expenditure.

Compared with last year the expenditure shows an increase of £873,343, the estimate being £9,780,651 as against the actual expenditure last year of £8,907,308. The expenditure is divided into three heads—

	£
Special Acts	3,813,132
Ordinary Governmental	2,436,044
Public Utilities	3,531,475
Total	£9,780,651

The increase under each of these heads is—

	£
Special Acts	220,859
Ordinary Governmental	412,195
Public Utilities	240,289
Total	£873,343

The increase under Special Acts, as hon. members know, is almost entirely the increase in our interest bill. Whilst we continue to carry on a vigorous policy of land settlement and development, we must expect the interest bill to increase. Money must be borrowed to assist those industries, but this is offset by the collections from the advances that have been made in past years. As the State grows, the public utilities will grow also, and it becomes necessary to provide more money to meet the increasing demands of the public. Likewise the revenue will increase in a similar proportion. I cannot reduce the expenditure in these directions, and therefore economies are practically confined to expenditure coming under the heading of "Ordinary Governmental." As I have already pointed out, this expenditure is divided into two sections, one comprising domestic expenditure and the other expenses of administrative departments. The items making up the expenditure under the heading "Domestic" are—

	£
Education	605,438
Medical	165,959
Health	32,974
Lunacy	102,510
Charities	110,280
Police	211,502
Gaols	25,133
Total	£1,253,796

The Education expenditure has been increasing year by year and will always increase; but it is in itself evidence of the growth and development of the State. All the same, it is a considerable sum to find, remembering the population of the State. As the Leader of the Opposition knows, the Government have very little control over domestic expenditure beyond seeing that there is no waste. We have provided for additional education expenditure to the extent of £10,229. This is exclusive of in-

creases that may be granted as the result of the reclassification of the teachers now taking place. We shall have some difficulty perhaps in living within the total vote, even though it shows an increase, because of the development that is taking place in the South-West where the group settlements are and where schools and other facilities have to be provided.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: The number of children is increasing all over the State, thank goodness.

The PREMIER: That is so. The recent classification of the public service accounts for an increase of approximately £30,000, and I should have mentioned also that we shall have to pay the Commonwealth £30,000 for the collection of our taxes as against £13,000 last year and for several years past.

Mr. George: Have they broken their agreement?

The PREMIER: No, but unfortunately, we were not keen enough when making the agreement under which they undertook to collect our taxes at a certain figure, to bind the Commonwealth to the amount of £13,000 for a number of years.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: The agreement is subject to notice on either side.

The PREMIER: Yes; seeing at that time we were making a good bargain, and that the amount would be less than the figure it would cost us, it is a pity that Parliament did not endeavour to arrange that the amount then agreed upon should be the cost for a number of years. The Commonwealth Government state that they have been losing a considerable sum on the work of collecting for us, and they absolutely refuse to carry on the work any longer unless we agree to increase the payment to £30,000. That was the lowest figure to which they would agree.

Mr. Thomson: Is it costing £60,000 a year to collect our taxes?

The PREMIER: I have made inquiries into the matter—I would have been prepared to propose that the State should do its own collection—but they tended to show that it would not be worth while to undertake the work.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: You would inconvenience the people.

The PREMIER: Now that we have entered into the agreement, perhaps there is no harm in my saying that we could not do it for less than the sum arranged.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: I do not think you could do it even for that.

The PREMIER: The Medical Department shows a decrease, but this is slightly misleading. Provision was made last year for the transfer of certain expenditure to the Entertainment Tax Fund. Portion of that was transferred, but the balance, £10,380, was not ready for transfer at the close of the financial year, and it has since been made. So that the difference between the £10,380 and the saving as the Estimates show of £10,082 really represents an increase of £298. The funds provided by the entertainment tax apply only to certain classes of expenditure. Other increased expenditure is unavoidable. The entertainment tax is proving a great boon and services are now being rendered, because of that tax, that otherwise would have been impossible. The Treasurer simply would not have been able to find the money. Appended to the Estimates is a statement showing the expenditure of last year and also the estimated revenue and expenditure for this year.

Loan Expenditure.

Turning to loan expenditure, last year the amount was £4,078,686, whilst in the previous year it was £4,099,021. In the year 1923-24 the figure was £3,936,833. This gives an average for three years of £4,038,180. The expenditure on agriculture during the past three financial years was—

1923-24	..	..	£2,382,027
1924-25	..	..	£2,273,309
1925-26	..	..	£2,033,920

The average expenditure in that period was £2,229,752.

Hon. W. D. Johnson: Just over 50 per cent.

The PREMIER: Yes, I am coming to that. Expenditure on soldier settlement shows a falling off, because there is not the same number now taking up land. The figures are—

1923-24	..	..	£778,603
1924-25	..	..	£598,649
1925-26	..	..	£326,247

The average over that period was £567,833. Otherwise agricultural expenditure is increasing. Exactly 50 per cent. of last year's expenditure was on account of agricultural

settlement. The figures are made up as follows:—

Agricultural Bank	..	£229,511
Soldier Settlement	..	£346,247
Group Settlement	..	£1,335,009
Assistance to Settlers and Agriculture generally	..	£143,153
Total	..	£2,033,920

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: That is money on most of which interest would be collected.

The PREMIER: Exactly. As I have said, 50 per cent. of last year's loan expenditure was devoted to agriculture and the balance was absorbed mainly as follows:—

Railway Construction	£642,854
Tramways	£16,380
Electricity	£110,540
Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage	£500,948
Development of Mining	£81,369
Harbours and Rivers	£219,303
State Steamers	£94,989
Sundry items	£378,283
Total	£4,078,686

Members will find details on Return No. 8. Consideration should be given to the nature of this expenditure. There was spent on works and assets returning interest £3,513,992, and on national works £564,694. What may be described as national work includes—

	£
Harbours and Rivers	152,764
Development of Goldfields	84,079
Development of Agriculture	127,326
Public Buildings	77,595
Roads and Bridges	96,835

I think it can be said that these loan moneys have been wisely spent over all the years that the State has been pursuing this policy of development.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: The direction in which the money has been spent is right.

The PREMIER: Yes, the policy which called forth this expenditure has been right. The expenditure has been necessary for the development of the State. The loan authorisations and flotations will be found on Return No. 7, where the detailed explanations are given.

Loan Flotations.

The loan flotations for the year were £6,471,770, and the average for the past three years has been £4,165,565. As the Leader of the Opposition knows, it is not always convenient to float a loan during any particular year. I desire that members shall not confuse the flotations with the expenditure.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: It has nothing to do with the flotations.

The PREMIER: No. There may be a large flotation in one year, and a comparatively small one in the following year. In the year just closed the flotations totalled £6,471,770, and in the previous year the flotations were only £1,731,079.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: You were using your overdraft.

The PREMIER: The market may not be favourable at the time, and we then carry on with our overdraft. I will illustrate this. On the 30th June, 1924, the overdraft in London was £210,000; on the 30th June, 1925, it was £2,340,000; and on the 30th June last it was £445,000. As the Leader of the Opposition knows, the market may not be favourable, and it may be better to finance on an overdraft rather than to float a loan. Very often, therefore, the expenditure over a period of two years may come into the flotations of one year.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: Money is cheaper on an overdraft than it is on a loan. I think it is 4 per cent.

The PREMIER: That is so. It is much better to finance on an overdraft. There is no limit placed upon money of this description. Up to June of last year we had an overdraft of more than £2,000,000, and we were able to finance over a great portion of the year at the rate of 4 per cent., whereas, if we had gone on the market for the money, it would have cost us $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Public Debt.

The public debt increased during the year by £5,517,659. The heavy overdraft up to the 30th June, 1925 makes necessary a comparison of the two years. The public debt for 1924-25 increased by £1,727,479, but the average for the two years was £3,622,569. The increase per head of the public debt for 1925—if I may use the expression—showed a reduction of 5s. 4d. The increase for last year was £10 2s. 2d. This shows the necessity for averaging the years. The

average increase for the two years was £4 18s. 5d.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: It would look rather bad to borrow six million pounds in one year unless there were some explanation.

The PREMIER: The debt increased according to our flotations, and not according to our expenditure. We might have an expenditure for two years floated in one year. This would mean that the debt per head of the population in that year would increase enormously as compared with the previous year or the year following. This indicates how careful we have to be in handling figures that show any increase in regard to the debt per head of the population. On the 30th June the gross public debt was £70,010,920, and the sinking fund amounted to £10,654,493, leaving a net indebtedness of £59,365,427.

Investments.

Included in our public debt is money expended on such works as tramways, water supply, sewerage, harbour works, and in many other directions which are not included in the public debt of the other States.

Hon. G. Taylor: Such as railways.

The PREMIER: In Victoria expenditure on tramways, water supply, sewerage or harbour works, is not included in the National Debt, because these undertakings are controlled by trusts, which are given separate borrowing powers. Money borrowed and expended on these works is not included in the public debt of Victoria, whereas all such works are included in the public debt of this State. Any comparison between our public debt per head of the population and that existing in the other States will, therefore, be very misleading. The great bulk of our loan indebtedness we have invested in such a way that the money is returning us interest. The principal investments consist of—

	£
Public utilities	33,675,991
Agricultural Bank, Soldier Settlement and Industries Assistance Board	10,285,717
Transferred properties . .	754,018
Total	£44,715,726

We have also spent on group settlement £3,788,973, and there are many other investments as well.

Sinking Fund.

The sinking fund has now reached £10,654,493, and the growth for the year was £676,062. Of this sum the direct contributions from revenue totalled £247,168, and the interest, etc., earned amounted to £428,894. The greater part of this money was paid by the State in interest on investments in the securities of the State. Our sinking fund is growing by a greater amount each year because of the interest that is derived from it.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: An investment of £10,000,000 brings in a fair sum.

The PREMIER: Yes. From the investment of the sinking fund we derive interest amounting to £428,894, a considerable sum.

Goldfields Water Supply Loan.

To show the wisdom of the State providing a sinking fund, I may mention that the Goldfields Water Supply loan of 2½ million pounds will mature in January next. The subscription to the sinking fund for this loan has been more than sufficient, and further contributions were stopped some years ago during the term of office of the Leader of the Opposition. Some securities will have to be realised on, and others are being transferred to other trust funds. It can definitely be stated that the sinking fund will be more than sufficient to redeem the entire loan in January, and to leave a surplus. I believe this is the first time in Australian history when any State has floated a big loan on the market, and when the loan has been redeemed by contributions to a sinking fund within the lifetime of that loan.

Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: The other States may have no sinking fund.

The PREMIER: There is none in some of them. I am pleased to say this fact has been favourably commented upon by the newspapers in many of the Eastern States.

Loan Council.

During the year the Loan Council held conferences in Melbourne, at which all the States except New South Wales were represented. Satisfactory arrangements were made for financing the States, pending the issue of a joint Australian loan. The Loan Council has been made into a clearing house for the States which may have surplus funds for temporary investment, or may require to borrow for a short term. The Loan Council

has been doing good work. By the co-operation of the States on the Loan Council we are able to assist each other if there should be a temporary shortage of funds in one State, and a surplus of funds in another.

Mr. Mann: New South Wales is not doing very well.

The PREMIER: That State made a mistake in not joining the Loan Council. No restriction is placed by the Loan Council upon any State going upon the London market. The order in which the States should go has been mutually agreed upon. This principle has been adopted in lieu of one which might mean two States going upon the market together and each bidding to the detriment of the other. Of course we have no control over New South Wales, which may clash with the other States. The Loan Council are hopeful that New South Wales will see its way to come in with the rest of the States. I believe that possibly the experience of that State with the loan that has recently been floated may cause it to see the wisdom of joining the Loan Council.

Prosperity of the State.

This concludes my statement for the year. I hope I have not unduly wearied members.

Hon. G. Taylor: You have done well.

The PREMIER: I believe we can say, regardless of our political considerations, that the State is to-day continuing to prosper as it has been prospering for many years. There is evidence of development and of a great future ahead. No matter where one may go throughout the country, this prosperity is ever present. It is quite evident now that agricultural land settlement and pastoral development are going to be, for the future, the rocks upon which we must build. There can be no doubt that this is being recognised by our neighbours in the other States. Each month, one may almost say, Western Australia is becoming better known, and the State's possibilities are becoming evident to those who did not previously know of our existence. I feel confident that the future and the prosperity of this State are assured. I move the first Division of the Estimates, namely—

Legislative Council, £1,555.

Progress reported.

House adjourned at 6.15 p.m.

[Return No. 1.]

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1925-26, COMPARED WITH THE ESTIMATE.

REVENUE.

The Treasurer's estimate for the year was	£	8,882,731	£
The actual amount received was	£	8,808,166	
Or a total net over-estimate of			24,566

EXPENDITURE.

The Treasurer's estimate for the year was	£	8,980,810	
The actual amount expended was	£	8,907,309	
Or a net over-estimate of			23,501

DETAILS.

HEADS.	REVENUE.		EXPENDITURE.	
	Over- Estimate.	Under- Estimate.	Over- Estimate.	Under- Estimate.
	£	£	£	£
TAXATION—				
Land Tax	4,170	...	...	...
Income Tax	...	60,344	...	...
Dividend Duty	...	15,805	...	...
Totalisator Tax	...	1,529	...	...
Stamp Duty	...	17,407	...	...
Probate Duty	2,365	...	...	...
Licenses	...	910	...	...
Commonwealth	1,018	...	...	...
TERRITORIAL, ETC.—				
Land Revenue	...	1,701	...	...
Mining	1,604	...	...	...
Timber	...	16,807	...	...
Law Courts	...	2,568	...	...
Royal Mint	...	231	...	...
SPECIAL ACTS—				
Interest	...	...	54,556	...
Sinking Fund	...	...	...	9,527
Forests Act	...	...	...	23,857
Pensions	...	...	...	3,203
Residue	...	...	...	7,539
DEPARTMENTAL—				
Parliamentary	...	...	...	200
Premier	...	3,844	...	6,568
Treasurer	...	16,772	...	309
Minister for Forests	...	3,307	...	333
Minister for Lands, Immigration and Industries	...	945	7,581	...
Minister for Justice and Police	...	3,030	4,976	...
Minister for Mines	2,672	...	...	5,985
Minister for Agriculture	...	1,028	7,078	...
Minister for Public Works and Labour	...	3,007	4,294	...
Chief Secretary	...	3,860	...	6,460
Minister for Education	...	46	...	700
Minister for Public Health	...	3,613	...	8,718
Minister for North-West	...	115	1,225	...
State Trading Concerns	9,415	...	...	...
PUBLIC UTILITIES—				
Aborigines Cattle Station	1,126	...	1,346	...
Albany Cold Storage	200	...	443	...
Bunbury Harbour Board	1,900	...	...	...
Butter Factories	1,776	...	1,593	...
Fremantle Harbour Trust	16,817	...	...	...
Goldfields Water Supply	...	8,942	2,969	...
Government Refrigerating Works	180	...	9	...
Kalgoorlie Abattoirs	...	273	358	...
Metropolitan Abattoirs and Sale Yards	...	10,796	...	449
Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage	...	5,729	...	3,024
Other Hydraulic Undertakings	...	3,848	159	...
Perth City Markets	45	...	42	...
Railways	182,860	...	288	...
Tramways (Perth Electric)	2,220	...	7,068	...
Electricity Supply	...	4,073	6,066	...
State Batteries	...	5,411	193	...
Cave Houses, etc.	...	1,690	...	1,371
Totals	228,464	208,599	100,844	77,343
Net over-estimates		24,565		23,501

[Return No. 2.]

REVENUE.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS FROM 1917-18 TO 1925-26 AND ESTIMATE FOR 1926-27.

Heads.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.	Estimate, 1926-27.
TAXATION—	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Land Tax ...	63,388	34,182	46,415	57,791	42,549	79,983	71,449	113,867	145,830	155,000
Income Tax ...	98,501	226,560	271,386	334,320	320,874	390,003	502,265	478,642	566,344	400,000
Dividend Duty ...	109,462	133,062	144,748	244,989	177,005	189,057	216,895	237,467	265,805	290,000
Totalisator Tax ...	18,713	42,499	45,911	57,448	57,792	64,411	53,910	52,905	54,529	55,000
Stamp Duty ...	80,719	112,104	173,543	177,404	164,928	173,453	194,176	204,108	231,407	230,000
Probate Duty ...	35,710	40,329	121,951	42,406	76,817	45,997	66,969	68,114	84,635	85,000
Licenses ...	39,983	40,325	40,243	41,020	41,194	54,654	67,904	63,927	69,410	70,500
Total ...	449,456	629,061	844,197	955,358	881,159	987,558	1,173,568	1,224,030	1,418,050	1,305,500
DEPARTMENTAL—										
Land ...	257,388	300,604	330,740	342,382	338,729	311,350	330,234	334,109	336,791	338,000
Mining ...	19,291	17,648	24,050	24,108	22,929	19,880	17,376	16,328	16,396	16,500
Royal Mint ...	30,213	30,992	37,318	23,005	24,446	22,898	16,397	24,294	18,231	17,500
Timber ...	39,243	26,818	54,010	70,796	73,529	72,095	115,047	151,787	188,641	195,660
Departmental Fees, etc.	418,537	453,938	664,934	759,702	864,848	992,989	1,034,451	1,231,736	1,361,047	1,450,766
Law Courts ...	20,754	19,724	23,497	25,210	26,353	28,609	30,070	33,978	37,568	39,000
Harbour Dues ...	31,705	32,930	36,790	49,159	46,009	53,017	51,823	56,504	54,667	56,500
Commonwealth ...	599,239	585,668	598,273	593,834	533,767	583,186	585,723	583,134	588,510	1,157,004
Total ...	1,416,355	1,468,317	1,669,612	1,838,176	1,980,610	2,084,032	2,181,126	2,436,870	2,601,761	3,270,930
PUBLIC UTILITIES—										
Harbour Boards ...	85,168	106,237	157,637	185,470	173,188	168,223	224,350	262,124	245,233	257,000
Railways ...	1,828,853	1,878,753	2,275,426	2,688,611	2,805,335	2,886,370	3,189,894	3,334,008	3,317,140	3,650,000
Tramways ...	141,480	134,058	187,709	225,000	248,924	283,668	275,402	282,418	287,774	295,000
Batteries ...	69,355	57,876	49,067	69,467	57,663	56,691	39,235	17,816	27,336	25,125
Avondale, Harvey, Bucklands, and Yandooka Estates ...	29,346	19,529	14,866	12,020	7,543	4,943	2,966	...	...	...
Water Supply and Sewerage etc. ...	379,925	371,615	361,583	402,354	406,151	410,638	424,835	441,962	460,519	503,000
State Dairy Farm... etc. ...	2,576	3,476	2,844	3,260	2,514	...	...	...	...	...
Refrigerating Works, etc. ...	27,542	28,726	32,138	35,735	40,615	43,018	32,120	24,669	58,580	57,356
Cave House, etc. ...	6,463	8,457	11,079	13,884	14,432	13,576	18,680	14,011	16,190	16,200
Electric Works ...	32,580	47,164	62,972	95,350	119,120	123,938	162,796	188,867	205,073	226,000
Butter Factories ...	15,771	19,189	18,717	27,548	17,756	17,187	17,310	13,329	15,224	19,000
Total ...	2,619,059	2,675,130	3,174,037	3,758,689	3,593,291	4,000,147	4,388,088	4,577,204	4,640,108	5,053,681
TRADING CONCERNS ...	137,666	172,343	175,905	187,342	152,047	135,755	122,313	143,342	148,247	161,500
GRAND TOTAL ...	4,622,536	4,944,851	5,863,501	6,789,505	6,907,107	7,207,492	7,865,595	8,381,446	8,808,166	9,791,611

a. Included in Departmental.

[Return No. 3.]

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FROM 1918-19 TO 1925-26, AND ESTIMATE FOR 1926-27.

Head.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.	Estimate 1926-27.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Special Acts	2,112,108	2,232,199	2,416,565	2,644,609	2,792,793	3,081,350	3,352,720	3,592,273	3,813,132
Parliamentary and Executive Council	9,620	10,111	11,350	11,423	12,258	11,855	12,568	13,557	13,603
Premier	1,796	2,154	2,044	18,185	15,522	16,420	18,738	16,520	12,836
His Excellency the Governor	1,807	1,935	2,343	2,227	2,166	2,356	2,399	2,549	2,464
London Agency	8,210	10,840	12,502	12,032	14,190	12,817	11,973	12,256	12,267
Public Service Commissioner	1,192	1,623	3,498	2,553	2,701	2,569	1,374	1,345	1,896
Government Motor Cars ...	4,459	3,006	2,590	1,703	2,193	1,053	3,947	5,534	4,196
Printing	35,215	54,749	75,688	71,681	68,270	63,588	62,875	64,946	65,576
Literary and Scientific ...	8,280	8,750	8,900	9,250	9,250	9,250	9,200	9,707	11,393
Treasury	9,846	12,027	11,667	14,909	14,677	13,882	18,169	18,513	18,539
Audit	9,023	10,337	11,597	12,618	11,701	11,830	12,772	12,431	13,680
Compassionate Allowances	4,167	6,425	6,460	4,964	2,509	8,976	5,425	5,215	2,361
Government Savings Bank	22,428	26,474	30,470	31,738	38,150	82,556	34,589	38,404	42,808
Government Stores	12,172	14,810	15,580	21,480	15,878	16,015	16,511	16,637	17,742
Taxation	21,040	25,404	35,872	14,456	13,200	13,836	10,341	13,037	30,000
Workers' Homes	3,230	3,515	4,048	6,047	11,368	12,563	12,014	12,658	13,600
Miscellaneous and Refunds	47,838	75,210	77,873	117,156	104,229	149,410	117,766	86,364	64,514
Commonwealth Grants ...									365,924
Lands and Surveys	44,703	59,816	90,182	108,182	101,056	100,897	82,963	72,689	79,304
Settlement for Soldiers ...	2,860	14,432	11,763	18,207	13,199	9,787			
Agricultural Bank and I.A. Board	41,130	52,224	53,134	61,016	68,804	83,865	82,398	83,511	86,341
Group Settlement						8,401	9,865	9,248	10,799
Immigration						8,430	5,788	6,904	6,010
Council of Industrial Development						1,065	1,437	1,088	1,153
Mines, Explosives, Geological, etc.	57,302	63,957	73,551	67,010	67,817	63,002	61,481	68,492	78,059
Forests	10,873	12,962	16,129	16,439	15,246	15,835	17,816	23,101	24,256
Agriculture									
Rabbits and Vermin Stock	62,455	68,410	65,863	58,973	56,398	59,657	63,226	73,865	84,570
Crown Law and Branches	59,099	71,760	87,186	78,077	76,819	82,334	80,715	81,932	91,789
Police	132,157	164,097	174,829	178,005	175,332	180,079	187,240	209,459	211,502
Public Works	104,615	116,468	123,988	93,687	76,042	87,220	89,638	82,688	101,232
Labour						5,335	5,251	7,415	9,958
Office of Chief Secretary	27,322	27,655	37,718	34,814	38,277	27,110	23,584	29,308	30,868
Aborigines	12,447	6,134	10,423	10,244	6,108	6,823	6,899	4,615	5,538
Fisheries	6,277	6,438	7,145	6,377	5,789	5,414	6,465	5,211	5,437
Geols	21,586	25,781	26,684	26,068	24,022	23,108	23,366	23,351	25,133
Harbour and Light and Jetty	19,587	21,955	22,479	22,073	20,466	20,213	21,696	22,290	22,882
Lithographic	4,885								
Lunacy	64,578	80,148	97,422	89,640	87,847	88,818	97,085	99,467	102,510
Charities and State Children	90,485	113,362	89,281	93,563	95,628	93,523	100,496	109,220	110,280
Medical and Health	155,673	210,868	197,640	180,093	181,277	181,018	196,357	205,573	198,933
Education	368,054	414,330	490,160	556,026	563,183	580,548	585,405	585,209	605,438
Department of the North-West			270	2,942	20,989	21,813	19,095	23,229	
Tourist and Publicity Bureau								1,579	1,751
Total, Departmental...	1,486,892	1,808,201	2,012,320	2,049,278	2,028,554	2,127,346	2,120,794	2,170,143	2,509,582
PUBLIC UTILITIES.									
Railways	1,572,107	2,009,823	2,427,075	2,337,391	2,210,851	2,307,380	2,361,760	2,519,712	2,780,000
Tramways	107,705	144,028	198,264	202,995	207,542	225,878	229,382	234,332	238,000
State Batteries	59,574	61,552	66,221	64,891	72,149	73,889	73,359	79,215	79,424
Water Supply	227,232	245,967	284,495	281,846	276,447	283,596	284,162	291,053	295,952
Yandanaoka	10,041	8,842	4,561	2,311	94				
Refrigerating Works, etc.	19,099	20,505	24,238	27,707	24,967	24,558	25,070	31,180	36,933
Avondale and Harvey Estates	3,376	1,853	1,461	1,671	1,584	1,702			
Tourists, Cave House	8,476	10,985	13,115	14,176	13,841	14,412	14,610	14,379	14,416
Aborigines Cattle Station	5,219	8,079	11,814	12,030	10,580	7,643	6,074	6,232	8,885
Electricity Supply	28,297	43,010	83,088	95,784	91,557	116,154	136,731	147,934	159,000
State Dairy Farm	3,066	4,664	4,338	3,940					
Butter Factories	20,537	18,620	26,503	15,073	16,433	16,807	13,068	14,673	16,865
Trading Concerns		8,446							
Total, Public Utilities	2,064,729	2,566,383	3,145,173	3,059,815	2,925,025	3,033,819	3,099,196	3,288,710	3,531,475
Less Rebates, etc.	5,683,729	6,626,783	7,574,058	7,753,702	7,744,372	8,242,515	8,578,710	9,051,126	9,934,189
	66,864	95,058	97,767	114,400	131,516	147,763	138,866	143,817	153,538
Total	5,596,865	6,531,725	7,476,291	7,639,242	7,612,856	8,094,762	8,439,844	8,907,309	9,780,651

a Includes transfer from Miscellaneous.

b Includes £45,071 for loss on operations Royal Commission Control

of Trade. c Includes Registry, Friendly Societies, Messengers' Exchange, and Observatory, and Labour Bureau.

d Included under Printing. e Includes Tourist and Publicity.

f Included in Lunacy.

[Return No. 4.]

**STATEMENT SHOWING ANNUAL SURPLUSES AND DEFICIENCIES OF CONSOLIDATED
REVENUE FUND, ALSO ANNUAL AGGREGATE FOR THE
FINANCIAL YEARS 1900-01 TO 1925-26.**

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Annual.		Aggregate.	
			Surplus.	Deficiency.	Surplus.	Deficiency.
Balance, 30th June, 1900 ...	£	£	£	£	£	£
1900-01 ...	...	...	...	...	12,372	...
1901-02 ...	3,078,033	3,165,244	...	87,211	...	74,839
1902-03 ...	3,688,049	3,490,026	198,023	...	123,184	...
1903-04 ...	3,630,238	3,521,763	108,475	...	231,659	...
1904-05 ...	3,550,016	3,698,311	...	148,295	83,364	...
1905-06 ...	3,615,340	3,745,225	...	129,885	...	46,521
1906-07 ...	3,558,939	3,632,318	...	73,379	...	119,900
1907-08 ...	3,401,354	3,490,183	...	88,829	...	208,729
1908-09 ...	3,378,641	3,379,006	...	2,365	...	211,094
1909-1910 ...	3,267,014	3,368,551	...	101,537	...	312,631
1910-1911 ...	3,657,670	3,447,731	209,939	...	...	102,692
1911-1912 ...	3,850,439	3,734,448	115,991	...	13,299	...
1912-1913 ...	3,966,873	4,101,082	...	134,409	...	121,110
1913-1914 ...	4,596,669	4,787,064	...	190,405	...	311,515
1914-1915 ...	5,205,343	5,340,754	...	135,411	...	448,926
1915-1916 ...	5,140,725	5,706,541	...	565,816	...	1,012,742
1916-1917 ...	5,356,978	5,705,201	...	348,223	...	1,360,965
1917-1918 ...	4,577,007	5,278,764	...	699,757	...	2,060,722
1918-1919 ...	4,622,536	5,328,279	...	705,743	...	2,766,465
1919-1920 ...	4,944,851	5,596,866	...	662,015	...	3,418,480
1920-1921 ...	5,863,501	6,631,725	...	668,225	...	4,086,705
1921-1922 ...	6,789,565	7,478,291	...	688,725	...	4,773,430
1922-1923 ...	6,907,107	7,639,242	...	732,135	...	5,605,565
1923-1924 ...	7,207,492	7,612,856	...	405,364	...	5,910,829
1924-1925 ...	7,865,595	8,094,753	...	229,158	...	6,140,087
1925-1926 ...	8,381,446	8,439,844	...	58,398	...	6,198,485
1925-1926 ...	8,808,166	8,907,309	...	99,143	...	6,297,628

[Return No. 5.]

SYNOPSIS AND BALANCE SHEET AT 30TH JUNE, 1926, AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

	1922.			1923.			1924.			1925.			1926.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
DR.															
Westminster Bank, Ltd. ...				735,000	0	0	210,000	0	0	a			445,000	0	0
Commonwealth Government ...	118,600	0	0												
Sinking Fund ...	8,356,962	5	9	8,744,353	9	5	9,331,624	0	0	10,017,569	12	5	10,652,929	7	3
General Loan Fund ...	2,230,318	10	0	740,875	0	11	2,046,097	11	0	571,425	6	7	113,965	12	11
Australian Wheat Board ...	400,000	0	0	400,000	0	0									
Government Savings Bank ...	5,801,447	5	8	5,951,382	17	9	5,967,586	12	8	5,978,002	3	9	6,460,884	14	1
Insurance Companies Act, Deposits ...	260,000	0	0	265,000	0	0	260,000	0	0	275,000	0	0	290,000	0	0
Trust and Deposit Accounts generally ...	2,478,958	6	0	2,959,122	16	9	2,937,335	11	7	2,918,238	18	11	3,450,491	19	1
	19,646,286	7	3	19,795,534	4	10	20,752,643	15	9	19,760,176	1	8	21,413,271	13	4
CR.															
Investments ...	15,256,334	3	2	15,774,801	2	1	16,226,837	6	5	16,860,165	1	8	18,350,203	10	1
Stores on hand ...	932,140	15	10	822,836	0	1	810,263	12	11	801,794	8	3	725,078	6	9
Treasurers' Advances, and other Advances ...	453,772	8	6	204,948	7	6	214,042	17	0	261,560	11	8	582,347	0	1
Cash in hand—Treasury ...	5,888	6	2	10,065	16	4	4,128	1	11				22,541	4	11
Wheat Certificates ...															
General Account ...	393,977	5	3	478,860	6	0	614,894	5	0	811,564	9	4	739,651	13	10
Government Savings Bank Account ...	141,410	3	8	126,016	14	5	476,508	2	4	616,703	15	10	320,151	8	8
Fixed Deposits with Bank ...													300,000	0	0
Eastern States ...	490,813	3	5	143,585	19	10	197,439	18	11	29,100	16	5	151,357	16	3
London ...	83,354	18	8	5,857	15	3	6,780	17	10	12,164	3	1	2,952	8	11
Remittances and Drafts in transitu ...	48,371	8	10	5,075	6	2	2,064	2	9	2,866	17	3	37,745	5	9
Consolidated Revenue Fund ...	1,418,860	6	4	1,824,224	5	9	2,053,382	15	1	58,397	9	2	157,540	8	4
Deficiency Account ...	421,363	7	5	391,363	7	5	141,363	7	5	403,509	17	10	15,892	12	9
Sundry Debtors, etc. ...				97,899	4	0	4,538	8	2	2,248	11	2	7,809	17	0
	19,646,286	7	3	19,795,534	4	10	20,752,643	15	9	19,760,176	1	8	21,413,271	13	4

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

Return No. 6.]

STATEMENT SHOWING RECEIPTS FROM COMMONWEALTH FROM 1909-10 TO 1925-26.

Year.	Payment per Head, 25s.	Special Payment to W.A.	Interest on Transferred Properties at 3½ per cent.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1909-10 ...	703,723a	...	Nil	703,723
1910-11 ...	509,578a	...	Nil	509,578
1911-12 ...	365,614	232,265	40,648	638,527
1912-13 ...	382,591	222,554	30,465	635,610
1913-14 ...	400,855	212,751	27,358	640,964
1914-15 ...	403,772	203,127	24,388	631,287
1915-16 ...	398,076	193,544	24,485	616,105
1916-17 ...	386,008	183,974	24,485	594,467
1917-18 ...	386,779	174,350	38,110	599,239
1918-19 ...	391,809	164,696	29,163	585,668
1919-20 ...	414,068	154,937	29,268	598,273
1920-21 ...	419,448	145,287	29,099	593,834
1921-22 ...	418,966	135,738	29,063	583,767
1922-23 ...	428,193	126,038	28,955	583,186
1923-24 ...	442,269	116,301	27,153	585,723
1924-25 ...	455,155	106,589	26,391	588,135
1925-26 ...	465,229	96,890	26,391	588,510
Totals ...	£7,432,133	2,469,041	435,422	10,336,596

a Surplus Revenue returned.

[Return No. 7.]

LOAN AUTHORISATIONS AND FLOTATIONS.

	£	£
Authorisations to 30th June, 1925	70,646,093	
Do. 1925-26	4,071,195	
Total Authorisations		74,717,288
Flotations—		
General Loans	41,078,253	
Local Debentures	4,961,726	
Local Inscribed Stock	10,383,222	
Treasury Bills	1,231,992	
Treasury Bonds and Inscribed Stock under Deficiency Acts	6,247,858	
Commonwealth Advances	7,872,322	
		71,775,373
Balance available for Flotation		2,941,915
Actual Loan Indebtedness—		
Gross Debt on 30th June, 1925	64,493,261	
Flotation during year—		
Inscribed Stock, London (£520,327 for conversion of Local Stock), 5%	2,500,000	
Commonwealth Overseas Loans (New York £1,541,148; London £500,000), 5%	2,041,148	
Treasury Bonds	389,455	
Local Treasury Bills	29,025	
Local Inscribed Stock (£4,521,015 conversion)	4,546,420	
Local Debentures (£1,290 conversion)	241,340	
Commonwealth Advances (Migration, £1,500,000 1%, (other 5½%)	1,658,540	
		75,899,189
Less Redemptions—		
Debentures, Loans, 1881-4 (Crown Agents), 4%	6,600	
Treasury Bonds	2,700	
Treasury Bills	60,664	
Commonwealth Advances (Soldiers Land Settlement Loans), £6 8s. 9d. %	796,000	
Local Debentures (converted), 5½%	3,100,000	
Local Inscribed Stock (converted), 3½ and 3¼%	1,922,305	
		5,888,269
		70,010,920
Less—		
Sinking Fund (as on 31st March)	10,664,493	
Net Indebtedness, 30th June, 1926		59,356,427
Net Public Debt per head of Population on 30th June, 1926		£ s. d.
Do. do. do. 1925	158	4 4
Do. do. do. 1924	148	2 2
Do. do. do. 1923	148	7 6
Do. do. do. 1922	142	9 6
Do. do. do. 1921	137	1 0
Do. do. do. 1920	*124	15 11
Do. do. do. 1919	119	7 3
Do. do. do. 1918	116	7 0
Do. do. do. 1917	118	0 8
Do. do. do. 1916	116	5 5
Do. do. do. 1915	109	19 9
Do. do. do. 1914	101	12 10
Do. do. do. 1913	94	4 11
Do. do. do. 1912	85	17 2

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

[Return No. 8.]

LOAN FLOTATIONS, DEBT AND EXPENDITURE ON 30TH JUNE, 1926.

Works and Services.	Flotations.	Actual Indebtedness on Works.	Actual Cash spent.
	£	£	£
Railways, Tramways, and Electricity Supply	23,119,608	22,617,659	22,012,984
Harbours and Rivers	5,109,314	5,014,194	4,682,963
Goldfields Water Scheme	2,903,078	2,876,182	2,689,824
Water Supply Generally	3,299,777	3,294,953	3,231,799
Sewerage	1,471,672	1,470,751	1,453,786
Erection of State Batteries and Treatment Plants	330,007	329,731	312,823
Development of Goldfields	2,018,513	1,993,087	1,870,659
Development of Agriculture	3,922,652	3,891,652	3,683,997
Agricultural Group Settlement	3,175,029	3,175,029	3,788,973
Assistance to Settlers	2,722,196	2,722,196	2,517,040
Agricultural Bank	2,849,873	2,849,873	2,703,152
Telegraphs	276,724	217,791	269,308
Roads and Bridges	870,082	841,247	737,073
Public Buildings	1,252,725	1,242,529	1,174,849
Immigration	63,752	63,752	656,392
Workers' Homes—Working Capital	553,244	553,244	525,500
State Hotels	83,349	83,349	76,727
State Steamships	584,829	584,829	573,619
State Saw Mills	258,968	258,968	238,764
State Implement Works	153,060	153,060	143,270
South Perth Ferries	24,447	24,447	12,968
State Milk Supply	4,590	4,590	4,496
State Brickyards	50,909	50,909	39,453
State Quarries	27,789	27,789	26,092
State Fish Supply	3,286	3,286	3,162
Crawley, Dalkeith, and Harvey Estates, Aborigines Stations, Savoy House, Purchase of Land at Nedlands, Purchase of House for Residence of Agent General and Site at Point Heathcote for Mental Reception Home	131,043	131,043	110,660
Stores and Stock Suspense Accounts	191,966	191,966	175,500
Miscellaneous	153,212	153,120	155,765
Wyndham Freezing Works (Working Capital)	388,465	388,465	286,014
Fisheries	12,208	12,208	11,806
Land Settlement for Soldiers	7,547,876	6,719,296	7,404,300
	63,554,243	61,941,201	60,973,718
Redemptions ... ..	...	1,613,042	...
Cost of Raising ... ..	...	...	2,466,560
Balance General Loan Fund ... ..	...	...	113,965
	63,554,243	63,554,243	63,554,243

a Includes £717,877, expended at Wyndham Freezing Works. b An additional amount of £405,264 was expended upon Agricultural Immigration from Development of Agriculture.

RECONCILIATION WITH PUBLIC DEBT (RETURN No. 8).

Indebtedness as above	£
Local Inscribed Stock, issued under Agricultural Bank Act, for conversion of Mortgage Bonds	61,941,201
Issues under Treasury Bonds Deficiency Act	1,566,000
Issues under Insurance Companies Act, 1918	6,247,858
Treasury Bills under Loan Act 1923 issued for payment of arrears of interest	290,000
	117,272
	70,162,331
Less temporarily redeemed from general funds	151,410
Gross Public Debt	£70,010,921

LOAN EXPENDITURE FOR 1925-1926 COMPARED WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.

Undertakings.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1922-23.	1921-22.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1918-19.	1917-18.	1916-17.	1915-16.	1914-15.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways, including Land Resumptions	1,128,874	334,103	561,988	519,557	323,296	145,724	75,786	154,720	181,394	246,994	350,855	520,344
Tramways—Perth Electric	10,389	26,571	57,815	72,057	95,835	34,410	27,473	7,239	3,073	29,445	33,528	22,909
Electric Power Station	110,549	90,661	31,717	87,761	184,345	18,783	17,890	25,386	23,508	61,033	63,170	149,865
Fremantle Harbour Works	60,539	58,137	37,891	42,720	49,009	40,080	51,855	40,345	42,449	49,004	53,704	100,055
Fremantle Dock and Silo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	1,291
Harbours and Rivers generally	152,764	124,576	101,122	77,414	42,632	72,245	50,322	23,603	42,485	72,854	55,510	58,014
Sewerage—Perth and Fremantle	149,401	114,798	39,762	47,190	21,348	10,456	...	...	15,167	11,050	47,268	120,473
Water Supply	568,570	535,497	395,993	153,667	196,231	194,172	49,115	40,636	53,080	95,426	118,275	127,669
Development of Goldfields	84,079	85,731	84,221	64,618	43,530	43,902	32,581	16,152	10,661	10,829	19,142	47,283
State Smelter, Ravensthorpe	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	78,967	60,000
Development of Agriculture	127,326	109,626	74,941	91,952	58,692	73,075	112,807	159,421	156,083	169,483	165,727	78,271
Assistance to Settlers	10,784	192,710	441,546	400,000	74,674	31,095	5,455	80,000	478,170	...	190,890	602,110
Agricultural Group Settlement	1,335,000	1,124,252	822,910	506,803	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Land Settlement for Soldiers	224,247	598,649	778,603	958,132	983,914	1,527,064	1,947,772	283,319	...	...	...	...
College of Agriculture	5,043	15,508	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Immigration	...	7,148	16,229	11,209	8,278	12,024	5,205	1,867	1,107	2,352	4,640	10,665
Agricultural Bank—Working Capital	229,511	237,072	264,027	266,410	13,516	151,825	118,285	73,948	25,000	93,166	172,335	271,612
Steamships	94,989	...	...	6,658	200,000	10,000	14,591	...	...	409	141,065	...
Workers' Homes Working Capital	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	97,500
Saw Mills	...	...	...	...	...	38,863	...	...	...	...	...	20,089
State Hotels	963	1,424	2,831	3,108	8,858	5,056	2,767	...	...	214	511	8,546
Agricultural Implements Works	...	7,500	...	...	...	39,929	15,772	1,793	117	589	10,000	18,436
Brickyards	1,712	7,500	...	141	...	705	1,326	1,165	20	1,292	4,827	11,507
Ferries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	547	5,974
State Fish Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Public Buildings	77,705	91,140	88,595	18,680	44,440	24,963	10,602	21,570	17,538	131	3,031	81,004
Roads and Bridges	96,835	92,606	77,744	34,331	12,566	32,121	14,719	4,231	2,478	2,567	6,152	5,026
Perth-Fremantle Road Reinstatement	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	7,668	21,198
Purchase of Plant and Stock (Suspense Account)	...	30,500	30,000	10,000	...	50,000	...	...	...	...	...	55,000
Fremantle Road and Railway Bridge	...	...	...	...	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,582
Sundries	10,991	25,140	23,280	13,892a	9,710	7,841	3,088	79	108	2,482	4,622	5,225
Wendham Freezing Works—Working Capital	...	...	...	14	86,000	...	100,000	100,000	1,729	2,676	2,738	...
Fisheries	...	...	...	...	32	5,870	5,904	...	...	...	...	...
Present Minor Works throughout the North-West	3,770	1,714	5,708	2,979	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Purchase of Site at Point Heathcote for Mental Home	91	7,068	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	4,078,686	4,099,021	3,036,833	3,389,299	2,454,925	52,586,404	62,613,320	1,049,736	1,054,178	856,183	1,584,642	2,521,608

a Includes Loans to Local Authorities for erection of Country Hospitals, etc., £8,057.

b Exclusive of Loan Suspense Expenditure, £80,107.
Expenditure, £83,063.

c Exclusive of Loan Suspense

[Return No. 10.]

PUBLIC DEBT AND SINKING FUNDS.

Loan.			Sinking Fund as at 31st March, 1926.		Remarks.
Year.	Amount.	Maturity.	Rate per cent.	Accumulation.	
LOANS CARRYING SINKING FUNDS. <i>Inscribed Stock.</i>					
1899-1915 ...	£ 998,353	1934	1	£ s. d. 839,839 16 8	Controlled by Crown Agents. Stock issued for conversion of Debentures.
1896 ...	1,500,000	1935	1	775,010 13 9	
1897-1900 ...	3,500,000	1935	1	1,610,725 5 2	G.S.R. Purchase. Coolgardie Water Scheme Loan.
1897 ...	1,100,000	1936	1½	901,418 12 9	
1896 ...	2,500,000	1927	3	2,704,699 13 6	
1900-1902 ...	680,000	1935	1	252,394 3 3	
1902-1905 ...	2,600,000	1935	1	898,846 0 10	
1907-1908 ...	2,000,000	1947	1	487,035 11 7	
1909 ...	1,445,000	1955	½	141,970 1 8	
1910 ...	1,342,000	1955	½	123,251 6 8	
1911 ...	1,650,000	1955	½	221,615 16 3	Issued for redemption on £1,876,000 stock; balance taken from Sinking Fund.
1912 ...	1,000,000	1960	½	75,971 16 11	Sinking Fund represents premiums paid on Assurance Policy for redemption of principal amount of 5 per cent. Stock issued for purchase of M.S. "Kangaroo."
1912-1914 ...	6,000,000	1962	½	386,017 15 9	
1916 ...	140,000	1936	3½	52,447 10 0	
1920 ...	1,500,000	1940	½	24,141 15 7	Issued for redemption of Local Stock; £172,407 was taken from the Sinking Fund. Issued for redemption of Local Stock.
1922 ...	3,000,000	1940	½	18,447 1 1	
1923 ...	504,440	1965	½	7,174 10 6	
1926 ...	520,327	1975	½	176,114 13 0	
<i>Local Inscribed Stock.</i>					
1912 ...	370,790	1932	½	78,564 10 2	
1913 ...	297,045	1934	½	26,449 3 6	
1915 ...	78,185	1935	1½	25,172 11 11	
1913 ...	309,130	1933	½	37,030 11 6	
1914 ...	1,566,000	1964	½	85,608 18 2	Issued under Agricultural Bank Act.
1922-1926 ...	1,490,135	1928/38	½	314,026 8 10	
1922 ...	158,118	1927/32	½	3,939 3 8	
1923 ...	306,345	1928/33	½	5,730 8 11	
1923 ...	126,349	1933	½	11,634 9 7	
1923 ...	755,000	1943	½	185,925 14 4	
1923 ...	225,400	1929/34	½	50,321 9 3	
1926 ...	650,000	1931	½	53,441 6 5	Issued for redemption of Local Stock.
1926 ...	4,100	1931	½	1,387 14 5	
<i>Treasury Bonds and Inscribed Stock.</i>					
1919-1925 ...	3,351,320	...	½	22,662 17 4	Under Treasury Bonds Deficiency Acts; currency is maintained up to thirty years.
<i>Debentures.</i>					
1918 ...	697,000	1927	½	49,529 13 11	
1919 ...	106,603	1940	½	1,271 12 8	
1872-1888 ...	18,500	...	1	4,237 12 3	Redeemable by Annual Drawings; Controlled by Crown Agents.
1926 ...	1,290	1936	½	436 12 6	Issued for redemption of Local Stock.
1925 ...	2,041,149	1955/75	½	a	Commonwealth Overseas Loan.

[Return No. 10—continued.]

PUBLIC DEBT AND SINKING FUNDS—continued.

Loan.			Sinking Fund as at 31st March, 1926.		Remarks.
Year.	Amount.	Maturity.	Rate per cent.	Accumulation.	
Various ...	BALANCE OF DEBT. 25,478,341	Various	Consisting of Local Inscribed Stock (£3,866,563), Debentures (£1,945,774), Inscribed Stock London (£8,493,733), Issues under the Treasury Bonds Deficiency Acts (£2,896,537), for which Sinking Funds have not commenced, Treasury Bills (£1,231,992), which carry no Sinking Funds, and Commonwealth Advances, Soldiers' Settlement (£4,635,202), Migration (£2,250,000), Other (£158,540).
Total Debt	70,010,920	Accrued Fund	Sinking	10,654,493 4 3	
Previous year's totals	64,493,261	...	...	9,985,031 6 8
Increase on year ...	5,517,659	...	...	669,461 17 7

a Consisting of—

	£
Treasury Bonds (Net) ...	386,755
Commonwealth Advances ...	1,658,540
Local Inscribed Stock (Net) ...	25,405
Inscribed Stock, London (Net) ...	2,000,000
Local Debentures (Net) ...	240,150
Commonwealth Overseas Loans ...	2,041,148
	<u>6,351,898</u>

Less—

	£
Debentures, London, redeemed ...	6,600
Loans from Commonwealth for Soldiers' Land Settlement, written off ...	796,000
Treasury Bills (Net) ...	31,639
	<u>834,239</u>

Net Increase ... £5,517,659

a Contributions paid after 31st March, in respect to Sinking Fund accrued from 15th July, 1925.

[Return No. 11.]

SINKING FUND AND INVESTMENTS.

ANALYSIS OF FUND.

	£
Contributions from Revenue	6,525,448
Interest on Investments	3,844,110
Discounts on Purchases, less Brokerage, Expenses, and Premiums on Purchases ...	1,192,263
	<u>11,561,821</u>
Less utilised for Redemptions	907,328
Total of Fund, 31st March, 1926	<u>10,654,493</u>

INVESTMENTS.

Maturity.				Rate.	Nominal Value.	
					£	s. d.
Western Australian Stocks	1935 ... ..	...	...	3 per cent.	1,493,923	11 5
	1936 ... ..	...	...	3 per cent.	494,003	8 3
	1927 ... ..	...	...	3 per cent.	938,187	0 2
	1935 ... ..	...	...	3½ per cent.	1,568,750	1 2
	1927-1947 ... ..	...	...	3½ per cent.	547,204	4 7
	1935-1955 ... ..	...	...	3½ per cent.	1,091,196	6 10
	1940-1960 ... ..	...	...	3½ per cent.	108,042	4 8
	1942-1962 ... ..	...	...	4 per cent.	1,034,817	2 3
	1930-1940 ... ..	...	...	5½ per cent.	445,106	16 7
	1930-1940 ... ..	...	...	6 per cent.	251,600	0 0
	1935-1945 ... ..	...	...	5 per cent.	242,635	10 7
	1935-1965 ... ..	...	...	4½ per cent.	273,639	4 11
Western Australian Debentures ...	1945-1975 ... ..	...	...	5 per cent.	222,738	12 10
	1939 ... ..	...	...	4½ per cent.	8,295	0 0
Total					8,720,139	4 3
National Debt Sinking Fund Trustees Investments					7,720	9 0
Other Stocks—Crown Agent's Investments					839,833	5 10
National War Bonds, 5 per cent., 1927					552,000	0 0
Victoria, 4½ per cent.					130,721	1 6
New South Wales, 5 per cent.					347,387	10 7
Payments on Assurance Policy towards redemption £140,000 ...					52,447	10 0
Cash					4,244	3 1
Total Sinking Fund					10,654,493	4 3

[Return No. 12.]

SINKING FUND AND DEFICIT.

Year.	Contributions.	Interest and Discount (less Brokerage and Expenses).	Total Accretions.	Redemptions.	Increase in Sinking Fund.	Deficit on Year.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1911-12 ...	245,274	136,148	381,422	7,500	373,922	134,409
1912-13 ...	244,555	153,756	398,311	7,700	390,611	190,404
1913-14 ...	250,100	140,558	390,658	7,900	382,758	135,411
1914-15 ...	258,792	126,193	384,985	8,200	376,785	565,817
1915-16 ...	265,457	206,842	472,299	12,755	459,544	348,223
1916-17 ...	280,883	239,445	520,328	7,600	512,728	699,757
1917-18 ...	306,782	237,405	544,187	9,300	534,887	705,743
1918-19 ...	319,101	257,457	576,558	8,400	568,158	652,014
1919-20 ...	319,692	386,628	706,320	12,200	694,120	668,225
1920-21 ...	342,277 ^b	460,761	803,038	10,300	792,738	686,725
1921-22 ...	322,130	416,066	738,196	9,600	728,596	732,135
1922-23 ...	242,319	351,879	594,198	183,307	410,891	405,364
1923-24 ...	225,649	377,471	603,120	10,600	592,520	229,158
1924-25 ...	236,742	380,918	617,660	6,200	611,460	58,398
1925-26 ...	247,168	428,894	676,062	6,600	669,462	99,143
Totals ...	£4,106,921	4,300,421	8,407,342	308,162	8,099,180	α 6,310,926

α The Actual Deficit on 30th June, 1925, was £6,198,485, the difference being due to a credit balance of £13,298 at the commencement of the period included in the return. β Includes £21,375 by Trading Concerns.

[Return No. 13.]

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES FOR YEARS 1920-1921, 1921-1922, 1922-1923, 1923-1924, 1924-1925, 1925-1926.

—	Capital Cost.	Working Expenses.	Interest Charges.	Sinking Fund.	Total Cost.	Revenue.	Surplus.	De- ficiency.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1920-21 ...	27,780,130	3,145,174	1,055,111	273,571	4,473,856	3,758,689	...	715,167
1921-22 ...	28,975,469	3,050,090	1,105,647	242,050	4,397,787	3,890,777	...	507,010
1922-23 ...	29,819,380	2,923,476	1,136,606	190,836	4,250,968	4,000,147	...	250,821
1923-24 ...	30,841,698	3,032,232	1,186,766	192,751	4,411,799	4,388,090	...	23,709
1924-25 ...	32,290,890	3,097,680	1,230,788	196,158	4,524,626	4,577,204	52,578	...
1925-26 ...	33,675,991	3,291,186	1,294,398	197,745	4,783,329	4,640,108	...	143,221

[Return No. 14.]

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES FOR YEAR 1925-26.

—	Capital Cost.	Working Expenses.	Interest Charges.	Sinking Fund.	Total Cost.	Revenue.	Surplus.	Deficiency.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways	21,026,792	2,519,712	860,225	126,000	3,505,937	3,317,140	...	188,797
Tramways	949,929	234,332	45,155	2,498	281,985	287,774	5,789	...
Electricity	880,042	147,934	41,540	2,387	191,861	205,073	13,212	...
Metropolitan Water Supply...	3,796,396	134,286	113,665	21,855	269,806	250,729	...	19,077
Goldfields Water Supply ...	3,250,085	128,858	70,893	8,093	217,449	180,942	...	36,507
Other Hydraulic Undertakings:	406,191	30,385	18,725	5,807	54,917	37,848	...	17,069
All other	3,368,556	95,879	135,195	30,500	261,374	360,602	99,228	...
Total	33,675,991	3,291,186	1,294,398	197,745	4,783,329	4,640,108	118,229	261,450
Net Deficiency ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	143,221	

[Return No. 15.]

RETURN RELATING TO RAILWAYS.

—	1925-26.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1922-23.	1921-22.	1920-21.
Number of miles open ...	miles. 3,865	miles. 3,733	miles. 3,620	miles. 3,555	miles. 3,539	miles. 3,539
Capital Cost of Con- struction and Equipment of Lines open	£ 20,368,658	£ 19,520,070	£ 18,810,711	£ 18,297,240	£ 18,073,088	£ 17,318,344
Loan ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Revenue	658,134	798,050	827,333	862,962	862,515	851,636
	21,026,792	20,318,120	19,638,044	19,160,202	18,935,603	18,169,980
Working Expenses ...	2,519,712	2,361,760	2,307,380	2,210,551	2,337,391	2,427,075
Interest Charges ...	860,225	813,849	787,221	768,244	756,737	716,398
Total Annual Cost ...	3,379,937	3,175,609	3,094,601	2,979,095	3,094,128	3,143,473
Gross Revenue ...	3,317,140	3,334,008	3,189,894	2,886,370	2,805,335	2,688,611
Surplus ...	...	158,399	95,293	...	...	...
Deficiency debited to Con- solidated Revenue, being burden on Taxpayers ...	62,797	...	...	92,725	288,793	454,862

These figures do not include Sinking Fund, estimated to be £126,000.

[Return No. 16.]

RETURN RELATING TO TRAMWAYS.

—	1925-26.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1922-23.	1921-22.	1920-21.
Capital Cost of Construction and Equipment ...	£ 949,929	£ 932,317	£ 912,089	£ 850,965	£ 779,081	£ 654,047
Working Expenses ...	234,332	229,362	225,678	207,542	202,996	198,264
Interest Charges ...	45,155	44,835	42,843	40,419	35,524	29,767
Total Annual Cost ...	279,487	274,197	268,521	247,961	238,520	228,031
Gross Revenue ...	287,774	282,418	276,402	263,668	248,924	225,000
Surplus ...	8,287	8,221	6,881	15,707	10,404	...
Deficiency ...	...	...	...	...	...	3,031

These figures do not include Sinking Fund, £2,498, nor payments to Local Authorities £8,100.

[Return No. 17.]

RETURN RELATING TO ELECTRICITY.

—	1925-26.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1922-23.	1921-22.	1920-21.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Capital Cost of Construction and Equipment ...	880,042	864,128	800,227	754,921	530,997	456,274
Working Expenses ...	147,934	136,731	116,154	91,557	95,784	83,088
Interest Charges ...	41,540	40,039	37,261	26,475	24,684	20,644
Total Annual Cost ...	189,474	176,770	153,415	118,032	120,468	103,732
Gross Revenue ...	205,073	186,867	162,796	128,937	119,120	95,350
Surplus ...	15,599	10,097	9,381	10,905	...	...
Deficiency ...	...	...	...	...	1,348	8,382

These figures do not include Sinking Fund, £2,387

[Return No. 18.]

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

—	1925-26.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1922-23.	1921-22.	1920-21.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Capital Cost of Construction and Equipment ...	3,796,396	3,313,032	2,777,060	2,426,376	2,277,802	2,182,403
Working Expenses* ...	134,286	124,756	123,302	114,678	113,550	111,276
Interest Charges ...	113,665	104,389	96,093	81,638	74,504	67,167
Sinking Fund ...	21,855	20,205	18,004	16,222	15,167	14,052
Total Annual Cost ...	269,806	249,350	237,399	212,538	203,221	192,495
Gross Revenue ...	250,729	236,386	221,867	204,935	194,145	181,376
Deficiency ...	19,077	12,964	15,532	7,603	9,076	11,119

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

[Return No. 19.]

RETURN RELATING TO GOLDFIELDS WATER SUPPLY.

	1925-26.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1922-23.	1921-22.	1920-21
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Capital Cost of Construction and Equipment	3,250,085	3,154,727	3,099,816	3,056,926	3,044,178	3,039,232
Working Expenses <i>a</i>	128,858	131,457	132,450	131,381	132,502	130,898
Interest Charges	79,893	75,579	74,211	79,223	86,448	99,098
Sinking Fund	8,698	7,356	6,459	6,050	43,448	80,645
Total Annual Cost	217,449	214,392	213,120	216,663	262,398	310,641
Gross Revenue	180,942	171,850	170,748	182,109	187,122	195,975
Deficiency	36,507	42,542	42,372	34,554	75,276	114,666

a Includes interest on Debenture Capital.

[Return No. 20.]

RETURN RELATING TO OTHER HYDRAULIC UNDERTAKINGS.

	1925-26.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1922-23.	1921-22.	1920-21
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Capital Cost of Construction and Equipment	406,191	400,350	394,745	397,984	295,837	231,500
Working Expenses	30,385	27,949	27,844	29,388	31,456	42,321
Interest Charges	18,725	20,951	20,401	19,248	12,509	10,027
Sinking Fund	5,807	7,951	7,822	7,805	5,508	5,055
Total Annual Cost	54,917	56,851	56,067	56,441	49,473	57,403
Gross Revenue	37,848	33,726	32,220	29,589	24,888	25,003
Deficiency	17,069	23,125	23,847	26,852	24,585	32,400

[Return No. 21.]

RETURN RELATIVE TO OTHER UTILITIES FOR 1925-26.

Utilities.	Capital Cost, etc.	Working Expenses.	Interest Charges.	Total Annual Cost.	Gross Revenue	Surplus.	Deficiency.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fremantle Harbour Trust ...	2,279,352	...	90,013	90,013	225,183	135,170	...
Bunbury Harbour Board ...	470,683	...	20,880	20,880	20,100	...	780
State Batteries ...	404,804	29,215	14,169	43,384	27,336	...	16,048
Aborigines Station ...	23,040	6,282	979	7,211	2,375	...	4,836
Albany Cold Stores ...	20,915	207	937	1,144	...	...	1,144
Govt. Refrigerating Works ...	...	5,556	500	6,056	3,721	...	2,335
Perth City Markets ...	51,849	832	1,000	1,832	1,505	...	327
Metropolitan Abattoirs ...	69,384	22,067	4,510	26,577	45,796	19,210	...
Kalgoorlie Abattoirs ...	15,549	2,518	710	3,228	3,172	...	56
Butter Factories ...	8,190	14,673	484	15,157	15,224	67	...
Tourist Resorts ...	22,790	14,379	1,013	15,392	16,190	798	...
Total ...	3,868,556	95,679	135,195	230,874	360,602	155,254	25,526
Estimated Sinking Fund ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30,500
NET SURPLUS ...	...	...	...	...	...	£99,228	...

[Return No. 22.]

ESTIMATED CASH POSITION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES FOR YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1927.

Items.	Estimated 1926-27.		Balance.	
	Receipts.	Payments.	Deficiency.	Surplus.
	£	£	£	£
Bunbury Harbour Board ...	22,000	...	...	22,000
Fremantle Harbour Trust ...	235,000	...	...	235,000
State Batteries ...	25,125	29,424	4,299	...
Aborigines Cattle Station ...	3,500	8,885	5,385	...
Government Refrigerating Works ...	3,670	5,854	2,184	...
Butter Factories ...	19,000	18,865	...	135
Kalgoorlie Abattoirs ...	3,250	2,455	...	795
Metropolitan Abattoirs ...	45,486	27,498	...	17,988
Perth City Markets ...	1,450	916	...	534
Metropolitan Water Supply ...	291,000	141,484	...	149,516
Goldfields Water Supply ...	176,000	127,733	...	48,267
Other Hydraulic Undertakings ...	41,000	26,735	...	14,265
Railways ...	3,650,000	2,730,000	...	920,000
Tramways ...	295,000	238,000	...	57,000
Electricity Supply ...	226,000	159,000	...	67,000
Cave House, etc. ...	16,200	14,416	...	1,784
Albany Cold Stores ...	...	210	210	...
	5,053,681	3,531,475	12,078	1,534,284
NET SURPLUS ...	...	...	£1,522,206	

STATEMENT SHOWING TONNAGE AND EARNINGS ON GOODS CARRIED.

Class of Goods.	1921-1922.		1922-1923.		1923-1924.		1924-1925.		1925-1926.	
	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.
Coal, Coke, and Charcoal ...	246,227	9.97	214,274	8.46	199,761	6.82	212,940	6.69	209,929	6.69
Oras and other Minerals ...	322,743	13.06	404,745	15.97	504,245	17.23	560,951	17.04	523,862	16.69
Wool ...	19,528	0.79	16,184	.64	15,866	.54	15,242	.48	16,941	.54
Hay, Straw, and Chaff ...	99,462	4.03	111,500	4.40	116,102	3.97	113,533	3.57	100,113	3.19
Wheat ...	307,637	14.88	323,399	12.76	458,381	15.66	567,419	17.85	499,066	15.90
Other Grain and Flour ...	132,866	5.38	134,283	5.30	162,531	5.55	159,945	5.03	175,277	5.58
Firewood ...	464,781	18.82	439,805	17.36	455,345	15.55	422,293	13.28	441,826	14.08
Local Timber ...	443,396	17.66	454,138	17.92	549,870	18.78	596,310	18.75	619,037	19.72
Imported Timber ...	2,280	0.09	3,759	.15	5,052	.17	4,835	.15	4,135	.13
Fruit and Garden Produce ...	54,007	2.19	61,936	2.44	59,388	2.03	59,362	1.87	55,977	1.78
Fertilisers ...	96,081	3.89	112,320	4.43	123,119	4.21	147,481	4.64	170,834	5.44
All other goods ...	220,747	8.94	257,754	10.17	277,852	9.49	319,438	10.05	322,022	10.26
Total ...	2,469,753	100.00	2,534,113	100.00	2,927,512	100.00	3,179,749	100.00	3,139,019	100.00

Class of Goods.	1921-1922.		1922-1923.		1923-1924.		1924-1925.		1925-1926.	
	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.
Coal, Coke, and Charcoal ...	£ 128,896	8.10	£ 114,750	7.02	£ 104,891	5.49	£ 108,142	5.23	£ 112,289	5.54
Oras and other Minerals ...	87,891	5.67	99,293	6.08	118,084	6.18	125,447	6.07	129,765	5.98
Wool ...	47,884	3.03	48,561	2.97	53,220	2.79	50,274	2.43	58,801	2.89
Hay, Straw, and Chaff ...	70,615	4.40	79,543	4.87	88,865	4.39	85,261	4.13	78,045	3.60
Wheat ...	222,284	14.13	188,911	11.56	283,708	14.86	349,253	16.90	302,045	14.95
Other Grain and Flour ...	77,419	4.92	75,739	4.64	90,679	4.74	91,811	4.45	96,865	4.78
Firewood ...	50,553	3.21	51,070	3.13	51,146	2.68	44,146	2.13	44,075	2.17
Local Timber ...	209,587	19.04	311,948	19.10	384,711	20.14	404,200	19.56	416,839	20.55
Imported Timber ...	1,735	0.12	2,913	.18	3,402	.18	3,322	.16	2,764	.14
Fruit and Garden Produce ...	64,031	4.07	74,882	4.58	71,510	3.74	71,062	3.44	71,345	3.52
Fertilisers ...	30,405	1.93	34,791	2.18	40,885	2.14	51,123	2.47	57,132	2.82
All other goods ...	492,422	31.80	551,186	33.74	624,028	32.67	682,851	33.03	670,535	33.08
Total ...	1,573,301	100.00	1,633,595	100.00	1,910,128	100.00	2,066,892	100.00	2,027,000	100.00

TRADE, PRODUCTION, POPULATION, Etc.

	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
Railway Revenue ...	£2,382,022	£2,163,790	£2,217,250	£2,004,148	£1,970,333	£2,012,811	£2,463,136	£2,013,611	£2,054,258	£2,150,037	£2,465,207	£2,816,426	£2,604,913
Railway Mileage ...	2,067	3,332	3,332	3,425	3,491	3,530	3,530	3,530	3,530	3,555	3,626	3,733	3,805
Wool exported ...	£907,363	£317,630	£1,273,183	£1,420,291	£535,819	£1,952,141	£3,037,100	£2,388,119	£3,202,145	£3,232,596	£4,237,152	£3,736,300	£3,527,865
*Wheat produced (bushels)	13,331,350	2,624,100	18,236,353	16,103,216	9,303,787	8,845,387	11,222,950	12,248,080	13,004,721	13,857,432	18,020,271	23,887,397	20,471,177
*Hay produced (tons)	278,585	156,932	395,172	236,989	267,103	250,014	370,025	264,244	363,720	457,371	368,122	448,525	355,200
Gold produced ...	£5,478,932	£5,195,732	£4,803,206	£4,361,698	£3,924,107	£3,580,650	£2,037,932	£2,425,852	£2,385,763	£2,204,257	£2,186,503	£1,391,310	£1,890,141
Timber exported ...	£1,142,280	£808,392	£442,014	£310,983	£274,280	£332,080	£405,734	£1,137,223	£1,040,640	£997,454	£1,367,713	£1,477,997	£1,522,058
Coal produced ...	£153,374	£137,575	£140,388	£132,852	£102,248	£210,280	£311,731	£303,424	£404,521	£372,130	£365,567	£371,152	£364,304
Other Minerals (exported)	£215,619	£169,094	£155,213	£189,124	£275,856	£247,091	£218,067	£109,394	£75,534	£143,898	£140,153	£151,896	£118,021
†Number of Sheep ...	4,421,375	4,456,186	4,303,850	5,529,960	6,384,191	7,183,747	6,697,951	6,532,905	6,500,177	6,664,135	6,595,867	6,396,584	6,361,795
†Number of Cattle ...	834,265	863,835	821,048	863,930	927,086	943,847	880,644	849,803	893,108	939,596	953,764	891,564	835,911
†Number of Horses ...	156,636	161,025	163,006	169,730	178,151	180,094	174,919	178,664	180,334	181,159	181,944	175,116	170,563
Area of land selected (acres)	908,851	502,551	303,590	235,640	547,583	611,135	1,469,634	1,728,455	1,924,129	1,830,270	1,836,083	1,584,963	2,023,671
Area of land leased (acres)	8,622,488	7,855,984	8,175,594	9,845,516	20,383,357	39,571,708	19,178,124	20,354,785	28,641,868	7,005,220	20,389,232	20,890,952	8,931,282
c Area of land under cultivation	7,320,533	7,548,768	8,056,374	7,822,549	7,587,820	7,582,716	7,325,519	7,533,272	7,704,242	8,305,232	8,806,204	9,090,933	9,648,006
*Area of land under crop (acres)	1,537,923	1,867,547	2,180,456	2,004,944	1,879,772	1,605,988	1,028,163	1,804,080	1,901,680	2,274,993	2,323,070	2,710,856	2,032,392
Tonnage Shipping, Inwards	3,381,304	2,366,855	2,491,537	2,548,339	1,094,000	2,122,439	2,600,040	2,343,470	3,231,392	3,106,116	3,097,386	3,086,226	2,300,000
Tonnage Shipping, Outward	3,875,232	2,794,822	2,492,875	2,557,980	1,102,295	2,111,894	2,659,302	2,825,586	3,231,306	3,087,940	3,101,106	3,657,520	2,275,000
Exports, including Gold ...	£10,416,095	£6,352,140	£8,040,484	£14,683,027	£5,807,335	£10,922,075	£16,063,790	£12,258,639	£13,628,583	£11,105,220	£14,123,289	£14,604,548	£14,581,657
Exports, excluding Gold ...	£5,429,954	£3,062,276	£4,795,057	£5,502,966	£3,607,335	£5,927,471	£12,619,962	£10,440,617	£10,647,324	£8,858,726	£11,796,689	£13,976,719	£13,521,377
Imports ...	£9,727,473	£8,301,280	£8,983,000	£9,385,010	£7,640,233	£8,023,990	£12,368,331	£14,839,241	£12,037,779	£13,777,079	£14,341,145	£16,074,035	£16,529,940
Savings Bank's Deposits d	£4,551,872	£3,743,135	£3,640,374	£3,523,851	£3,606,075	£4,415,732	£6,045,930	£8,142,756	£5,276,218	£5,321,610	£5,696,912	£5,796,113	£6,312,143
Savings Bank's Withdrawals d	£4,600,884	£3,878,864	£3,828,187	£3,471,959	£3,540,293	£4,128,161	£5,936,575	£6,223,806	£5,571,380	£5,380,578	£5,004,923	£5,940,585	£6,061,332
Excess of Arrivals over Departures	3,711	b 8,002	b 14,116	b 12,063	b 2,754	7,488	6,795	b 1,077	1,557	3,132	7,374	2,749	2,368
Population ...	323,206	321,440	313,048	306,297	308,232	319,636	330,172	333,644	340,059	349,119	360,352	368,027	375,476

* Season ended 28th February.
Arrivals.

† Year ended 31st December.
c Area cropped, cleared, fallowed, ringbarked, etc.

‡ Including Perth Tramways.
d Not including School Savings Bank.

e Preliminary figures, liable to revision.
f Exclusive of premium realised on export sales.

g Excess of Departures over