

men for the work hitherto done by the volunteers. Thus the cost of administration in such businesses will be increased. That is a weakness I see in the measure, since prices are to continue to be what they were on the 31st August. Such a price fixing proposal is not practicable. It cannot be carried out if justice is to be done to firms who are desirous of doing justice by employees who have enlisted.

The Chief Secretary: The Bill does not deal with that aspect.

Hon. A. THOMSON: I know that. However, that is what has been stated. We find a Federal Minister declaring that firms who do not pay will be blacklisted. I am merely dealing with a phase of the situation to which attention has been drawn by Mr. Seddon and also by Mr. Cornell. Let me point out also that to many men an idea is being conveyed that the making-up of the difference in rates of pay will apply not only to the training period, but also during active service. That will not be possible for many firms. Certainly there are branches of industry in which it is out of the question to continue to pay employees who are playing their part in the war. If that financial responsibility has to be faced, it should be faced by the country, by the taxpayers as a whole. We know that we must encounter increased taxation in every direction.

I do hope the administration of this measure will be such as to cause the minimum of friction and the maximum of possible satisfaction. I have every confidence in the agent appointed by the Commonwealth. He has proved himself most capable in the various positions he has held. But one of the greatest tasks ever placed on his shoulders is that of administering this measure with justice to the whole of Australia. It is a highly difficult task. It will be quite easy for the Commonwealth agent to arrange prices in the metropolitan area, but let us take him along the Great Southern. Railway freights increase as distance from Perth increases. It would be utterly unfair to say that prices fixed in the metropolitan area should also rule in country districts. The Chief Secretary no doubt will reply that that aspect will receive consideration. The Minister has said it is ridiculous to suppose that one man will deal with the whole matter. I consider there should be a board.

Hon. J. A. Dimmitt: And a competent board, too.

Hon. A. THOMSON: The matter is one that will affect the financial stability of many of our taxpayers. However, as I indicated in my opening remarks, the emergency upon us is a most pressing one of war conditions, and that emergency enables the Government to pass through this House a measure resembling that which last session was turned down by an overwhelming majority. Though I opposed that measure, I support the second reading of this Bill hoping that it will be possible to mould the legislation in as satisfactory a manner as possible, recognising that all sections of the community will have to make great sacrifices to meet the position confronting us.

On motion by the Chief Secretary, debate adjourned.

House adjourned at 9.23 p.m.

Legislative Assembly,

Thursday, 28th September, 1939.

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

QUESTION—GOVERNMENT HOUSE DOMAIN.

As to Erection of Public Buildings.

Hon. C. G. LATHAM asked the Premier: 1, Is it a fact that preliminary work in connection with the erection of public build-

ings on portion of the Government House domain has been undertaken? 2, Does the Government realise that this is contrary to the expressed desire of Parliament?

The PREMIER replied: 1 and 2, No. Permission has been obtained from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor for surplus sand from the excavations at the new Perth Hospital Site to be deposited on portions of Government House domain which require filling. This work will be of value in connection with the public buildings if they are proceeded with. A Bill will be introduced to give Parliament the opportunity to consider further the question of public buildings.

BILLS (5)—FIRST READING.

- 1, Land Tax and Income Tax.
 - 2, Financial Emergency Tax.
 - 3, Financial Emergency Tax Assessment Act Amendment.
 - 4, Death Duties (Taxing) Act Amendment.
 - 5, Administration Act Amendment.
- Introduced by the Premier.

BILL—RAILWAY LEVEL CROSSINGS.

Read a third time, and transmitted to the Council.

BILL—INCREASE OF RENT (WAR RESTRICTIONS).

In Committee.

Resumed from the 26th September. Mr. Marshall in the Chair; the Minister for Labour in charge of the Bill.

Postponed Clause 5—Fair rent for land first leased after 31st August, 1939—

The CHAIRMAN: The Leader of the Opposition has on the Notice Paper an amendment to this postponed clause.

Hon. C. G. LATHAM: I move an amendment—

That subclause 1 be struck out with a view to inserting another subclause.

I am glad that progress was reported on Tuesday last, because I find that paragraph (b) (i) of the amendment I have on the Notice Paper is a duplication of amended Subclause 2 of Clause 4 dealt with the other

evening. In moving my amendment, therefore, I shall omit that paragraph and re-number the remaining paragraphs.

Amendment put and passed.

Hon. C. G. LATHAM: I move an amendment—

That a new subclause be inserted, in lieu of the subclause struck out, as follows:—

“(1) (a) In the case of—

(i) land which is first leased after the said thirty-first day of August, one thousand nine hundred and thirty-nine;

(ii) a lease of the premises of any shop, dwelling-house, lodging-house or boarding establishment situated at any recognised holiday resort;

(iii) a lease of any farm, grazing area, orchard, market garden or dairy farm which, prior to the said thirty-first day of August, one thousand nine hundred and thirty-nine, was leased at a nominal or caretaking rent;

the rent to be charged and payable under a lease of such land or premises shall be a fair rent to be determined as hereinafter provided.

(b) (i) Where any premises are first leased after the thirty-first day of August, one thousand nine hundred and thirty-nine, no bonus, fine, premium or other like sum in addition to the rent shall be charged unless upon application to the court as hereinafter provided an order is made determining the amount, if any, which may be charged as a bonus, fine, premium or other like charge.

(ii) For the purpose of this paragraph ‘bonus, fine, premium or other like charge’ shall be deemed to be ‘fair rent’ within the meaning of this Act and the whole of the provisions of this Act with respect to fair rent shall, *mutatis mutandis*, apply to applications for the right to charge a bonus, fine, premium or other like charge.”

The effect of my amendment will be to enable arrangements regarding rentals to be made between landlord and lessee. The Government has given consideration to the amendment, which represents a compromise.

The MINISTER FOR LABOUR: The deleted subclause provided that a magistrate could deal with rentals respecting properties first leased after the 31st August last. The object of the proposed new subclause is to go further and provide that other leased premises, in addition to those originally contemplated, may be dealt with in like manner. Regarding the inclusion of premises at holiday resorts, the 31st August falls almost in midwinter when rentals at seaside and other resorts are much lower than in summer during which such premises are in greater demand. The amendment is fair, enabling rentals of premises

at holiday resorts to be reviewed on the basis of summer returns. The amendment also proposes to give the owner of any farm, grazing area, orchard, market garden or dairy farm which was leased at a nominal or care-taking rent prior to the 31st August last an opportunity to secure a review of the rental charged for his property. The amendment, which embodies other consequential alterations, is desirable, and I support it.

Mr. McDONALD: I desire to move an amendment to the amendment, which will affect sub-paragraph (i) of paragraph (a) of the proposed new subclause. The sub-paragraph refers to land first leased after the 31st August last, and I shall move to add the words "and in respect of which either the lessor or the lessee shall within one month from the date of the first lease thereof make an application for the determination of a fair rent." The Bill as introduced and the amendment proposed by the Leader of the Opposition provide that in respect of any land on which there is a shop or other building that was first leased after the 31st August last, the parties concerned must approach the court to have a fair rental fixed. As a result of representations made to me, I propose to suggest to the Committee an amendment the effect of which will be that where the landlord and the tenant are in agreement that the rental is fair, they need not approach the court. A landlord may build a house and, seeing that there may be a shortage of accommodation, may decide upon a rent unreasonably high. A tenant, possibly pressed to secure a home, may rent the house at the figure determined by the landlord, in which circumstances the former would be forever debarred from securing relief. I therefore prepared an amendment, the effect of which would be, that should either the lessor or the lessee decide within one month that the rental was inadequate or excessive, he could approach the court for a determination of the fair rental. The effect of my amendment will be to eliminate references to the court where both parties are satisfied that the rental is fair. If my amendment is not agreed to, in the case of a new building leased after the 31st August, even though the parties are thoroughly satisfied as to the fairness of the rental, they will be compelled to secure the court's determination of a fair rent. Perhaps the

period I have mentioned may be regarded as too short: but if parties are in agreement, there will be no necessity to approach the court.

The MINISTER FOR LABOUR: I have no objection to the principle underlying the amendment, but the period of one month is too short. I would not consider six months unduly long. If the member for West Perth will extend the period accordingly, I shall support his amendment.

Mr. McDONALD: I am willing to extend the period, but I consider six months too long. Three months should be sufficient to enable a tenant to reach a decision regarding the fairness of the rental. I do not wish the parties concerned to remain in any uncertainty regarding the position. If the Minister will indicate his agreement to a period of three months, I shall move accordingly.

The Minister for Labour: I will accept that.

Mr. McDONALD: Then I will move accordingly. I move—

That the amendment be amended by adding to subparagraph (i) of paragraph (a) of Subclause (1) the following words:—"and in respect of which either the lessor or the lessee shall within three months from the date of the first lease thereof make an application for the determination of a fair rent."

The MINISTER FOR LABOUR: Three months will be reasonably fair to all concerned.

Amendment on amendment put and passed.

Mr. McDONALD: I move—

That the amendment be amended by inserting the following paragraph:—

(iv) The existence of special circumstances which in the opinion of the Court make it just and reasonable that the rent shall be in excess of the standard rent.

The amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition and agreed to by the Minister provides that certain people whose rents were artificially, or through some extraordinary circumstance, very low on the 31st August will not be compelled for the whole duration of the war to accept a rent far below the value of the premises. Premises in respect of which a landlord or tenant may approach the court for the determination of a fair rent are those at a recognised holiday resort, or premises such as farms and orchards that are let at a nominal rent. I suggest that the cases mentioned in the

amendment do not cover all that might arise. For instance, I was told a day or two ago that owing to drought conditions in the North-West, the rents at seaside towns had been greatly reduced. I have been informed on excellent authority that a shop at one North-West port—Carnarvon—is normally let at £13 a month but that the rent has been reduced to £6 per month. If, however, seasons are again reasonably good, and increased prices for wool are obtained, North-West areas will probably again become prosperous, in which case £6 a month would be an inadequate rent. That is a case not covered by the Bill. In spite of a suggestion to the contrary, I have come to the conclusion that Carnarvon is not a recognised seaside resort. In numerous cases, if a rent were fixed for the duration of the war at the figure obtaining at the 31st August last, the landlord would suffer serious injustice or hardship. The effect of my amendment is that when a landlord can prove himself affected by special circumstances, he may have his case referred to the court for the determination of a fair rent. A similar principle is contained in the Reduction of Rents Act of 1935.

THE MINISTER FOR LABOUR: The member for West Perth has not provided sufficient justification for the Committee to approve of his amendment. He instanced the position that would arise at Carnarvon, where someone has a shop let at a reduced rent during depressed conditions resulting from bad seasons in the Gascoyne area. He said that the shop would normally be let at double the rent in the event of a return of good seasons. Carnarvon may or may not be regarded as a recognised holiday resort. I suppose that by some people it is so regarded, and probably it would be so regarded for the purposes of this legislation. But I cannot conceive of numerous instances arising to justify acceptance of this amendment. The amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition makes provision for the principal cases that might require consideration by the court. I admit that if there is a likelihood of any number of special cases occurring for which we have not already provided, we should seek to cater for them. If the rentals of numerous properties are likely to increase in future, the owners should have the right to approach a magistrate and submit a case, leaving it to his discretion to say whether or not increases

should be allowed. I suggest that the member for West Perth should provide us with further examples.

MR. McDONALD: My amendment does not allow a landlord himself to put up the rent to what it was previously, or to increase it to an amount in excess of what was being paid on the 31st August. All it does is to enable him to approach the court to fix what is considered to be a fair rent, if he can show that owing to special circumstances the rent on the 31st August was particularly low and did not represent the fair value of the premises. The amendment would give no arbitrary power to the landlord. The magistrate would consider the special circumstances and determine whether or not the rent should be increased. It is not always easy to mention offhand all the special circumstances that might arise. One instance, however, is the familiar one of a landlord giving a lease for five years. The tenant is establishing a business, and the parties agree that the rent in the first year shall be £50, increasing by £10 each year. The idea is to keep the rent low while the business is being established, and raise it to compensate the landlord during the latter part of the lease. If a lease, on the 31st August, was in its first year, the effect of the measure would be to compel the landlord to accept the minimum rental over the whole period. Further, rural properties are often let at a nominal or care-taking rent, or an owner might offer a friend 10s. a week to look after a house, worth perhaps £2 a week, during his absence. If the owner, subsequently, through difficult financial circumstances, desired to let the house at a normal rental, he would be compelled to accept the nominal rental that was being paid on the 31st August by the relative or friend acting in the capacity of caretaker. Experience will reveal other special circumstances making it reasonable for the court, not the landlord, to adjudicate on the rent that should be paid.

THE MINISTER FOR LABOUR: The hon. member proposes to give a landlord the right to go to the court.

MR. McDONALD: Or a tenant.

THE MINISTER FOR LABOUR: A tenant would not approach the court for an increase of rent. The amendment is a one-way proposal, aiming to give the landlord a right to approach the court for an increase of rent. If the landlord has that right,

the tenant should, in special circumstances, be entitled to request a decrease. If the hon. member will make it a two-way amendment, he will have my support.

Mr. McDONALD: I am quite agreeable to the Minister's proposal. I wish to ensure that there shall be no hardship on the landlord, and I am equally desirous that there shall be no hardship on the tenant. I ask leave to alter my amendment by inserting after the word "of" the words "or less than."

Leave granted.

Amendment (as altered) on amendment put and passed.

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

New clause—

Mr. McDONALD: I move—

That the following be inserted to stand as Clause 7:—

(1) Where the value of the land exceeds two thousand pounds any party to an application to the court under section five of this Act may within the prescribed time appeal to a judge of the Supreme Court against any determination of a fair rent made by such court.

(2) On the hearing of the appeal the judge may confirm or vary the determination appealed from.

(3) The decision of the judge shall be final.

(4) Rules of the court may be made for regulating the practice and procedure to be observed in proceedings under this section.

The new clause will allow of an appeal from a magistrate's decision where the value of the property exceeds £2,000, and on appeal the judge may confirm the determination of the magistrate or vary the order. The right of appeal will lie equally with tenants. If a tenant considers that the court has fixed the fair rent at too high a figure, he will have the right of appeal from the magistrate's determination. Once a judge has determined the matter, no further appeal will be allowed, and by another provision in the Bill no costs will be payable to either party. Premises may be involved where the capital value is high and the rental value correspondingly high. Ordinarily, we give the right of appeal when the judgment of the local court exceeds £20, and that appeal may be taken without obtaining the leave of a superior court. Under this measure a magistrate might be dealing with transactions involving large sums of money and might arrive at an erroneous conclusion. Therefore it is not unreasonable to safeguard both

parties by giving the right to appeal. The new clause would apply only to tenants paying at least £120 a year by way of rent.

The MINISTER FOR LABOUR: I have discussed this question with the Premier and we consider that the right of appeal is warranted where the value of the premises exceeds £2,000. I support the new clause.

New clause put and passed.

New clause—

Mr. WATTS: I move—

That the following be inserted to stand as Clause 11:—

Nothing in this Act shall apply to any dwelling-house ordinarily leased for summer residence at any seaside holiday resort.

For the purposes of this section "dwelling-house" means any land on which there are premises leased substantially for residence and the appurtenances to such premises.

In moving the amendment one can only argue from the particular to the general. Therefore I shall instance the one case I know of—the seaside resort of Middleton Beach, Albany. A number of dwellings owned by my constituents were vacant on the 31st August, and therefore cannot have a standard rent. They will probably be occupied by their owners for four to six weeks in December and January, and then let to various tenants for the other few weeks of the summer months. The new clause has been drawn in such a way as to apply only to houses like those referred to, the owners of which should not be required to go to the court for an order that would be difficult to obtain in the absence of a standard rental to work on. Similar conditions apply at Rottnest, Safety Bay and other resorts. Last year the Minister for Justice excluded any dwelling-house ordinarily leased for summer residence. There is also the definition of "dwelling-house"—

"Dwelling-house" means any premises leased substantially for residence and any land or appurtenances leased with such premises.

I make the point to show the Minister that my intention is to limit the matter strictly to the type of premises I have mentioned. Numerous cases exist at the places I have named, and no doubt there are other cases as well. They do require some specific treatment in this measure, for it would be ridiculous to compel owners of premises of that kind to apply to a magistrate for

fixation of a reasonable rent. During the greater part of the year there would be no rent at all from such premises.

The MINISTER FOR LABOUR: There are two fatal objections to the proposed clause. The first is that it would conflict with the amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition which has already been accepted by the Committee, providing that premises in holiday resorts shall be subject to fixation of rent by the local court. The new clause of the member for Katanning proposes that nothing in the measure shall apply to any such premises.

Mr. Watts: Seaside places are different from holiday resorts.

The MINISTER FOR LABOUR: In this case I consider the greater term includes the lesser. A more fatal objection is that it would be unwise to exclude any land or premises from the Bill. The Bill proposes to restrict increases in rent during war-time. If we begin to exclude any property or premises from the Bill, we set up a great temptation for those elsewhere who may be so inclined to launch an avalanche of amendments for the exclusion of various types of premises, with the result that we shall receive the measure back from another place in a form nothing less than useless. I strongly oppose the new clause.

Mr. WATTS: With reference to the Minister's "more fatal objection," though I do not understand how one thing can be more fatal than another, the hon. gentleman presumably means that the rental of the premises to which my clause refers shall be nothing throughout the year, because that is their present rental.

The Minister for Labour: The owners can go to a magistrate.

Mr. WATTS: Go to the magistrate for the purpose of a rent ruling during the summer holidays? Last session's Fair Rents Bill excluded "any dwelling-house ordinarily leased for summer residence." There is no demand for these places during the rest of the year. The owners should not be called upon to incur the expense and trouble of appealing to a court. The premises in question are frequently let merely to pay rates and taxes on the land. It seems to me absurd to suggest that unfair advantage may be taken of my amendment.

The MINISTER FOR LABOUR: I agree with the member for Katanning that it is

impossible to find one objection more fatal than another objection, but I still resist his new clause.

New clause put and negatived.

Title—agreed to.

Bill reported with amendments.

Recommittal.

On motion by the Minister for Labour, Bill recommitted for the purpose of further considering Clause 2.

In Committee.

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

Clause 2—Definitions:

The MINISTER FOR LABOUR: Since the Bill was introduced certain amendments have been made, and one of these necessitates a consequential addition to the definition of "standard rent." I move an amendment—

That the following words be added to the definition of "standard rent":—"and shall include any bonus, fine, premium or other like sum paid or to be paid under the terms of the lease."

This will bring the definition of "standard rent" into line with an amendment made in the Bill to provide for bonuses, fines, premiums and so forth to be taken into consideration in fixing the rent.

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

Bill again reported with a further amendment and the reports adopted.

BILL—WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT AMENDMENT.

Second Reading.

THE MINISTER FOR LABOUR (Hon. A. R. G. Hawke—Northam) [5.26] in moving the second reading said: The Workers' Compensation Act, in Section 10, provides for compulsory insurance by employers of employees against accident. Penalties are included in the Act for failure on the part of any employer to cover his employees accordingly. The Act, however, contains nothing which enables the compulsory provisions to be policed and effectively enforced. Prior to last year the difficulty in enforcing those provisions was the fact that no insurance offices in Western Australia had been approved under the Workers' Compensation

Act. No insurance company had been approved because Parliament had consistently refused to legalise the State Insurance Office. Ministers of Governments of varying political complexions over the years have refused to approve private offices because it was not also possible to approve of the State Insurance Office. Members will recall that last session Parliament did agree to legalise the existence of the State Insurance Office. Subsequently every private insurance company that applied to the Minister for approval to do business under the Workers' Compensation Act was given the necessary approval.

During the last nine months the position has been that we have had operating in Western Australia some 30 private insurance companies approved to do workers' compensation business, and have also had the State Insurance Office operating legally and approved to do that class of business. The Bill aims to achieve a position wherein it will be possible to enforce legally the compulsory provisions of the parent Act. The Bill provides that any person authorised in writing by the Minister may make such examination and inquiry as may be necessary to ascertain whether an employer has in fact carried out the compulsory provisions of the Workers' Compensation Act by taking out the necessary insurance cover in connection with the employees under his control. Further, it provides that any person so appointed may at any reasonable time enter the premises of an employer where he has reason to believe that persons are being employed without being covered under the Workers' Compensation Act. A person so appointed will have power to require the production of pay sheets and time and wages books, and documents of that description. The measure likewise proposes to give the person so appointed other powers which are necessary if that person is to carry out effectively the duties which the Bill, if passed into law, will place upon him. The Bill also gives power to call upon the approved insurance companies to supply annually a detailed statement of workers' compensation insurance business transacted by them. The Bill will give the measure of power necessary to enable the compulsory provisions of the Act to be effectively enforced. If we reach that position we will ensure that every worker in industry is insured against accident by a policy taken out by his employer. At present and for

many years past, some employers have failed to insure their workers against accidents. Men have been engaged in industry without having been insured and their employers' financial position was not strong enough to justify the taking of legal action, even if the worker were in a position to do so. I commend the Bill to the House because it is necessary and will inflict no hardship upon any employer and no hardship or expense upon any insurance company and, best of all, will ensure that an increasing number of workers will be covered by insurance and so be enabled to secure the benefits of the Workers' Compensation Act should they be so unfortunate as to meet with an accident in the course of their employment. I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

On the motion by Mr. Watts, debate adjourned.

BILL—METROPOLITAN MILK ACT AMENDMENT.

Returned from the Council without amendment.

BILL—STATE GOVERNMENT INSURANCE OFFICE ACT AMENDMENT.

Second Reading.

THE MINISTER FOR LABOUR (Hon. A. R. G. Hawke—Northam) [5.33] in moving the second reading said: The Minister for Works recently introduced a Bill to amend the Traffic Act, and that Bill is still before the House. It aims at making compulsory third-party insurance by owners of motor cars. This Bill amends Section 2 of the State Government Insurance Act, 1938, and is complementary to the Bill introduced by the Minister for Works.

Hon. C. G. Latham: You had better wait until that measure is passed.

THE MINISTER FOR LABOUR: It is desired that both Bills should be in the hands of members at the same time, so that consideration may be given to both. It will be necessary to await the decision of the House on the Traffic Act Amendment Bill before members can give further consideration to this Bill. In the opinion of the Government, the State should give the motor car owners the opportunity, if they so desire,

to effect third-party insurance with the State Insurance Office, as it is proposed to make such insurance compulsory.

Mr. Sampson: This is already a highly competitive branch of the insurance business.

The MINISTER FOR LABOUR: It may or may not be. It probably is highly profitable. In any event, that is not the important factor for consideration. The important factor to be kept in mind when considering the measure is that, if insurance against third-party risk is made compulsory, then the State Insurance Office should be given the opportunity to effect that class of insurance. The Government does not propose to give the State office a monopoly of this business. The State office will compete on an equal basis with all the other insurance companies engaged in the business.

Mr. Sampson: It is a service already efficiently provided for.

The MINISTER FOR LABOUR: That may be so, but if third-party insurance is made compulsory, this class of business will increase many hundredfold. As I have said, it is only reasonable that the State office should be allowed to enter the business. If it can provide a lower rate of premium than the private companies can, that will be to the advantage of all concerned. Parliament should not hesitate to give the State office the right to transact this business if Parliament decides to make third-party insurance compulsory. I hope the House will unanimously approve of the Bill. I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

On motion by Mr. Watts, debate adjourned.

ANNUAL ESTIMATES, 1939-40.

Message.

Message from the Lieut.-Governor received and read transmitting the Annual Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the financial year 1939-40, and recommending appropriation.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 1939-40.

In Committee of Supply.

The House resolved into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Revenue

and Expenditure for the year ending the 30th June, 1940, Mr. Withers in the Chair.

THE PREMIER AND TREASURER

(Hon. J. C. Willcock—Geraldton) [5.41'. It is again my privilege to submit for the information of members a review of the financial transactions of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the past financial year and an estimate of the revenue and expenditure for the current financial year. To forecast with any degree of accuracy the probable revenue and expenditure of the State is no easy task under normal conditions; but to try to do so when the outlook is overcast by the cloud of a European war—the extent and duration of which no one can foretell—seems almost like attempting the impossible. At this stage no one knows what the future holds in store, and it is quite possible that the experiences of the last war will prove no guide to the trend of future events. The economic position of Australia was vastly different in 1914 from what it is in 1939. In 1914 this State, in common with the other States, suffered a far-reaching and disastrous drought that seriously curtailed our wheat production, so much so that we had to import wheat during the following year. Members representing agricultural constituencies will recall that disastrous period, during which seed wheat was practically unobtainable. They will recollect that a hotchpot of seed was used; the mixture was known as "Happy Jack." It was given that name because the then Premier was known by it. I remember seeing a field which had been sown with that seed mixture. Some of the wheat was three inches high, and some 2ft. or 3ft. high. The seed affected the production of the following year.

Comparison With Previous War Period.

Comparing the first year of the last war with the present year, our industries were not then so diversified as they are now. We were then almost entirely dependent upon a few principal lines. In the matter of manufactures, Australia was still importing heavily from overseas, and as a nation we were very far indeed from being self-sufficient. To-day we have ample stocks of wheat; and apart from a few commodities, notably petrol and oil.

Australia is almost self-supplied. We can view the future from the aspect of the disturbance of supplies from overseas with much more complacency than we could in 1914; and if we have to rely solely on the production of our Australian factories, we shall enjoy an economic life with some inconveniences but nearly as satisfying as that which we would enjoy under normal circumstances. We do not know the nature of the contribution we shall be called upon to make in this struggle, but at present it seems certain that for some time at least we shall be particularly active in the production of the commodities which we ordinarily produce.

Premiers' Conference.

On my return from the recent Premiers' Conference in Canberra, I outlined the Commonwealth Government's intentions for the control and sale of the chief primary products. I am sure that the farmers will receive reasonable prices for their commodities, and, provided shipping space is available—and the outlook in this respect is improving almost daily—we need have no fear that we shall be unable to dispose of a considerable proportion of our production. The economic position is therefore brighter in prospect than it would have been but for the war, and it is probable that many of the problems confronting us will disappear.

These Estimates have been prepared in the anticipation that conditions will be better for the primary producer than they were last year, and I think we can reasonably say that is not a vain hope. Following the usual custom, I shall not attempt to give a detailed explanation of the working of the various departments: that will be done by the Ministers introducing their Estimates, when hon. members may obtain further information, if desired. I shall paint the picture in broad outline, and strive to give a comprehensive view of our position.

Estimates and Results.

The year which has just closed has been a difficult one, not only for this State Government but for most of the Australian State Governments. This is only too strikingly revealed by a comparison of the estimated budgetary position of the States and

the actual results as shown by the following figures:—

	Budget Estimates.		Actual Results.	
	Surplus.	Deficit.	Surplus.	Deficit.
	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	7,785	....	....	2,748,309
Victoria	12,260	....	....	787,241
Queensland	....	215,774	14,046	....
South Australia	....	227,189	....	307,324
Western Australia	....	73,346	....	229,442
Tasmania	2,795	....	....	25,984

It is significant that the four wheat-producing States show the most unfavourable budgetary results. Victoria was, of course, badly affected by a drought, and, to a lesser extent, so was New South Wales, while in this State we continued to feel the effect of drought conditions in part of the wheat-growing districts and in most of the pastoral areas. Fortunately, with the exception of the Gascoyne, most of the badly drought-stricken areas have since had the benefit of copious rains, which should ensure good seasonal conditions. Our primary producers have been dogged by the misfortunes of bad seasons and low prices. During the past ten years, when seasonal conditions were good, prices were low; and in the two years in which remunerative prices were ruling, many of our wheat farmers were experiencing the worst drought in the State's history, or at any rate since 1914. I remember that Mr. Troy, our former Minister for Lands, said that the year 1935 was perhaps the worst since 1914; but thanks to generally improved farming conditions we were enabled to get some results.

Mr. Doney: The year 1935 was not worse than 1914.

Mr. Patrick: The wheat average in 1914 was under two bushels.

The PREMIER: I was talking about the actual rainfall. The improved methods adopted by farmers in 1935 were responsible for a much greater production, even though the rainfall was light. The two worst years we experienced during the past decade were those in which prices were better. I do not propose in this speech to deal with the wheat problem beyond expressing my confidence that the coming season should result in better times for the grower. My point in referring to the position of the wheat farmer is to show the effects of that position on the State's finances. On other occasions I have

emphasised our dependence on the primary industries—gold, wheat, wool and timber. When conditions arise which detrimentally affect any of these main industries, the reactions are quickly reflected in our finances. This was demonstrated last year, when our estimated deficit of £19,000 was increased by the end of the year to £220,000, due to the decline in the income from wheat and wool.

Bad Seasonal Conditions.

New South Wales was badly hit last year; and when it is remembered that in that State a large proportion of the national income comes from large manufacturing industries, and in addition that New South Wales had the benefit of heavy governmental and semi-governmental loan expenditure and Commonwealth Government defence expenditure, we can realise how much more serious were the effects to this State which did not enjoy to the same extent these compensating benefits. It was on this account that on announcing the result of the year's operations I stated that the result could be considered satisfactory. It would be no exaggeration to claim that but for bad seasonal conditions in the pastoral and wheat areas our national income would have been greater by at least £2,000,000. The distribution of that sum among our people would have yielded in Government revenue more than the amount of the deficit, and though expenditure would naturally have been higher, the net effect would have been to keep us within our budget estimate, if indeed not to improve it. We are fortunate that our other primary industries are in good condition. Gold output increased, as did the number of fat lambs. The butter industry is fast reaching the stage when we can meet the whole of the local demand and provide a surplus for export, while in the fruit-growing districts a record crop was produced. Though our financial position was seriously affected last year, we can take some consolation from the knowledge that we were not as badly off as we would have been even a decade ago, when our national economy was not as diversified as it is today. Our efforts must be directed, however, towards a greater diversification and the establishment of more secondary industries, in order that we may not be left open to the effect of those violent fluctuations in the volume of our national

income which are inseparable from an economy based on export of primary produce.

Trade Statistics.

Before dealing with the financial figures of last year, I wish to refer briefly to our trade statistics. The exports for 1938-39 totalled £22,971,000, and the imports £19,394,000, leaving a net visible trade balance of £3,577,000. The corresponding figures for 1937-38 were, exports £23,101,000, imports £20,933,000, trade balance being £2,168,000. Though a comparison of these figures suggests an improvement as disclosed by the net trade balance, this result has been achieved by a decline in imports, which reflects a decreased purchasing power. The outstanding decline in imports related to purchases of textiles, agricultural and other machinery, and motor cars. On the other hand, some of the decrease was due to an improvement in our ability to meet our own needs, as for example in the case of butter and tobacco. Exports were only slightly less than those of the preceding year, when we had a record income from exports. Wheat, flour and timber showed a fairly substantial decline; wool, though greater in quantity, returned an income very little more than that for 1937-38, due to a drop in price, while gold showed a substantial and gratifying increase. Indeed, last year the value of gold exports represented 47 per cent. of all exports. We can visualise what the position would have been but for the advance in the gold-mining industry. Had it not been for that increase in production, our position would have been more difficult still. We would have been almost on the verge of bankruptcy. I have never ceased to give credit to our gold producers, as they pulled us out of a serious difficulty in the early days of responsible Government, again when the State was in the throes of a depression, and now in this time of war will again come to our aid. Gold will be the most sought after commodity in the world. Anyone will take it at any time and in any circumstances. Our gold production is equal to almost half the wealth exported from Western Australia.

Adverting to the trade figures, I said we had a net favourable trade balance of practically £3,600,000. As members are aware, however, we also have substantial commitments to meet from that balance. Interest is payable on overseas debt, and interest

on internal debt is due to bondholders residing in other States. In addition we have to meet the dividends declared by private companies to shareholders outside Western Australia. On top of all that, some amount is due on account of private debts owing to lenders outside the State, and there is the money spent by our own people when holiday making or travelling outside Western Australia.

Tourist Trade.

Usually a considerable amount of money goes from the State as the result of the outward tourist trade. I think this is called "Invisible imports." We have been endeavouring to rectify that position, and to induce as many people to come to this State as would be represented by the numbers of our own people travelling to the other States and various other parts of the world. I am pleased to inform members that a certain amount of success has attended our efforts since we opened a branch of the Western Australian Tourist Bureau in Melbourne. Whenever I go to Melbourne I inquire what the position is, and find increased interest exhibited in our State by people in the Eastern States. In yesterday's "West Australian" I saw a photograph of 20 or 30 people who had reached this State during the week. They had been attracted here by the activities of our Tourist Bureau in Melbourne. An attempt was made to bring a reso train filled with passengers, from the Eastern States, but the war upset that proposal, as it has upset many others. I cannot, therefore, say how successful the venture will be.

When the payments I have indicated have been made from our trade balance, we find

that actually we have an adverse balance of approximately £3,500,000, which is made good by Government borrowing and private investment in the shape of mortgages, bank advances and overdrafts. Our public loan indebtedness increased last year by £1,800,000, so that private borrowings amounted to £1,700,000.

Revenue.

When dealing with the revenue figures for last year, I shall endeavour not to weary members with long statements of financial operations, but if my story is to be intelligible a fairly extensive use of figures cannot be avoided. The revenue and expenditure were respectively £10,949,660 and £11,170,102, leaving a deficit of £220,000. The estimates were—revenue £11,039,091, expenditure £11,058,437, and the deficit £19,346. It will be seen that revenue fell below the estimate by £89,431, the expenditure rose above it by £111,665, resulting in the deficit being £201,096 greater than was anticipated when the Budget was presented.

The outstanding causes of the falling revenue were the decreased earnings from the railways—these were £213,987 below the estimate—and the decline of £70,817 in the interest collections by the Agricultural Bank. In both instances the results were the outcome of poor seasonal conditions in some parts of the State, and the low price for wheat obtaining throughout most of the selling season. Fortunately, these reverses were substantially offset by greater collections of taxation, which exceeded the estimate by £192,473.

Taxation Revenue.

Particulars of the taxation revenue are—

Tax.	Estimate.	Actual.	Increase.	Decrease.	Explanation.
	£	£	£	£	
Land Tax	113,000	115,229	2,229	...	Improved conditions in 1938-1939.
Gold mining profits	120,000	135,740	15,740	...	
Income and dividend duty	669,000	741,178	72,178	...	
Financial emergency	1,100,000	1,214,695	114,695	...	
Probate	115,000	123,798	8,798	...	Several large estates.
Entertainment	100,000	103,463	3,463	...	
Licenses	84,750	83,757	...	993	
Totalisator	60,000	57,146	...	2,854	
Stamp duty	300,000	283,921	...	16,079	Fewer land sales.
Dividend duty	10,000	5,296	...	4,704	Now amalgamated with income tax. These figures related to outstandings.
	2,671,750	2,864,223	212,473	24,630	
Net Increase ... ..	...	...	192,473	...	

While it is gratifying to experience an increased yield from taxation, it will be noticed that most of the increased revenue comes from the financial emergency tax. Unfortunately that tax is not based on the same scientific lines as is the income tax, and its incidence is unfair to a large number of taxpayers on low incomes and with heavy family responsibilities. The intention of the Government is to seek again the approval of Parliament to bring our taxation laws into line with the well-known and generally accepted policy of taxation, namely, ability to pay. I shall deal with this aspect at a later stage, and will not elaborate upon it at present. The increased receipts from the land tax and the gold mining profits tax were due in the main to payments of arrears of amounts due from previous periods. Probate duty is always difficult to estimate with any accuracy, and the additional yield of £8,798 was the result of several fairly large estates being sworn for probate during the year. Failure to reach the estimate in stamp duties was a natural outcome of the reduced national income, with consequent decline in the number of land sales and ordinary business transactions. Dividend duty is now amalgamated with income tax. The estimate of £10,000 was, in round figures, the arrears of dividend duty outstanding prior to the amalgamation of the taxes. Up to the end of the year all the arrears had not been paid.

Territorial Revenue.

Territorial Revenue is that which we receive from the Lands Department, the Mines Department and from our timber resources. As will be seen from the following figures, Territorial Revenue was £3,728 short of the estimate:—

—	Estimate.	Actual.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Lands	150,000	138,176	....	11,824
Mining	40,000	41,201	1,201	....
Timber	130,500	137,303	6,803	....
	320,500	316,772	3,096	11,824
Net Decrease	....	....	....	£3,728

The reduced collections of land revenue are another unwelcome reminder of the depressed conditions of the pastoral districts, where drought and low prices badly affected the incomes of pastoralists. When timber receipts were estimated, a substantial reduction was made from the actual receipts in 1937-38 (£165,126) because it was expected that the falling off in oversea trade and the loss of the sandalwood trade with China would have fairly serious repercussions. Fortunately the effects of these two factors have not been quite so bad as we believed, and our estimate of revenue has been exceeded.

Departmental Revenue.

Departmental revenue fell below the estimate by £84,468. This was due largely to the short collection of interest by the Agricultural Bank, to which I have already referred. It is also another unwelcome reminder of what has happened in the agricultural areas. The other factors mainly contributing to the fall in revenue were—

The Department of Agriculture was below the estimate of £30,000 by £5,805. In an effort to overcome the scourge of locusts, we ploughed a tremendous area of land, a good deal of which we lost for cropping purposes. This will interest the member for Mt. Marshall (Mr. Warner). Unfortunately we encountered bad seasons in those areas, so that the crops were poor and instead of receiving about £7,000 by way of lease rents from the land, a sum of less than £1,000 was paid by settlers.

The estimate for the Lands and Surveys Department was £24,000 and the actual receipts £21,348. The shortage of £2,652 was due largely to decreased activity in land through drought conditions and low prices. In the case of the Titles Office the estimate was £32,000 the actual revenue being £29,215, and the decrease £2,785. This was the result of depressed business conditions. With respect to the other departments, the actual revenue of £354,993 was very close to the estimate of £354,904, and this speaks well for the care with which the Estimates were prepared.

Sitting suspended from 6.15 to 7.30 p.m.

The PREMIER: Just before the suspension for tea, Mr. Marshall—

The CHAIRMAN: Order! Not Mr. Marshall; Mr. Chairman.

The PREMIER: I think the usual procedure is for the Chairman to be addressed by name. I have not heard of any different mode of address. However, in deference to your wishes, Mr. Chairman, I may mention that I was referring to last year's revenue. With regard to the Commonwealth grant, the amount received last year was £5,000 below that paid during the financial year 1937-38. When the Budget was prepared, the amount of the grant had not been announced, and the figure inserted in the Estimates was the same as that paid in the preceding year. The State Trading Concerns returned revenue to the extent of £28,694 in excess of the amount anticipated. That was the result of an additional contribution of £19,770 from the Wyndham Meat Works and a further amount of £4,000 from the State Implement Works, received as interest. I am sure that all members will be gratified with the improving position of the Wyndham Meat Works, which, despite heavy handicaps, are being run along sound business lines and are earning a substantial portion of the interest on the capital invested.

Public Utilities.

With regard to Public Utilities, I have already explained that the net decrease in their earnings—a total of £221,540—was the result of a serious falling off in the revenue earnings of the railways, which amounted to £213,987 below the estimate. That decline was the direct result of the drought conditions in part of the country areas, and of the low price of wheat. When the Estimates were prepared, it was confidently anticipated that the harvest would be between 38,000,000 and 40,000,000 bushels, and it was not expected that wheat prices would drop to the disastrously low level that they did. Though the wheat yield for the State was satisfactory, the harvest was almost a complete failure in certain districts, notably the north-eastern areas, and the consequential loss of revenue to the railways was severe. The revenue figures for the other Public Utilities show that the returns

approximated closely the estimated figures. The details are as follows:—

	Estimate.	Actual.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Fremantle Harbour Trust	261,000	261,537	537	....
Kalgoorlie Abattoirs	0,500	5,396	....	604
Metropolitan Abattoirs	52,500	50,615	....	1,885
State Ferries	8,400	8,148	....	252
State Batteries	120,500	120,095	....	405
Metropolitan Water Supply	465,000	463,762	3,762	....
Other Hydraulic Undertakings	62,000	54,055	....	7,945
Goldfields Water Supply	300,000	296,904	....	3,096
Electricity Supply	408,000	414,519	6,519	....
Tramways	300,000	302,354	....	6,646
Cave House	8,000	10,372	2,372	....
	2,000,900	1,993,347	13,190	20,743
Net Decrease .....	....	....	....	£7,553

Mr. Sampson: The returns from the electricity supply are always good.

The PREMIER: That is so. Members I am sure, will appreciate the fact that the estimated revenue of £2,000,900 was not received to an extent of only £7,553, which was the net decrease, the actual revenue amounting to £1,993,347. The Estimates were nearly realised although there were the variations to which I have drawn attention.

The increased earnings from the Metropolitan Water Supply were due to the enlargement of the areas sewered and the greater revenue received by the Electricity Supply Department was the result of the additional power available for sale from the new unit installed at the East Perth Power House. The new Cave House, which was completed last year, has naturally attracted more custom, with the result that increased revenue to the extent of £2,372 was received. The fall in receipts from other Hydraulic Undertakings constitutes another result of the conditions in the agricultural areas where farmers were unable to meet their commitments. The shortage of £3,006 in the Goldfields Water Supply revenue was occasioned by a severe storm on the fields in January last, which resulted in a temporary curtailment of mining activities. But for that occurrence the estimate would have been exceeded. Tramways receipts were short of the estimate by £6,646, though they exceeded the previous year's total by £15,786.

Expenditure, 1938-39.

Now I shall deal with the expenditure for the past financial year, which can be summarised under three main heads as follows:—

—	Estimate.	Actual.	In-crease.	De-crease.
	£	£	£	£
Special Acts	4,280,095	4,270,903	....	9,192
Governmental	2,900,041	2,970,700	....	28,251
Public Utilities....	3,779,301	3,928,409	149,108	....
	11,059,437	11,170,102	111,665 (net)	....

The expenditure under Special Acts covers the amounts appropriated by statutes and includes the payment of interest and sinking fund on the Public Debt. The variation of £9,192 in the amount involved is slight and calls for no special comment. It was caused by a decrease of £4,826 in the estimate of interest payable on the Australian debt, and £3,681 under other statutes, accounted for by a saving of £5,000 on the estimate of the cost of the North Australian Survey, which was offset by some minor increases.

The decrease in Governmental Expenditure was due largely to the saving of £25,000 on the estimated expenditure on national insurance. As effect was not given to the Federal legislation, the expenditure of that money was not necessary. Other small variations, some representing increases and some savings, account for the net saving of £28,251.

The most serious variation between the estimated and the actual expenditure occurred in the operations of the Public Utilities, and the following details showing results of the major undertakings will be of interest to members:—

—	Estimate.	Actual.	In-crease.	De-crease.
	£	£	£	£
Goldfields Water Supply	137,014	135,389	....	1,625
Metropolitan Water Supply	102,455	101,900	....	465
Other Hydraulic Undertakings	84,280	54,845	....	5,544
Railways	2,786,000	2,902,677	116,677	....
Tramways	221,000	247,071	26,071	....
Electricity Supply	300,000	312,710	12,710	....
	3,610,738	3,758,531	155,467	7,674
Net Increase ....	....	....	147,703	....

Members will note that the outstanding increase in the expenditure on Public Utilities has relation to the Railway Department, and this was caused by increases in the basic wage, some of which were not contemplated when the Estimates were prepared, plus increased salaries resulting from a classification of railway officers.

Hon. C. G. Latham: That did not represent very much.

The PREMIER: The hon. member will remember that on two occasions since the basic wage declaration, there have been increases due to the added cost of living. First there was an increase of 1s., and later another of a little more than 1s.

Hon. C. G. Latham: The latest was in April, so that there was additional expenditure for two months only.

The PREMIER: But there were other increases. There was an alteration under the railway award. The railway officers have a classification board which issued a determination and that meant further increased expenditure for the department.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Can you tell me the amounts under the several headings?

The PREMIER: I have not the details, but they can be obtained.

Hon. C. G. Latham: I would like to have them.

The PREMIER: Very well. The operations of the railways resulted in a deterioration in the financial position to the extent of £330,664, made up by a fall in revenue of £213,987 and in an increase in expenditure of £116,677. Before the close of the year, the department took action to curtail expenditure, and the benefit of the economies will be felt during the current financial year. Both the Tramways and the Electricity Supply Departments were affected by the basic wage increases, and though the latter earned additional revenue above the estimate to counteract the increased expenditure, the Tramways revenue was below the estimate.

Financial Year 1939-40.

I now propose to deal with the position for the current financial year. As I stated in my opening remarks, the position is uncertain and no one can foresee the trend of events. At present, however, it appears most probable that there will be a demand for most of our primary products.

Hon. C. G. Latham: At a price.

The PREMIER: Yes, and there is always this important consideration—provided shipping is available to carry our goods to their destination. With that demand and the provision of shipping, the economic position of our people should be better than it was last year.

Mr. Sampson: The shipping problem is serious for the apple-growers.

The PREMIER: The Budget this year has been prepared on the basis that this anticipation will be realised. When I attended the recent Premiers' Conference in Canberra, the Prime Minister emphasised the burden that was laid on the Commonwealth respecting the provision of adequate defence expenditure, and he suggested the certainty that some re-allocation of loan moneys between the Commonwealth and the States would have to be made to enable the Commonwealth to carry out the defence programme. While there may be that re-allocation, I am hopeful that no serious curtailment of our loan funds will result. If there is to be that curtailment, I hope it will be effected in the States that are to receive a tremendous benefit from the increased expenditure on defence. I am not sure of the exact figures, but I believe it is expected that the Federal Government will spend £10,000,000 in Victoria and a similar amount in New South Wales.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Victoria is to receive a large share.

The PREMIER: The expenditure of that money will result in absorbing nearly, if not all, the slackness in employment in those States. In those circumstances, if there is to be any re-allocation of loan funds, I think that responsibility should be shared by the States that derive benefit from defence expenditure, and so I am hopeful that no serious curtailment will be experienced in the loan funds for Western Australia. The Prime Minister went on to say he thought the best contribution the States could make towards the financial stability of the Commonwealth during this time of war and stress would be to endeavour in every way possible to curtail expenditure and secure Budget equilibrium. He said that would be a tremendous contribution by the States and a great help to the Federal Government in financing Australia through the difficult war period. To enable our Budget to be balanced we must necessarily impose some sacrifice on our people in the way of increased taxation, but I have endeavoured

to make this sacrifice as light as possible and to place the burden on the shoulders of those best able to bear it. The minds of hon. members may be relieved if I state my proposals at the outset.

Taxation Proposals.

I propose in the first place to reduce to ten per cent. the remission on income tax that has obtained for several years. I think that remission dates back to 1927 when we received the first Commonwealth grant. The then Treasurer, the Hon. P. Collier, decided that the best way to deal with the grant was to effect a decrease in taxation for the benefit of our industries. Consequently he made a rebate of 33⅓ per cent. In subsequent years that rebate was decreased to 20 per cent. and has remained at that figure for several years. The proposal is to reduce the rebate by one-half, namely, to ten per cent. That is eminently fair inasmuch as income tax is imposed on scientific lines and is always based on the capacity of the people to pay. Last year we endeavoured to abolish the financial emergency tax and to raise all our taxation under the scientific principles contained in our Income Tax and Income Tax Assessment Acts.

Mr. Styants: The Income Tax Act is scientific all right!

The PREMIER: Well, it follows the accepted canons of taxation to which Governments imposing income tax on their people endeavour to subscribe.

Mr. Styants: Not one person in a hundred can understand it.

The PREMIER: Those that cannot must be mentally very dull. That attempt did not succeed but I am hopeful that we shall meet with better results this year, when we introduce a similar Bill, this time giving particulars as to how the tax will be collected under the proposed new system. However, I will not dwell any further on that matter at this stage because the subject will be dealt with fully when the Bill is before the House. As a first step towards the adjustment of the taxes, we propose to amend the Financial Emergency Tax Act by making a rebate of 1d. in the pound on the earnings of certain taxpayers who have dependants. The existing tax on earnings up to £5 a week is 4d. in the pound and this will be reduced to 3d. On earnings up to £6 10s. per week the tax is 5d. in the

pound and that will be reduced to 4d. We do not propose to alter the tax imposed on single people or those with no dependants. The proposal will mean a reduction in revenue of about £35,000, but that will be balanced by the increase we expect to obtain from a reduction of the rebate allowed on income tax from 20 to 10 per cent.

Probate Duty.

A further adjustment of taxation we propose to make relates to an increase in the rates for probate duty. The rates imposed in Western Australia have for many years been below those levied in other States. Indeed, our rates have been a little less than half of the average rates applicable to the other States, not taking into consideration the Commonwealth probate duties. This disparity has been commented on by the Commonwealth Grants Commission and there is no good reason why it should exist. Apart from the loss of revenue that we might legitimately collect, the imposing of low rates of probate duty reduces the severity of the State taxation as measured by the Grants Commission and correspondingly reduces the amount of the grant paid to us by the Commonwealth Government. I intend to introduce legislation for the consideration of Parliament by which our rates of probate duty will be brought into line with those of the other States.

Mr. Patrick: You will double the return.

The PREMIER: Of course the effect may be to double it. We can never estimate how much will be received in probate duty. But what is fair and reasonable and expedient in every other State in Australia should not be regarded as a very great burden when applied to this State. Somebody asked me whether there would be any increased taxation. I said, "It will not cost you much more to live, but if you die it might cost you a great deal more. If this legislation is passed I estimate that additional revenue to the extent of £35,000 will be collected this financial year.

Motor License Fees.

The only other major factor accounting for an increase in revenue is also dependent on legislation that will be submitted later. It relates to the transfer to Consolidated Revenue of the motor license fees collected in the metropolitan area which in the past

have been paid to the local authorities in that area.

Hon. C. G. Latham: That is a nasty pill.

The PREMIER: But it is sugar coated.

Hon. C. G. Latham: I have no doubt it will be sugar coated for you all right.

The PREMIER: Reference to the tables in the hands of hon. members will show that the State, from its loan funds, has spent a substantial sum on roads and no direct revenue is collected by the Treasury for the use of these roads. In addition to loan moneys, we have the benefit of a substantial sum—now in the vicinity of £750,000—paid to us as our share of the petrol tax under the main roads agreement. A fair proportion of this petrol tax money is spent, through a scheme of assistance controlled by the Commissioner of Main Roads, on roads that should be the responsibility of local authorities.

Hon. C. G. Latham: You will get the money collected in the metropolitan area this year and that from the whole of the State next year.

The PREMIER: That has not been contemplated, but if the necessity arises—

Hon. C. G. Latham: I am not so sure of that.

The PREMIER: There is no reason why this assistance should not be rendered in such a way as to enable the Government to apply the motor license fees collected in the metropolitan area as a contribution towards interest and sinking fund on the loan expenditure on roads.

Hon. C. G. Latham: You will get some opposition to that.

The PREMIER: Oh, no! Let the hon. member wait until he hears all that is to be said on that matter. Then my friend the Minister for Works—

Hon. C. G. Latham: He is worse than you are.

The PREMIER: My friend the Minister for Works, in his explanatory way, will overcome all the Leader of the Opposition's fears.

Mr. Sampson: He looks sympathetic already.

The PREMIER: We propose to amend the Traffic Act to provide that the balance of the motor license fees which at present are distributed by the Minister for Works amongst the local authorities in the metropolitan area shall be paid to revenue, and that the local authorities shall be entitled to

receive from the Commissioner of Main Roads grants from the petrol tax fund equivalent to the share of the motor license fees they would have received under the Traffic Act, on the production of certificates that they have expended at least that amount on construction of roads in their districts during the year.

Hon. C. G. Latham: In other words you will pay the petrol tax into revenue.

Road Construction.

The PREMIER: Well, if the hon. member likes to put it that way I suppose that will be the net result; but it is quite fair. Every member knows that for the last 50 years we have been spending loan money on roads and bridges, and there is no reason why portion of the petrol tax should not be used for the purpose of paying interest and sinking fund on the capital expenditure on roads constructed in the last half century throughout the State.

Hon. C. G. Latham: We will have to look up that agreement between the State and the Commonwealth.

The PREMIER: If the local authorities provide us with a certificate to the effect that they have spent money on roads, an equal amount will be paid to them and they will be no worse off. Consequently, there should be no objection to the proposal. If the suggestion is rejected there will be increased taxation. Having given an assurance to the Federal Government that we will endeavour by every means in our power to balance the Budget and thus make an effective contribution to the stability of Australian finance, I am determined—and I think the House will be determined—to ensure that every attempt is made to fulfil that promise. At a time when the Federal Government is exploring every avenue of taxation, I do not consider that the States, if it can be avoided, should attempt to increase taxation, because the same people will have to bear the whole of the burden. If we reduce the taxable capacity of the people, so that the Federal Government is unable to tax them, we shall be doing a dis-service to Australia. This proposal is eminently fair and reasonable. Getting down to tin-tacks, the only effect of the proposal is that there will be so much less money spent on roads throughout the State from the petrol tax proceeds. During the last two or three years—and probably the same would apply to the next nine or

ten years during which the petrol tax agreement will be in existence—the expenditure on roads has been at least £1,000,000 per annum. The proposal that there should be some slight reduction of that amount, in order that financial stability may be assured and burdensome taxation may be avoided, should meet with approval.

Hon. W. D. Johnson: Has that regard to the Federal Aid Roads Agreement?

The PREMIER: This is really expenditure on roads, because it is interest and sinking fund on money that has already been spent on roads.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Two years ago the amount was £382,000.

The PREMIER: What, the petrol tax?

Hon. C. G. Latham: No, the local authorities' receipts from traffic fees.

The PREMIER: This deals only with the metropolitan area.

Hon. C. G. Latham: That amount is about half the total.

The PREMIER: I think the amount was about £120,000. Expedients have to be adopted at a time like the present to raise additional money in order to carry on the affairs of the State, or else we must invade the limited field of taxation available in this State that the Commonwealth desires us to reserve so that additional revenue may be raised to carry on the war.

Penalty for Non-Productive Loan Expenditure.

The suggestion has a further advantage in that the motor license fees taken to revenue will be set against the interest and sinking fund on loan expenditure on roads, thus reducing the loss on our loan undertakings. When the Commonwealth Grants Commission examined our figures to ascertain how the revenue expenditure was made up, attention was directed to our unproductive loan expenditure. The Commission said that if the State, willy-nilly, expended loan funds on which there was no possibility of earning interest and sinking fund, it would reduce the grant.

Hon. C. G. Latham: There is no difference between this State and the other States in that respect. Every State has built its roads and bridges out of loan funds.

The PREMIER: There is no other State that does not take all motor license fees into revenue.

Hon. C. G. Latham: All the Other States have done right: this is the only State that has done wrong!

The PREMIER: I do not believe in going around like a Pharisee and rejoicing that I am not as others are. When a national emergency arises, the generally accepted practice in finance should be followed by this State.

Hon. C. G. Latham interjected.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! Will the Leader of the Opposition kindly refrain from interjecting.

The PREMIER: The Commonwealth Grants Commission criticised Western Australia severely for its unproductive loan expenditure. Indeed, our grant was reduced by a substantial amount on that account. If we take this money into revenue, and credit to interest and sinking fund the amounts for road expenditure, we shall make a much better showing in the matter of unproductive expenditure, and shall not be penalised so heavily as we have been by the Commonwealth Grants Commission. In some years the penalty for this expenditure has been about 10 per cent. of the amount given to the State by way of grant. I have said that all the other State Governments take the motor license fees into revenue. So long as we have been able to allow the local authorities to have those fees, we have done so, but we cannot continue to suffer the penalty for so doing.

Local Authority Rating.

One local authority does not spend any of the proceeds of its rates on roads. The whole of its expenditure on roads is met out of the metropolitan traffic fees.

Hon. C. G. Latham: What does that local authority do with its other revenue?

The PREMIER: Spends it on footpaths, cricket and football grounds, and ornamental lakes, all very satisfactory and necessary works.

Member: Which local authority is that?

Hon. C. G. Latham: The Premier had better not answer that question.

The PREMIER: The prime object in creating local authorities was that they might provide roads and similar facilities for transport. The power of rating was

conferred for this and other purposes such as health and recreation, but some of the local authorities are not spending any of the proceeds of their rates on roads—others are spending very little—and the time has come when they should accept the responsibility imposed upon them by Parliament and carry out the duties expected of them by providing necessary facilities for the people. To do this they must be prepared to impose fairly heavy rates. The additional revenue expected from this altered procedure is £120,000, and though admittedly a corresponding sum will not be available to the Government to spend from the proceeds of the Federal tax, I am satisfied that the arrangement is a satisfactory one and is preferable to increased taxation. Members will feel reassured when I mention that this proposal was discussed with the Commissioner of Main Roads, who agrees that it is an equitable one and will not prejudice the policy of road construction in the country. Those are the chief variations in the Budget, as compared with last year.

Variations of Revenue and Expenditure.

The following figures will give members a clear idea of the position:—

Deficit, 1938-39	£	220,000
Add non-recurring items of revenue—		
Agricultural Bank sinking fund	70,000	
Government Workers Compensation Fund—		
balance over £50,000	25,000	
	<hr/>	315,000
Improvements this year—		
Government Workers' Compensation Fund—		
balance over £50,000	20,000	
Increased Commonwealth grant	25,000	
Probate duties increase	35,000	
Railway finance:		
Increased revenue	94,000	
Decreased expenditure	165,000	
	<hr/>	252,000
Metropolitan traffic fees transferred to revenue	120,000	
	<hr/>	452,000
Less:		
Increase in expenditure on interest and sinking fund; superannuation payments £4,000	134,000	
Provision for unexpected war expenditure	20,000	
	<hr/>	154,000
Net improvement	<hr/>	£298,000
Other variations in ordinary revenue and expenditure account for the deficit of	<hr/>	£31,000

I consider there is good ground for estimating an increase of £94,000 in railway revenue. A considerable proportion of the wheat to be harvested this season will come from distant parts of the wheat belt and the higher freights will return a larger

amount of revenue. I have set down £20,000 as provision for unexpected war expenditure. I do not know what amount will be needed under this heading; it might be £100,000. Members will appreciate that the sum is incalculable at this stage. Certainly, additional expense will be incurred that is not provided for elsewhere. For instance, the Police Department has sworn-in special constables. There were 100 in the first week or two of the war, but this number has been reduced, and there are now 60 or 70 guarding places of importance throughout the country. For obvious reasons, I shall not say where they are stationed. Such expenditure is not provided for in the ordinary estimates of the Police Department, and therefore, in order to give a true picture of our expenditure, I have estimated that £20,000 will be required for unexpected war expenditure.

Estimated Deficit, £31,288.

The figures, relating to this year are:—

	£
Estimated revenue	11,186,012
Estimated expenditure	11,217,300
Estimated deficit	£31,288

Estimated revenue exceeds the actual of last year by £236,352 and the anticipated expenditure is greater than the actual of last year by £47,198. Referring to the individual items of revenue, I have estimated taxation receipts at £2,792,700, compared with actual collections last year of £2,864,223—a decrease of £71,523. The details are as follows:—

—	Actual, 1938-39.	Estimate, 1939-40.	In- crease.	De- crease.
	£	£	£	£
Land	115,220	112,500	...	2,720
Income	741,178	750,000	8,822	...
Financial emergency	1,214,695	1,140,000	...	74,695
Dividend	5,296	1,000	...	4,296
Gold-mining profits	135,740	117,500	...	18,240
Totalisator duty	57,146	60,000	2,854	...
Stamp duty	283,921	275,000	...	8,921
Probate duty	123,708	150,000	26,292	...
Entertainments	103,483	100,000	...	3,483
Licenses	83,757	86,700	2,943	...
	2,864,223	2,792,700	40,821	112,343
Net Decrease .. .. .	...	...	...	71,523

Variations in Estimated Tax Collections.

Now I shall give members some reasons for the anticipated variations in the estimated amounts of collections. Last year's collections from land tax included some outstand-

ings which will not recur this year; hence the anticipated small decline of £2,729. With regard to income tax, but for the proposal to reduce the rebate to 10 per cent. the estimated receipts would have been less than the actual receipts for last year. This reduction is a natural result of last year's lower incomes, which form the basis for assessments this year. Hon. members interested in the agricultural industry will appreciate that that is so. The reduction of £74,695 anticipated in the financial emergency tax yield, as compared with actual receipts last year, is accounted for as to £35,000 by the reduction of 1d. in the pound on the rates for the two lower scales for taxpayers with dependants; and as to the balance of £39,695 by the lower incomes earned last year in respect of taxpayers whose financial emergency tax is assessed on those incomes. I believe this reduction will cover any such contingency, although the receipts from financial emergency tax for the two months of this financial year have been £205,221, as compared with £163,262 for the same two months of the year 1938-39. The decrease is in respect of people who pay the tax on their incomes, and not on salaries or wages. It is reasonable to assume that incomes based on revenue will be less for this year than for last year. In the depressed condition of industry, not much tax can be expected. The amount of dividend duty still to be collected represents the balance of that duty outstanding before its amalgamation with income tax.

The smaller yield from gold mining profits anticipated this year as compared with last year is due to the fact that last year's receipts were swollen by arrears from the preceding year. It may be, however, that a more prosperous industry will increase the yield from the tax this year. There are many outstanding arrears.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Are there none this year?

The PREMIER: They are not so great. There may be a prosperous year in respect of mining. However, I will not be too optimistic. In the case of stamp duty also the estimate is conservative, though we may anticipate that sales of land will be fewer than in the previous year. A reduction of £8,921 on the receipts for 1938-39 is estimated. A reduction in collections from probate duty would have been anticipated but for the proposal to increase the rates. As I have already

stated, the suggested amendment of the rates should yield additional revenue of £35,000; and as the estimated revenue is £26,202 it will be seen that we have provided for a decline of about £9,000 as compared with last year. If hon. members throw their minds back, they will remember that last year some very large estates were sworn for probate, and that from those estates we received much bigger probate duties than we expect this year. In other items of taxation revenue little variation is estimated between this year's yields and the amounts collected in 1938-39.

Territorial.

Now I come to what is termed Territorial Revenue, including land, mining and timber.

TERRITORIAL.

—	Actual, 1938-39.	Estimate, 1939-40.	In- crease.	De- crease.
	£	£	£	£
Land	138,178	167,500	19,324	....
Mining	41,211	41,000	....	201
Timber	137,395	130,000	....	7,395
	316,772	328,500	19,324	7,596
Net Increase	....	....	11,728	....

It is anticipated that the return from the Western Australian wheat crop for this year will be at least on a payable basis. That is the outstanding factor which has been discussed in the negotiations now in progress between Australia and the British Government. There is no disposition on the part of the British Government to sweat Australian producers by purchasing from them at prices representing less than the cost of production. Already Britain has three or four million men actively engaged in military service. Take five or six million men out of active production, and the total produced must fall. Thus prices may tend towards a reasonable economic basis. Again, Germany has huge numbers of men and women engaged in agricultural production. Those men and women have been put into defence work.

Hon. C. G. Latham: They have been put on building military roads.

The PREMIER: No, on production of crops.

Hon. N. Keenan: Where will Germany buy supplies?

The PREMIER: Let me point out that wheat which was sent to Batavia and Java found its way ultimately to Germany. How it got to Germany we would need a secret service to discover.

Hon. N. Keenan: But have the Germans the money to pay for supplies?

The PREMIER: From the British standpoint we are hopeful that Germany's economic position is such as will cause the country to break down; but during the past 10 years Germany has been able to finance from a position of bankruptcy so as to make itself one of the best organised countries, both financially and militarily, known in the world's history. The Germans have been able to do that financially. It was said to be impossible; but Dr. Schacht, Germany's financial expert, has been able to make financial arrangements by which the country has been placed in a position to obtain all its requirements.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Germany does not get all it wants.

The PREMIER: No, but by so arranging the economic resources of the country, especially its man power and woman power, everyone in Germany has been employed in building up the State. Dr. Schacht has said so long as credit can be made available to take up the slackness of employment, no breakdown will occur. The economic thesis which he put forward has enabled Germany to get most of the things it requires, and from countries which are not friendly disposed towards Germany. The Germans have been able to get those commodities, and I suppose they will still be able to get them.

Hon. C. G. Latham: In this coming year?

The PREMIER: The price of wheat next year depends upon the carry-over from this year. If there is no carry-over, we shall be able to obtain an economic price. A great deal is said to depend on how much the British Government will buy from Australia.

Hon. C. G. Latham: We shall get our share of trade, and that is about all we shall get.

The PREMIER: We shall get our share on a remunerative basis. That is the factor which makes our position next year different from the position this year. Those who

get their share of trade at remunerative prices will be in a position to meet their payments for land rent and so forth.

Revenue from Timber, Land and Mining.

Timber revenue is one of the unpredictable aspects of the Budget. We do not know what the position of the timber industry will be. At an important interstate conference which took place in Melbourne about ten days ago and at which Western Australia was represented by Mr. Kessell, Conservator of Forests, it was explained that a considerable portion of the timber used in mines was oregon, and that it was expected the supply of that timber would be seriously curtailed in the matter of importation into Australia. It was further explained that this would make a big difference to Western Australia's trade in mining timber. The Broken Hill managements, although they have oregon supplies to last 12 or 18 months, are anxious to conserve their supplies of that timber, and have refrained from using it in certain portions of the mines. For those portions they are anxious to secure supplies of Australian timber.

We expect that revenue from timber will be less by £7,395 than that collected last year. We cannot foretell at this stage what the future prospects for the industry will be; but if it is possible to obtain shipping space, the present year should be extremely profitable for the export trade. In conformity with the principle on which all the estimates have been prepared, we have played safe.

The increase in revenue from land is expected because of better prices which should be obtainable for both wheat and wool. Though I am fully aware of the extraordinarily hard times experienced by our pastoralists and wheat-farmers, I am confident that my estimates of revenue from this source are not overstated.

In the mining industry no appreciable variation is forecast. The industry is now fairly stable; and despite the action of the Commonwealth Government in commanding 50 per cent. of the price of gold above £9 per oz., I feel sure we can obtain the revenue estimated.

Departmental Revenue.

With the exception of the Treasury, little variation is expected between the receipts for this year and those collected last year. The increase expected is £138,000, of which £120,000 is due to the proposal to transfer to Treasury Revenue the motor license fees collected in the metropolitan area.

Revenue from the Commonwealth.

The revenue from the Commonwealth will be greater by £25,000 than the amount received last year. The increase is due to the larger special grant recommended by the Grants Commission. The recommendation has been adopted by the Commonwealth Government. I do not wish at this stage to review the report of the Grants Commission, though I am particularly gratified at the amount of the grant this year, because it is due to the success of a very well prepared case presented by our Treasury officers to the Commission during the year. Members are familiar with the basis on which the Commission calculates grants; and we felt convinced that in its report for 1938-39 the Commission's assessment of our taxable capacity had been over-estimated. Accordingly, a thorough investigation was made of the data upon which the Commission's assessment was based, and evidence was submitted which proved—to our satisfaction at least—that we were entitled to some easement. The sixth report just received discloses that the Commission has conceded most of our points, with the result that the grant this year is greater than that for 1938-39. The increase is really larger than the amount of £25,000 shown in the Estimates, because we had to repay to the Commonwealth £136,000 advanced to us in 1937-38. The total grant was therefore £731,000.

Hon. C. G. Latham: In other words, the Commonwealth Government has written it off.

The PREMIER: No.

Mr. Patrick: The amount of the grant has been increased.

The PREMIER: Yes. I will explain the position. The 1938-39 grant was also subject to a repayment of £44,000 advanced in

1936-37, so that a correct comparison of the grants for the two years is as follows:—

	£
Grant for 1938-39	570,000
Plus advance repaid	44,000
	<hr/> 614,000
	<hr/>
Grant for 1939-40	595,000
Plus advance repaid	136,000
	<hr/> 731,000
	<hr/>
Increase in grant for 1939-40 ..	£117,000

I am pleased to have this opportunity to congratulate our officers responsible for this result. I am sure members share with me the feeling of satisfaction that we are so well served by our Treasury officials. This recommendation of the Commission is the first one made since a West Australian has been a member of the Commission. I am convinced that the presence of Sir George Pearce on the Commission enabled our point of view and our peculiar difficulties to be brought under the Commission's notice at the right time.

State Trading Concerns.

A reduction of £26,679 is expected in the receipts from trading concerns. This is accounted for by a reduction of £23,000 in the profits of the State Sawmills, and an estimated decline of £9,000 in the contribution from the Wyndham Meatworks. The State Sawmills figure is the actual one that will be credited to revenue this year. The contraction in profits is the natural outcome of bad trade conditions during the year. As I have already said, the export market was weak, and there was also a diminution in orders for building requirements. The outlook for the Wyndham Meatworks is uncertain on account of war conditions. The season may prove more profitable than our estimates suggest; much will depend upon the shipping available. These reductions are offset by small increases on last year's figures, notably in respect of the State Quarries, which should contribute £3,000 this year, whereas no revenue was collected last year from this undertaking.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Why do you say that?

The PREMIER: We not only have expectations of orders, but contracts have been entered into.

Public Utilities.

Public utilities play an important part in our finances, since they affect about half our total revenue. I therefore need not apologise for dealing with their operations in some detail. An outline of the estimated revenue position of the larger undertakings compared with that of last year, is as follows:—

	Actual, 1938-39.	Estimate, 1939-40.	In- crease.	De- crease.
	£	£	£	£
Fremantle Harbour Trust	261,537	258,000	....	3,537
Goldfields Water Supply	296,994	300,000	3,006	....
Metropolitan Abattoirs and Sale Yards	50,615	51,000	385	....
Metropolitan Water Supply	468,762	407,000	28,238	....
Other Hydraulic Undertakings	54,055	58,000	3,945	....
Railways	3,588,018	3,630,000	93,987	....
Tramways	302,354	304,000	1,646	....
Electricity Supply	414,519	439,000	24,481	....
State Batteries	120,095	120,500	405	....
	<hr/> 5,554,044	<hr/> 5,707,500	<hr/> 156,093	<hr/> 3,537
Net Increase	....	....	152,556	....

A slight decline in receipts is expected from the Fremantle Harbour because of the unsettled conditions and possible reduction of shipping. This may be an unduly pessimistic view, but I consider it better to be on the safe side. A fairly substantial increase is estimated in the revenue of the Metropolitan Water Supply Department, and with the extension of the sewerage area in the preceding 12 months, the expectation is a reasonable one.

Railways.

The Railways position has been much improved and I am confident that, except for any major retrogressions that at present are not apparent, the estimates should be realised. As I indicated earlier, last year was a bad one from the viewpoint of railway finance. Revenue was £214,000 below the estimate, while expenditure was £117,000 above it. This result was due to the unfavourable season in our outlying wheat areas and the low price for wheat. The first cause meant less wheat to transport over the longer distances, which return the greater part of the revenue, while the second cause was that a considerable quantity of wheat was retained in the country in the hope of a rise in price. In addition, the smaller amount of credit established from the sale

of wheat resulted in less purchases of materials and consequent loss of freight, which would have been earned on the carriage of such materials from the city to the country. In addition to those disabilities, the department had to shoulder the cost of the higher basic wage following the Arbitration Court's declaration in June, 1938, and of two subsequent increases on account of higher living costs. When I introduced the Budget last year, I said it was not proposed to attempt to adjust railway freights immediately on account of the higher basic wage until time had shown its true effect. Twelve months' experience has revealed that the department cannot possibly shoulder this increased cost without some compensating increase in revenue. It would be unfair to expect the general taxpayer to subsidise users of the railways to the extent of meeting the higher cost, but this would be the result if freights are not increased. Of course, the whole burden will not be met by increased charges; expenditure has been reduced by effecting economies. The Commissioner of Railways has made a thorough investigation into freight charges in order to ascertain which may most justly be increased; and also in order to determine that any added charge should be so applied as to cause the least inconvenience to the public. The recommendations made by the Commissioner and adopted by the Government cover three classes of goods, and will result in a yield of approximately £50,000 per annum. The alterations are:—

1. Miscellaneous Class: Increase 10 per cent.

This includes stone, road metal, gravel, sand, coal, lime, etc., and the increased revenue resulting should be £25,000 per annum.

2. "Smalls Minimum": Increase by 3d. and 6d. per consignment.

This scale is a special tariff which will apply to all consignments up to 3 cwt. Its basis is the ordinary tonnage rate for the consignment with a small addition to cover the work involved in dealing with small lots. An increase of 3d. will be made on charges up to and including 2s. 9d. and 6d. on charges of 3s. and over. About £12,000 additional revenue is estimated from this variation.

Mr. Sampson: Would that force some of the business into the post office?

The PREMIER: No.

Mr. Sampson: I refer to small parcels.

The PREMIER: They come under the parcels rates, which is a different matter altogether.

"C" Class traffic: Increase 10 per cent.

With regard to "C" Class traffic, the increase has been ten per cent. This class covers the more commonly used grocery and hardware lines as well as crude and fuel oil. As the latter are used largely in the mining industry the increase will not be applied to them. There is a wide difference between "C" and the next highest rate, namely, 1st Class and in the 1935 review, following the enactment of the Transport Co-ordination Act, several items previously included in the 1st Class were reduced to "C" class; it was a substantial reduction, well over £100,000 a year. Additional revenue to the extent of £12,000 should result from the imposition of the higher charge on the remaining items in the "C" class.

How Increases Will Affect Traffic.

Hon. members will be interested to know by just how much the increased charges will affect existing traffic, and the following figures will give typical examples. In the miscellaneous rate the effect will be as follows:

Miles.	Existing rate per ton.	New rate per ton.	Increase per ton.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
50 ...	7 0	7 8	0 8
100 ...	10 4	11 4	1 0
200 ...	16 2	17 9	1 7

In the "C" class the result will be:—

Miles.	Existing rate per ton.	New rate per ton.	Increase per ton.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
50 ...	21 9	23 11	2 2
100 ...	31 6	34 8	3 2
200 ...	50 4	55 4	5 0
300 ...	66 1	72 8	6 7

While these increases are very small in respect of one or two particular consignments, in the aggregate they will make an appreciable difference to the railway revenue when distributed over thousands of transactions. The increases should impose no serious burden on the customers of the rail-

ways. If we are making a bigger loss on one particular service than on another, we must try to recover that loss in an equitable way. We are losing £300,000 a year on our railways.

Mr. Withers: Why not give service?

The PREMIER: If we are losing on one commodity we must make it up in other directions. The railways have given service at very much less than cost and therefore it is only right that the charges should be raised slightly. That has been done in this instance. I have occupied Ministerial office for 15 or 16 years and in that time have been associated with the administration of the railways for ten years. In every one of those years there was a reduction in railway freights. They are now considerably lower in the aggregate than they were 15 years ago.

Hon. C. G. Latham: A considerable reduction in railway rates was made when the Transport Co-ordination Act was passed by this House some years ago.

The PREMIER: Yes; all the time I was Minister for Railways I was never associated with one increase. Year after year there were reductions and concessions, small things here and small things there until we reached the position when it was found necessary to halt.

Mr. Withers: The reduction in timber freights brought about an increased trade.

The PREMIER: Yes, those reductions were made to give the timber industry an opportunity to compete in the international market.

Mr. Doney: That is right.

The PREMIER: We granted those reductions and also decreased the royalties. Of course we could carry on that kind of thing ad infinitum until there was no revenue to collect. The 3rd class rate was abolished altogether, a rate from which we got thousands of pounds.

Mr. Doney: I do not think an increase of 4s. or 5s. would make such a great difference, but most of the increases will press heavily on the farmer.

The PREMIER: The increases are on parcels sent in small quantities.

Hon. C. G. Latham: You have forgotten the 9d. a ton you put on bulk wheat!

The PREMIER: The other increases in railway receipts are expected to result from

the cartage of more wheat and the better trade conditions generally which should exist this year as compared with last year.

Electricity Supply.

The additional revenue is an increase of approximately five per cent. on that earned last year, and with the extension of the services which has taken place during the year, this is a modest expectation.

Estimated Expenditure.

The estimated expenditure for the year is £11,217,300, as compared with the actual expenditure in 1938-39 of £11,170,102, an increase of £47,198. The departmental estimates have been very carefully scrutinised and no avoidable item of expense has been included. The main heads of expenditure are as follows:—

—	Actual, 1938-39.	Estimated, 1939-40.	In- crease.	De- crease
	£	£	£	£
Special Acts	4,270,003	4,404,386	133,483	....
Governmental	2,070,700	3,018,081	47,291	....
Public Utilities.....	3,028,409	3,704,833	....	133,576
	11,170,102	11,217,300	180,774	133,576
Net Increase	....	....	47,198	....

The outstanding causes of the added expenditure under the heading of Special Acts are the increases in the cost of interest £95,300, and in sinking fund contributions £32,676. Such increases are inevitable while loan expenditure averaging £2,000,000 per annum is being incurred, but they need cause no embarrassment so long as the loan moneys are invested in assets which earn the interest and sinking fund payable on them. Unfortunately last year the earnings of the loan assets were less than they were in 1937-38—the result of the depressed economic conditions.

In 1937-38 earnings amounted to £2,351,027 against a cost for interest, sinking fund and exchange of £4,226,550, leaving a deficiency of £1,875,523. In 1938-39 the figures were—earnings £2,144,415; cost of interest, sinking fund and exchange £4,333,975; a deficiency of £2,189,560. The increase in the deficiency of earnings is £314,037, which was more than accounted for in loss on the operation of the railways. In 1937-38 the railways were short of interest, sinking fund and exchange by £252,367, whereas last year the difference

was £567,706, an increase of £315,339. As this deficiency has to be made good from taxation and other Governmental revenues, it is most important that it be kept down to the lowest possible level if unduly heavy taxation is to be avoided. Hence the desire of the Government to place the railway finances on a better footing by a slight increase in rates and a reduction of expenditure and to transfer to revenue the metropolitan motor license fees as a set off against the interest on the loan expenditure on roads. I do not intend to discuss the loan position at this stage—that discussion will properly arise when the Loan Estimates are being introduced—but I do wish to let members know how revenue expenditure is affected by the capital charges on our public debt.

Pension Payments.

Included in the estimated expenditure under special Acts is an amount of £4,000 for what may be the Government's share of pensions payable under the Superannuation and Family Benefits Act passed last session. As members are aware, the basis on which the superannuation fund functions is that the contributors pay their contributions in fortnightly instalments, while the Government meets its share of the pensions as they arise. When the pension becomes due, we pay our share of it at that stage. Already some deaths have occurred amongst contributors, and to their dependants pensions become payable immediately after death. On the estimate given by the Superannuation Board, the amount of £4,000 provided should be adequate to meet the Government's share of the pensions. The cost to the Government will, of course, increase each year for some time, but correspondingly the cost of pensions under the Superannuation Act of 1871 should decline, as will the cost of compassionate allowances. Now that adequate provision has been made for the dependants of deceased officers, there is no justification for a continuance of compassionate allowances, unless in the case of officers who are pensionable under the 1871 Act, according to which no pension is payable to the widow. Last year our expenditure on pensions was £130,000. We have more than reached the peak of our payments under the 1871 Act. As the payments progressively decrease, we

shall probably be able to contribute to the new superannuation fund the amount we save by the decreasing payments under the 1871 Act. It may be that for a year or two the payments will be greater, but progressively, as our payments under the Superannuation Act increase, so in inverse ratio will the payments under the 1871 Act decrease. For many years we will not be very much worse off financially because of the passing of the Superannuation Act of last year. When we take into consideration the cutting out of compassionate allowances, I do not think the passing of that Act will make a greater difference than between £30,000 or £40,000 for a great many years to come.

Departmental Expenditure.

Departmental expenditure is estimated to be greater by £47,291 than the actual expenditure in 1938-39. This is accounted for by the Education Department's increased amount of £11,899 due to normal expansion of this social service, and other small increases. In addition, I have provided an amount of £20,000 to meet unforeseen expenditure arising out of the war. I am sure it will be admitted that this is a wise provision. We have no idea at this stage what will be involved in the protection of Government property and similar services, and it would be foolish to ignore the possible contingency of additional expenditure. The other departmental expenditure is much in line with that of last year. As I have already stated, the expenditure by departments is carefully watched, and the Treasury is always consulted before any unusual expense is incurred. I only wish the same control could be exercised over all items of Government expenditure.

Boards and Trusts.

The system that has been established in the past of delegating full functional authority to independent boards and trusts—a system of which I disapprove—prevents that control being exercised by Parliament and the Treasurer that is both necessary and proper. Indeed, I am so convinced of the need for the extension of Parliamentary control over such bodies that I have at present under consideration legislation requiring such bodies to submit to Parliament estimates in the usual way, and to bring the finances directly under the Treasurer's con-

trol. Such an arrangement would be in keeping with the spirit of the Constitution Act, and would be desirable under normal conditions, but under war conditions, when our expenditure has to be carefully watched, I think the alteration is imperative.

[Mr. Marshall took the Chair.]

Hon. C. G. Latham: At last you have seen the light.

The PREMIER: I have never been in favour of giving the control of finances to independent boards.

Hon. C. G. Latham: I have protested against it every time you have done it.

The PREMIER: There are not many such instances.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! The Leader of the Opposition is continually interjecting.

The PREMIER: I do not wish to cast reflections upon those responsible for the activities of these boards. They are doing an excellent job in administrative work, but they have possession of revenue they can utilise as they think fit whereas the Treasurer frequently has to refrain from spending money he may have available. Were I to say to the Minister for Agriculture "Do you think you could eradicate the fruit-fly in Western Australia for £10,000?" I would not know where to lay my hands on that money. If a board were to be possessed of £10,000, irrespective of what is happening in Government departments it could spend the money without any other authority than that which is given by legislation. As a Government, we have to cheese-pare ruthlessly and relentlessly, and avoid all unnecessary expenditure. In my opinion semi-governmental activities, those carried out by boards and trusts, could well come under the control of Parliament.

Mr. Doney: We agree on that point.

The PREMIER: I am hopeful we might be able to do something along these lines. I do not wish my remarks to be interpreted as showing lack of confidence in the ability of members of various boards, who are doing excellent work in the management of their undertakings. There is, however, real need for uniformity in financial control, and this can be exercised only when the whole of that control is vested in one body, namely, Parliament. Certain activities might be dispensed with.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Such as the State Gardens Board.

The PREMIER: That board gets very little out of the Treasury. I have no wish to enter into a discussion on that activity just now. The board has received very little consideration from the Government, whereas it has built up assets that are worth over £100,000.

Hon. C. G. Latham: You should find out where the money comes from.

The PREMIER: It comes from rents and admission charges. The board is self-supporting. It installed a tramway in the Zoological Gardens.

Hon. C. G. Latham: Where did the rails come from?

The CHAIRMAN: I ask members to keep order while the Treasurer is delivering his Budget. All members will have an opportunity to speak later on.

The PREMIER: The rails were written off by the Railway Department and would have been sold for a very small sum. They are now being utilised for the benefit of the public.

Mr. Thorn: Are the accounts audited?

The PREMIER: They are audited every year.

Mr. Styants: It would be all right if some boards were as successful as is the State Gardens Board.

The PREMIER: I will now pass on to another subject.

Public Utilities.

The estimated expenditure by public utilities this year, compared with the actual expenditure last year, is shown as follows:—

—	Actual, 1938-39.	Estimated, 1939-40.	In- crease.	De- crease.
	£	£	£	£
Goldfields Water Supply	135,389	132,266	....	3,123
Kalgoorlie Abattoirs	4,020	4,042	13	....
Metropolitan Abattoirs	33,912	32,750	....	1,162
Metropolitan Water Supply	101,990	105,655	3,665	....
Other hydraulic undertakings	58,685	59,983	1,298	....
Railways	2,002,677	2,744,500	....	159,177
Tramways	247,071	257,000	9,929	....
Ferries	8,380	8,400	20	....
Electricity Supply	312,719	325,000	12,281	....
State Batteries....	113,806	113,642	....	164
Caves House	9,751	11,593	1,844	....
	3,923,409	3,794,333	29,050	162,626
Net Decrease ....	....	....	....	133,576

Conclusion.

This completes my review of the finances. It has been necessary to exclude many items representing deserving cases. I have had

deputations and interviews as well as representations and letters from members of Parliament and others anxious that the Government should support this worthy cause or that excellent cause, and provide increased grants here and there or some consideration that has not yet been accorded. Although the spirit is willing, the finances are weak. I have to be as hard as nails, harder than I would be in my private life. It is necessary to refuse the importunate pleadings that are made on behalf of other people, though not for the benefit of those putting forward the case. It is desirable that many things should be done, but we cannot afford to spend the money in doing them. We cannot spend money if it is not available. We know of many ramifications in governmental circles towards which we are all sympathetic. I suppose the member for Subiaco would say that free milk was one thing to consider, that nothing else would matter if the Government would provide it. People interested in the University would claim that we should establish some new faculty. Others would say we should make better provision for adult education. The Kindergarten Union spent between £20 and £30 in sending out circular post cards all over the State with a view to impressing me so that in turn I might impress upon Parliament the need for an increased grant. The case for the Union would receive sympathetic treatment at my hands if I possessed the wherewithal with which to accede to the requests. The circulation of the post cards does not improve the case except that more people become interested.

Many appeals are made to the Treasurer for grants in this, that, and the other direction, for assistance that we ought to give, and which we would give if it were possible to do so. So it is that one is looked upon as being hard as flint. Many proposals have to be turned down that in other circumstances ought not to be turned down. I am determined, as is the Government, to endeavour to meet the wishes of the Federal Government to keep our finances as stable as possible so that we may play the bigger part in the conduct of the present war. If we allow £10,000 to go out here and £20,000 there, financial chaos will soon result. It would then become apparent to the House and to the public that the financial methods of the Government were a disappointment. I trust that the steps we have proposed for increasing the revenue will prove acceptable to the House and to the country.

The times are abnormal, and steps that would be unpalatable to any Government in times of peace have in times of war to be accepted in a proper spirit. The alternative to the expedients I have put forward is still greater taxation. As the Commonwealth Government will without doubt have to impose further taxation, this alternative is one that should, if at all possible, be avoided. The result of the suggestions contained in the Estimates will be to spread any sacrifice as widely as possible and to place it where it can best be borne. From the economic viewpoint, I am sure we can look forward to a better year than the one we have just experienced. It is unfortunate that the cause of this uplift is war, but it is inevitable that in the increased activity in production of the foodstuffs and commodities essential for the successful prosecution of the war, those engaged in such industries must benefit. Not that I grudge the producers the better times that await them, but I could have wished that the cause had been associated with peace and that it had a basis approaching permanency. On the other hand, it is fortunate that those who will benefit will be those whose adverse circumstances during the past few years make them most worthy to enjoy the increase in the returns from their production.

In the conduct of the war, varying contributions will have to be made by different sections of the Empire. As I see it, our contribution lies mostly along the lines of carrying on our work of production. We produce those things that are vital to the life of the nation, and if we carry out our daily tasks with enthusiasm and energy, we shall make a worthy contribution to the establishment of that peace which we all fervently hope will not be long delayed. The task of the Government in these times is to equalise the burden of sacrifice that must fall on all, taking something from those in prosperity and giving to those in adversity, thus enabling all to carry on in a spirit of contentment. It is with this desire uppermost in the minds of the Government that the Estimates have been framed. I move the first Division of the Estimates, namely—

Legislative Council, £1,848.

Progress reported.

House adjourned at 9.19 p.m.

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(Return No. 1.)

BALANCE SHEET OF THE GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA AT 30th JUNE, 1938, AND 30th JUNE, 1939.

	30th June, 1938.	30th June, 1939.		30th June, 1938.	30th June, 1939.
	£	£		£	£
Public Debt	93,711,941	95,472,601	Invested in Works and Services, etc.	93,292,955	94,495,794
			Balance—General Loan Fund o/d. ...	418,986	976,806
	93,711,941	95,472,601		93,711,941	95,472,601
Balance General Loan Fund ...	418,986	976,806	Consolidated Revenue Fund ...	5,610,044	5,830,486
Advances to Revenue Fund ...	5,610,044	5,723,000	Advances (under Appropriation "Advances to Treasurer") ...	75,864	131,693
Reserve Accounts	30,097	29,605	Stores on Hand	444,224	408,177
Suspense Accounts	8,984	1,734	Trust Fund Investments—		
Trading Concerns	46,665	32,679	Governmental	1,113,199	1,197,865
Trust Funds—			Private	1,314,658	1,330,007
Governmental	2,609,471	2,272,815	Banking Account	1,399,553	971,351
Private	1,487,842	1,496,603	Cash in hand, etc.—		
			Banks Current Account ...	182,516	593,789
			Banks in Eastern States ...	27,557	35,226
			Cash—		
			In London	18,427	8,502
			In Transitu	14,123	14,826
			In Hand	11,924	11,520
	10,212,089	10,533,242		10,212,089	10,533,242

[Return No. 2.]

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1938-39, COMPARED WITH ESTIMATE.

SUMMARY.

	Estimate.	Actual.	Comparison with Estimate.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Revenue	11,039,091	10,949,660	...	89,431
Expenditure	11,058,437	11,170,102	111,665	...
Deficit	19,346	220,442	111,665	89,431

DETAILS.

Revenue.	Estimate.	Actual.	Comparison with Estimate.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Taxation	2,671,750	2,864,223	192,473	...
Territorial	320,500	316,772	...	3,728
Law Courts	85,000	88,158	3,158	...
Departmental	977,394	892,926	...	84,468
Royal Mint	34,000	34,980	980	...
Commonwealth	1,048,432	1,043,432	...	5,000
Trading Concerns	101,115	129,809	28,694	...
Public Utilities	5,800,900	5,579,360	...	221,540
Total Revenue	11,039,091	10,949,660	225,305	314,736
Net Decrease			£89,431	

Expenditure.	Estimate.	Actual.	Comparison with Estimate.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
SPECIAL ACTS—				
Constitution Act	19,100	19,060	...	40
Interest—Overseas	1,760,691	1,760,972	281	...
Interest—Australia	1,684,185	1,679,359	...	4,826
Sinking Fund	450,000	449,074	...	926
Other Special Acts	366,119	362,438	...	3,681
GOVERNMENTAL—				
Departmental	2,474,041	2,453,102	...	20,939
Exchange	475,000	470,829	...	4,171
Unemployment Relief	50,000	46,859	...	3,141
PUBLIC UTILITIES	3,779,301	3,928,409	149,108	...
Total Expenditure	11,058,437	11,170,102	149,389	37,724
Net Increase			£111,665	

UNFUNDED DEFICIT.

	£
Unfunded Deficit to 30th June, 1938	5,610,045
Deficit for 1938-39 Year	220,442
Total Unfunded Deficit to 30th June, 1939	5,830,487

[Return No. 3.]

REVENUE.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS FROM 1930-31 TO 1938-39 AND ESTIMATE FOR 1939-40.

Heads.	1930-31.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.	Estimate 1939-40.
TAXATION—	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Land Tax ...	168,579	182,368	180,963	118,973	121,895	117,682	117,249	124,083	115,229	112,500
Income Tax ...	246,650	260,252	169,010	173,255	235,331	274,794	283,539	582,007	741,178	750,000
Financial Emergency Tax ...	...	...	202,336	411,716	684,980	827,119	971,379	1,074,561	1,214,895	1,140,000
Dividend Duty ...	277,343	178,187	168,614	190,880	318,058	361,367	427,966	184,026	141,088	118,500
Totalsator Tax ...	52,505	50,109	47,291	47,739	53,393	50,892	60,732	57,041	57,146	60,000
Stamp Duty ...	179,170	196,808	191,547	216,770	259,732	261,192	273,274	290,360	283,921	275,000
Probate Duty ...	72,093	69,162	91,995	70,154	74,076	112,657	93,320	101,631	123,798	150,000
Entertainment Tax...	34,360	69,169	62,486	75,292	83,951	89,246	95,232	98,610	103,463	100,000
Licenses ...	63,052	59,417	64,262	63,991	70,670	81,851	80,841	82,578	83,757	86,700
Other ...	40,638	3,444	11	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,134,385	1,006,916	1,123,515	1,368,720	1,902,086	2,185,800	2,403,576	2,594,937	2,864,223	2,792,700
TERRITORIAL AND DEPARTMENTAL—										
Land ...	235,441	223,466	197,412	201,856	250,688	208,831	189,111	170,600	138,176	157,500
Mining ...	17,557	10,906	20,304	27,768	45,049	42,242	41,838	38,884	41,201	41,000
Timber ...	85,781	52,220	61,435	83,104	110,504	134,318	155,469	165,126	137,395	130,000
Royal Mint ...	11,519	21,173	21,147	24,952	25,653	28,621	30,750	33,959	34,980	35,000
Departmental Fees, etc.	1,639,549	1,382,809	1,350,723	1,119,829	780,819	838,374	863,679	889,651	892,926	1,030,650
Law Courts ...	55,616	52,819	47,195	49,782	55,590	65,242	75,722	81,957	88,158	83,500
Commonwealth ...	300,000	300,000	500,000	600,000	600,000	800,000	500,000	675,000	570,000	595,000
Do. Special Grant ...	...	...	...	...	133,000	35,000	33,000	...	...	...
Do. Interest Contributions	473,432	473,432	473,432	473,432	473,432	473,432	473,432	473,432	473,432	473,432
Total ...	2,818,876	2,522,855	2,671,648	2,580,813	2,474,785	2,624,060	2,363,001	2,628,909	2,376,268	2,551,082
PUBLIC UTILITIES—										
Native Stations ...	3,813	2,332	2,901	2,929	3,703	4,785	5,005	4,277	...	...
Bunbury Harbours Board ...	6,350	6,800	3,000	8,000	8,400	8,500	...	...	...	4,500
Fremantle Harbour Trust ...	241,236	227,316	231,095	216,853	236,686	231,307	238,429	257,413	261,537	268,000
Goldfields Water Supply ...	161,602	170,315	171,971	174,546	187,949	240,461	236,848	293,873	296,994	300,000
Kalgoorlie Abattoirs ...	3,760	4,299	5,130	5,035	5,926	6,003	6,638	6,496	5,896	6,000
Metropolitan Abattoirs and Sale Yards	42,436	41,434	38,253	39,201	42,675	62,260	52,719	52,227	50,615	51,000
Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage ...	388,496	373,177	350,197	355,687	364,240	376,608	412,545	439,184	468,762	497,000
Other Hydraulic Undertakings ...	39,424	43,884	43,224	44,898	52,664	61,755	58,147	61,104	54,055	58,000
Perth City Markets ...	1,327	1,126	1,263	1,320	1,118	866	66	...	...	...
Railways ...	3,120,979	2,897,336	2,920,817	2,884,531	3,277,544	3,424,494	3,468,657	3,645,942	3,586,013	3,680,000
Tramways, Perth Electric ...	304,241	286,641	282,202	281,063	284,813	287,103	285,797	286,568	302,354	304,000
Electricity Supply ...	258,618	274,516	279,302	295,207	322,674	348,425	364,663	387,037	414,519	430,000
State Ferries ...	...	...	1,996	8,608	8,799	8,514	8,458	8,231	8,148	8,800
State Batteries ...	30,573	72,645	98,919	110,496	116,062	126,298	122,532	125,072	120,095	120,500
Cave Houses, etc. ...	8,423	6,233	5,983	4,867	5,212	5,570	5,804	6,585	10,372	12,500
Metropolitan Markets	2,423	1,165	454	159	37	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	4,613,756	4,409,024	4,438,707	4,433,990	4,918,502	5,183,249	5,316,308	5,574,009	5,579,860	5,739,100
TRADING CONCERNS ...	119,740	96,521	95,283	98,774	36,107	40,612	102,549	121,137	129,809	103,130
GRAND TOTAL ...	8,636,756	8,035,316	8,332,153	8,481,697	9,381,430	10,033,721	10,185,433	10,819,042	10,949,660	11,186,012

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

[Return No. 4.]

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FROM 1930-31 TO 1938-39, AND ESTIMATE FOR 1939-40.

Head.	1930-31.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.	Estimate 1939-40.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Special Acts ...	3,872,297	3,733,021	3,740,944	3,311,437	3,842,339	3,018,351	3,997,413	4,181,908	4,270,903	4,404,386
Parliamentary ...	14,415	11,476	11,659	12,123	12,279	13,374	14,992	14,544	14,809	15,099
Premier ...	13,410	13,791	14,474	10,542	22,613	20,626	21,901	18,146	18,045	18,335
Governor ...	2,458	1,771	1,631	1,807	1,980	2,339	2,419	2,487	2,474	2,512
London Agency ...	12,167	9,285	9,109	9,225	9,029	10,156	10,160	12,039	12,361	11,045
Public Service Commis- sioner ...	1,425	1,328	1,263	1,246	1,196	1,571	1,520	1,540	1,788	1,715
Government Motor Cars	2,589	2,544	3,078	3,693	4,357	2,236	3,581	3,567	3,151	2,804
Printing ...	56,120	47,400	49,317	51,513	52,873	53,564	56,905	61,048	60,914	71,525
Tourist and Publicity Bureau ...	1,924	1,523	1,519	1,846	1,760	2,112	3,752	4,387	6,638	6,887
Literary and Scientific	10,968	8,690	9,690	8,690	8,935	11,148	11,101	11,150	11,320	11,150
Fisheries ...	4,372	3,410	3,620	3,554	3,606	4,158	4,583	4,563	5,473	6,500
Superannuation Board	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,270
Treasury ...	20,226	17,610	20,084	20,187	21,738	23,781	26,454	27,211	28,780	29,900
Audit ...	14,342	11,133	10,403	11,039	11,261	12,420	13,333	14,190	15,739	16,650
Compassionate Allow- ances ...	4,862	7,018	6,083	8,150	5,176	6,711	8,182	7,182	8,092	3,631
Government Stores ...	13,814	11,548	11,675	11,714	12,357	13,738	14,587	15,643	18,862	17,380
Taxation ...	30,000	30,000	31,614	32,657	33,640	33,894	39,699	33,860	33,795	33,800
Miscellaneous and Re- funds ...	469,353	697,927	627,497	560,128	569,335	605,939	751,688	778,467	625,650	635,311
Land and Surveys ...	65,675	52,045	48,001	46,416	48,723	51,094	51,743	52,237	56,765	59,250
Immigration ...	4,007	2,040	791	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Group Settlement ...	1,733	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Farmers' Debts Adjust- ment and Rural Relief	...	2,182	2,213	2,224	2,154	3,944	8,681	7,024	6,057	6,375
Mines, Explosives, Geo- logical, etc. ...	105,141	102,252	87,424	109,985	120,665	145,720	144,092	142,504	144,103	144,305
Forests ...	18,510	14,272	12,835	14,742	18,524	22,289	25,453	27,105	28,474	29,215
Agriculture ...	77,548	64,918	65,061	66,640	75,535	87,254	100,419	118,174	117,040	119,142
College of Agriculture	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Crown Law & Branches	86,112	69,335	71,525	66,711	65,767	78,874	74,194	84,663	92,204	91,870
Police ...	237,996	201,893	197,905	211,929	219,683	228,394	239,458	243,124	255,378	250,700
Public Works ...	46,445	20,350	19,159	50,663	49,206	87,627	103,335	93,682	100,767	93,650
Factories ...	5,971	3,779	3,858	3,972	4,344	4,802	5,250	5,570	6,765	7,380
Arbitration Court ...	...	...	...	3,479	4,777	4,148	6,523	7,668	6,477	6,400
Town Planning ...	1,452	1,030	910	931	930	1,374	1,414	1,478	1,653	1,715
Office of Chief Secretary	27,867	23,449	23,682	23,274	24,845	26,684	26,610	28,784	31,339	34,165
Natives ...	10,993	11,187	11,616	11,330	12,608	14,083	20,093	25,202	39,000	39,000
Prisons ...	31,468	25,873	24,310	25,709	25,620	26,674	28,084	28,015	29,613	30,090
Harbour and Light and Tides ...	21,175	16,982	17,329	19,375	19,830	22,957	24,149	27,240	26,743	28,490
Mental Hospitals ...	99,975	85,432	90,999	93,933	98,218	101,248	107,289	112,004	120,453	123,500
Child Welfare ...	570,703	138,431	132,576	128,863	125,957	118,502	116,338	120,957	126,309	130,400
Labour ...	...	...	...	...	...	891	908	913	1,118	1,410
Unemployment Relief ...	...	653,091	357,721	244,457	2,445	68,605	69,578	69,826	64,183	68,130
State Labour Bureau ...	3,216	4,048	3,358	7,715	...	...	...	...	...	...
Council of Industrial Development ...	1,148	928	918	1,202	1,559	1,572	2,235	1,884	2,518	2,900
Medical and Health ...	143,231	73,659	75,643	69,419	64,560	69,095	83,112	78,194	80,090	84,850
Education ...	673,202	549,115	563,846	578,296	612,703	665,284	715,957	736,917	767,051	768,950
North-West ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200
Total, Departmental...	2,908,166	2,993,069	2,614,386	2,524,391	2,460,818	2,643,836	2,935,670	3,023,170	2,970,790	3,018,081
PUBLIC UTILITIES.										
Native Stations ...	5,582	4,441	4,192	4,751	5,190	6,902	6,593	6,777	...	...
Goldfields Water Supply	128,038	108,973	108,239	119,255	128,369	114,411	120,334	125,155	135,389	132,266
Edgemoor Abattoirs ...	2,312	2,438	2,899	2,800	2,999	3,584	4,802	4,550	4,029	4,042
Metropolitan Abattoirs	23,075	25,296	25,518	26,952	27,886	30,231	33,550	30,830	33,912	32,750
Metropolitan Water Supply ...	127,093	97,046	83,359	66,602	97,133	99,202	101,357	97,088	101,900	105,655
Other Hydraulic Under- takings ...	24,326	21,817	23,916	29,953	47,095	61,092	60,142	61,090	58,685	59,983
Perth City Markets ...	655	559	602	590	720	678	110	...	...	...
Railways ...	2,519,691	2,116,352	2,089,353	2,156,684	2,348,590	2,498,412	2,691,998	2,669,131	2,902,677	2,744,500
Tramways ...	244,019	220,623	222,219	205,080	199,878	204,392	205,846	211,013	247,071	257,000
Electricity Supply ...	201,092	192,924	191,997	192,804	220,079	241,855	270,884	290,870	312,719	325,000
State Ferries ...	...	...	2,005	7,828	7,993	7,998	8,068	8,452	8,380	8,400
State Batteries ...	37,605	65,587	80,601	91,793	103,739	113,643	113,100	112,225	113,808	113,642
Cave House ...	8,344	6,186	6,017	5,627	5,636	5,760	7,786	7,458	9,751	11,595
Total Public Utilities	3,326,632	2,862,122	2,840,904	2,934,781	3,195,363	3,378,156	3,623,550	3,624,657	3,623,409	3,794,833
GRAND TOTAL ...	10,107,295	9,593,212	9,196,234	9,270,609	9,498,525	9,945,343	10,556,633	10,829,785	11,170,102	11,217,300

a Previously under Crown Law.

[Return No. 5.]

STATEMENT SHOWING ANNUAL SURPLUSES AND DEFICIENCIES OF CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND,
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEARS 1900-01 TO 1938-39.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Annual.	
			Surplus.	Deficiency.
	£	£	£	£
1900-01	3,078,033	3,165,244	...	87,211
1901-02	3,688,049	3,490,026	198,023	...
1902-03	3,630,238	3,521,763	108,475	...
1903-04	3,550,016	3,698,311	...	148,295
1904-05	3,615,340	3,745,225	...	129,885
1905-06	3,558,939	3,632,318	...	73,379
1906-07	3,401,354	3,490,183	...	88,829
1907-08	3,376,641	3,379,006	...	2,365
1908-09	3,267,014	3,368,661	...	101,537
1909-1910	3,657,670	3,447,731	209,939	...
1910-1911	3,850,439	3,734,448	115,991	...
1911-1912	3,966,673	4,101,082	...	134,409
1912-1913	4,596,659	4,787,064	...	190,405
1913-1914	5,205,343	5,340,754	...	135,411
1914-1915	5,140,725	5,706,541	...	565,816
1915-1916	5,356,978	5,705,201	...	348,223
1916-1917	4,577,007	5,276,764	...	699,757
1917-1918	4,622,536	5,328,279	...	705,743
1918-1919	4,944,851	5,596,366	...	652,015
1919-1920	5,863,501	6,531,725	...	668,225
1920-1921	6,789,565	7,476,291	...	686,725
1921-1922	6,907,107	7,630,242	...	732,135
1922-1923	7,207,492	7,612,856	...	405,364
1923-1924	7,865,595	8,094,753	...	229,158
1924-1925	8,381,446	8,439,844	...	58,398
1925-1926	8,808,166	8,907,309	...	99,143
1926-1927	9,750,833	9,722,688	28,245	...
1927-1928	9,607,949	9,834,415	...	26,466
1928-1929	9,947,951	10,223,919	...	275,968
1929-1930	9,750,515	10,268,519	...	518,004
1930-1931	8,686,766	10,107,295	...	1,420,539
1931-1932	8,035,316	9,593,212	...	1,557,896
1932-1933	8,332,153	9,196,234	...	864,081
1933-1934	8,481,697	9,270,609	...	788,912
1934-1935	9,331,430	9,498,525	...	167,095
1935-1936	10,033,721	9,945,343	88,378	...
1936-1937	10,185,433	10,556,838	...	371,205
1937-1938	10,819,042	10,829,735	...	10,693
1938-1939	10,949,660	11,170,102	...	220,442

LOAN EXPENDITURE FOR 1938-39 COMPARED WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.

(EXCLUSIVE OF LOAN SUSPENSE EXPENDITURE.)

Undertakings.	1938-39.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.	1934-35.	1933-34.	1932-33.	1931-32.	1930-31.	1929-30.	1928-29.	1927-28.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways, including Land Resumptions	198,065	349,393	178,882	116,240	295,076	310,124	180,567	137,168	454,305	824,052	826,500	808,895
Tramways—Perth Electric ...	8,042	8,512	35,591	...	...	11,290	5,601	...	4,650	24,710	8,551	75,247
Electric Power Station ...	17,919	39,977	109,837	281,165	203,268	2,089	918	3,681	11,289	44,050	48,479	69,304
Fremantle Harbour Works ...	34,803	31,091	78,781	100,068	98,488	91,975	169,018	37,694	69,896	109,086	138,066	113,954
Harbours and Rivers generally	57,039	70,240	108,065	200,949	206,830	154,169	73,302	39,882	63,810	154,169	140,994	137,061
Sewerage—Perth and Fremantle	351,400	253,490	361,334	455,901	330,199	177,873	125,055	90,669	42,102	102,250	151,211	129,430
Water Supply ...	574,851	703,566	821,886	807,603	773,422	653,553	650,485	437,206	197,288	236,650	425,004	452,807
Development of Goldfields ...	51,296	35,247	30,650	38,843	70,885	368,116	267,150	28,091	29,077	92,219	79,762	81,915
Development of Agriculture ...	179,462	154,653	187,711	217,044	341,850	341,850	125,904	61,490	87,019	143,971	67,091	110,059
Assistance to Settlers ...	442	8,471	8,870	9,289	6,921	113,535	94,679	79,516	262,880	67,121	92,907	1,122,629
Agricultural Group Settlement	...	...	...	9,018	20,073	115,904	79,046	67,513	213,293	639,611	766,893	1,122,629
Land Settlement for Soldiers ...	540	87	434	427	331	1,190	403	12,284	59,369	46,313	116,914	170,484
College of Agriculture ...	679	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,100	10,305	5,371
Immigration ...	...	...	...	...	...	132	...	500	1,063	7,182	11,897	10,072
Agricultural Bank—Working Capital...	...	...	...	...	50,000	325,000	303,257	317,460	298,734	849,849	704,445	221,170
Purchase of Wire Netting for Settlers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25,650
Steamships ...	15,023	215,325	53,385	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20,796	419,119
Workers' Homes Working Capital	...	25,000	35,000	...	35,000	35,000	35,000	...	...	...	25,000	50,000
Saw Mills ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,000	8,346	38,934
State Hotels ...	4,999	13,922	4,647	8,000	...	519	...	413	...	749	1,653	16,905
Agricultural Implements Works	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brickyards ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,000	1,925	1,506
Ferries ...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	263	...	...
Public Buildings ...	114,954	91,726	39,182	84,454	100,418	98,020	34,634	...	...	54,140	92,353	126,512
Roads and Bridges ...	65,000	160,038	83,294	132,902	213,804	124,647	83,004	...	...	315,325	335,718	237,584
Purchase of Plant and Stock (Suspense Account)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	65,000	50,000
Fremantle Road and Railway Bridge	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	847
Sundries ...	14,500	5,568	5,918	5,593	25,103	412	1	2,244	5,072	18,354	18,058	14,284
Bulk Handling of Wheat ...	7,049	82,493	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Boys' Quarries ...	1,586	600	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Aborigines Stations ...	...	...	421	337	...	...	...	...	...	...	156	368
Reconstruction Canning Road ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38,907	75,792
Gullford Road—East Street to Midland Junction	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,042	...
Metropolitan Markets ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,935	92,418	...
Discount and Flotation Expenses ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	78,007	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	1,698,111	2,315,004	2,193,117	2,464,187	2,784,185	2,064,022	2,217,982	1,380,225	1,759,263	3,693,052	4,372,269	4,680,280
Less Expenditure from Loan Repayments Receipts ...	153,105	154,825	78,376	74,791	97,064	215,740	249,275	171,800	...	216,647	38,297	...
Net Expenditure from Loan Raisings	1,545,006	2,160,179	2,114,741	2,389,376	2,687,121	2,448,282	1,968,707	1,208,425	1,759,263	3,476,405	4,333,972	4,680,280

Includes Loans to Local Authorities for erection of Country Hospitals, etc., b £10,379; c £9,780; d £5,084; e £3,619; f £1,442; g £400; h £103; i £500; j £5,448; k £9,000.

[Return No. 7.]

PUBLIC DEBT.

(a) LOAN AUTHORISATIONS AND FLOTATIONS.

	£	£	£
Authorisations to 30th June, 1938 (adjusted) ...	...	113,357,995	
Authorisations, 1938-39 ...	...	1,396,000	
			114,753,995
Flotations—			
Inscribed Stock, Debentures, Treasury Bonds, etc., issued in Australia and Overseas—Net proceeds :—			
For Works and Services...	94,562,010		
For Funding Deficits ...	6,140,087		
		100,702,097	
Discounts and Flotation Expenses (including Cost of Conversion Loans), net :—			
On Works Loans...	3,871,788		
On Deficit Loans...	192,451		
		4,064,239	
Balance of May, 1939 Loan ...		70,869	
			104,837,205
Short Term Debt current at 30th June, 1939—			
London ...	2,998,014		
Australia ...	6,305,000		
			9,303,014
Total Flotations ...			114,140,219
Balance available for Flotation ...			613,776

a Includes surplus of £52,770 under Treasury Bonds Deficiency Acts.

(b) LOAN INDEBTEDNESS.

	£	£	£
Total Amount raised to 30th June, 1938 ...	...	...	111,797,573
Less Adjustment of Liability—May, 1938, Loan ...	...	...	4,290
			111,793,283
Flotations during the year—			
Counter Sales ...		64,855	
Instalment Stock ...		228,000	
Commonwealth Loans (Australia) ...		1,591,760	
Discount on Conversion Loans ...		17,321	
Australian Treasury Bills (net increase) ...		445,000	
			2,346,936
			114,140,219
Redemptions—			
Total to 30th June, 1938 ...	...	18,085,631	
During the year :			
National Debt Commission :			
Securities repurchased ...	529,189		
Instalment Stock redeemed (Australia) ...	9,853		
Do. do. do. (London) ...	23,442		
Inscribed Stock redeemed at maturity ...	19,503		
		581,987	
			18,667,618
Gross Public Debt at 30th June, 1939...	...	...	95,472,601
Sinking Fund ...	...	...	359,656
Net Public Debt at 30th June, 1939 ...	...	...	£95,112,945

[Return No. 7—continued.]

(c) SUMMARY OF GROSS LOAN RAISINGS AND DISBURSEMENTS.

<i>Raisings.</i>		<i>Disbursements.</i>	
	£		£
Total Flotations, as per Return 7 (b)—		Discounts and Expenses—	
To 30th June, 1938 ...	111,793,283	To 30th June, 1938 (Net) ...	3,838,482
During Year 1938-39 ...	2,346,936	During Year 1938-39 ...	33,306
Receipts from Loan Repayments—		Redemption of Agricultural Bank Mortgage Bonds ...	1,566,000
To 30th June, 1938 ...	1,448,240	Deficits Funded (including Discount and Expenses) ...	6,332,538
During Year 1938-39 ...	147,040	Advances to meet Expenditure pending receipt of Revenue ...	5,723,000
		Expenditure on Works and Services ...	97,071,919
		Loan Suspense Expenditure ...	122,579
		Balance of Loan—not to account at 30th June, 1939 ...	70,869
		Balance of General Loan Fund	976,806
	115,735,499		115,735,499

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

Year.		Debt per Head.		Year.		Debt per Head.	
		£	s. d.			£	s. d.
1939 ...	...	204	11 9	1927 ...	...	157	14 4
1938 ...	...	203	4 7	1926 ...	...	155	14 8
1937 ...	...	201	15 0	1925 ...	...	146	3 11
1936 ...	...	199	4 0	1924 ...	...	146	13 6
1935 ...	...	197	6 11	1923 ...	...	142	9 6
1934 ...	...	193	4 2	1922 ...	...	137	1 0
1933 ...	...	187	3 10	1921 ...	...	*124	15 11
1932 ...	...	180	2 11	1920 ...	...	119	7 3
1931 ...	...	174	1 10	1919 ...	...	116	7 0
1930 ...	...	163	9 2	1918 ...	...	118	0 8
1929 ...	...	162	6 9	1917 ...	...	116	5 5
1928 ...	...	165	10 7	1916 ...	...	109	19 9

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

(e) CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AT 30TH JUNE, 1939.

	Securities Issued.	Re-deemed.	In Circulation.	Funds Invested.
	£	£	£	£
Finance and Development Board Act ...	700,000	270,477	429,523	
Agricultural Lands Purchase Act ...	587,471	287,310	320,161	41,335
	1,287,471	537,787	749,684	41,335
Bank Guarantees in force ...	...	...	159,100	
Metropolitan Water Supply Act *	...	...	118,380	
Land Drainage Act *	...	...	2,333	
Total, Contingent Liabilities ...	...	...	1,029,497	

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

[Return No. 8.]

LOAN LIABILITY—STATEMENT SHOWING AMOUNTS MATURING EACH YEAR.

Earliest Date of Maturity.	Latest Date of Maturity.	Interest Rate.	Repayable in—		
			London.	New York.	Australia.
...	1939	1½	...	...	*6,305,000
...	1939	2½	*2,998,014	...	...
...	1939	3	...	...	389,000
...	1939	3·4875	...	...	50,400
...	1939	3½	...	...	376,029
...	1939	4·06875	...	...	350,000
...	1940	3·4875	...	...	19,658
...	1940	3½	...	...	590,230
...	1941	4	...	...	4,298,094
...	1942	3·4875	...	...	66,155
...	1942	3½	...	...	3,100,750
...	1942	4·2625	...	...	61,697
1941	1943	2½	3,228,661	...	...
...	1943	3½	...	...	1,831,820
...	1943	3½	...	...	277,930
...	1943	4·2625	...	...	1,100
...	1943	4·65	...	...	755,000
...	1944	3	...	...	112,840
...	1944	4	...	...	1,655,514
1927	1947	3½	1,417,801	...	...
...	1947	3½	...	...	32,630
...	1947	4	...	...	1,291,274
...	1947	5·0375	...	...	250,000
...	1948	3	...	...	1,443,925
...	1948	3½	...	...	1,358,860
...	1948	3·4875	...	...	281,055
...	1948	3½	219,916	...	...
...	1948	3½	...	...	1,461,380
1943	1948	4	2,716,302	...	...
...	1949	3½	...	...	1,319,390
...	1949	3½	...	...	1,741,310
...	1950	4	...	...	1,347,198
...	1951	3½	...	...	3,952,210
1948	1953	3½	903,193	...	...
...	1953	4	...	...	1,265,824
1962	1954	3½	...	...	587,800
...	1954	3½	...	...	3,240,730
1935	1955	3½	3,205,104	...	...
...	1955	4	...	...	1,256,613
1953	1955	3½	...	...	1,322,345
1952	1955	5	...	1,498,444	...
...	1957	3	...	...	151,282
...	1957	4	...	...	1,188,259
1947	1957	5	...	516,992	...
...	1958	3	...	...	173,560
...	1959	3	...	...	373,664
...	1959	4	...	...	1,173,055
...	1960	3	...	...	456,365
1940	1960	3½	877,408	...	...
1956	1961	3½	1,739,527	...	...
...	1961	4	...	...	1,271,726
...	1961	3	...	...	313,645
...	1962	3	...	...	185,576
1942	1962	4	4,871,183	...	...
...	1963	3	...	...	195,510
...	1964	3·1	...	...	1,666,000
...	1964	3	...	...	32,000
1964	1974	3½	8,899,191	...	...
1945	1975	1½	179,892	...	...
1945	1975	5	12,796,570	...	...
Average Rate 3·6762			43,982,762	2,015,436	49,474,403
			£95,472,601		

* Floating Debt.

[Return No. 9.]

SINKING FUND.

TRANSACTIONS DURING THE YEAR 1938-39.

						£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Receipts:											
Balances brought forward, 1st July, 1938—											
National Debt Commission ... ..						....			307,211	9	10
Contributions:											
State—											
5s. per cent. on loan liability						242,678	18	11			
4½ per cent. on cancelled securities						185,709	9	6			
3 per cent. under Federal Aid Roads Act						17,623	6	11			
Special contribution on account loan for purchase of M.V. "Koolama"						20,690	10	10			
Exchange on contribution re M.V. "Koolama"						5,250	4	6			
Commonwealth—											
5s. and 2s. 6d. per cent. on loan liability						167,013	2	1			
Net earnings on investments... ..						8,761	2	10	647,721	15	7
									954,933	5	5
Disbursements:											
Redemptions and Repurchases, etc. ... ..						....			595,277	4	7
Balance, Sinking Fund, 30th June, 1939 ... ..						....			359,656	0	10
									954,933	5	5

TRANSACTIONS FROM 1ST JULY, 1927, TO 30TH JUNE, 1939.

						£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Receipts:											
Balances brought forward—											
1st July, 1927—Endowment Policy (M.V. "Kangaroo"), Premiums paid						57,697	10	0			
1st July, 1929—Crown Agents						897,347	0	10	955,044	10	10
Contributions:											
On account M.V. "Kangaroo"						47,250	0	0			
On account, Crown Agents						40,312	13	5			
State—											
5s. per cent. on loan liability						2,452,671	4	1			
4½ per cent. on cancelled securities						918,672	17	7			
3 per cent. under Federal Aid Roads Act						205,036	9	9			
Special contribution on account loan for purchase of M.V. "Koolama"						31,035	16	8			
Exchange on contribution re M.V. "Koolama"						7,875	6	9			
Commonwealth—											
5s. and 2s. 6d. per cent. on Loan Liability						1,537,768	12	1			
Net earnings on investments						347,856	19	1			
Accruals to Endowment Policy at maturity						35,052	10	0			
Exchange on remittances						29,504	6	1	5,651,026	15	1
									6,606,071	5	11
Disbursements:											
Redemptions and Repurchases, etc.						5,020,246	17	3			
Contributions refunded to the State						630	17	11			
Contributions to Crown Agents						39,934	2	8			
Premiums on Policy account M.V. "Kangaroo"						47,250	0	0			
Repayment of 1934 Loan						998,353	7	3			
Repayment of 1936 Loan						140,000	0	0	6,246,415	5	1
									359,656	0	10
Balance, 30th June, 1939:—											
National Debt Commission ... ..						....			6,606,071	5	11

[Return No. 10.]

SUMMARISED CLASSIFICATION OF LOAN ASSETS, 1933-39. (a)

Undertaking.*	Loan Liability. (b)	Capital Charges (c).			Net Earnings.	Surplus.	De- ficiency.
		Interest.	Sinking Fund.	Exchange.			
FULLY REPRODUCTIVE.							
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Electricity Supply	1,952,884	73,182	9,246	9,788	101,800	9,604	
State Brickworks	52,231	1,937	251	262	2,700	230	
State Implement Works	121,554	4,554	533	600	3,000	2,254	
State Saw Mills	272,618	10,213	1,315	1,366	61,689	48,795	
State Hotels	60,853	2,280	203	305	11,608	8,730	
Metropolitan Markets	157,078	5,885	757	787	9,523	2,094	
Abattoirs, Sale Yards, Grain Sheds and Cold Stores	306,839	11,497	1,462	1,538	18,845	4,348	
Workers' Homes Board	711,841	26,668	3,420	3,568	36,866	3,201	
Stock Suspense	24,027	900	115	120	1,575	440	
Pine Planting and Reforestation.....	815,462	30,550	3,555	4,087	38,443	251	
Bulk Handling of Wheat—Bunbury	69,693	2,611	300	340	3,304	44	
	4,545,130	170,277	21,306	22,770	294,362	80,000	
PARTIALLY REPRODUCTIVE.							
Railways (e)	26,442,340	990,623	125,891	132,528	681,336		567,706
Tramways	1,236,503	46,324	5,892	6,197	50,783		7,630
Harbours and Rivers (d)	6,368,513	238,537	30,190	31,910	282,576		18,120
Water Supply, Sewerage and Drain- age	15,374,248	575,973	69,455	77,055	564,013		168,470
Wyndham Meat Works	1,072,380	40,175	5,143	5,375	44,770		5,923
Loans to Public Bodies	136,855	5,127	684	680	3,509		2,988
Mining Generally	753,960	28,246	3,524	3,779	110		35,433
State Batteries	415,597	15,570	1,010	2,093	6,289		13,283
Roads and Bridges	3,195,554	119,717	14,630	16,016	7,396		142,067
Tourist Resorts	71,165	2,666	317	357	1,230		2,104
Plant Suspense	154,476	5,787	741	774	2,922		4,380
Small Loans Scheme	27,694	1,034	105	138	1,010		267
Assistance to Industries	427,335	16,009	2,008	2,142	7,001		13,216
Industries Assistance Board	372,823	13,967	3,361	1,868	713		18,483
Agricultural Bank (f)	8,866,388	332,168	41,248	44,438	210,255		207,595
Soldiers' Land Settlement (g)	2,060,239	77,784	9,880	10,326	15,678		81,712
Group Settlement	4,273,722	160,109	20,217	21,420	25,253		176,493
Agriculture Generally	3,215,139	120,451	15,322	16,114	6,594		145,293
	74,464,851	2,780,715	350,583	373,215	1,901,450		1,612,063
TOTALLY UNPRODUCTIVE.							
State Ferries	4,719	177	25	24	Dr. 232		458
State Quarries	39,953	1,497	171	200			1,868
State Shipping Service	630,640	23,827	3,041	3,161			29,829
Miscellaneous	144,627	5,418	694	725	Dr. 469		7,306
Aborigines Stations, etc.	47,740	1,786	202	230	Dr. 2,543		4,772
Rabbit-proof Fence	334,548	12,533	1,604	1,677	Dr. 10,845		26,059
Public Buildings, including Schools, Police Stations, Gaols, Court Houses, Hospitals and Institu- tions	3,469,693	123,987	15,901	17,300	Dr. 37,368		200,676
	4,671,960	175,027	21,728	23,416	Dr. 51,397		271,568
SUMMARY.							
Fully Reproductive	4,545,130	170,277	21,306	22,779	294,362	80,000	
Partially Reproductive	74,464,851	2,789,715	350,583	373,215	1,901,450		1,612,063
Totally Unproductive	4,671,960	175,027	21,728	23,416	Dr. 51,397		271,568
Capital Adjustments and Unallo- cated Costs of Raisings	5,019,985	185,066	26,545	25,180			239,771
Advances to C.R.L. Fund	5,723,000	100,152	26,903				127,055
Balance of General Loan Fund	976,806	17,094	2,009				19,103
	95,401,732	3,440,331	449,074	444,570	2,144,415	80,000	2,269,560
Balance of May Loan (not to account at 30th June, 1939)	70,860						
Public Debt, 30th June, 1939	95,472,601						
					Net Deficiency		£2,189,660

* For details see Return No. 11.

(a) This statement distributes the net cost of loan charges for the year over the various assets. It differs from Returns Nos. 12 to 29, which are prepared from Departmental records and which do not take cognizance of repayments, etc., and which in some cases include capital provided from Revenue and other sources. (b) Total expenditure from loan funds (including proportionate cost of raising) after allowing for sinking fund redemptions and other adjustments. (c) Actual expenditure averaged over all assets. (d) To this should be added £570,300 included in Railway Capital. (e) Includes £570,300, being part of Capital Expenditure on Harbours and Jetties controlled by Railway Department. (f) Includes £3,750,615 in respect of advances to settlers under Soldiers' Land Settlement Scheme. (g) Represents expenditure by P.W.D. on roads, bridges and drainage, and by Lands Department on repurchased estates.

[Return No. 11]

DETAILED CLASSIFICATION OF LOAN ASSETS 1938-39*

Undertaking.	Loan Liability.	Capital Charges. (a)			Net Earnings.	Surplus.	Deficiency.
		Interest.	Sinking Fund.	Exchange.			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways (b) ...	26,442,349	990,623	125,891	132,528	681,336	...	567,706
Tramways ...	1,236,503	46,324	5,892	6,197	50,783	...	7,630
Electricity Supply ...	1,952,884	73,162	9,246	9,788	101,800	9,604	...
	29,631,736	1,110,109	141,029	148,513	833,919	9,604	575,336
<i>Harbours and Rivers.</i>							
Fremantle (c) ...	3,407,506	127,657	16,260	17,078	277,315	116,320	...
Bunbury (c) ...	689,265	25,823	3,304	3,455	9,761	...	22,821
Geraldton (d) ...	699,764	26,216	3,356	3,507	887	...	32,192
Albany (d) ...	153,292	5,743	735	768	2,437	...	4,809
Esperance (d) ...	15,951	598	77	80	Dr. 39	...	794
Busselton (d) ...	20,351	762	97	102	52	...	909
Hopetoun ...	44,267	1,658	212	222	...	...	2,092
North-West Ports (d) ...	570,530	21,373	2,725	2,860	Dr. 3,329	...	30,287
Swan River ...	400,679	15,011	1,717	2,008	Dr. 480	...	19,216
Dredges, Steamers and Plant ...	276,452	10,357	1,326	1,386	Dr. 419	...	13,488
Other Jetties and Works	90,456	3,389	381	453	Dr. 3,609	...	7,832
(d)	6,368,513	238,587	30,190	31,919	282,576	116,320	134,440
<i>Water Supplies.</i>							
Metropolitan ...	7,826,447	293,208	35,360	39,226	392,400	24,608	...
Goldfields Water Scheme	2,548,042	95,458	11,150	12,771	165,222	45,843	...
Country Towns ...	955,798	35,807	4,366	4,791	11,405	...	33,559
Country Areas ...	2,154,395	80,711	9,801	10,797	Dr. 13,334	...	114,643
Goldfields Areas ...	951,505	35,648	4,502	4,769	344	...	44,575
Irrigation and Drainage, South-West ...	763,606	28,608	3,440	3,827	Dr. 1,002	...	36,877
Other Works ...	174,455	6,535	836	874	Dr. 1,022	...	9,267
	15,374,248	575,973	69,455	77,055	554,013	70,451	238,921
<i>Trailing Concerns.</i>							
Wyndham Meatworks ...	1,072,380	40,175	5,143	5,375	44,770	...	5,923
Quarries ...	39,953	1,497	171	200	...	...	1,868
Brickworks ...	52,231	1,957	251	262	2,709	239	...
Implement Works ...	121,554	4,554	583	609	8,000	2,254	...
Saw Mills ...	272,618	10,213	1,315	1,366	61,689	48,795	...
Shipping Service ...	630,680	23,627	3,041	3,161	...	...	29,829
Hotels ...	60,853	2,280	293	305	11,608	8,730	...
	2,250,269	84,303	10,797	11,278	128,776	60,018	37,620
<i>Development of Agriculture.</i>							
Agricultural Bank (e) ...	8,866,388	332,166	41,246	44,438	210,255	...	207,595
Industries Assistance Board ...	372,825	13,967	3,361	1,868	713	...	18,483
Soldiers' Land Settlement (f) ...	2,060,239	77,184	9,880	10,326	15,678	...	81,712
Group Settlement ...	4,273,722	160,109	20,217	21,420	25,253	...	176,493
Rabbit-proof Fence ...	334,548	12,533	1,604	1,677	Dr. 10,845	...	26,659
Generally ...	3,215,139	120,451	15,322	16,114	6,594	...	145,293
	19,122,861	716,410	91,630	95,843	247,648	...	656,235

* See footnote (a) on Return No 10.

[Return No. 11—continued.]

DETAILED CLASSIFICATION OF LOAN ASSETS 1938-39—continued.

Undertaking.	Loan Liability.	Capital Charges. (a)			Net Earnings.	Surplus.	Deficiency.
		Interest.	Sinking Fund.	Ex-change.			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Abattoirs, Saleyards, etc.</i>							
Metropolitan Abattoirs	214,999	8,055	1,026	1,077	16,703	6,545	...
Kalgoorlie Abattoirs ...	25,155	942	116	126	1,867	683	...
Generally ...	66,735	2,500	320	335	275	...	2,880
	306,889	11,497	1,462	1,538	18,845	7,228	2,880
<i>Development of Mining.</i>							
State Batteries	415,597	15,570	1,919	2,083	6,289	...	13,283
Generally ...	753,969	28,246	3,524	3,779	116	...	35,433
	1,169,566	43,816	5,443	5,862	6,405	...	48,716
<i>Public Buildings.</i>							
Education (including Narrogin School of Agriculture and Muresk College of Agriculture) ...	1,545,752	57,910	7,151	7,747	Dr. 19,038	...	91,846
Police Stations, Quarters, etc. ...	166,045	6,221	789	832	Dr. 4,455	...	12,297
Court Houses, Quarters, etc. ...	44,099	1,652	211	221	Dr. 528	...	2,612
Gaols ...	54,530	2,042	261	273	Dr. 3,175	...	5,751
Hospitals ...	670,180	25,107	2,941	3,359	Dr. 561	...	31,968
Institutions ...	531,481	19,911	2,453	2,664	Dr. 2,317	...	27,345
Buildings generally ...	457,606	17,144	2,185	2,294	Dr. 7,234	...	28,857
	3,469,693	129,987	15,991	17,390	Dr. 37,308	...	200,676
<i>All Other.</i>							
Aborigines Stations ...	47,740	1,788	202	239	Dr. 2,543	...	4,772
Assistance to Industries	427,335	16,009	2,066	2,142	7,001	...	13,216
Bulk Handling, Bunbury	69,693	2,611	300	349	3,304	44	...
Ferries ...	4,719	177	25	24	Dr. 232	...	458
Loans to Public Bodies	136,855	5,127	684	686	3,509	...	2,988
Metropolitan Markets...	157,078	5,885	757	787	9,523	2,094	...
Miscellaneous ...	144,627	5,418	694	725	Dr. 469	...	7,306
Fine Planting and Re-forestation ...	815,462	30,550	3,555	4,087	38,443	251	...
Plant Suspense ...	154,476	5,787	741	774	2,922	...	4,380
Roads and Bridges ...	3,195,554	119,717	14,630	16,016	7,396	...	142,967
Small Loans Scheme—Workers' Homes Board ...	27,594	1,034	105	138	1,010	...	267
Stock Suspense ...	24,027	900	115	120	1,575	440	...
Tourist Resorts ...	71,165	2,666	317	357	1,236	...	2,104
Workers' Homes Board	711,841	26,668	3,429	3,568	36,866	3,201	...
Capital Adjustments and Unallocated Costs of Raisings ...	5,019,985	188,066	26,545	25,160	...	...	239,771
Advances to C.R. Fund	5,723,000	100,152	26,903	...	...	...	127,055
Balance of General Loan Fund ...	976,806	17,094	2,009	...	...	...	19,103
	17,707,957	529,649	83,077	55,172	109,541	6,030	564,387
TOTAL ...	95,401,732	3,440,331	449,074	444,570	2,144,415	269,651	2,459,211
Balance, of May Loan (not to account at 30th June, 1939) ...	70,869	Net Deficiency			...	...	£2,189,560
Public Debt, 30th June, 1939 ...	95,472,601						

(a) Actual Expenditure averaged over an 18-year period.

(b) Includes £570,300, being part of Capital Expenditure on Harbours and Jetties controlled by Railway Dept.

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

(d) To this should be added £570,300 included in Railway Capital in respect of the following Harbours and Jetties—Albany, £119,077; Busselton, £34,648; Geraldton, £329,208; Esperance, £83,225; Port Hedland, £24,142.

(e) Includes £3,750,615 in respect of advances to settlers under Soldiers' Land Settlement Scheme.

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

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES FOR YEARS 1923-1924, to 1938-39.

—	Capital Cost.	Working Expenses.	Interest Charges.	Sinking Fund.	Total Cost.	Revenue.	Surplus.	De- ficiency.
1923-24 ...	£ 30,841,698	£ 3,032,282	£ 1,186,766	£ 192,751	£ 4,411,799	£ 4,388,090	...	£ 23,709
1924-25 ...	32,290,890	3,097,680	1,230,788	196,158	4,524,626	4,577,204	52,578	...
1925-26 ...	33,675,991	3,291,186	1,294,398	197,745	4,783,329	4,640,108	...	143,221
1926-27 ...	34,606,907	3,476,997	1,318,674	199,593	4,995,264	4,970,259	...	25,005
1927-28 ...	35,740,764	3,746,600	1,345,609	201,458	5,293,667	5,298,117	4,450	...
1928-29 ...	37,515,080	3,942,536	1,415,577	123,885	5,481,998	5,386,116	...	95,882
1929-30 ...	37,893,980	4,035,461	1,452,235	96,984	5,584,680	5,298,004	...	286,676
1930-31 ...	38,632,294	3,328,832	1,535,557	101,576	4,963,965	4,611,333	...	352,632
1931-32 ...	39,303,159	2,862,123	1,570,849	105,577	4,538,549	4,407,857	...	130,692
1932-33 ...	40,651,331	2,838,899	1,604,670	111,486	4,555,055	4,434,257	...	120,798
1933-34 ...	42,298,120	2,926,756	1,642,404	117,291	4,686,451	4,424,670	...	261,781
1934-35 ...	43,902,993	3,195,368	1,696,190	123,354	5,014,913	4,928,243	...	86,669
1935-36 ...	45,771,888	3,378,156	1,703,486	125,861	5,207,503	5,194,361	...	13,142
1936-37 ...	46,996,665	3,623,550	1,726,469	128,403	5,478,422	5,326,799	...	151,623
1937-38 ...	48,086,006	3,624,983	1,745,641	149,085	5,519,709	5,587,928	68,219	...
1938-39 ...	49,844,180	3,936,886	1,800,682	157,190	5,894,758	5,603,998	...	290,760

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES FOR YEAR 1938-1939.

[illegible]

[Return No. 14.]

RETURN RELATING TO RAILWAYS.
(Prepared from Departmental Records.)

	1938-39.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.	1934-35.	1933-34.	
Number of miles open ...	miles. 4,378	miles. 4,339	miles. 4,357	miles. 4,358	miles. 4,359	miles. 4,360	
Capital Cost of Construction and Equipment of Lines open	£	£	£	£	£	£	
	Loan ...	25,925,555	25,646,095	25,350,005	25,210,321	25,111,525	24,864,735
	Revenue	633,338	640,020	640,020	640,020	640,908	640,908
	26,558,893	26,286,115	25,990,025	25,850,341	25,752,433	25,505,643	
Working Expenses ...	2,902,677	2,669,131	2,691,698	2,498,412	2,348,560	2,156,664	
Interest Charges ...	1,000,799	987,887	1,008,554	1,015,521	1,028,569	1,008,453	
Total Annual Cost a	3,903,476	3,657,018	3,700,252	3,513,933	3,377,129	3,165,117	
Gross Revenue ...	3,586,013	3,645,942	3,468,657	3,424,494	3,277,544	2,884,531	
Deficiency ...	317,463	11,076	231,595	89,439	99,585	280,586	

a These figures do not include Sinking Fund, estimated to be £64,115.

[Return No. 15.]

RETURN RELATING TO TRAMWAYS.
(Prepared from Departmental Records.)

	1938-39.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.	1934-35.	1933-34.
Capital Cost of Construction and Equipment ...	£ 1,105,235	£ 1,104,572	£ 1,104,572	£ 1,104,572	£ 1,104,572	£ 1,121,129
Working Expenses ...	247,071	211,013	205,646	204,392	199,978	205,069
Interest Charges ...	44,469	45,809	51,377	51,284	51,874	52,142
Total Annual Cost a	291,540	256,822	257,023	255,676	251,852	257,211
Gross Revenue ...	302,354	286,568	285,797	287,103	284,813	281,063
Surplus ...	10,814	29,746	28,774	31,427	32,961	23,852

a These figures do not include Sinking Fund, estimated to be £2,761.

[Return No. 16.]

RETURN RELATING TO ELECTRICITY.
(Prepared from Departmental Records.)

	1938-39.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.	1934-35.	1933-34.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Capital Cost of Construction and Equipment	1,885,657	1,263,945	1,269,832	1,271,028	1,272,787	1,271,070
Working Expenses	312,719	290,879	270,364	241,853	220,079	192,804
Interest Charges	67,568	61,713	60,884	61,126	61,658	61,709
Total Annual Cost <i>a</i>	380,287	352,592	331,248	302,979	281,737	254,513
Gross Revenue	414,519	387,037	364,663	348,425	322,674	295,207
Surplus	34,232	34,445	33,415	45,446	40,937	40,694

a These figures do not include Sinking Fund, estimated to be £3,160.

[Return No. 17.]

RETURN RELATING TO METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY, SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.
(Prepared from Departmental Records.)

	1938-39.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.	1934-35.	1933-34.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Capital Cost of Construction and Equipment	8,396,105	7,916,055	7,459,619	6,820,462	6,025,393	5,340,449
Working Expenses*... ..	101,990	97,088	101,357	99,202	97,133	96,602
Interest Charges	349,620	323,467	297,910	267,867	255,718	247,654
Sinking Fund	17,128	15,785	14,650	12,887	11,630	11,171
Total Annual Cost	468,738	436,340	413,917	379,956	364,481	355,427
Gross Revenue	468,762	439,184	412,545	376,608	364,240	355,687
Surplus	24	2,844	...	...	...	260
Deficiency ... ..	...	...	1,372	3,348	241	...

* Includes Interest and Sinking Fund on debentures, £14,055.

[Return No. 18.]

RETURN RELATING TO GOLDFIELDS WATER SUPPLY.
(Prepared from Departmental Records.)

—	1938-39.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.	1934-35.	1933-34.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Capital Cost of Construction and Equipment ...	5,527,890	5,298,061	5,113,202	4,759,423	3,999,901	3,701,835
Working Expenses ...	135,389	125,155	120,334	114,411	128,369	113,258
Interest Charges ...	119,096	108,487	96,727	78,615	62,172	52,658
Sinking Fund ...	41,966	37,902	32,539	25,400	19,171	15,704
Total Annual Cost ...	296,451	271,544	249,600	218,426	209,712	181,620
Gross Revenue ...	296,994	293,873	286,848	240,461	187,949	174,548
Surplus ...	543	22,329	37,248	22,035	...	...
Deficiency ...	...	...	...	...	21,763	7,074

[Return No. 19.]

RETURN RELATING TO OTHER HYDRAULIC UNDERTAKINGS.
(Prepared from Departmental Records.)

—	1938-39.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.	1934-35.	1933-34.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Capital Cost of Construction and Equipment ...	1,938,757	1,828,234	1,690,054	1,630,462	1,600,094	1,501,876
Working Expenses (a) ...	58,685	61,090	60,142	51,092	47,095	29,755
Interest Charges ...	8,005	8,807	8,502	33,527	49,069	47,077
Sinking Fund ...	1,837	1,692	1,410	8,238	13,751	13,031
Total Annual Cost ...	68,527	71,589	70,054	92,857	109,915	89,863
Gross Revenue ...	54,055	61,104	58,147	61,755	52,664	44,898
Deficiency ...	14,472	10,485	11,907	31,102	57,251	44,965

(a) Includes Interest on Debenture Capital, Harvey Drainage, No. 1 Area.

[Return No. 20.]

RETURN RELATING TO OTHER UTILITIES FOR 1938-39.

Utilities.	Capital Cost, etc.	Working Expenses.	Interest Charges.	Total Annual Cost.	Gross Revenue.	Surplus.	Deficiency.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Manly Harbour Trust ...	(a) 2,886,819	(b)	143,538	143,538	261,537	117,999	....
Obury Harbour Board ...	(a) 610,554	(b)	30,514	30,514	6,908	....	21,608
State Batteries ...	415,597	113,806	15,570	129,376	120,095	....	9,281
Original Stations ...	47,740	8,477	1,788	10,265	5,934	....	4,331
Many Cool Stores ...	20,786	....	779	779	275	....	504
Metropolitan Abattoirs ...	214,999	33,912	8,055	41,967	50,615	8,648	....
Kalgoorlie Abattoirs ...	25,155	4,029	942	4,971	5,896	925	....
Ice House ...	48,696	9,751	1,824	11,575	10,372	....	1,203
State Ferries ...	(a) 4,719	8,380	221	8,601	8,148	....	453
Metropolitan Markets Trust ...	(a) 157,078	(b)	7,894	7,894	9,523	1,629	....
Total ...	4,431,643	178,855	211,125	889,480	481,301	129,201	37,380
Estimated Sinking Fund ...	....	....	....	....	....	....	26,223
NET SURPLUS ...	....	....	....	....	....	£85,598	....

(a) Prepared from Departmental Records. (b) Receipts paid to Trust Accounts from which working expenses are met without Parliamentary appropriation. See Return No. 30.

[Return No. 21.]

ESTIMATED CASH POSITION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES FOR YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1940.

Items.	Estimated 1939-40.		Balance.	
	Receipts.	Payments.	Deficiency.	Surplus.
	£	£	£	£
Goldfields Water Supply Undertaking ...	300,000	132,266	...	167,734
Kalgoorlie Abattoirs ...	6,000	4,042	...	1,958
Metropolitan Abattoirs and Sale Yards ...	51,000	32,750	...	18,250
Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage, and Drainage ...	497,000	105,655	...	391,345
Other Hydraulic Undertakings ...	58,000	59,983	1,983	...
Railways ...	3,680,000	2,744,500	...	935,500
Framways ...	304,000	257,000	...	47,000
State Ferries ...	8,600	8,400	...	200
Electricity Supply ...	439,000	325,000	...	114,000
State Batteries ...	120,500	113,642	...	6,858
Ice House, etc. ...	12,500	11,595	...	905
	5,476,600	3,794,833	1,983	1,683,750
Net SURPLUS ...	...	...	£1,681,767	
Estimated Interest and Sinking Fund...	...	...	£1,977,000	

[Return No 22.]

RETURN RELATING TO TRADING CONCERNS FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1939.

Concern.	Capital at 30th June, 1939.		Working Expenses.	Interest Charges.	Gross Receipts.	Surplus.	Deficiency.
	Loan.	Revenue.					
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Brickworks	52,231	1,774	39,016	2,697	43,491	1,778	
Hotels	60,853	5,524	48,923	3,307	62,448	10,218	
Implement Works	121,554	123,509	59,948	12,086	68,164	...	3,870
Quarries	39,953	872	30,773	1,815	30,074	...	2,514
Shipping Service	630,680	...	(a) 216,888	33,872	(a) 203,151	...	47,609
Saw Mills	272,618	26,115	568,493	14,919	629,366	45,954	
Wyndham Freezing Works (b)	1,072,380	...	391,672	53,619	440,375	...	4,916
	2,250,269	157,794	1,355,713	122,315	1,477,069	57,950	58,909
Net Deficiency ...	...	...	...	...	...	£959	

(a) Estimated.

(b) Year ended 31st January, 1939.

[Return No. 23.]

RETURN RELATING TO STATE BRICKWORKS.

	1938-39.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.	1934-35.	1933-34.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital ...	52,231	52,238	52,238	52,238	52,238	52,238
Revenue Capital ...	1,774	1,774	1,774	1,774	1,774	1,774
Total	54,005	54,012	54,012	54,012	54,012	54,012
Working Expenses ...	39,016	31,095	24,045	25,375	15,544	12,226
Interest Charges ...	2,697	2,718	2,691	2,716	2,812	2,832
Total Annual Cost	41,713	33,813	26,736	28,091	18,356	15,058
Gross Receipts ...	43,491	30,873	23,284	26,198	18,663	12,573
Deficiency ... ..	...	2,940	3,452	1,893	...	2,485
Surplus	1,778	...	...	...	307	...

[Return No. 24.]

RETURN RELATING TO STATE HOTELS.

	1938-39.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.	1934-35.	1933-34.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital ...	60,853	61,154	61,441	59,987	60,171	60,215
Revenue Capital ...	5,524	5,524	5,524	5,524	5,524	5,524
Total	66,377	66,678	66,965	65,511	65,695	65,739
Working Expenses ...	48,923	50,723	50,277	42,502	38,651	36,985
Interest Charges ...	3,307	3,322	3,252	3,255	3,305	3,427
Total Annual Cost	52,230	54,045	53,529	45,757	41,956	40,412
Gross Receipts ...	62,448	63,422	61,450	55,307	47,932	45,935
Surplus	10,218	9,377	7,921	9,550	5,976	5,523

[Return No. 25.]

RETURN RELATING TO STATE IMPLEMENT WORKS.

—	1938-39.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.	1934-35.	1933-34.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital ...	121,554	121,554	121,816	121,816	121,816	122,815
Revenue Capital ...	123,509	123,509	118,750	119,034	119,034	119,034
Total ...	245,063	245,063	240,566	240,850	240,850	241,849
Working Expenses ...	59,948	54,852	52,238	61,465	59,062	59,474
Interest Charges ...	12,086	12,138	11,421	11,447	11,214	12,393
Total Annual Cost	72,034	66,990	63,659	72,912	70,276	71,867
Gross Receipts ...	68,164	60,905	67,832	75,700	72,761	71,051
Deficiency ...	3,870	6,085	...	...	...	816
Surplus ...	...	...	4,173	2,788	2,485	...

[Return No. 26.]

RETURN RELATING TO STATE QUARRIES.

—	1938-39.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.	1934-35.	1933-34.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital ...	39,953	35,596	34,996	34,996	35,031	35,031
Revenue Capital ...	872	872	872	872	872	872
Total ...	40,825	36,468	35,868	35,868	35,903	35,903
Working Expenses ...	30,773	20,569	12,087	18,556	15,676	19,855
Interest Charges ...	1,815	1,797	1,785	1,855	2,040	2,150
Total Annual Cost	32,588	22,366	13,872	20,411	17,716	22,005
Gross Receipts ...	30,074	22,464	13,117	20,717	16,736	19,320
Deficiency ...	2,514	...	755	...	980	2,685
Surplus ...	...	98	...	306	...	...

[Return No. 27.]

RETURN RELATING TO STATE SHIPPING SERVICE.

—	1938-39.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.	1934-35.	1933-34.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital ...	630,680	634,204	421,879	368,494	508,494	508,494
Working Expenses ...	(a) 216,888	196,677	173,071	171,026	166,768	168,757
Interest Charges ...	33,872	26,435	19,937	24,330	28,432	34,328
Total Annual Cost	250,760	223,112	193,008	195,356	195,200	203,085
Gross Receipts ...	(a) 203,151	189,748	172,006	180,346	167,569	181,603
Deficiency ...	47,609	33,364	21,002	15,010	27,631	21,482

(a) Estimated.

[Return No. 28.]

RETURN RELATING TO STATE SAW MILLS.

—	1938-39.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.	1934-35.	1933-34.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital ...	272,618	274,121	276,513	287,326	287,326	287,927
Revenue Capital ...	26,115	31,115	36,115	51,115	81,115	81,115
Total ...	298,733	305,236	312,628	338,441	368,441	369,042
Working Expenses ...	(d) 568,493	(c) 628,498	(b) 559,894	(a) 530,832	509,988	425,692
Interest Charges ...	14,919	15,489	15,986	17,648	20,529	23,616
Total Annual Cost	583,412	643,987	575,880	548,480	530,517	449,308
Gross Receipts ...	629,366	698,222	597,578	591,167	622,717	498,755
Surplus ...	45,954	54,235	21,698	42,687	92,200	49,447

(a) Does not include £30,000 repayment of Revenue Capital.

(b) Does not include £15,000 repayment of Revenue Capital.

(c) Does not include £5,000 repayment of Revenue Capital.

(d) Does not include £5,000 repayment of Revenue Capital.

[Return No. 29.]

RETURN RELATING TO WYNDHAM MEAT WORKS.

—	1-2-38 to 31-1-39.	1-2-37 to 31-1-38.	1-2-36 to 31-1-37.	1-2-35 to 31-1-36.	1-2-34 to 31-1-35.	1-2-33 to 31-1-34.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loan Capital ...	1,072,380	1,072,380	1,072,380	1,049,308	1,049,308	1,044,408
Working Expenses ...	391,672	345,160	270,929	351,278	265,218	249,655
Interest Charges ...	53,619	53,611	50,468	57,656	60,462	72,383
Total Annual Cost	445,291	398,771	321,385	408,934	325,680	322,038
Gross Receipts ...	440,375	378,386	285,096	358,048	283,485	253,857
Deficiency ...	4,916	20,385	36,289	50,886	42,195	68,181

[Return No. 30.]

SUMMARY OF TRANSACTIONS OF FUNDS, THE EXPENDITURE OF WHICH IS NOT SUBJECT TO PARLIAMENTARY APPROPRIATION, FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1939.

Fund.	Balance, 1st July, 1938.	Receipts during Year.	Payments during Year.	Balance, 30th June, 1939.
	£	£	£	£
Hospital Fund (see Return No. 34)...	17,465	290,574	305,355	2,684
Forest Improvement and Reforestation Fund (see Return No. 35) ...	89,043	51,934	52,163	88,814
Road Funds (see Return No. 36) ...	128,167	1,044,082	1,145,273	26,976
Metropolitan Markets Trust ...	2,166	18,333	(a) 19,866	633
Fremantle Harbour Trust ...	...	537,283	(b) 537,283	...
Bunbury Harbour Board ...	1,100	24,050	23,176	1,974
	237,941	1,966,256	2,083,116	121,081

(a) Includes Payments on account of—Interest, £7,894; Sinking Fund, £797; and profits, £832.

(b) Includes Payments on account of—Interest, £143,538; Sinking Fund, £18,901; Replacement Fund, £2,000; and Surplus Cash, £99,098.

[Return No. 31.]

THE AGRICULTURAL LANDS PURCHASE ACT, 1909, and AMENDMENTS.

Position of Estates under the above Act, at 30th June, 1939.

[Amount Authorised £1,500,000.]

Estates.	Receipts.				Payments.				Balances.		
	Proceeds of De-bentures.	Sale of Lots, Rents, etc.	In-terest.	Total.	Purchase Money.	Survey Expenses, Interest, etc.	De-bentures Re-deemed.	Total.	Amount Over-drawn.	In Hand.	In-vested.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Annelebrook ...	4,992	713	....	5,705	4,992	2,619	....	7,611	1,906	....	....
Avondale ...	40,940	42,688	3,417	95,054	40,940	58,219	....	109,163	12,214	....	....
Baecton ...	32,875	12,327	....	45,202	32,875	22,760	....	55,635	10,433	....	....
Bowes ...	54,352	80,950	17,433	152,735	54,352	59,712	36,352	150,418	82	....	2,401
Brunswick ...	5,650	9,522	1,605	16,777	5,650	5,925	5,650	17,225	448	....	....
Bucklands ...	30,162	15,181	....	45,343	30,162	15,567	30,162	75,891	30,548	....	....
Henty ...	4,526	8,349	34	12,909	4,526	4,608	4,527	13,661	752	....	....
Homebush ...	1,250	1,979	742	3,971	1,250	1,471	1,250	3,971	....	....	....
Jelcobline ...	8,320	10,311	298	18,929	8,320	9,560	1,000	18,880	....	....	49
Jingalup ...	2,734	2,688	15	5,437	2,734	2,859	2,734	8,327	2,890	....	....
Kookatea ...	16,170	5,728	....	21,898	16,170	7,579	....	23,749	1,851	....	....
Marjidin ...	4,452	7,880	1,749	14,081	4,452	6,216	4,452	14,120	39	....	....
Mendel ...	16,586	7,860	224	24,670	16,586	8,681	....	25,267	597	....	....
Narra Tarra ...	24,119	40,115	3,881	68,115	24,119	21,412	24,119	69,650	1,535	....	....
Norman ...	7,000	11,444	4,303	22,747	7,000	8,747	7,000	22,747	....	....	....
Oakabella ...	22,000	38,741	12,018	72,759	22,000	30,315	22,000	70,315	....	2,444	....
Pickering ...	4,295	1,895	106	6,296	4,295	2,474	....	6,769	473	....	....
Porongorup ...	1,764	840	39	2,643	1,764	871	....	2,635	....	8	....
Uljugulup ...	3,350	3,927	461	7,738	3,350	2,019	....	5,369	....	37	2,332
Weirs ...	700	....	....	700	700	345	....	1,045	345	....	....
Wongoodny ...	42,260	9,215	....	51,475	42,260	19,464	....	61,724	10,240	....	....
Yandanooka...	140,000	190,292	9,162	348,454	140,000	149,162	18,100	307,262	....	4,639	36,553
Estates under S.S. Scheme	....	307,218	....	307,218	....	237,252	....	237,252	....	69,966	....
	477,506	818,763	55,487	1,351,756	477,506	672,837	157,346	1,307,689	74,362	77,094	41,395
£118,429											
Cr. Balance £44,067											

[Return No. 32.]

DISSECTION OF CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND EXPENDITURE, 1931-32 TO 1938-39.

Item.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Interest	3,268,775	3,238,628	3,253,234	3,231,562	3,229,161	3,258,860	3,391,569	3,440,331
Sinking Fund	238,604	265,762	294,515	318,305	338,471	359,759	397,827	449,074
Exchange	620,058	666,982	504,286	469,237	454,250	460,459	453,902	470,829
Unemployment Relief	643,996	346,956	232,191	72,496	49,870	51,144	51,966	46,859
Salaries and Wages	3,053,594	3,056,742	3,238,133	3,432,644	3,618,271	3,017,527	4,006,298	4,306,084
Materials	686,400	665,837	720,850	727,015	787,970	920,234	906,021	1,049,207
Grants	113,224	109,050	115,718	138,909	154,754	155,756	136,644	139,315
Pensions	68,999	74,896	81,861	100,762	118,014	124,570	131,097	134,241
All other	899,562	871,382	835,321	1,007,595	1,194,532	1,308,279	1,305,411	1,033,712
Total	9,593,212	9,196,234	9,270,609	9,493,525	9,945,343	10,550,638	10,820,786	11,170,102

[Return No. 33.]

LOAN REPAYMENTS.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE.

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

[Return No. 34.]

HOSPITAL FUND.—TRANSACTIONS DURING THE YEARS 1934-35 TO 1938-39.

	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.
<i>Receipts.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Balance from previous year ...	...	...	...	7,889	17,465
Hospital Tax Collections ...	183,398	206,539	234,599	245,660	264,072
Treasury Grants	15,000	...	...	12,936	1,502
Recoup of Expenditure on Buildings ...	...	...	28,085	7,000	25,000
Miscellaneous Receipts	379	2,828	8,369	780	...
Overdraft at end of year ...	649	23,021	...	...	...
	199,426	232,388	271,053	274,265	308,039
<i>Payments.</i>					
Overdraft at beginning of year ...	7,415	649	23,021	...	...
Administration Expenditure ...	4,697	4,950	4,233	4,569	4,481
Hospitals Expenditure—					
Departmental	64,876	89,748	89,241	91,898	123,978
Non-Departmental Subsidies, etc.	121,271	135,189	143,694	160,245	174,658
Miscellaneous	1,167	1,852	2,975	88	2,238
Balance at end of year ... ..	...	...	7,889	17,465	2,684
	199,426	232,388	271,053	274,265	308,039

[Return No. 35.]

FORESTS IMPROVEMENT AND RE-FORESTATION FUND—TRANSACTIONS DURING THE YEARS 1934-35 TO 1938-39.

	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.
<i>Receipts.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Balance from previous year ...	28,075	52,251	78,364	80,512	89,043
Appropriation from Revenue Fund ...	34,404	41,998	46,594	54,765	46,964
Sundry Receipts	3,599	3,615	4,451	14,026	4,970
	66,078	97,864	129,409	149,303	140,977
<i>Payments.</i>					
Expenditure on Forest Improve- ments and Re-forestation during the year	13,827	19,500	48,897	60,260	52,163
Balance at end of year	52,251	78,364	80,512	89,043	88,814
	66,078	97,864	129,409	149,303	140,977

[Return No. 33.]

ROAD FUNDS.—TRANSACTIONS DURING THE YEAR 1938-39.

	Main Roads Contribu- tions Trust Account.	Metro- politan Traffic Trust Account.	Transport Co-ordina- tion Fund.	Federal Aid Roads Agree- ment Account.	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Balances from Year 1937-38 ...	1,303	12,441	442	113,981	128,167
Receipts during Year—					
License Fees and Permits ...	...	197,951	21,011	...	218,962
Contributions by Local Authorities ...	855	...	...	...	855
Premiums on Omnibus Routes ...	...	...	220	...	220
Commonwealth Grant ...	...	...	...	823,162	823,162
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	...	...	326	...	326
Other Receipts in Suspense ...	...	...	251	...	251
Transfers to other Funds ...	2,158	210,392	22,250	937,143	1,171,943
Transfers from other Funds ...	38,573	38,573	806	...	38,573
Totals ...	40,731	171,819	22,556	937,143	1,172,249
Payments during Year—					
Administration, Plant, Office Equip- ment, etc. ...	...	22,791	6,111	23,274	52,176
National Debt Commission Sinking Fund ...	...	...	...	17,623	17,623
Treasury—Interest, Sinking Fund, and Premiums ...	...	7,396	220	...	7,616
Road Construction, Maintenance, Surveys, etc. ...	38,820	1,604	...	832,332	922,756
Distributions to Local and Statutory Authorities ...	...	129,296	14,248	...	143,544
Other Payments in Suspense ...	...	...	199	...	199
Subsidies paid for the operation of various Road Transport Services ...	...	...	1,859	...	1,359
	38,820	161,087	22,137	923,229	1,145,273
Balances in hand at 30th June, 1939	1,911	10,732	419	13,914	26,976

[Return No. 37.]

TOTAL STATE TAXATION PAID TO THE CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND, TRUST ACCOUNTS, AND SPECIAL ACCOUNTS, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1939.

Particulars.	Paid to C.R. Fund.	Paid to Trust or Special Accounts.	Total.	Taxation per Head. (a)
	£	£	£	£ s. d.
Probate and Succession Duties ...	123,798	...	123,798	0 5 4
Other Stamp Duties ...	274,995	...	274,995	0 11 11
Land Tax ...	115,229	...	115,229	0 5 0
Income Tax—				
State Income Tax and Dividend Duty (b)	880,300	...	880,300	1 18 1
Financial Emergency Tax (c)	1,214,695	...	1,214,695	2 12 6
Hospital Tax (d)	...	264,072	264,072	0 11 5
Liquor Licenses ...	77,071	...	77,071	0 3 4
Racing—				
Entertainments Tax on Admission ...	12,082	...	12,082	0 0 6
Stamp Duty on Betting Tickets ...	8,437	...	8,437	0 0 5
Income Tax on Stakes ...	1,914	...	1,914	0 0 1
Totalisator Duty ...	57,146	...	57,146	0 2 6
Totalisator Licenses ...	802	...	802	...
Stamp Duty on Tote Dividends ...	489	...	489	...
Motor Taxation ...	22,181	428,378	450,559	0 19 6
Other Vehicles ...	...	6,408	6,408	0 0 3
Entertainments ...	91,381	...	91,381	0 3 11
Vermitt Tax ...	...	20,617	20,617	0 0 11
Licenses, not elsewhere included ...	16,902	...	16,902	0 0 9
	2,897,422	719,475	3,616,897	7 16 5

(a) Based on population as at 31st December, 1938, viz., 462,461.

(b) Includes Gold Mining Profits Tax £135,740.

(c) Financial Emergency Tax:—Stamp Sales and Deductions £608,034; Assessments £606,661.

(d) Hospital Tax:—Stamp Sales and Deductions £171,276; Assessments £92,796.

[Return No. 38.]

STATEMENT SHOWING RECEIPTS FROM COMMONWEALTH, 1901-02 TO 1938-39.

Year.	Contri- bution to Sinking Fund.	Contri- bution towards Interest.	Surplus Revenue Re- turned.	Payment per Head, 25/-.	Special Payment to W.A.	Interest on Trans- ferred Prop- erties.	Dis- abilities Grant.	Total.
PERIOD COVERED BY BRADDON CLAUSE.								
*1901-02 to 1910-11	£ ...	£ ...	£ †8,872,722	£ ...	£ ...	£ ...	£ ...	£ 8,872,722
PERIOD COVERED BY PER CAPITA PAYMENTS AND SPECIAL PAYMENT TO W.A.								
1911-12 to 1926-27	...	...	...	6,632,264	2,556,248	462,010	565,905	10,216,427
PERIOD COVERED BY FINANCIAL AGREEMENT ACT.								
1927-28 ...	77,908	£483,286	...	...	...	25,775	300,000	886,969
1928-29 ...	91,598	£463,578	...	...	...	47,868	300,000	903,044
1929-30 ...	97,863	473,432	...	...	...	...	300,000	871,295
1930-31 ...	106,166	473,432	...	...	...	...	300,000	879,598
1931-32 ...	118,946	473,432	...	...	...	...	300,000	892,378
1932-33 ...	126,781	473,432	...	...	...	...	500,000	1,100,213
1933-34 ...	136,826	473,432	...	...	...	...	600,000	1,210,258
1934-35 ...	143,871	473,432	\$133,000	...	...	...	600,000	1,360,303
1935-36 ...	151,247	473,432	\$35,000	...	...	...	800,000	1,458,679
1936-37 ...	157,016	473,432	\$33,000	...	...	...	500,000	1,163,448
1937-38 ...	162,524	473,432	...	...	...	...	575,000	1,210,956
1938-39 ...	167,013	473,432	...	...	...	...	570,000	1,210,445
Total, 12 years ...	1,537,759	5,681,184	201,000	...	...	73,643	5,645,000	13,138,586

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

GRANTS FOR ROADS, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND ASSISTANCE TO INDUSTRIES FOR YEAR 1938-39—PAID TO TRUST FUNDS.

<i>Federal Roads Agreement Act—</i>						£	£
Contribution from Petrol Tax :							
For Roads ...						805,539	
For Sinking Fund ...						17,623	
							823,162
<i>Unemployment Relief—</i>							
Youth Employment ...						14,000	
							14,000
<i>Assistance to Industries—</i>							
Relief to Primary Producers ...						468,227	
Fruit-growers' Relief ...						406	
Rural Relief ...						300,000	
Assistance to Pearling Industry ...						5,300	
							773,933
<i>Other Grants—</i>							
Local Public Works ...						6,650	
							6,650
							£1,617,745

In addition £2,187 was received from the Commonwealth for investigation re Tobacco Industry, £1,214 for Investigation re Die Back Disease in Fruit, £500 for Banana Growing investigations and £250 for Toxic Paralysis Investigations.

Service	Loan Li- ability.	Expenditure :					Receipts.	Net Ex- penditure.	Cost per Head
		Indirect.		Direct.		Total.			(a)
		Interest and Ex- change.	Sinking Fund.	Con- solidated Revenue Fund.	Trust and Special Accounts.				
1.—Education—	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
(a) Education Department and Schools ...	1,335,774	56,738	6,223	725,116	...	788,077	15,456	772,621	1 13 5
(b) University	34,115	1,449	164	42,445	...	44,058	...	44,058	0 1 11
(c) Technical Education	77,085	3,275	297	58,740	...	62,312	4,244	58,068	0 2 6
(d) Agricultural Education	98,778	4,195	467	22,828	...	27,490	10,216	17,274	0 0 9
(e) Library, Museum, Observatory ...	35,956	1,527	173	10,265	...	11,965	530	11,435	0 0 6
(f) Deaf, Dumb and Blind	884	37	4	3,300	...	3,341	...	3,341	0 0 2
Total 1	1,582,592	67,221	7,328	862,694	...	937,243	30,446	906,797	1 19 3
2.—Health, Hospitals, and Charities—									
(a) Public Health ... ..	...	...	...	47,537	...	47,537	10,667	36,870	0 1 7
(b) Care of Sick and Mentally Afflicted, Health of Mothers and Children	1,112,413	47,251	4,967	131,126	353,768	537,112	(b) 71,667	465,445	1 0 2
(c) Recreation Facilities ... ..	...	...	...	8,300	...	8,300	...	8,300	0 0 4
(d) Relief of Aged, Indigent and Infirm, Child Welfare	88,364	3,753	423	151,406	...	155,582	31,158	124,424	0 5 5
(e) Miners' Phthisis ... ..	...	...	...	71,882	...	71,882	25,000	46,882	0 2 0
(f) Natives... ..	...	...	...	50,927	...	50,927	9,607	41,320	0 1 10
(g) Unemployment Relief ... ..	...	...	...	57,421	...	57,421	963	56,458	0 2 5
Total 2	1,200,777	51,004	5,390	518,599	353,768	928,761	149,062	779,699	1 13 9
3.—Law, Order and Public Safety—									
(a) Administration of Justice	44,099	1,873	211	92,190	...	94,274	123,247	Cr. 28,973	Cr. 0 1 3
(b) Police	186,656	7,928	889	255,680	...	264,497	52,895	211,602	0 9 2
(c) Gaols and Reformatories	54,530	2,315	261	32,382	...	34,958	1,528	33,430	0 1 5
(d) Public Safety ... ..	...	...	...	25,303	...	25,303	13,037	12,266	0 0 6
Total 3	285,285	12,116	1,361	405,555	...	419,032	190,707	228,325	0 9 10
GRAND TOTAL	3,068,654	130,341	14,079	1,786,848	353,768	2,285,036	370,215	1,914,821	4 2 10

(a) Based on Population as at 31st December, 1938, viz., 462,461. (b) Includes £49,915, Hospital Fund Receipts.

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

Class of Goods.	1938-1939.		1937-1938.		1936-1937.		1935-1936.		1934-1935.	
	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.	Tonnage.	Percentage of Total.
Coal, Coke, and Charcoal ...	299,048	10.46	307,096	10.03	282,561	10.10	269,558	9.34	230,302	8.55
Ores and other Minerals ...	280,478	9.81	297,075	9.70	309,263	11.04	349,934	12.13	334,302	11.93
Wool ...	28,426	0.99	26,714	0.87	24,840	0.89	30,520	1.06	29,049	1.04
Hay, Straw, and Chaff ...	45,074	1.58	42,469	1.39	57,996	2.07	55,878	1.93	45,584	1.63
Wheat ...	750,495	26.24	768,838	25.11	485,906	17.36	571,928	19.81	799,183	28.60
Other Grain and Flour ...	163,449	5.72	140,378	4.68	133,089	4.76	126,505	4.38	149,911	5.36
Firewood ...	43,495	1.52	151,312	4.94	242,234	8.66	244,452	8.47	236,334	8.43
Local Timber ...	317,339	11.10	403,663	13.18	351,885	12.56	376,349	13.04	341,081	12.17
Imported Timber ...	2,298	0.03	1,810	0.06	1,428	0.05	1,978	0.07	1,679	0.06
Fruit and Garden Produce ...	113,062	4.13	80,303	2.62	85,680	3.07	96,842	3.35	91,284	2.90
Fertilisers ...	279,563	9.78	293,574	9.59	258,263	9.23	233,924	8.10	212,814	7.59
All other goods ...	531,414	18.59	543,684	17.93	565,103	20.21	523,973	18.32	332,313	11.85
Total ...	2,859,141	100.00	3,061,921	100.00	2,798,448	100.00	2,886,048	100.00	2,803,316	100.00

Class of Goods.	1938-1939.		1937-1938.		1936-1937.		1935-1936.		1934-1935.	
	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.	Earnings.	Percentage of Total.
Coal, Coke, and Charcoal ...	£ 179,659	6.67	£ 180,670	6.52	£ 160,780	6.33	£ 155,637	6.16	£ 135,414	5.95
Ores and other Minerals ...	98,386	3.53	109,922	3.87	100,117	3.94	98,020	3.88	83,825	3.68
Wool ...	74,079	2.75	69,906	2.52	63,762	2.51	85,584	3.39	83,360	3.67
Hay, Straw, and Chaff ...	38,498	1.43	36,637	1.32	40,860	1.96	46,229	1.83	37,555	1.65
Wheat ...	478,759	17.78	495,174	17.83	314,405	12.37	367,991	14.66	528,880	23.25
Other Grain and Flour ...	95,535	3.56	82,275	2.97	77,823	3.06	73,592	2.91	89,823	3.88
Firewood ...	10,929	0.41	13,734	0.50	15,524	0.61	18,963	0.77	19,371	0.85
Local Timber ...	255,451	9.48	319,131	11.42	287,844	11.33	300,318	11.89	235,746	12.58
Imported Timber ...	3,190	0.12	2,261	0.08	2,233	0.09	2,743	0.11	2,167	0.10
Fruit and Garden Produce ...	120,387	4.69	99,824	3.60	104,005	4.12	113,143	4.48	101,933	4.48
Fertilisers ...	75,735	2.81	79,934	2.89	71,812	2.83	65,417	2.59	59,842	2.63
All other goods ...	1,258,896	46.73	1,283,033	46.33	1,292,365	50.85	1,200,982	47.53	852,892	37.50
Total ...	£2,693,484	100.00	£2,769,401	100.00	£2,541,170	100.00	£2,526,619	100.00	£2,274,828	100.00

[Return No. 41.]

TRADE, PRODUCTION, POPULATION, Etc.

	1928-29.	1929-30.	1930-31.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.
Railway and Tram- way Revenue	£4,127,939	£3,981,994	£3,425,220	£3,183,977	£3,203,018	£3,165,503	£3,562,357	£3,711,597	£3,754,454	£3,932,510	£3,883,347
Railway Mileage (Route)	4,079	4,111	4,179	4,235	4,338	4,360	4,359	4,353	4,357	4,376	4,378
Wool exported ...	£3,910,886	£2,779,113	£2,386,538	£2,345,570	£2,553,592	£2,810,846	£3,413,589	£4,671,736	£4,164,433	£3,161,540	£3,251,721
* Wheat produced (bushels)	33,790,040	39,081,183	53,604,149	41,521,245	41,791,866	37,305,100	26,985,000	23,315,417	21,540,000	30,224,800	(a) 30,711,000
* Hay produced ... (tons)	421,504	428,323	491,595	453,353	485,368	512,439	492,947	504,571	412,982	450,410	(a) 435,000
Gold produced (e) ...	£1,638,212	£1,690,699	£2,235,761	£3,794,035	£4,610,376	£5,306,102	£5,213,894	£6,713,027	£8,101,168	£9,438,078	£10,784,852
Coal produced	£415,926	£416,350	£371,956	£281,174	£292,235	£269,302	£297,591	£334,797	£328,750	£362,106	£371,713
Other Minerals pro- duced (d)	£36,041	£59,045	£28,176	£19,008	£47,348	£65,178	£93,391	£113,140	£140,446	£200,817	£168,575
Timber exported ...	£960,435	£803,154	£503,696	£857,953	£258,510	£484,241	£631,228	£675,932	£699,613	£982,394	£721,361
† Number of Sheep...	8,943,002	9,556,823	9,882,761	10,098,104	10,417,031	10,322,350	11,197,156	11,082,972	9,007,535	8,732,070	(a) 9,158,767
† Number of Cattle...	837,527	836,646	812,844	826,532	857,473	885,069	912,016	882,761	792,508	740,241	(a) 766,122
† Number of Horses	160,876	159,523	156,973	156,489	157,443	159,646	161,630	160,181	155,177	151,067	(a) 143,428
Area of land selected (acres)	2,618,318	1,541,707	1,024,787	533,572	463,356	351,313	310,170	281,921	521,117	718,823	627,440
Area of land leased (acres)	14,822,663	8,886,464	3,253,044	3,492,791	3,281,418	7,543,950	5,327,978	4,613,172	3,020,517	3,888,060	3,201,701
Area of land under cultivation (c)	12,927,793	13,803,310	14,407,756	14,212,769	14,196,094	14,024,056	14,528,108	14,906,056	15,216,219	15,677,822	(a) 15,788,389
* Area of land under crop (acres)	4,259,269	4,566,001	4,792,017	3,961,459	4,261,047	4,215,380	3,338,618	3,724,308	3,849,841	4,185,952	(a) 4,630,000
Tonnage Shipping, Inwards	3,688,802	3,955,079	3,687,357	3,555,403	3,549,604	3,564,705	3,767,174	3,827,038	3,720,523	4,104,922	(a) 4,384,840
Tonnage Shipping, Outwards	3,674,298	3,932,476	3,686,229	3,530,279	3,563,979	3,567,884	3,775,102	3,881,105	3,773,586	4,111,171	(a) 4,418,079
Exports, including Gold	£17,185,954	£17,769,529	£17,975,502	£16,296,086	£15,587,412	£17,291,577	£16,879,168	£18,891,679	£20,091,133	£23,106,537	£22,971,279
Exports, excluding Gold	£15,900,545	£13,133,726	£11,238,158	£11,374,476	£10,893,066	£11,964,430	£11,717,923	£12,165,281	£13,040,185	£13,740,172	£12,261,404
Imports ...	£20,053,772	£18,781,650	£10,879,854	£10,656,821	£12,180,700	£12,832,517	£14,226,405	£16,111,631	£18,023,359	£19,334,013	£18,018,634
Savings Bank De- posits	£12,142,575	£11,719,493	£9,636,023	£7,864,997	£7,447,503	£8,182,395	£8,967,577	£9,468,344	£9,710,932	£10,004,412	£10,002,930
Savings Bank With- drawals	£11,590,206	£12,026,896	£10,877,719	£8,734,317	£7,747,033	£7,938,122	£8,501,441	£8,958,575	£9,425,583	£9,853,281	£10,285,055
Excess of Arrivals over Departures	8,017	2,902	(b) 2,325	(b) 1,502	(b) 553	(b) 655	(b) 72	483	(b) 207	1,099	343
Population end of Financial Year	421,063	429,112	432,183	435,111	438,852	442,027	445,692	450,243	454,231	460,161	465,429

* Season ended 28th February. † As at 31st December of year first mentioned. (a) Preliminary figures, liable to slight revision. (b) Excess of Departures over Arrivals.
 (c) Area cropped, cleared, fallowed, ringbarbed, etc. (d) Calendar year first mentioned. (e) Australian Currency Value.