

1906.

—
VICTORIA.

STATE RIVERS AND WATER SUPPLY COMMISSION.

REPORT, STATEMENT, AND ESTIMATES.

PRESENTED TO BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF
SECTION 49 OF THE WATER ACT 1905.

By Authority:

J. KEMP, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, MELBOURNE.

No. 40.—[9d.]—10406.

STATE RIVERS AND WATER SUPPLY COMMISSION.

The State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, appointed 1st May, 1906, in pursuance of the provisions of Section 49 of the *Water Act* 1905, submits the following Report, Statement, and Estimates:—

By the *Water Act* 1905, in addition to other powers and duties imposed on the Commission, the control and management of the Works, Irrigation and Water Supply Districts, Waterworks Districts, and the property of the Waterworks Trust set out, with the amount of Capital Cost and other details, in the following Tables, were vested in the Commission, viz. :—

(1) STATE WORKS.

(a) FREE HEAD-WORKS.

Description of Works.	Amount of Capital Cost at 30th June, 1906, on which no Interest is to be charged in respect of Work, excluding Cost of Loan Flotation.
	£ s. d.
Broken River Works	14,852 15 0
Goulburn River Works, together with the Waranga Reservoir (to be handed over when completed)	693,835 0 0
Kow Swamp Works	180,399 19 7
Loddon River Works	153,673 18 11
Lake Lonsdale Reservoir	48,639 0 2
Lower Wimmera Compensation Works	8,558 7 3
Long Lake Pumping Works	27,346 16 5
Kerang North-West Lakes Works	9,587 2 4
Total	1,136,892 19 8

(b) OTHER STATE WORKS.

Description of Works.	Capital Sum at 30th June, 1906, standing at the debit of each of such Works. Subject to addition by Proportion of Expenses of recent Loan Conversion; figures not yet available.
	£ s. d.
Geelong Water Supply Works	456,450 6 6
Coliban System of Waterworks	1,219,734 13 11
Mallee Distribution Works	(For Capital Sum, see page 4, Sea Lake.)
Mallee Local Storage Works	
Total	1,676,185 0 5

In addition to the above State Works, the Commission has the control and management of the Glenorchy Works and Donald Weir, constructed by the Wimmera United Waterworks Trust.

(2) IRRIGATION AND WATER SUPPLY DISTRICTS.

Name of District.	Total Advances excluding Cost of Loan Flotation.	Capital written off by Acts, Nos. 1625 and 1651.	Amount paid in Redemption to Treasury.	Capital Sum at 1st May, 1906, standing at the debit of the Trust having jurisdiction over the District immediately pre- ceding the commence- ment of the <i>Water Act</i> 1905, excluding Cost of Loan Flotation.
	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cohuna	151,213 6 5	93,968	512 6 9	56,732 19 8
Koondrook and Myall	15,468 10 2	12,080	52 15 5	3,335 14 9
Benjeroop and Murrabit	12,936 4 0	7,200	64 3 0	5,672 1 0
Swan Hill	24,799 13 7	19,799	162 10 0	4,838 3 7
Gunbower West	5,889 0 1	..	..	5,889 0 1
Kerang East	14,024 18 10	6,984	17 10 1	7,023 8 9
Macorna North	18,557 9 9	8,082	81 0 0	10,394 9 9
Dry Lake	1,704 0 0	686	297 2 10	720 17 2
South Kerang	632 16 1	..	14 9 6	618 6 7
Marquis Hill	14,476 16 4	9,076	2 7 5	5,398 8 11
Rodney	223,269 8 3	149,949	2,901 9 4	70,418 18 11
Campaspe	61,700 0 0	52,685	305 6 8	8,709 13 4
Bacchus Marsh	14,406 2 4	8,906	212 14 6	5,287 7 10
Tragowel Plains	159,847 18 0	124,534	443 15 8	34,870 2 4
North Poort	6,977 13 9	4,867	52 8 3	2,058 5 6
East Bcoort	21,566 9 11	14,866	142 6 2	6,558 3 9
Leaghur and Meering	5,043 5 6	2,543	77 18 4	2,422 7 2
Wandella	30,754 9 0	20,929	111 8 8	9,714 0 4
Twelve Mile	5,050 0 0	3,250	28 0 0	1,772 0 0
Totals	788,318 2 0	540,404	5,479 12 7	242,434 9 5

(3) WATERWORKS DISTRICTS.

District.	Capital Sum at 30th June, 1906, standing at the debit of each of such Works, excluding Cost of Loan Flotation.
	£ s. d.
Long Lake	33,549 4 3*
Sea Lake	46,442 14 10

(4) WATERWORKS TRUST.

Trust.	Total Advances, excluding Cost of Loan Flotation.	Capital written off by Act No. 1625.	Capital Sum at 30th June, 1906, standing at the debit of the Trust.
	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
Loddon United	21,771 4 9	1,717	20,054 4 9

DISTRICTS SUPPLIED WITH WATER FOR DOMESTIC AND ORDINARY USE AND FOR WATERING CATTLE OR OTHER STOCK.

The whole of the Districts set out in (2), (3), and (4) above are now supplied by the Commission with water for domestic and ordinary use, and for watering cattle or other stock.

* Including £27,346 16s. 5d. for Free Head-works. See page 3.

LANDS UNDER IRRIGATED CULTURE.

Returns of the whole of the lands under irrigated culture within the State are in process of being compiled by the Commission. The following is an interim return compiled from information obtained from the Victorian Water Supply Department, and from that so far collected by the Commission.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE EXTENT OF IRRIGATION AND THE AREAS OF DIFFERENT KINDS OF CROPS WATERED—YEAR 1905-6.

Name of District.	Areas Irrigated (Acres).								Net Area of District, i.e., exclusive of Roads and Reserves.
	Cereals.	Lucerne and other Permanent Fodder Crops.	Sorghum and other Annual Fodder Crops.	Grass.	Orchards and Gardens.	Fallow for Ploughing.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	
<i>Supplied from Goulburn State Works.</i>									
Rodney	357	17,982	159	5,279	6,424	1,368	52	31,621	269,000
Echuca and Waranga ..	1,272	10,805	213	5,083	283	522	..	18,178	300,000
Totals ..	1,629	28,787	372	10,362	6,707	1,890	52	49,799	569,000
<i>Supplied from Kow Swamp State Works.</i>									
Dry Lake .. ..	..	..	60	895	10	..	10	975	1,510
Gunbower West	489	1,106	496	1,188	86	..	..	3,365	9,790
Kerang East	1,880	432	2,058	4,263	44	4	30	8,711	18,100
Macorna North	1,797	151	2,152	8,183	..	..	..	12,283	27,300
Marquis Hill	427	111	554	2,684	..	..	..	3,776	10,930
South Kerang	38	353	70	541	..	..	..	1,002	2,630
Wandella (portion) ..	1,109	560	649	2,979	..	..	..	5,297	11,600
Totals ..	5,740	2,713	6,039	20,733	140	4	40	35,409	81,860
<i>Supplied from Loddon State Works.</i>									
Wandella (portion) ..	1,108	559	649	2,978	2	..	..	5,296	11,600
East Boort	2,028	..	329	922	861	..	..	4,140	30,000
Leaghur and Meering ..	556	..	115	1,389	6	..	..	2,066	10,300
North Boort	972	..	..	811	..	..	..	1,783	10,000
Tragowel Plains	14,117	850	1,182	13,157	36	..	..	29,342	180,900
Twelve Mile	914	60	307	1,335	..	..	..	2,616	9,030
Totals ..	19,695	1,469	2,582	20,592	905	..	..	45,243	251,830
<i>Not supplied from State Works.</i>									
Bacchus Marsh .. ..	..	243	5	..	4	..	2	254	910
Benjeroop and Murrabit ..	1,981	369	253	3,588	68	4	..	6,263	19,740
Campaspe	160	148	..	493	26	..	..	827	44,530
Cohuna	7,746	6,437	5,349	14,644	441	156	13	34,786	94,230
Koondrook and Myall ..	1,187	591	509	2,934	18	..	..	5,239	12,590
Swan Hill*	3,057	3,662	54	2,650	137	..	..	9,560	14,400
Western Wimmera*	4	126	46	122	1,268	..	104	1,670	1,578,030
Totals ..	14,135	11,576	6,216	24,431	1,962	160	119	58,599	1,764,490
First Mildura*	1,000	1,962	..	..	24,383	538	..	27,883	35,000
Grand Totals ..	42,199	46,507	15,209	76,118	34,097	2,592	211	216,933	2,702,180

* The areas shown are the areas watered in 1904-5, the information for 1905-6 not being available.
 NOTE.—Areas watered more than once, are counted once for each watering.

VALUATION AND RATING.

As the Commission came into existence after rates for the current year had been made for the several Irrigation and Water Supply Districts, such rates will be collected as general rates for the period ending 31st December, 1906. Meanwhile, valuers have been appointed to value the properties in these and in certain Waterworks Districts subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission, preparatory to the levying of future general rates for the supply of water for domestic and ordinary use and for watering cattle or other stock. The valuers, in making these valuations, will also prepare a return setting out the number of persons dwelling on the lands valued. In the case of the Waterworks Districts subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission, rates for the like purpose will be made immediately on the completion of the valuations. In the Loddon United Waterworks Trust the present rating conditions will hold until 31st December next.

The following is a return of the Annual Value (Municipal) of Lands and Tenements and of the rates made and levied thereon for the year 1906 by the late controlling bodies in the districts named :—

Name of District.	Annual Value (Municipal) of Lands and Tenements.		Rate in the £1.
	£		s. d.
Cohuna	11,642	.. .. .	7 0
Koondrook and Myall	1,471	.. .. .	4 6
Benjeroop and Murrabit	2,649	.. .. .	2 0
Swan Hill	2,038	.. .. .	7 0
Gunbower West	1,138	.. .. .	5 0
Kerang East	1,905	.. .. .	4 6
Macorna North	3,113	{ Division 1	2 6
		{ Division 2	5 0
Dry Lake .. ..	..	.. .. .	<i>Nil.</i>
South Kerang	344	.. .. .	3 0
Marquis Hill	1,236	.. .. .	5 0
Rodney	59,565	.. .. .	1 6
Campaspe	7,062	.. .. .	1 6
Bacchus Marsh	7,221	{ Werribee Division	2 0
		{ Urban Division	1 6
		{ Parwan Division	0 1
		{ Lower Parwan Division	0 1
Tragowel Plains	19,276	{ Division 1	0 9
		{ Division 2	1 6
		{ Division 3	2 4
		{ Division 4	2 6
North Boort	1,344	.. .. .	1 6
East Boort	3,122	.. .. .	2 0
Leaghur and Meering	1,185	.. .. .	1 6
Wandella	2,682	.. .. .	2 0
Twelve-mile	1,004	.. .. .	1 9
Long Lake .. ..	..	.. .. .	2d. per acre
Sea Lake .. ..	..	.. .. .	<i>Nil.</i>
		{ Marong Shire Division	0 6
		{ East Loddon Shire Division	0 6
		{ No. 1 East Division	1 6
		{ No. 2 East Division	1 0
		{ No. 3 East Division	0 9
Loddon United Waterworks Trust*	61,615	{ Gordon Shire { No. 1 West Division	2 0
		{ No. 2 West Division	1 6
		{ No. 3 West Division	0 9
		{ Korong Shire { No. 1 Division	1 4
		{ No. 2 Division	0 9
		{ Charlton Division	0 6

* Taken over by the Auditor-General and transferred to Commission by Section 278, Water Act 1905.

GEELONG AND COLIBAN SYSTEMS.

For the Geelong Water Supply area and the Coliban Waterworks District, revised and amended by-laws have been made for the imposition of rates and charges and for the administration of the works. These by-laws have been published in the

Government Gazette (see pages 3247, 3248, 3249, 3512, 3513, and 3514) and in newspapers circulating in the districts affected.

GEELONG AND COLIBAN—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE.

The following is a statement of Receipts and Expenditure in respect of these systems for the year ended 30th June, 1906. It is compiled, as to the first ten months, from the records of the Victorian Water Supply Department; as to the last two, from the records of the Commission:—

Service.	Total Cost at 30th June, 1906, including Cost of Loan Flotation.*	Expenditure from Consolidated Revenue.		Receipts paid into Treasury to Credit of Consolidated Revenue, Year ended 30th June, 1906.	Receipts over Expenditure on Maintenance and Management equal to % on Total Cost.
		Interest on Loans and Expenses paying same.	Maintenance and Management, including Proportion of Head Office Expenses.		
	£	£	£	£	£
Geelong Works	456,450	15,540	3,385	13,470	10,085 = 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
Coliban Works	1,219,734	40,600	10,438	34,045	23,607 = 1 $\frac{9}{10}$ %

* Subject to addition by proportion of expenses of recent Loan Conversion. Figures not yet available.

REGISTER OF LANDS—IRRIGATION AND WATER SUPPLY DISTRICTS.

As a necessary preliminary to the compilation of a Register of Lands within the Rodney Irrigation and Water Supply District, a complete contour survey of such lands has been arranged for. It should be completed by 31st December, 1906. Arrangements will, from time to time, as found necessary, be made for like surveys of other districts.

IRRIGATION CHARGE.—CHARGES FOR SALES OF WATER.

Pending the completion of the Registers of Lands in the several Irrigation and Water Supply Districts and the making of an Irrigation Charge, the Commission intends charging for water supplied for irrigation purposes in any district at the rates set out in the Regulations of the Trust having jurisdiction over such district immediately preceding the commencement of the *Water Act* 1905.

ADMINISTRATION OF IRRIGATION AND WATER SUPPLY DISTRICTS.

With a view of securing more effective administration of these districts, a Resident Secretary and Collector and a Resident Engineer have been appointed for each of the following centres:—

Rodney.—Office at Tatura for the Rodney Irrigation and Water Supply District.

Resident Secretary and Collector, Mr. J. A. Carey.

Resident Engineer, Mr. W. Hector.

Kerang.—Office at Kerang for the Cohuna, Koondrook and Myall, Benjeroop and Murrabit, Swan Hill, Gunbower West, Kerang East, Macorna North, South Kerang, Dry Lake, Marquis Hill, and Wandella Irrigation and Water Supply Districts.

Resident Secretary and Collector, Mr. D. G. Rattray.

Resident Engineer, Mr. C. R. Anderson.

Loddon.—Office at present at Mincha (to be removed to Pyramid Hill) for the Tragowel Plains, North Boort, East Boort, Leaghur and Meering, and Twelve-mile Irrigation and Water Supply Districts.

Resident Secretary and Collector and Resident Engineer, Mr. G. Laing.

Campaspe.—Office at Rochester, for the Campaspe Irrigation and Water Supply District.

Resident Secretary and Collector, Mr. H. T. Downe.

Resident Engineer, Mr. A. E. Castles.

Bacchus Marsh.—Office at Bacchus Marsh for the Bacchus Marsh Irrigation and Water Supply District.

Resident Secretary and Collector and Resident Engineer, Mr. D. A. Little.

ADMINISTRATION OF WATERWORKS DISTRICTS.

For the present it is proposed to administer the Long Lake and Sea Lake Waterworks Districts and Loddon United Waterworks Trust from Head Office. The Resident Engineer for the Loddon will, however, supervise works in the Loddon United Waterworks Trust District.

WORKS CARRIED ON OR COMPLETED.

As the distributary channels in the Irrigation and Water Supply Districts were in a very defective condition, the Commission expended from funds provided by the Treasurer, approximately, £2,800 on their improvement. It is proposed to continue such work at seasonable opportunities until the whole of the schemes under the control of the Commission are brought into a state of efficiency.

CONTRACTS ENTERED INTO.

A contract for the supply of cast-iron pipes for improvement of reticulation at Eaglehawk (Coliban Waterworks) was entered into with Messrs. J. Nixon and Sons, the amount being £388 2s. 4d.

GAUGING OF RIVERS.

Arrangements have been made to continue the gauging and the recording of the volume and flow of rivers and streams and of the volume of lakes and lagoons as required by the *Water Act* 1905. A new gauging station has been established on the Barwon River, some distance above the junction of the Moorabool.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS.

Statements of the moneys received and disbursed in respect of State Works for the year ended 30th June, 1906, as to the first ten months by the Victorian Water Supply Department, and as to the last two by the Commission, and in respect of Irrigation and Water Supply Districts for the two months ended 30th June, 1906.

	Revenue.	Expenditure.			Excess.	
		Annual Votes including proportion of Head Office Expenses.	Deduct Expenditure on Capital Works.	Net Expenditure on Management and Maintenance.	Revenue over Expenditure as per Column 4.	Expenditure over Revenue.
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Coliban Works	34,045	14,832	4,394	10,438	23,607	
Geelong Works	13,470	5,081	1,696	3,385	10,085	
Goulburn Works	204	2,352	..	2,352	..	2,148
Loddon River Works	28	325	..	325	..	297
Kow Swamp Works	215	1,880	..	1,880	..	1,665
Broken River Works	7	212	..	212	..	205
North-West Lakes	110	211	..	211	..	101
Mallee—						
Lake Lonsdale	134	304	..	304	..	170
Distributing Channels .. ..	..	2,471	..	2,471	..	2,471
Long Lake	1,241	2,451	..	2,451	..	1,210
Lower Wimmera .. ..	..	153	..	153	..	153
Irrigation and Water Supply Districts*	5,990	3,777	..	3,777	2,213	
Totals	55,444	34,049	6,090	27,959	35,905	8,420

* For two months only.

Balance Revenue in excess over Net Expenditure as per column 4	£27,485
Deduct Capital Expenditure as per column 3	6,090
Net balance Revenue in excess over Expenditure ..	21,395

ESTIMATES.

Estimates of the moneys required for the expenses to be incurred by the Commission, and of the moneys available from the revenue of the Commission therefor, for the year ending 30th June, 1907 :—

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE.					
Coliban	..	..	..	..	£14,460
Geelong	..	..	..	..	4,350
Irrigation and Water Supply Districts	..	..	..	..	21,800
Long Lake	..	..	..	..	2,800
Goulburn-Waranga	..	..	..	..	2,500
Loddon	..	..	..	..	560
Kow Swamp	..	..	..	..	2,500
Broken River	..	..	..	..	450
North-West Lakes	..	..	..	..	350
Lake Lonsdale	..	..	..	..	280
Distributing Channels	..	..	..	..	2,980
Lower Wimmera	..	..	..	..	310
River Gauging	..	..	..	..	1,500
Surveys for Irrigation and Water Supply Districts	..	..	..	..	3,000
Salaries over £250	..	..	..	..	3,639
Total	—	..	..	..	£61,479

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS.					
Coliban	..	..	..	..	£33,850
Geelong	..	..	..	..	13,450
Irrigation and Water Supply Districts	..	..	..	..	26,000
Long Lake	..	..	..	..	1,800
Sea Lake	..	..	..	..	900
Other State Works	..	..	..	..	800
Total	..	..	..	..	76,800
Deduct Estimated Expenditure as above	..	..	..	..	61,479
Balance	..	..	..	..	15,321
Balance as above	..	..	..	..	15,321
Deduct Salaries of two Commissioners	..	..	..	..	1,300
Balance available for Interest, <i>see</i> page 10	..	..	..	..	£14,021

Estimates of the sums to be provided by the State to meet Interest on its Loan Expenditure for Works of Water Supply, both State Works of Water Supply and Works vested in Authorities other than the Board of Land and Works or the Commission, and of the sums available from the revenues of the Commission and from the moneys receivable from such Authorities to provide such Interest for the year ending 30th June, 1907—

Loan Liability for Works of Water Supply to 30th June, 1906, exclusive of Loan Liability in respect of "Yan Yean" supply	..	..	..	..	£6,122,151
Deduct Redemption Contributions (paid into Treasury)	..	..	..	..	147,789
Net Loan Liability*	..	..	..	..	£5,974,362
Annual Interest payable (including Interest £9,504 on account of Trust Funds upon which no Interest is paid by the Treasurer)	..	..	..	..	£208,998

* Includes unexpended balances amounting to £63,171, made up as follows:—From Country Tramways Acts Nos. 1933 and 1943—£27,497 and from other Loan Acts—£35,674.

Estimates of sums available to provide such Interest for the year ending 30th June, 1907 :—

From the Revenues of the Commission (<i>see</i> page 9)	..	£14,021
From the moneys receivable from such other authorities (as estimated by the Victorian Water Supply Department) excluding £1,060 payable on Loans made under Surplus Revenue Acts	54,440

Estimated total sum available to provide such Interest		<u>£68,461</u>
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STUART MURRAY, Chairman.

G. GARSON, Commissioner.

WM. CATTANACH, Commissioner.

Treasury Gardens,
Melbourne, 21st September, 1906.