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PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF
NEW SOUTH WALES
FOR 1943.

Ordered to be printed, 7 March, 1944.

Board of Fire Commissioners of New South Wales,
19th January, 1944.

The Honourable J. M. Baddeley, M.L.A.,
Colonial Secretary,
Sydney.

Sir,

The Board of Fire Commissioners of New South Wales presents its report for the year 1943, in pursuance of section 19 (2) of the Fire Brigades Act, 1909-1941, being the thirty-fourth Annual Report.

BOARD.

The only change recorded by reason of the triennial elections of the Board held in February was that in which Mr. S. H. A. Jordan replaced Mr. M. J. Piper, J.P., as representative of the Permanent Firemen.

The elections thus resulted in the return of Messrs. Thomas Sidney Douglas, J.P., Edward Noel Haythorpe, J.P., and Francis Westlake Walton, unopposed, by the Insurance Companies; the Honourable Thomas Davies Mutch by the Councils of the Municipalities and Shires enumerated in Part I of Schedule One of the Fire Brigades Act; Alderman Hector Kenneth West Mackenzie by the Councils of the Municipalities and Shires mentioned in Part II of the said Schedule, Mr. John Franklin Beswick, J.P., by the members of the Volunteer Fire Brigades, and Mr. Sidney Henry Alexander Jordan by the Permanent Firemen, members of the Fire Brigades' Association of New South Wales.

The regulations governing the elections of members of the Board were amended, as published in the Government Gazette of 18th June, 1943. The amendment extends the time allowed between the closing date for nominations for election to the Board of Fire Commissioners and election day from twenty-eight days to three months.

ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE.

For the maintenance of the fire services in the various fire districts throughout the State, the estimates of expenditure adopted for the year 1943 totalled £571,668, as shown in Appendix II. The estimate in respect of the Sydney Fire District was £447,148, while those of the one hundred and twenty-nine other fire districts amounted to £124,520.

The number of contributory Municipal and Shire Councils in the Sydney Fire District was fifty-five. The percentage of their total contributions for 1943 to that of the assessed annual value of all ratable property returned by them in 1942 was 6s. 1.9d., while for 1944 the contributions by the Councils will be equivalent to 5s. 11.2d. per £100 of the assessment in accordance with the returns of values furnished in 1943, which totalled £37,592,452, an increase of £1,294,492. The area of the Sydney Fire District remained unaltered at 298.76 square miles.

Contributions were received from one hundred and twenty-six insurance companies and forty-seven firms, and which represented 18.69 per cent. of the amount of premiums returned in respect of the Sydney Fire District.

The estimates for the year 1944 amount to £570,364, a reduction of £1,304. That for the Sydney Fire District is £446,252, and for the one hundred and twenty-nine other districts unitedly £124,112.

FIRE DISTRICTS—ADDITIONS AND ALTERATIONS.

By notification published in Government Gazette of 22nd October the provisions of the Fire Brigades Act were applied by the Board, with the consent of the Minister, to a further part of the Shire of Central Illawarra, viz., Mount St. Thomas, and the boundaries of the Wollongong Fire District altered by grouping the area in question with the Municipality of Wollongong and the parts of the Municipality of North Illawarra and the Shire of Central Illawarra to reconstitute the Wollongong Fire District. Under the provisions of the Local Government Act the Municipality of Hillston and the Shire of Carrathool were united as from the 15th November, 1943, and the united area constituted the Carrathool Shire. By proclamation in the Government Gazette of 24th December, 1943, the provisions of the Fire Brigades Act were applied to such part of the Shire as formerly comprised the part of the Municipality of Hillston to which the Act formerly applied.

The number of Fire Districts remained at 130.

INCREASE OF STATUTORY LIMIT.

In order to maintain the fire services satisfactorily at Broken Hill, Cardiff, Morpeth, and West Wallsend the consent of the Minister was obtained to the statutory limit of one-fourth of a penny in the pound on the unimproved capital value of all ratable land in the respective Fire Districts being exceeded, at the request of the Councils concerned and in pursuance of section 34 of the Act.

FIRE STATIONS AND SITES.

Additional accommodation was provided at Alexandria, Bexley, Drummoyne, Matraville, Mortdale and also at Albury for the housing of motor fire engines. Allotment 17 of section 1, comprising a strip of land 3 feet wide along the eastern boundary of the Murwillumbah Fire Station was dedicated as an addition to the property and the Board appointed trustee. An allotment of vacant land at Hornsby was sold at a satisfactory price.

LEASES.

The leases of the Lawson and Manilla Fire Station were renewed for five years; those of Guigong and Rydalmere for two years; Cabramatta for one year; and the agreement in respect of the Morpeth site continued for one year.

FIRES.

In Sydney and suburbs 5,127 alarms of fire were recorded, being a decrease of 143 compared with the previous year. Of this number 1,366 were false alarms, 47 chimney fires and 3,714 other fires.

The number of malicious false alarms was 556, needless 204 and accidental 606.

Sixty fires were classified as suspicious in origin as compared with 70 in 1942. The most notable fires were:—

30th January.—Mountain-street, City. Randall & Plotkin, and others, canvas goods manufacturers,

22nd April.—4 Sarah-street, Newtown. Hardman Bros. Pty. Ltd., bakers, etc.

1st May.—69-73 Commonwealth-street, City. Griffiths Bros. Ltd., tea and coffee merchants.

28th September.—174 Clarence-street, City. Stuart Walker & Co. Pty. Ltd., butcher's supplies.

18th November.—797-801 Botany-road, Waterloo. Electrical Plant Manufacturers Ltd., electrical equipment manufacturers.

Fire calls, numbered 2,127 in the Country Fire Districts as compared with 2,100 for the year 1942. The most notable fires were:—

6th April.—Belmore-street, West Tamworth. West Tamworth Milling Co., flour mills.

27th October.—Railway-road, West Wyalong. F. Crago & Sons, Pty. Ltd., flour mills.

ELECTRICAL—FIRE ALARMS.

One additional street fire alarm was installed at Rockdale, making a total in Sydney and suburbs of 747; while there are also in addition 94 special alarms. Connected to the various fire stations are 519 sprinkler installations of the Grinnell type, 185 of the Central, 15 of the Phoenix, 6 of the Star, 10 of the Grimes, 1 of the Clarke Vigilant, and 1 of the Tate; 5 Thermostatic alarms of the Kirkby type, 5 of the Vigilant, 47 of the Reichel, 86 of the May-Oatway and 272 private fire alarms.

In the Country Fire Districts the total number of telephone alarms remained at 243, mechanical alarms 166 and special alarms 29. Twenty-one (21) sprinkler installations are connected to the Fire Stations at Newcastle, 2 at Bathurst, 2 at Broken Hill, 1 at Tamworth, 1 at West Maitland, 4 at Liverpool, and 2 at Wagga Wagga; 3 thermostatic fire alarms of the May-Oatway type at Broken Hill and 5 at Newcastle, with 3 Reichel and also 1 at West Maitland, while 199 private fire alarms are in communication with various country stations.

Seven (7) additional fire alarm pillars were provided in the Sydney Fire District and 1 in the Country districts, making the total pillars now installed 536 and 172 respectively.

THEFTS AND DAMAGE.

The following districts were affected by interference with street fire alarms and thefts of and damage to parts of the instruments:—City of Sydney, Abermain, Alexandria, Arncliffe, Ashfield, Auburn, Bankstown, Bathurst, Bexley, Boolaroo, Burwood, Canterbury, Carrington, Concord, Crow's Nest, Darlinghurst, Dee Why, Drummoyne, Enfield, Glebe, Granville, Guildford, Hamilton, Homebush, Hurstville, Kogarah, Kurri Kurri, Lakemba, Leichhardt, Lithgow, Manly, Maroubra, Marrickville, Mortdale, Neutral Bay, Newcastle, Newtown, Paddington, Parramatta, Petersham, Randwick, Redfern, Rozelle and St. Peters. Although the occurrences were not as numerous as in the previous year, yet the fact that persons tamper with these vital links in the communications of the Service is cause for much concern.

A grave responsibility rests upon such persons, as their acts may cause delay resulting in damage by fire or even loss of life.

OFFENCES AND CONVICTIONS.

Children were admonished for giving malicious false alarms of fire at Casino, Goulburn and Wagga Wagga. A youth was convicted but released upon bond in connection with the destruction by fire of the railway booking offices at Harris Park and Wentworthville, and at Newcastle two youths pleaded guilty to a charge of arson and were sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment; upon a bond being entered into, however, the sentence was suspended. At Parramatta three boys were found guilty of arson, two were committed to Institutions for three years, the other being remanded to the care of his parents for two years; while at Wollongong a boy was similarly charged and dealt with. For lighting a bush fire at Narrabeen a man was charged and subsequently committed to a mental institution, and a youth was found guilty for causing malicious damage to property at Manly and sentenced to a Farm Home for an indefinite period. A man was convicted and sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment and ordered to pay compensation for having maliciously set fire to a dwelling at Cessnock, whilst at Wellington the son of the owner of the premises was charged with a similar offence. For setting fire to a school building at Newtown a boy was convicted of arson and committed to a Salvation Army Home for twelve months. Two men pleaded guilty to lighting a fire at Kogarah, one being bound over and ordered to make restitution to one-half of the damage caused while the other was sentenced to eighteen months' hard labour, and for transmitting a false alarm of fire to the Sydney University a boy was apprehended and returned to the care of the Child Welfare Department. Malicious damage to a street fire alarm in the City of Sydney resulted in a man being convicted and fined.

BRIGADE.

The authorised strength of the Brigade in the Sydney Fire District is 138 officers, 624 permanent firemen, 262 volunteer, 598 reserve and 1,526 auxiliary reserve firemen; in the Greater Newcastle Fire District 10 officers, 32 permanent firemen, 115 volunteer, 73 reserve and 275 auxiliary reserve firemen; in Broken Hill 3 officers, 7 permanent firemen, 16 volunteer, 14 reserve and 14 auxiliary reserve firemen, and in the other fire districts 21 officers, 6 permanent firemen, 1,374 volunteer, 903 reserve and 185 auxiliary reserve firemen.

To provide further protection against the increased fire risk due to war conditions, an additional permanent fireman and pumping engine were attached to the Albury Fire District.

Members of the Women's Fire Auxiliary, of which there are 527 at present enrolled, and of the Reserve and Auxiliary Reserve Corps, provided demonstrations of the efficiency attained in training at field activity days held in May and November, at which competitive events in fire brigade practices were conducted under Service conditions.

Personnel of the permanent, volunteer and auxiliary services of the Brigade with Lease-Lend appliances and equipment participated in Civil Defence Day Procession held in September and received most favourable commendation.

DEATHS.

Recorded with regret are the deaths of Sub-Station Officer F. W. Sorlie; ex-Chief Officer F. Jackson; ex-Third Officer J. F. Ford; ex-Divisional Officer T. Gorman; ex-Station Officers W. Davenport and J. Mallard; ex-Senior Firemen P. L. Collins and W. J. Reid; also Senior Fireman W. G. Mann and First-Class Fireman K. E. Twogood, as well as the following Volunteer Reserve and Auxiliary Reserve Firemen:—Volunteer Firemen D. Jenkins (Bexley), E. G. Sanders (Grafton), L. See (Homeville), E. Graham (East Maitland), H. Fairleigh (Mere-wether), Captains S. Lake and W. Terry (Mittagong), W. Fairhall (Morpeth), D. Gurley (Stockton); Reserve Firemen T. Burnett (Arncliffe), J. W. Watson (Lithgow), and S. J. Stewart (Port Kembla); Auxiliary Reserve Firemen W. Howlett (Gordon), N. Gunn (Homebush), and J. W. Fitzsimmons (Newcastle East).

SUPERANNUATION AND RETIREMENTS.

Nine hundred and forty-one (941) employees contributed in respect of pensions under the provisions of the Superannuation Act.

The following were retired on pension:—Inspector W. J. Bartle; District Officers R. W. Houghton and T. W. Jacobs; Station Officers W. D. Hall, H. Richmond, J. Shuttleworth, and A. J. Baber; Sub-station Officers A. G. Anderson, W. J. Kinnear; Senior Firemen W. C. Corkill, H. J. Duff, A. Fairs, E. W. Pitts, C. E. Reed, C. E. Rose; First Class Firemen W. G. L. Hunter, W. C. Locke, A. M. Taylor and P. J. Taylor; and Principal Mechanic N. C. Lucas.

LONG SERVICE MEDALS AND BARS.

Long Service Medals for fifteen years' good service on the permanent fire brigade staff were awarded to Senior Firemen W. J. Ahern, A. W. Anderson, J. Armour, F. C. Ashcroft, M. Barker, J. Bell, D. R. S. Bennett, F. A. Bignall, C. S. Bonnar, F. W. Boyling, S. A. Bradley, E. C. Byrne, A. Cartwright, E. W. Christiansen, J. Cochrane, W. A. Cork, C. H. Croaker, G. J. Davis, J. Donnelly, R. C. Downie, C. W. Edwards, C. L. Fairhall, G. D. Fallon, P. J. Farrell, R. K. Faulkner, W. B. Finn, H. A. Fowler, R. B. Gilbert, B. G. Glover, A. E. Godfrey, J. R. Hatton, G. P. Holdom, H. J. Horan, A. A. Ikin, J. S. Ivey, F. A. Johnson, R. H. Killington, A. W. Laing, J. W. Lambert, N. E. Lawrence, E. Lloyd, C. E. Lucas, R. W. Macpherson, J. Maher, T. W. Mannell, H. T. Maxwell, L. H. Mayhew, J. McCartney, H. C. McColl, P. J. McEntee, L. L. Mead, S. A. Mitchell, L. C. Morrow, T. Nash, H. C. Newell, J. E. O'Brien, E. L. O'Keefe, T. Parkes, P. C. Pask, A. E. Perry, S. L. Player, A. G. Robertson, A. J. Samuelson, T. Simpson, H. J. Sclater, F. H. Smith, R. H. Stuart, H. P. Swanson, J. V. Swanson, C. R. Tucker, A. R. Turner, W. O. Urquhart, B. P. Watters, S. J. Weatherby and L. White, and First Class Firemen W. J. Baxter and F. J. Dornay; and Bars to that medal for an additional fifteen years' service to District Officer H. Bissett, Station Officers A. Chidgey, G. F. Grayhurst, F. Macquarie, S. P. Medealf and B. C. Thornton; Sub-Station Officers E. F. Armstrong, R. C. Pepper and G. Shaw; and Senior Fireman R. Gagg.

VOLUNTEER LONG SERVICE AWARDS.

Volunteer long service medals were granted to Volunteer Firemen D. W. James (Abermain), R. J. Gibson (Banks-town), M. W. Watts (Berry), G. W. Bennett (Blayney), Captain F. H. Shipway and Volunteer Firemen E. Christopherson and D. Kohler (Cabramatta), W. C. Whitford (Canterbury), T. Sutton (Casino), Captain J. H. McLean and Volunteer Firemen O. C. Iverach (Coolamon), G. Johnson (Cooma),

M. Gordon (Cootamundra), N. J. Burbidge (Dorrigo), C. Guiliani and S. J. Woodhouse (Eastwood), E. W. Corby, J. P. Helgate, H. Lundie and H. J. Williams (Fairfield), O. E. Windsor (Grafton), Captain H. J. Smyth and Volunteer Fireman W. R. Clifford (Grenfell), J. McL. Duncan (Guildford), J. Knight, F. Robinson and A. E. Spalding (Juncie), J. Fitzpatrick (Kearsley), D. C. Dorrington (Kitchener), G. C. Sams (Kurri Kurri), H. C. Steel (Lidcombe), H. W. Clayden (Lorn), A. G. Bullock (Mascot), R. H. Clark (Morpeth), V. A. Fing (Moree), G. Apps, C. A. E. Carpenter and F. G. Le Gros and A. J. Tye (Mortdale), L. W. Tindale (Narrandera), T. R. Houston (Newcastle East), G. E. Anderson and J. E. Mercer (New Lambton), Captain E. C. Parry and Volunteer Fireman A. H. Freeman (Riverstone), A. S. Howlett (Singleton), E. R. Windsor (South Grafton), H. Vickers (Temora), B. C. Romer and C. C. Rutter (Tenterfield), Captain F. Cox and Volunteer Firemen A. L. Horn, J. Horn, W. E. Jones and T. L. Owen (Teralba), W. R. Roberts (Thirroul), A. E. Mills and W. C. Mills (West Maitland), J. Hind (West Wallsend), W. Gillis (Willoughby), and C. J. C. Hager (Windsor).

Bars to that medal for an additional fifteen years' service were awarded to Captain W. Reckenberg (Abermain), Volunteer Fireman G. J. Hodge (Albury), Captain B. Musgrave (Braidwood), Volunteer Fireman H. F. May (Condobolin), Captain A. E. Kemp (Cootamundra), Volunteer Fireman J. Girdham (Forbes), Volunteer Firemen J. T. Pritchard (Grafton), P. J. Mowett (Hamilton), Captain J. Matich (Kurri Kurri), P. Deadman (Liverpool), L. Watson (Mascot), W. A. Day (Newcastle East), J. Allen and T. Maguire (Nowra), J. Jackson (Tighe's Hill), and N. Yeates (West Wallsend); also ex-Volunteer Fireman E. J. White (Tamworth).

FIRE APPLIANCES.

New motor fire engines having a capacity of 350-400 gallons per minute were installed at Bankstown, Burwood and Rozelle and an additional motor engine placed at Albury. Changes in appliances were effected at Adamstown, Bega, Berry, Cardiff, Coff's Harbour, East Maitland, Griffith, Hamilton, Molong, Murrumburrah, Muswellbrook, New Lambton, Nowra, Tumut, Warren, Werris Creek, Weston and Wyong.

Under lease-lend arrangements forty-four (44) "American La France" fire engine chassis with pumps, having a capacity of 1,000 gallons per minute were received and after completion were placed in service, as well as a further four (4) "Mack" fire engine chassis with pumps, having a capacity of 750 gallons per minute, and a stationary pumping unit of similar capacity.

HOSE.

Nineteen thousand nine hundred (19,900) feet of 2½ inch unlined hose of English manufacture and one hundred and thirty-nine thousand (139,000) feet of 2½ inch unlined hose of American manufacture were received from the Department of Home Security.

CLOTHING AND BOOT FACTORIES.

The Board's activities in the manufacture of uniform clothing and boots for the Fire Service have been satisfactorily continued.

INSPECTION OF BUILDINGS, &C.

Officers of the Fire Service conducted regular inspection of theatres and public halls under the Theatres and Public Halls Act and of premises under the Factories and Shops Act and Height of Buildings Act. Inspections were also made of business premises, hospitals, etc., and drill and instruction imparted to the various staffs in the city and country in the matter of fire prevention and fire extinction.

WAR.

The state of preparedness to deal with fires resulting from enemy action was continued and whilst the Board is pleased to record that the probability of such action appears less acute than formerly, yet the preservation of stocks of goods and machinery essential to the war effort, from the ravages of fire, remains a vital necessity.

The acquisition of large capacity pumping engines and other equipment from the Commonwealth Government under lease-lend arrangements has materially assisted the Board to this end. At a representative gathering at Benelong Point, Sydney, on 30th January, the first eight units were formally handed over by the Minister for Home Security, Mr. H. P. Lazzarini, M.P., to the Chief Secretary, the Hon. J. M. Baddeley, M.L.A., representing the Government of New South Wales. A public display was given with the newly acquired engines and other units of the fire service, manned by members of the Reserve and Auxiliary Corps and Women's Fire Auxiliary in service dress.

The Board has been in close co-operation with the Fighting Services in the matter of fire prevention and fire extinction and units of the Navy, Army and Air Force have continued to receive training in Fire Brigade practices. Members of the United States Navy have also received special instruction.

In connection with the National Emergency Services plan of campaign, 10,379 Fire Guards, in addition to 2,062 Wardens, were instructed in fire extinguishing principles and practice by Fire Brigade personnel.

Lectures and practical demonstrations in methods of first-aid fire fighting were given to the staff and pupils of 190 metropolitan and thirty-three country public schools.

Information received from official sources relative to the later types of incendiary bombs and methods to be adopted for dealing with them has been incorporated in brigade instruction manuals.

The establishment of an alternative water supply for fire fighting purposes in Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong was not proceeded with by the authorities.

BUSH FIRES.

Full co-operation with the Bush Fires Advisory Committee has been maintained. The Chief Officer of Fire Brigades is a member of the committee.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT.

One hundred and thirty-five (135) claims were lodged under the provisions of the Workers' Compensation Act with the Government Insurance Office of New South Wales, with which the Board again covered its liability.

MOTOR VEHICLES (THIRD PARTY) INSURANCE.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Motor Vehicles (Third Party) Insurance Act, 1942, the Board insured its vehicles with the Government Insurance Office of New South Wales against liability in respect of the death of or bodily injury to persons caused by or arising out of the use of such vehicles.

INDUSTRIAL ARBITRATION ACT—RE BASIS OF RATES OF WAGES FOR EMPLOYEES.

During the year variations in the weighted average of the Retail Price Index Numbers for the five towns in this State on which the Needs Basic Wage for Government employees is calculated, resulted in an increase of such Needs Basic Wage over the year from £4 11s. to £4 13s., which, together with the fixed loading of 5s. applicable to such employees, made the increase of the total basic wage one from £4 16s. to £4 18s. per week.

Variations of the Index Numbers for Sydney resulted in a similar increase of the Needs Basic Wage from £4 11s. to £4 13s. per week for other employees subject to general State and Federal awards (other than the Clothing Trade Employees Award) based on those index numbers, but as the fixed loading applicable to such employees was 6s. the increase of the total basic wage was one from £4 17s. to £4 19s.

As a result of the variations abovementioned the salaries and wages payable under the New South Wales Fire Brigade Officers' Association Agreement, Fire Brigade Employees (State) Award, Federated Clerks' Union Agreement and General State and Federal Awards based on the Index Numbers for Sydney were increased by 1s. and 2s. as from the commencement of the first pay periods in the months of February and August, respectively, and reduced by 1s. as from the commencement of the first pay period in November. Wages payable under the Federal Clothing Trades Award, which are based on the Index Numbers for the six capital cities of Australia, and which only varies half-yearly, were increased by 1s. from the commencement of the first pay periods in May and November, respectively.

INDUSTRIAL ARBITRATION (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1943.

The Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act, 1943, came into operation by proclamation on the 8th day of November, 1943. This Act is one "to provide for the appointment of not more than five conciliation commissioners; for this and other purposes to amend the Industrial Arbitration Act, 1940, as amended by subsequent Acts; and for purposes connected therewith."

The Act was assented to 21st October, 1943.

FIRE BRIGADE EMPLOYEES (STATE) CONCILIATION COMMITTEE.

The members of the Committee ceased to hold office on 17th November, 1943, by virtue of the provisions of section 18 (6) of the Industrial Arbitration Act, 1940.

On 14th December, 1943, the Minister for Labour and Industry and Social Services, on the recommendation of the Industrial Commission of New South Wales, reappointed Messrs. T. S. Douglas and E. N. Haythorpe members, and Mr. J. F. Beswick alternate member, representing the Board.

FIRE BRIGADE EMPLOYEES (STATE) AWARD.

A log of claims for a new award was filed in July on behalf of the Fire Brigades' Association of New South Wales. The application was before the Fire Brigade Employees (State) Conciliation Committee and was adjourned generally to a date to be fixed.

The matter has not yet been finalised.

FACTORIES AND SHOPS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1943.

The Factories and Shops Act, 1912, as amended by the Factories and Shops (Amendment) Act, 1943, *inter alia*, now provides (section 39, subsection 3) that—

"Every factory or shop in which persons are employed on any floor above or below the ground floor shall be provided with sufficient means of escape in case of fire for the persons employed therein."

INSPECTIONS.

Members of the Board visited and inspected fire stations in Sydney and also in country districts, and took the opportunity to present long service awards to members of the permanent staff and volunteer firemen.

Representatives of the municipal and shire councils in the various fire districts were met, when matters of fire brigade interest were discussed.

LOANS.

One debenture of £2,500 was redeemed in respect of each of the two loans of £50,000 by the A.M.P. Society of 1928 and 1937, and one debenture of £5,000 and £1,000, respectively, in connection with the loans of £100,000 and £20,000 of 1941.

AUDIT.

A satisfactory report of the accounts of the Board was received from its auditors, Messrs. Robertson, Crane and Gibbons.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, the Board acknowledges with thanks and appreciation the services rendered to it by the Explosives Department, Labour and Industry and Social Services Department, Maritime Services Board, Metropolitan Water, Sewerage and Drainage Board, Police Department, Postmaster-General's Department, Department of Road Transport and Tramways and Valuer-General's Department.

Attention is invited to the report of the Chief Officer of Fire Brigades and other appendices, which furnish additional information.

We have, etc.,

T. J. SMITH, President.

J. F. BESWICK,

T. S. DOUGLAS,

E. N. HAYTHORPE,

S. H. A. JORDAN,

H. K. W. MACKENZIE,

T. D. MUTCH,

F. W. WALTON,

Members of the Board of
Fire Commissioners of
New South Wales.

SUMMARY.

Board.—Triennial Elections held in February.

Members elected.—Thomas Sidney Douglas, Edward Noel Haythorpe, Francis Westlake Walton (Insurance Companies), Hon. Thomas Davies Mutch (Municipal & Shire Councils, Sydney and Suburbs), Hector Kenneth West Mackenzie (Municipal & Shire Councils, Country), John Franklin Beswick (Volunteer Firemen), and Sidney Henry Alexander Jordan (Permanent Firemen).

Regulations governing election of members to Board, amended; extending period between closing date for nominations and election day from twenty-eight days to three months.

Estimates of Expenditure.—For the Sydney Fire District, £447,148; 129 other Fire Districts, £124,520; total £571,668.

Contributions by Councils in Sydney Fire District equivalent to 6s. 1.9d. per £100 of the total Assessed Annual Values.

One hundred and twenty-six insurance companies and forty-seven firms contributed to the Board.

Fire Districts—Additions and Alterations.—Provisions of the Fire Brigades Act extended to a further part of Central Illawarra Shire, viz., Mount St. Thomas; boundaries of Wollongong Fire District altered accordingly. Fire Brigades Act applied to part of Carrathool Shire which formerly comprised municipality of Hillston. Number of Fire Districts remained at 130.

Increase in Statutory Limit.—Minister's consent obtained to statutory limit of ½d. in £ on unimproved capital value being exceeded in the cases of the Broken Hill, Cardiff, Morpeth and West Maitland Fire Districts.

Fire Stations and Sites.—Additional accommodation provided at Alexandria, Bexley, Drummoyne, Matraville and Mortdale, also Albury for the housing of motor fire engines.

Allotment 17 of section 1 being an addition to the Murwillumbah Fire Station property was dedicated and the Board appointed trustee. The sale was effected of vacant land at Hornsby.

Leases.—Tenancy arrangements in respect to the Cabramatta, Gulgong, Lawson, Manilla, Morpeth and Rydalmere Fire Stations were renewed.

Fires.—In Sydney and suburbs, 5,127 alarms of fire were recorded, being a decrease of 143 compared with the previous year. Of this number 1,366 were false alarms, 47 chimney fires and 3,714 other fires.

The number of malicious false alarms was 556, needless 204, and accidental 606.

Sixty fires were classified as suspicious in origin as compared with 70 in 1942.

Electrical—Fire Alarms.—One additional street fire alarm was installed at Rockdale and eight new fire alarm pillars erected in Sydney and Country Fire Districts.

Thefts and Damage.—Interference with and theft of and damage to street fire alarms continued. Although the occurrences were not as numerous as in the previous year, yet the fact that persons tamper with these vital links in the communications of the service is cause for much concern, as delays may result in damage by fire or even loss of life.

Offences and Convictions.—A number of convictions were obtained and sentences and fines imposed in connection with charges of arson and careless use of fire. For the transmitting of false alarms of fire persons were apprehended and suitably dealt with.

Brigade.—The authorised strength of the Brigade in Sydney Fire District is 138 officers, 624 permanent firemen, 262 volunteer, 598 reserve and 1,526 auxiliary reserve firemen; in the Greater Newcastle Fire District, 10 officers, 32 permanent firemen, 115 volunteer, 73 reserve, and 275 auxiliary reserve firemen; in Broken Hill, 3 officers, 7 permanent firemen, 16 volunteer, 14 reserve, and 14 auxiliary reserve firemen; and in the other Fire Districts, 21 officers, 6 permanent firemen, 1,374 volunteer, 903 reserve, and 185 auxiliary reserve firemen. Members of the Women's Fire Auxiliary at present enrolled total 527.

Deaths.—The deaths of one officer and two firemen of the permanent staff, nine volunteer, three reserve, and three auxiliary reserve firemen are recorded, together with seven ex-members of the service (officers and firemen).

Superannuation and Retirements.—Nine hundred and forty-one employees contributed in respect of pensions under the provisions of the State Superannuation Act. Ten officers and ten firemen were retired on pension.

Long Service Medals and Bars.—Long Service Medals for fifteen years' good service in the permanent brigade were awarded to 77 firemen and bars for a further fifteen years' service to 10 officers and firemen.

Volunteer Long Service Awards.—Medals for fifteen years' service were awarded to 61 and bars for an additional 15 years' service to 17 members of the volunteer brigades.

Fire Appliances.—New motor fire engines were installed at Bankstown, Burwood and Rozelle; an additional appliance at Albury and changes effected at 18 other stations in country districts. Forty-four (44) "American La France" fire engine chassis, 1,000-gallon capacity, and 4 "Mack" 750-gallon capacity, were supplied by the Commonwealth Government under lease-lend arrangements.

Hose.—One hundred and fifty-eight thousand nine hundred feet of hose were received from the Department of Home Security against the Board's lease-lend requisition.

Clothing and Boot Factories.—The Board's activities in the manufacture of uniform clothing and boots for the Fire Service have been satisfactorily continued.

Inspection of Buildings, etc.—Inspection of premises licensed under Theatres & Public Halls Act; registered under the

Factories & Shops Act inspected by Fire Brigade officers. Drill and instruction in fire prevention and extinction imparted to staffs in hospitals and business premises, etc.

War.—Board's state of preparedness continued; whilst probability of fires through enemy action less acute, preservation of stocks of food and machinery essential to war effort a vital necessity.

Units of lease-lend pumping fire engines handed over to State Government by the Commonwealth at a public function at Benelong Point in January.

Close co-operation maintained with fighting services; units of Army, Air Force and Navy instructed and trained in fire extinction methods.

Wardens and Fire Guards provided with instruction, also staff and pupils of metropolitan and country public schools. Information as to characteristics and methods of dealing with new type incendiary bombs incorporated in brigade instruction manuals.

Alternative water supply for Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong not proceeded with.

Bush Fires.—Full co-operation with the Bush Fires Advisory Committee has been maintained. The Chief Officer of Fire Brigades is a member of the committee.

Insurances.—Board's liability under the Workers' Compensation Act and Motor Vehicles (Third Party) Insurance Act covered with Government Insurance Office of New South Wales.

Industrial Arbitration Act.—Variations in Needs Basic Wage and effect on Board's employees under various awards (Federal and State) recorded.

Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act.—Recorded as providing for the appointment of five Conciliation Commissioners and other purposes.

Fire Brigade Employees (State) Conciliation Committee.—Minister for Labour and Industry and Social Services, on the recommendation of the Industrial Commission of New South Wales, reappointed Messrs. T. S. Douglas and E. N. Haythorpe members and Mr. J. F. Beswick alternate member representing the Board.

Factories and Shops (Amendment) Act.—Amendment to section 39, subsection 3, of Factories and Shops Act, 1912, recorded as requiring the provision of means of escape from every floor above and below ground floor of factories or shops where persons employed.

Inspections.—Members of Board visited and inspected Country Brigades and presented long service awards to Volunteer Firemen, also conferred with representatives of Municipal and Shire Councils.

Loans.—Debentures amounting to £11,000 redeemed in respect of loans with the Australian Mutual Provident Society.

Audit.—Satisfactory report on Board's accounts submitted by Board's Auditors, Messrs. Robertson, Crane and Gibbons.

[illegible]

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Audit Fees	210	0	0	By Balance from 1942			
Board Fees	1,050	0	0	Cost of Administration as per Estimates, 1943—			
Exchange and Bank Charges	75	8	6	Sidney $\frac{2}{1}$ per cent.	9,839	8	10
Furniture	52	10	0	Other Districts 7 „	<u>8,146</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
Guarantee Premiums	14	7	6				
Law Costs	432	13	10				17,985 12 2
Life Assurance	111	13	6				
Pay Roll Tax	357	3	6				
Printing, etc.	1,354	8	5				
Salaries	13,236	19	8				
Sundries	221	16	8				
Superannuation	691	7	7				
Telephone Maintenance	105	7	5				
Travelling	269	18	9				
Balance							

LIABILITIES.						ASSETS.							
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Fund Account				29,346	17	0	Land—At Cost				48,295	19	11
Property and Equipment Account				705,341	7	5	Buildings—At Cost				408,675	14	
Debentures—Secured	155,500	0	0				Fire Appliances—At Cost or at Valuation where Units have been Reconditioned				408,615	7	6
" Accrued interest to date	2,142	1	8				Stocks on hand as certified—						
				157,642	1	8	Stores	23,293	1	3			
Superannuation Trust Account, as per contra.. ..				3,054	13	8	Workshops	57,963	18	1			
Mobile Canteen Fund Trust Account, as per contra				3,068	17	3	Electrical	6,508	13	3			
Commercial Banking Company of Sydney, Ltd. Current Account—Overdraft				40,287	18	0					87,760	12	7
Administration Account				7,109	17	8	Petty Cash—Secretary.... ..	30	0	0			
Venue and Expenditure Account				14,304	16	5	Brigades	229	0	0			
											259	0	0
							Commercial Banking Company of Sydney, Ltd. —Superannuation Trust Account as per contra				3,054	13	8
							Commercial Banking Company of Sydney Ltd. —Mobile Canteen Fund Trust Account as per contra—						
							Fixed Deposit..... ..	2,000	0	0			
							Current Account	1,068	17	3			
											3,068	17	3
							Unpaid Contributions				426	4	2
				£960,156	9	1					£960,156	9	1

ROBERTSON, CRANE AND GIBBONS,
Chartered Accountants (Aust.).

APPENDIX II.

ESTIMATE OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1943.

One-fourth payable by the Municipal or Shire Councils interested in the respective Fire Districts, one-fourth by the Government, and one-half by the Insurance Companies insuring property within such Districts.

Fire District.	£	s.	d.	Fire District.	£	s.	d.
1. Albury—The Municipality of Albury.....	1,392	0	0	31. Coff's Harbour—The town of Coff's Har-			
2. Alstonville—The town of Alstonville, in				bour, in Dorrigo Shire, including Jetty			
Tintenbar Shire. (The part described in				Town. (The part described in <i>Govern-</i>	440	0	0
<i>Government Gazette</i> , 12th August, 1927)...	252	0	0	<i>ment Gazette</i> , 15th September, 1939)	608	0	0
3. Armidale Municipality	1,180	0	0	32. Condobolin Municipality			
4. Ballina "	400	0	0	33. Coolamon—The town of Coolamon, in			
5. Balranald "	364	0	0	Coolamon Shire. (The part described in	488	0	0
6. Barraba "	304	0	0	<i>Government Gazette</i> , 18th November, 1927)			
7. Bathurst—The Municipality of Bathurst.				34. Cooma Municipality. (The part described	360	0	0
(As re-constituted, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> ,				in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 9th Nov., 1917) ...			
13th January, 1939)	1,456	0	0	35. Coonabarabran—The town of Coonabara-			
8. Bega Municipality	276	0	0	bran. in Coonabarabran Shire.—(The			
9. Bellingen—The town of Bellingen, in				part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 18th	332	0	0
Bellingen Shire. (The part described in				September, 1936)	372	0	0
<i>Government Gazette</i> , 22nd August, 1924)...	372	0	0	36. Coonamble Municipality	640	0	0
10. Belmont—The towns of Belmont, South				37. Cootamundra Municipality			
Belmont, Marks Point, in Lake Macquarie				38. Coraki—The town of Coraki, in Shire of			
Shire. (The part described in <i>Govern-</i>	608	0	0	Woodburn. (The part which formerly			
<i>ment Gazette</i> , 30th August, 1929).....	300	0	0	comprised the Municipality of Coraki, <i>vide</i>	252	0	0
11. Berry Municipality				<i>Government Gazette</i> , 16th February, 1934)	600	0	0
12. Blackheath—(1) The Municipality of Black-				39. Corowa Municipality	564	0	0
heath. (The part described in <i>Government</i>				40. Cowra "			
<i>Gazette</i> , 10th November, 1939.) (2) The				41. Cronulla—The town of Cronulla, with			
town of Mount Victoria, in Blue Moun-				Burraneer Bay, Caringbah, Gunnamatta			
tains Shire. (The part described in				Bay, Port Hacking, &c., in Sutherland			
<i>Government Gazette</i> , 20th October, 1939)...	748	0	0	Shire. (The part described in <i>Government</i>			
13. Blacktown—The town of Blacktown, in				<i>Gazette</i> , 13th November, 1936)	1,712	0	0
Blacktown Shire. (The part described in				42. Crookwell—The town of Crookwell, in			
<i>Government Gazette</i> , 7th November, 1936)	260	0	0	Crookwell Shire. (The part described in	428	0	0
14. Blayney—The Shire of Lyndhurst. (The				<i>Government Gazette</i> , 15th September, 1939)			
part proclaimed in <i>Government Gazette</i> ,				43. Dapto—The town of Dapto, in Central			
26th June, 1936, as the Blayney Urban				Illawarra Shire. (The part described in	332	0	0
Area, which formerly comprised the Muni-				<i>Government Gazette</i> , 27th September, 1935)	548	0	0
cipality of Blayney, <i>vide Government</i>	344	0	0	44. Deniliquin Municipality			
<i>Gazette</i> , 13th December, 1935)				45. Dorrigo—The town of Dorrigo, in			
15. Blue Mountains—The Shire of Blue				Dorrigo Shire. (The part described in	368	0	0
Mountains, part of, embracing Lapstone,				<i>Government Gazette</i> , 29th October, 1926)...	1,352	0	0
Glenbrook, Blaxland, Warrimoo, Valley				46. Dubbo Municipality	260	0	0
Heights, Springwood, Faulconbridge,				47. Dungog "	760	0	0
Linden, Woodford, Hazelbrook, Lawson,				48. Forbes "			
Bullaburra, Wentworth Falls. (The part				49. Gilgandra—The Gilgandra Urban Area,			
described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 29th				embracing the Town of Gilgandra in			
October, 1937)	1,272	0	0	Gilgandra Shire—(as re-constituted, <i>vide</i>	404	0	0
16. Boolaroo—The towns of Boolaroo, Argen-				<i>Government Gazette</i> , 9th January, 1942)...	1,228	0	0
ton, Teralba, Warner's Bay, in Lake Mac-				50. Glen Innes Municipality			
quarie Shire. (The part described in	680	0	0	51. Gosford—(1) The Municipality of Gosford,			
<i>Government Gazette</i> , 25th October, 1935)...	360	0	0	part of; (2) The Shire of Erina, part of;			
17. Bourke Municipality	392	0	0	being the town of Gosford with boundar-			
18. Bowral "				ies as described in <i>Government Gazette</i> ,	676	0	0
19. Braidwood—The town of Braidwood, in				15th June, 1934)			
Tallaganda Shire. (The part which form-				52. Goulburn—The Municipality of Goulburn.			
erly comprised the Municipality of Braid-				(As re-constituted, <i>vide Government Gaz-</i>	1,676	0	0
wood, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 23rd	244	0	0	<i>ette</i> , 12th October, 1934)	1,260	0	0
October, 1936)	7,620	0	0	53. Grafton Municipality			
20. Broken Hill Municipality				54. Greater Newcastle—The City of Greater			
21. Bulli—The towns of Bulli, Woonona,				Newcastle, embracing Adamstown, Broad-			
Austinmer, Thirroul, Coledale, Clifton,				meadow, Carrington, Cook's Hill, Hamil-			
Scarborough, Wombarra, in Bulli Shire.				ton, Honeysuckle, Inglewood, Islington,			
(The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> ,				Lambton, Maryville, Mayfield, Newcastle,			
13th October, 1939)	1,408	0	0	New Lambton, Merewether, Plattsburg,			
22. Cabramatta-Canley Vale Municipality.				Sandgate, Shortlands, Stockton, Tighe's			
(The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> ,				Hill, Waratah, Wallsend, Wickham.	31,724	0	0
1st November, 1940)	452	0	0	55. Grenfell Municipality	528	0	0
23. Camden Municipality	428	0	0	56. Griffith—The town of Griffith, and addi-			
24. Campbelltown Municipality	480	0	0	tional areas, in Wade Shire. (The part			
25. Canowindra—The Canowindra Urban Area				described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 23rd			
in Boree Shire (<i>vide Government Gazette</i> ,				October, 1936)	556	0	0
19th April, 1929)	376	0	0	57. Gulgong—The town of Gulgong, in Gulgong			
26. Cardiff—The town of Cardiff, in Lake Mac-				Shire, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 6th June,			
quarie Shire. (The part described in				1941. (The part described in <i>Government</i>	424	0	0
<i>Government Gazette</i> , 16th October, 1931)	500	0	0	<i>Gazette</i> , 1st November, 1940)			
27. Casino Municipality	1,348	0	0	58. Gundagai—The town of Gundagai, in			
28. Cessnock—(1) Cessnock Municipality (as				Gundagai Shire. (The part described in			
constituted, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 22nd				<i>Government Gazette</i> , 21st November, 1930)	408	0	0
October, 1926); (2) the towns of Bellbird,				59. Gunnedah Municipality (as re-constituted,			
Kitchener, Kearsley, Abernethy, in				<i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 18th June, 1937).	324	0	0
Kearsley Shire (late Cessnock Shire)—				60. Guyra—The town of Guyra, in Guyra Shire.			
Being the area described in <i>Government</i>				(The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> ,			
<i>Gazette</i> , 5th October, 1923, and the				31st May, 1929)	280	0	0
addit' onal parts described in <i>Government</i>				61. Hay Municipality	328	0	0
<i>Gazette</i> , 3rd Oct., 1924, and 12th Oct., 1928)	2,272	0	0	62. Hillston—The town of Hillston, in the			
29. Charlestown—The Townships of Charles-				Municipality of Hillston. (The part			
town and Kahibah, in Lake Macquarie				described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 2nd	368	0	0
Shire. (The part described in <i>Government</i>				October, 1936)	1,228	0	0
<i>Gazette</i> , 6th November, 1936)	312	0	0	63. Inverell Municipality	564	0	0
30. Cobar—The Municipality of Cobar. (As				64. Junee "			
re-constituted, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> ,							
4th August, 1939)	238	0	0				

APPENDIX II—continued.

Fire District.	£	s.	d.	Fire District.	£	s.	d.
65. Katoomba—(1) The Municipality of Katoomba, as re-constituted <i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 18th September, 1936; (2) The Town of Leura, in the Shire of Blue Mountains. (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 17th August, 1934)...	2,108	0	0	103. Scone—The Municipality of Scone	452	0	0
66. Kempsey Municipality	516	0	0	104. Singleton—(1) The Municipality of Singleton, (2) The Shire of Patrick Plains, the parts described in <i>Government Gazette</i> of 24th September, 1937—Combo, Dunolly, Kelso and Redbournberry.	408	0	0
67. Kiama "	364	0	0	105. South Grafton—The Municipality of South Grafton. (As re-constituted, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 9th June, 1939)	388	0	0
68. Kurri Kurri—(1) The towns of Abermain, Heddon Greta, Kurri Kurri, Neath, Weston, in Kearsley Shire (late Cessnock Shire). (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> 26th June, 1931, and the additional part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> 28th October, 1932). (2) The towns of Weston, Hebburn, Pelaw Main, Stanford-Merthyr, Spion-Kop, in Tarro Shire. (The parts described in <i>Government Gazette</i> 4th November, 1927)	1,412	0	0	106. Sutherland—The town of Sutherland, with Como, Gympsea Bay, Janalli, Miranda, &c., in Sutherland Shire. (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 15th November, 1940)	560	0	0
69. Kyogle—The Kyogle Urban Area, in Kyogle Shire	456	0	0	107. Swansea—The township of Swansea, in Lake Macquarie Shire. (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 6th Nov., 1936.) ...	360	0	0
70. Leeton—The town of Leeton, in Willim-bong Shire. (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 1st September, 1939)	916	0	0	108. Sydney—The Municipalities of (1) City of Sydney, (2) Alexandria, (3) Annandale, (4) Ashfield (as re-constituted, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 24th October, 1941), (5) Auburn, (6) Balmain, (7) Bankstown, (8) Bexley, (9) Botany, (10) Burwood, (11) Canterbury (as re-constituted, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 24th October, 1941), (12) Concord (as re-constituted, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 3rd December, 1937), (13) Darlington (14) Drummoyne, (as re-constituted, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 24th October, 1941), (15) Dundas (<i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 18th November, 1927), (16) Eastwood (<i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 3rd March, 1939), (17) Enfield (as re-constituted, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 14th April, 1938), (18) Ermington and Rydalmere (<i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 3rd May, 1929), (19) Erskineville, (20) Fairfield (the part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 2nd May, 1930), (21) The Glebe, (22) Granville, (23) Holroyd (<i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 22nd December, 1933), (24) Homebush (as re-constituted, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 3rd December, 1937), (25) Hunter's Hill, (26) Hurstville, (27) Kogarah, (28) Ku-ring-gai (<i>vide Government Gazette</i> 28th October, 1938), (29) Lane Cove (as re-constituted, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 16th May, 1941), (30) Leichhardt, (31) Lidcombe, (32) Manly, (33) Marrickville, (34) Mascot, (35) Mosman (as re-constituted, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 6th May, 1938), (36) Newtown, (37) North Sydney (as re-constituted, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 16th May, 1941), (38) Paddington, (39) Parramatta (as re-constituted, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 23rd October, 1936), (40) Petersham, (41) Randwick, (42) Redfern, (43) Rockdale, (44) Ryde, (45) St. Peters, (46) Strathfield, (47) Vaucluse, (48) Waterloo, (49) Waverley, (50) Willoughby (as re-constituted, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 16th May, 1941), (51) Woollahra, (52) Baulkham Hills Shire. (The part embracing Baulkham Hills and Northmead described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 22nd August, 1924), (53) Blacktown Shire. (The part embracing Toongabbie and Westmead, described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 31st July, 1925), (54) Hornsby Shire (the part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 31st July, 1936), (55) Warringah Shire (the part of the Shire from Harbord to Mona Vale and Church Point described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 8th November, 1940)	447,148	0	0
71. Lismore Municipality	1,848	0	0	109. Tamworth Municipality	1,416	0	0
72. Lithgow "	1,448	0	0	110. Taree "	356	0	0
73. Liverpool "	1,144	0	0	111. Temora "	580	0	0
74. Lockhart—The Lockhart Urban Area, in Lockhart Shire. (As proclaimed in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 28th February, 1930)	484	0	0	112. Tenterfield "	372	0	0
75. Maclean Municipality. (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 29th October, 1926)	392	0	0	113. Toronto—The town of Toronto, in Lake Macquarie Shire. (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 22nd August, 1930)...	612	0	0
76. Maitland—The Municipalities of (1) Maitland East, (2) Maitland West, (3) the townships of Kensington, Lorn, in Bolwarra Shire. (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 15th October, 1926). (4) the townships of Homeville, Rutherford, in Kearsley Shire (late Cessnock Shire). (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 14th September, 1923). (5) The township of Tenambit, in Tarro Shire. (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 17th May, 1940)	3,424	0	0	114. Tumut—The town of Tumut, in Tumut Shire. (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 29th June, 1928)	340	0	0
77. Manilla Municipality	388	0	0	115. Tweed Heads—The Tweed Heads Urban Area in the Shire of Tweed. (<i>Vide Government Gazette</i> , 4th August, 1933) ...	300	0	0
78. Mittagong—The town of Mittagong and additional areas in Nattai Shire. (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 13th October, 1939)	560	0	0	116. Wagga Wagga—The Municipality of Wagga Wagga. (As re-constituted, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 13th January, 1939)	2,156	0	0
79. Molong Municipality	364	0	0	117. Walgett—The town of Walgett, in Walgett Shire.....	300	0	0
80. Moree "	500	0	0				
81. Morpeth "	256	0	0				
82. Moss Vale—The Town of Moss Vale, in Wingecarribee Shire. (The part which formerly comprised the Municipality of Moss Vale, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 9th June, 1933)	372	0	0				
83. Mudgee Municipality	384	0	0				
84. Mullumbimby "	360	0	0				
85. Murrumburrah "	480	0	0				
86. Murrurundi "	388	0	0				
87. Murwillumbah "	352	0	0				
88. Muswellbrook "	368	0	0				
89. Narrabri (1) The Municipality of Narrabri. (2) The Town of West Narrabri, in Namoi Shire. (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 1st November, 1940.)	548	0	0				
90. Narrandera Municipality	656	0	0				
91. Narromine "	408	0	0				
92. North Illawarra—The townships of Balgownie, Corrimal, and Fairy Meadow, in the Municipality of North Illawarra. (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 30th October, 1931)	716	0	0				
93. Nowra Municipality	372	0	0				
94. Nyngan "	392	0	0				
95. Orange Municipality (as re-constituted, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 24th December, 1941)	1,472	0	0				
96. Parkes Municipality	592	0	0				
97. Paxton—The township of Paxton, in Kearsley Shire (late Cessnock Shire). (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 18th October, 1929)	52	0	0				
98. Peak Hill—The town of Peak Hill, in the Municipality of Peak Hill. (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 1st November, 1929)	208	0	0				
99. Penrith Municipality	396	0	0				
100. Port Kembla—The town of Port Kembla, in the Shire of Central Illawarra. (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 11th October, 1940)	1,204	0	0				
101. Queanbeyan Municipality	468	0	0				
102. Quirindi "	408	0	0				

APPENDIX II—continued.

Fire District.	£	s.	d.	Fire District.	£	s.	d.
118. Warren—The town of Warren, in the Municipality of Warren. (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 17th April, 1930)	300	0	6	<i>Gazette</i> , 25th November, 1927, and the additional part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 6th November, 1936)	1,104	0	0
119. Warringah—The Shire of Warringah, part of, embracing Avalon, Bilgola, Clareville, Newport, Palm Beach, Taylor's Point, and Whale Beach. (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 8th November, 1940)	732	0	0	126. Wollongong—(1) The Municipality of Wollongong, (2) the township of Coniston, in the Shire of Central Illawarra. (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 16th November, 1934). The township of Mt. Keira, part of, in Central Illawarra Shire. (3) The township of Mt. Keira, part of, in the Municipality of North Illawarra. Being the township of Mt. Keira, with boundaries as described in <i>Government Gazette</i> 8th November and 15th November, 1940.....	2,468	0	0
120. Wellington Municipality	488	0	0	127. Woy Woy—The town of Woy Woy, with Blackwall, Booker Bay, Ettalong, Orange Grove, Ocean Beach, Pearl Beach, etc., in the Shire of Woy Woy. (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 21st September, 1934)	852	0	0
121. Wentworth—The town of Wentworth, in the Municipality of Wentworth. (The part which formerly comprised the Municipality, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 3rd October, 1941).....	324	0	0	128. Wyong—The town of Wyong, in Erina Shire. (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 11th September, 1936).....	364	0	0
122. Werris Creek—The town of Werris Creek, in Peel Shire. (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 25th August, 1933)...	436	0	0	129. Yass—The Municipality of Yass (as re-constituted, <i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 8th November, 1935)	584	0	0
123. West Wallsend—The townships of (1) Estellville, (2) Holmesville, (3) West Wallsend, in Lake Macquarie Shire. (The part described in <i>Government Gazette</i> , 8th July, 1932)	352	0	0	130. Young Municipality	732	0	0
124. West Wyalong—The town improvement areas of Wyalong and West Wyalong, in Bland Shire (<i>vide Government Gazette</i> , 25th September, 1936)	648	0	0	Total	£571,668	0	0
125. Windsor—The Municipalities of (1) Windsor; (2) Richmond; (3) The townships of Riverstone and Schofields in Blacktown Shire. (The part described in <i>Government</i>							

APPENDIX III.

CONTRIBUTIONS by Municipal and Shire Councils, 1943.

Council.	Contribution.	Council.	Contribution.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
1. Albury	348 0 0	36. Campbelltown	120 0 0
2. Alexandria	983 9 0	37. Canterbury	4,580 11 9
3. Annandale	631 6 9	38. Casino	337 0 0
4. Armidale	295 0 0	39. Central Illawarra Shire, on account of the town of Port Kembla	301 0 0
5. Ashfield	2,890 14 5	40. Central Illawarra Shire, on account of the townships of Coniston and Mt. Keira ...	18 15 3
6. Auburn	992 9 7	41. Central Illawarra Shire, on account of the town of Dapto	83 0 0
7. Ballina	100 0 0	42. Cessnock.....	437 13 5
8. Balmain	1,375 10 9	43. Cobar	67 0 0
9. Balranald	91 0 0	44. Concord	2,116 12 11
10. Bankstown.....	1,425 3 5	45. Condobolin.....	152 0 0
11. Barraba	76 0 0	46. Coolamon Shire, on account of the town of Coolamon	122 0 0
12. Bathurst.....	364 0 0	47. Cooma, portion gazetted 9th November, 1917	90 0 0
13. Baulkham Hills Shire, portion gazetted 22nd August, 1924.....	87 17 0	48. Coonabarabran Shire, on account of the town of Coonabarabran	83 0 0
14. Bega	69 0 0	49. Coonamble	93 0 0
15. Bellingen Shire, on account of the town of Bellingen.....	93 0 0	50. Cootamundra.....	160 0 0
16. Berry	75 0 0	51. Corowa	150 0 0
17. Bexley	1,209 18 4	52. Cowra	141 0 0
18. Blackheath, portion gazetted 10th November, 1939	170 9 0	53. Crookwell Shire, on account of the town of Crookwell	107 0 0
19. Bland Shire, on account of the town improvement areas of Wyalong and West Wyalong	162 0 0	54. Darlington	164 15 4
20. Blacktown Shire, on account of the township of Blacktown	65 0 0	55. Deniliquin	137 0 0
21. Blacktown Shire, on account of Sydney Fire District.....	171 3 7	56. Dorrigo Shire, on account of the town of Dorrigo	92 0 0
22. Blacktown Shire, on account of the townships of Riverstone and Schofields	55 5 8	57. Dorrigo Shire, on account of the town of Coff's Harbour	110 0 0
23. Blue Mountains Shire, portion gazetted 17th August, 1934, Katoomba	30 8 1	58. Drummoyne	2,068 15 8
24. Blue Mountains Shire, portions gazetted 29th October, 1937	318 0 0	59. Dubbo	338 0 0
25. Blue Mountains Shire, on account of the town of Mount Victoria	16 11 0	60. Dundas	441 1 0
26. Bolwarra Shire, on account of the townships of Kensington and Lorn	88 17 6	61. Dungog	65 0 0
27. Boree Shire, on account of the Canowindra Urban Area.....	94 0 0	62. Eastwood	199 9 11
28. Botany	567 9 10	63. Enfield	789 11 6
29. Bourke	90 0 0	64. Erina Shire, on account of the town of Gosford	2 0 0
30. Bowral	98 0 0	65. Erina Shire, on account of the town of Wyong	91 0 0
31. Broken Hill	1,905 0 0	66. Ermington and Rydalmere	102 19 10
32. Bulli Shire, on account of the townships of Bulli, Woonona, Austinmer, Thirroul, Coledale, Clifton, Scarborough and Wombarra	352 0 0	67. Erskineville	266 14 0
33. Burwood	1,692 12 9	68. Fairfield, portion gazetted 2nd May, 1930	397 18 5
34. Cabramatta—Canley Vale, portion gazetted 1st November, 1940	113 0 0	69. Forbes	190 0 0
35. Camden	107 0 0	70. Gilgandra Shire, on account of the Gilgandra Urban Area	101 0 0
		71. Glebe	1,111 17 0
		72. Glen Innes	307 0 0
		73. Gosford	167 0 0
		74. Goulburn	419 0 0
		75. Grafton	315 0 0

APPENDIX III—CONTRIBUTIONS by Municipal and Shire Councils—*continued.*

Council.	Contribution.			Council.	Contribution.		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
76. Grafton, South	97	0	0	140. Newtown	1,383	5	4
77. Granville	1,024	2	6	141. North Illawarra, on account of the town-			
78. Greater Newcastle.....	7,931	0	0	ships of Corrimal, Balgownie and Fairy			
79. Grenfell	132	0	0	Meadow	179	0	0
80. Gulgong Shire, on account of the town of				142. North Illawarra, on account of the town-			
Gulgong	106	0	0	ship of Mt. Keira	6	6	9
81. Gundagai Shire, on account of the town				143. North Sydney	4,289	15	0
of Gundagai	102	0	0	144. Nowra	93	0	0
82. Gunnedah	81	0	0	145. Nyngan	98	0	0
83. Guyra Shire, on account of the town of				146. Orange	368	0	0
Guyra	70	0	0	147. Paddington	1,236	19	11
84. Hay.....	82	0	0	148. Parkes	148	0	0
85. Hillston, on account of the town of				149. Parramatta	1,143	19	1
Hillston	92	0	0	150. Patrick Plains Shire, on account Combo,			
86. Holroyd Municipality	768	2	4	Dunolly, Kelso and Redbournberry	7	11	10
87. Homebush	266	4	6	151. Peak Hill, on account of the town of			
88. Hornsby Shire, portion gazetted 31st				Peak Hill.....	52	0	0
July, 1936	1,051	13	8	152. Peel Shire, on account of the town of			
89. Hunter's Hill	529	6	6	Werris Creek	109	0	0
90. Hurstville	1,446	4	2	153. Penrith	99	0	0
91. Inverell	307	0	0	154. Petersham	1,730	3	8
92. Junee	141	0	0	155. Queanbeyan	117	0	0
93. Katoomba	496	11	11	156. Quirindi	102	0	0
94. Kearsley Shire, on account of the townships				157. Randwick	6,287	15	0
of Abernethy, Kearsley, Bellbird, and				158. Redfern	1,084	18	10
Kitchener	130	6	7	159. Richmond	95	14	10
95. Kearsley Shire, on account of the town-				160. Roekdale	2,628	7	9
ships of Kurri Kurri, Weston, Abermain,				161. Ryde	1,818	16	10
Heddon Greta, Neath	314	0	3	162. Seone	113	0	0
96. Kearsley Shire, on account of the town-				163. Singleton	94	8	2
ships of Homeville and Rutherford	78	10	0	164. St. Peters	605	8	4
97. Kearsley Shire, on account of the township				165. Strathfield	1,019	15	7
of Paxton	13	0	0	166. Sutherland Shire, on account of the town			
98. Kempsey	129	0	0	of Cronulla, Burraneer Bay, Caringbah,			
99. Kiama	91	0	0	Gunnamatta Bay, Port Hacking, &c.....	428	0	0
100. Kogarah	2,044	17	8	167. Sutherland Shire, on account of the town			
101. Ku-ring-gai	3,558	18	10	of Sutherland, Gympsea Bay, Janall,			
102. Kyogle Shire, on account of the Kyogle				Miranda, etc.	140	0	0
Urban Area.....	114	0	0	168. Sydney	24,036	12	7
103. Lake Macquarie Shire, on account of the				169. Tallaganda Shire, on account of the town			
townships of Belmont, South Belmont,				of Braidwood	61	0	0
Marks Point	152	0	0	170. Tamworth	354	0	0
104. Lake Macquarie Shire, on account of the				171. Taree	89	0	0
townships of Boolaroo, Argenton, Teralba				172. Tarro Shire, on account of the townships of			
and Warner's Bay	170	0	0	Weston, Hebburn, Pelaw Main, Stanford			
105. Lake Macquarie Shire, on account of the				Merthyr, and Spion Kop	38	19	9
town of Cardiff	125	0	0	173. Tarro Shire, on account of the township of			
106. Lake Macquarie Shire, on account of the				Tenambit.....	6	4	5
townships of Charlestown and Kahibah				174. Temora	145	0	0
107. Lake Macquarie Shire, on account of the				175. Tenterfield	93	0	0
township of Swansea	90	0	0	176. Tintenbar Shire, on account of the township			
108. Lake Macquarie Shire, on account of the				of Alstonville	63	0	0
townships of Estellville, Holmesville, and				177. Tumut Shire, on account of the town			
West Wallsend	88	0	0	of Tumut	85	0	0
109. Lake Macquarie Shire, on account of the				178. Tweed Shire, on account of Tweed Heads			
township of Toronto	153	0	0	Urban Area.....	75	0	0
110. Lane Cove	1,265	5	9	179. Vaucluse.....	986	18	7
111. Leichhardt	1,414	1	4	180. Wade Shire, on account of the town of			
112. Lidcombe	1,012	4	9	Griffith.....	139	0	0
113. Lismore	462	0	0	181. Waga Waga	539	0	0
114. Lithgow	362	0	0	182. Walgett Shire, on account of the town			
115. Liverpool	286	0	0	of Walgett	75	0	0
116. Lockhart Shire, on account of the Urban				183. Warren, on account of the town of Warren	75	0	0
Area of Lockhart	121	0	0	184. Warringah Shire, portions gazetted 8th			
117. Lyndhurst Shire, on account of the Blayney				November, 1940.....	1,144	14	7
Urban Area	86	0	0	185. Warringah Shire, on account of Avalon,			
118. Maclean	98	0	0	Bilgola, Clareville, Newport, Palm			
119. Maitland, East	192	11	0	Beach, Taylor's Point and Whale Beach	183	0	0
120. Maitland, West	489	17	1	186. Waterloo	1,086	7	10
121. Manilla	97	0	0	187. Waverley	5,301	16	0
122. Manly	2,647	12	10	188. Wellington	122	0	0
123. Marrickville	2,804	6	0	189. Wentworth, on account of the town of			
124. Mascot	880	1	5	Wentworth	81	0	0
125. Molong	91	0	0	190. Willimbong Shire, on account of the town			
126. Moree	125	0	0	of Leeton	229	0	0
127. Morpeth	64	0	0	191. Willoughby	3,502	10	0
128. Mosman	2,477	2	4	192. Windsor	124	19	6
129. Mudgee	96	0	0	193. Wingecarribee Shire, on account of the			
130. Mullumbimby	90	0	0	town of Moss Vale	93	0	0
131. Murrumburrah	120	0	0	194. Woollahra	5,040	7	9
132. Murrurundi.....	97	0	0	195. Wollongong	591	18	0
133. Murwillumbah	163	0	0	196. Woodburn Shire, on account of the town			
134. Muswellbrook	92	0	0	of Coraki.....	63	0	0
135. Namoi Shire, on account of the town of				197. Woy Woy Shire, portion gazetted 21st			
West Narrabri.....	18	18	11	September, 1934	213	0	0
136. Nattai Shire, on account of the town of				198. Yass	146	0	0
Mittagong	140	0	0	199. Young.....	183	0	0
137. Narrabri	118	1	1				
138. Narrandera	164	0	0				
139. Narromine	102	0	0				
				Total	£142,917	0	0

APPENDIX IV.

CONTRIBUTORY INSURANCE COMPANIES AND FIRMS.
Insurance Companies.

1. Ajax Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
2. Alliance Assurance Co. (Ltd.)
3. Assurance and Thrift Association (Ltd.)
4. Atlas Assurance Co. (Ltd.)
5. Australasian Catholic Assurance Co. (Ltd.)
6. Australasian Mutual Insurance Society (Ltd.)
7. Australian Alliance Assurance Co.
8. Australian Amicable Assurance Association (Ltd.)
9. Australian General Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
10. Australian Mutual Fire Insurance Society (Ltd.)
11. Australian Provincial Assurance Association (Ltd.)
12. Automobile Fire and General Insurance Co. of Australia (Ltd.)
13. Bankers' and Traders' Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
14. Batavia Sea and Fire Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
15. British America Assurance Co.
16. British Crown Assurance Corporation (Ltd.)
17. British Equitable Assurance Co. (Ltd.)
18. British and Foreign Marine Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
19. British General Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
20. British Traders' Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
21. Caledonian Insurance Co.
22. Canton Insurance Office (Ltd.)
23. Catholic Church Prop. Insurance Co. of Aust. (Ltd.)
24. Central Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
25. Century Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
26. Chamber of Manufactures Insurance (Ltd.)
27. Church of England Insurance Co. of Australia (Ltd.)
28. City Mutual Fire Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
29. Colonial Mutual Fire Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
30. Commercial of Australia Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
31. Commercial Union Assurance Co. (Ltd.)
32. Commonwealth Insurance Co.
33. Commonwealth General Assurance Corporation (Ltd.)
34. Consolidated Insurances Pty. (Ltd.)
35. Co-operative Insurance Co. of Australia (Ltd.)
36. Cornhill Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
37. Derwent & Tamar Assurance Co. (Ltd.)
38. Eagle Star Insurance Co. Ltd.
39. Economic Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
40. Edinburgh Assurance Co. (Ltd.)
41. Employers' Liability Assurance Corporation (Ltd.)
42. Farmers & Graziers' Co-op. G. I. & A. Co. (Ltd.)
43. Farmers & Settlers' Co-op. Ins. Co. of Australia (Ltd.)
44. Federal Mutual Insurance Co. of Australia (Ltd.)
45. Federation Insurance (Ltd.)
46. General Accident F. & L. Assurance Corporation (Ltd.)
47. Government Insurance Office of N.S.W.
48. Gresham Fire & Accident Insurance Society (Ltd.)
49. Guardian Assurance Co. (Ltd.)
50. Guildhall Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
51. Halifax Fire Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
52. Hartford Fire Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
53. Home Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
54. Indemnity Marine Assurance Co. (Ltd.)
55. Insurance Office of Australia (Ltd.)
56. Invincible Fire & General Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
57. Java Sea & Fire Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
58. Lancashire Insurance Co.
59. Law Union & Rock Insurance Co. (Ltd.) (Gibbs Bright & Co.)
60. Legal Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
61. Licenses & General Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
62. Liverpool & London & Globe Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
63. London Assurance.
64. London Guarantee & Accident Co. (Ltd.)
65. London & Lancashire Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
66. London & Provincial M. & G. Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
67. London & Scottish Assurance Corporation (Ltd.)
68. Manufacturers' Mutual Insurance (Ltd.)
69. Maritime Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
70. Master Builders' Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
71. Medical and Dental Insurance Ltd.
72. Mercantile Mutual Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
73. Merchants' Marine Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
74. Mine Owners' Insurance Proprietary Ltd.
75. Motor Traders Insurance Co. Pty. Ltd.
76. Mutual Fire & General Insurance Co. of Tasmania (Ltd.)
77. National Employers M.G. Insurance Assn. (Ltd.)
78. National Insurance Co. of New Zealand (Ltd.)
79. National Union Insurance Society.
80. New Zealand Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
81. North British & Mercantile Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
82. Northern Assurance Co. (Ltd.)
83. Northern Maritime Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
84. Norwich Union Fire Insurance Society (Ltd.)
85. Ocean Accident & Guarantee Corporation (Ltd.)
86. Pacific Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
87. Palatine Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
88. Patriotic Assurance Co. (Ltd.)
89. Pearl Assurance Co. (Ltd.)
90. Phoenix Assurance Co. (Ltd.)
91. Provincial Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
92. Prudential Assurance Co. (Ltd.)
93. Queensland Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
94. Reliance Marine Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
95. Royal Exchange Assurance Corporation.
96. Royal Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
97. Samarang Sea & Fire Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
98. Scottish Insurance Corporation (Ltd.)
99. Scottish Union & National Insurance Co.
100. Sea Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
101. Security & General Insurance Co. Ltd.
102. Southern Pacific Insurance Co. Ltd.
103. Southern Union General Insurance Co. of Australia (Ltd.)
104. South British Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
105. Standard Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
106. State Assurance Co. (Ltd.) (N.S.W. Branch).
107. State Assurance Co. (Ltd.) (Gibbs, Bright & Co.)
108. Sun Insurance Office (Ltd.)
109. Sydney Fire Office (Ltd.)
110. Thames & Mersey Marine Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
111. Transport & General Insurance Co. Ltd.
112. Triton Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
113. Union Assurance Society (Ltd.)
114. Union Insurance Society of Canton (Ltd.)
115. Union Marine and General Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
116. United Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
117. Victoria Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
118. Victoria General Insurance & Guarantee Co. (Ltd.)
119. Victorian Auto. Chamber of Commerce Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
120. War Service Homes Commission.
121. Westchester Fire Insurance Co.
122. Western Assurance Co.
123. Western Australian Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
124. World Auxiliary Insurance Corporation (Ltd.)
125. World Marine & General Insurance Co. (Ltd.)
126. Yorkshire Insurance Co. (Ltd.)

Firms.

1. Abel, Lemon & Co. Pty. (Ltd.)
2. Allen & Hanbury's (A'sia.) Ltd.
3. Amalgamated Dental Co. (Ltd.)
4. Austral Engineering Supplies Pty. Ltd.
5. Beard, Watson & Co. (Ltd.)
6. Bennett & Barkell (Ltd.)
7. Briscoe & Co. (Ltd.)
8. Bristol-Myers Co. Pty. Ltd.
9. British Drug Houses (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.
10. Cable & Wireless Limited.
11. California Asphalt Products Pty. Ltd.
12. Caltex Ltd.
13. Caltex (Queensland) Proprietary Ltd.
14. Central Agency (Aus.) (Ltd.)
15. Clark, T. P. & Co.
16. Cohen, Bennie S. and Son (N.S.W.) Pty. (Ltd.)
17. Cohen, Bennie S. and Son (Victoria) Pty. (Ltd.)
18. Collins Bros. & Co. (Ltd.)
19. Columbia Gramophone (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.
20. Commonwealth Oil Refineries (Ltd.)
21. Dreyfus, Louis & Co. (Ltd.)
22. Farleigh, Nettheim Proprietary Ltd.
23. Fassett & Johnson (Ltd.)
24. Foley Bros. Pty. (Ltd.)
25. Fox Film Corporation (Australia) Pty. Ltd.
26. Gestetner, D. (Australia) Pty. Ltd.
27. Goldring, Magnus.
28. Harrison & Attwood Pty. Ltd.
29. Harvey Trinder (N.S.W.) Pty. (Ltd.)
30. Harvey Trinder (Vic.) Pty. Ltd.
31. Hoffnung, S. & Co. (Ltd.)
32. Hordern, A. & Sons (Ltd.)
33. Hudson, G. Pty. Ltd.
34. International Harvester Co. of Australia Pty. (Ltd.)
35. King, L. L. & Prior Pty. Ltd.
36. Levy, J. A.
37. McIlwraith, McEacharn (Ltd.)
38. Nestle & Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co. (A/sia.) (Ltd.)
do do do (Newcastle.)
do do do (Broken Hill.)
39. New Zealand & Australian Land Co. (Ltd.)
40. Phillips Lamps (A'sia) Pty. Ltd.
41. Poland, H. G. (Aust.) Proprietary Ltd.
42. Reckitt & Colman (Aust.) (Ltd.)
43. Sheller Bros. (Australia) Pty. (Ltd.)
44. Steeves, Agnew & Co. (Aust.) Pty. (Ltd.) (N.S.W.)
45. Steeves, Agnew & Co. Pty. Ltd. (Vic.)
46. Universal Pictures Pty. Ltd.
47. Wiggins, Teape & Alex, Pirie (Export) (Ltd.)

APPENDIX V.

Attendances at Board Meetings for the year 1943.

	Meetings.	
	Present.	Absent.
The Hon. Thomas Januarius Smith	51	3
*Thomas Sidney Douglas, J.P.	46	8
*Edward Noel Haythorpe, J.P.	42	12
*Francis Westlake Walton	44	10
*The Hon. Thomas Davies Mutch	46	8
*Alderman Hector Kenneth West Mackenzie.....	47	7
*John Franklin Beswick, J.P.	53	1
†Maurice James Piper, J.P.	6	2
‡Sydney Henry Alexander Jordan	39	7

Total: 52 Ordinary Meetings.

2 Extraordinary Meetings.

* Re-elected in February.

† Term expired in February.

‡ Elected in February.

APPENDIX VI.

31st December, 1943.

The Secretary and Executive Officer,
Board of Fire Commissioners of New South Wales,
213 Castlereagh-street, Sydney.

Dear Sir,

The following report on the work and operation of the New South Wales Fire Brigades for the year 1943 is submitted:—

FIRES.

In Sydney and suburbs 5,127 calls to fires were received; of these 1,290 were fires in buildings, 28 ship fires, 47 chimney fires, 1,731 bush, grass and rubbish fires, 371 miscellaneous fires, 92 motor car fires, 6 motor bus fires and 196 on other kinds of motor vehicles. There were also 1,366 false alarms, of which 556 were maliciously given.

Compared with the previous year the number of calls attended in that area represents a decrease of 143.

The following were listed under the heading of serious fires:—

- 30/1/43—Mountain-street, City. Randall & Plotkin and others, canvas goods manufacturers.
- 22/4/43—4 Sarah-street, Newtown. Hardman Bros. Pty. Ltd., bakers, etc.
- 1/5/43—69-73 Commonwealth-street, City. Griffiths Bros. Ltd., tea and coffee merchants.
- 28/9/43—174 Clarence-street, City. Stuart Walker & Co., Pty. Ltd., butchers' supplies.
- 18/11/43—797-801 Botany-road, Waterloo. Electrical Plant Manufacturers Ltd., electrical equipment manufacturers.

The number of fires classified as of suspicious origin or intentional was 60, being 10 less than were similarly recorded in 1942.

In Country districts the Brigades attended 2,127 calls to fires, including 259 false alarms.

The most serious fires were:—

- 6/4/43—Belmore-street, West Tamworth. West Tamworth Milling Co., flour mills.
- 27/10/43—Railway-road, West Wyalong. F. Crago & Sons, flour mills.

Twenty-nine (29) firemen were injured during fire-fighting operations. There were 664 cases of sickness and accident, the total number of days lost accordingly being 9,299.

The number of persons burned at fires was 85, of which 9 succumbed to their injuries.

The authorised strength of the Brigade is 172 officers and 669 firemen of the permanent staff; 1,767 Volunteer, 158 Reserve and 2,000 Auxiliary Reserve Firemen; 527 members of the Women's Fire Auxiliary are at present enrolled.

With regret the Chief Officer reports the death of Sub-Station Officer F. Sorlie, Senior Fireman W. G. Mann and First Class Fireman K. E. Twogood, of the Permanent Staff, and the following members of Volunteer Brigades:—Volunteer Fireman D. Jenkins (Bexley), E. Graham (East Maitland), W. G. Sanders (Grafton), L. See (Homeville), H. Fairleigh (Merewether), Captains S. J. Lake and W. Terry (Mittagong), W. Fairhall (Morpeth), and G. Gurley (Stockton); Reserve Firemen T. Burnett (Arneliffe), J. W. Watson (Lithgow), and S. J. Stewart (Port Kembla); Auxiliary Reserve Firemen W. Howlett (Gordon), N. Gunn (Homebush) and J. W. Fitzsimmons (Newcastle East).

The undermentioned members of the uniformed staff were retired on pension:—Inspector W. J. Bartle, District Officers R. W. Houghton and T. W. Jacobs; Station Officers W. D.

Hall, H. Richmond, J. Shuttleworth and A. J. Baber; Sub-Station Officers A. G. Anderson, W. J. Kinnear; Senior Firemen W. C. Corkill, H. J. Duff, A. Fairs, E. W. Pitts, C. E. Reed, C. E. Rose; and First Class Firemen W. G. L. Hunter, W. C. Locke, A. M. Taylor and P. J. Taylor.

APPLIANCES.

Motor fire engines of 350-gallon pumping capacity were commissioned and installed at Bankstown, Burwood and Rozelle.

For the added protection of vulnerable areas in the State the Commonwealth Government delivered a further four "Maek" 750-gallon and forty-four "American La France" 1000-gallon fire engine chassis (lease/lend).

Fire appliances in the following Fire Districts were exchanged:—Adamstown, Bega, Berry, Cardiff, Coff's Harbour, East Maitland, Griffith, Hamilton, Molong, Murrumburrah, Muswellbrook, New Lambton, Nowra, Tumut, Warren, Werris Creek, Weston and Wyong.

FIRE ALARMS.

An additional street fire alarm was erected at Rockdale, making a total of 747 now installed in Sydney and suburbs. There are also 243 of the telephone and 166 of the mechanical types in country districts.

Interference with and thefts of parts of fire alarm instruments continue to be serious matters and may be the means of lives being lost and grave damage caused to property on account of the consequent delay in transmitting an alarm of fire.

WATER SUPPLY.

In the extinguishing of fires in Sydney and suburbs 6,030,846 gallons of fresh water and 488,618 gallons of salt water were used.

Members of the Brigade carried out periodical inspections of street hydrants, water pressures being taken and recorded.

NEW BUILDINGS.

The number of new buildings erected during the year was 6 in the City of Sydney and in the suburban areas, 420.

THEATRES, &C.

Fire brigade officers regularly inspected premises licensed under the provisions of the Theatre and Public Halls Act and furnished reports to the authorities concerning fire protective appliances and other requirements for the safety of the public.

A.R.P. INSTRUCTION, &C.

The services of members of the Brigade have been utilised during the year in connection with instruction and training in methods of fire prevention and fire extinction to personnel of the fighting services, also in regard to the special instruction to fire guards, wardens, etc.

INSPECTIONS.

Visits of inspection were regularly made by Senior Officers to brigades throughout the State. The Chief Officer accompanied members of the Board on official visits to Country Brigades, when Long Service Awards were presented to Volunteer Firemen.

Opportunity is taken to thank the Commissioner of Police and staff of the Police Department, Officers of the Metropolitan Water Sewerage and Drainage Board, the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Board, Newcastle; also those of the Sydney Municipal Council and the Sydney County Council for their valued assistance.

C. D. A. RICHARDSON,
Chief Officer.