

Incomplete as KFS.

the State Gardens  
Board

TWENTY YEARS  
PROGRESS and POLICY  
1919 — 1939

With the compliments of

*The State Gardens Board*

PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA



SUPREME COURT GARDENS

## Foreword

As considerable interest has been manifested in the State Gardens Board and its works, and there has been little time for the writing of Annual Reports, it is felt that the moment is opportune for a brief history of its twenty years' operations. This is contained in the following pages, in simple narrative supplemented by graphs and illustrations. The story tells, in part, of twenty years' endeavour to beautify many neglected places and fittingly to preserve and propagate further much of the attractive flora and fauna abounding in this State. Also, mention is made of many facts which should in justice be recorded.

*J. S. Sharcott.*

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IN STIRLING SQUARE



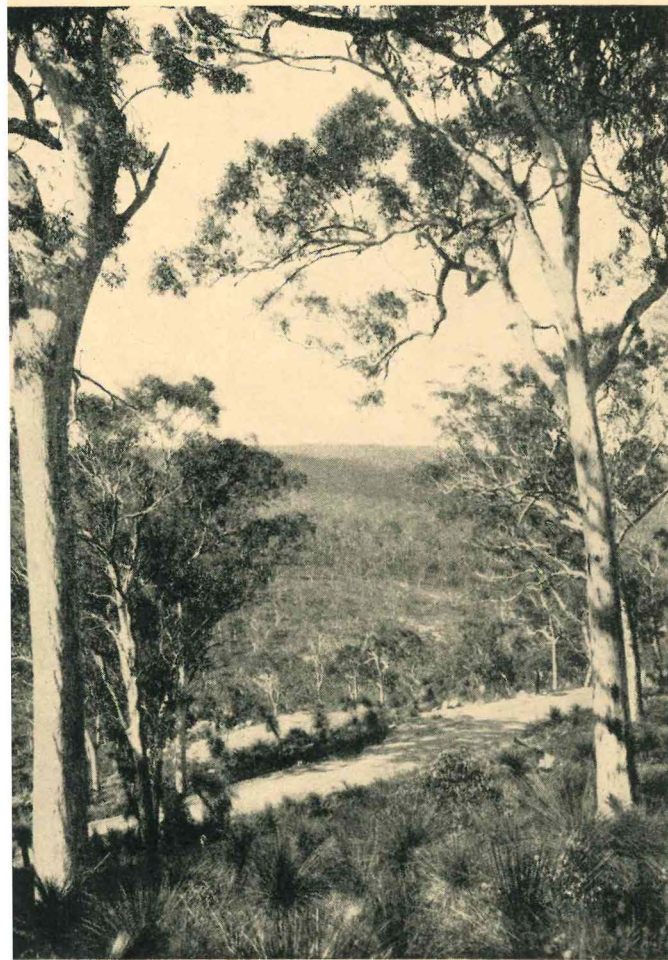
# The State Gardens Board

The genesis of the State Gardens Board dates back to the year 1919, when an efficiency and economy campaign initiated by the Hon. James Gardiner, then Colonial Treasurer, was bearing fruit in many experimental reforms. The matter of the control of many public domains had become a problem, and results were not satisfactory, because of differing aims and interest.

The Perth City Council was offered the control of King's Park and other public resorts, but after inspecting books and plant declined them. Subiaco Council was offered Crawley foreshore, but they refused it unless the offer were accompanied by a loan of £4,000, and a subsidy of £500 per annum. During this season the then Public Service Commissioner, acting with the Secretary of the Premier's Department as a Commission, effected the amalgamation of the Government House domain with Stirling Square and other Government Garden areas. The State Gardens Board was formed on the 15th December, 1920, under the Parks and Reserves Act, 1895, first with Mr. L. E. Shapcott, now Chairman, as sole member, and later with Mr. C. G. Morris as an additional member, and given control of all the Government foreshores from the Causeway to the Narrows, including Supreme Court, Government House, and Stirling Square. Over the succeeding years, during which time Mr. C. G. Morris resigned as a member and Mr. G. L. Needham succeeded him, there have been included under the Board's control Crawley, Dalkeith, Point Walter, Keane's Point, the South Perth Mill, the Serpentine, the Porongorups, Darling Range National Park, Yanchep, the East Perth Cemetery, the Canning Dam, Heirisson Island, and other reserves, the total area of which now amounts to 17,425 acres.

As this movement was largely forced upon the Government by the post-war depression, when everyone was struggling to maintain essential services and actual necessities, grants for maintenance and development could not be afforded, and, in fact, existing subsidies were all cut down, falling from £3,344 in 1920-21 to £1,780 in 1931 to 1934, never again to be fully restored according to needs. No rating or borrowing powers existed, and the Board had to struggle along with such aid as Ministers, Government officers, an interested and willing staff, private citizens and Town Planners, could extend. Many of these gave freely

NATIONAL PARK, GREENMOUNT  
A Scenic Drive



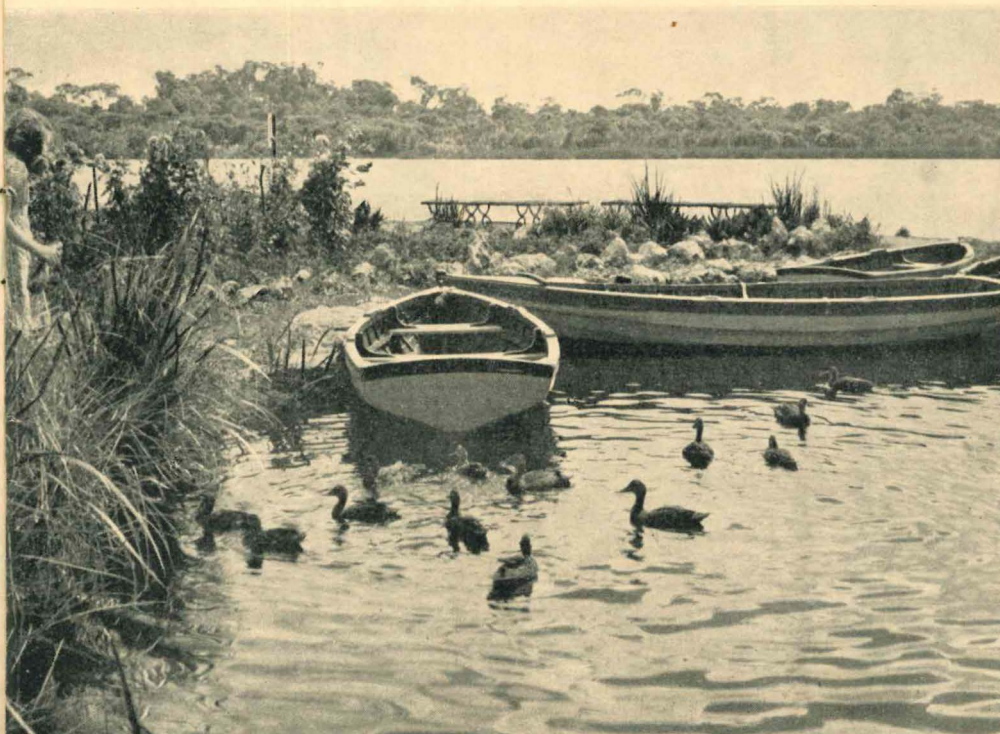
of their skill, resource and substance in furthering what to them was obviously a labour of love. Fortunately, the scope of the Board's powers provided a great stimulus to success, in that it could legally spend its own earnings without Parliamentary re-appropriation. Also, as the Board's activities dealt largely with Parks and Gardens, where considerable result could be achieved without lavish expenditure, much material, consisting of remnants of former prosperity, was pressed into service, and converted from waste to use. A typical instance of this may be quoted in the old s.s. "Eucla," which was sinking at her mooring in Fremantle Harbour. Her deck cabin is now an office guarding Greenmount National Park entrance; her timbers are roofing more than one important park hostel, and her chairs, stairways, furnishings, railings and fittings may be seen in use in many public places.

Through years of adversity and depression the Board struggled on, feeling much like the beggar subsisting on crumbs from the rich man's table, developing revenues where it could, spending its earnings on reproductive ventures, leaning heavily upon its friends, but good-humouredly tolerated by many who liked to see something attempted, and who were willing to help. By following this policy, and working up to the financial border line, but never so far beyond it as not to be able to recover equilibrium, sufficient margins were won to enable the prosecution of a moderate policy of development. The results achieved are reflected in the financial statements attached, and although the Board may and does owe a considerable amount of money, it is in a sound and prosperous condition with a resilience born of multiple

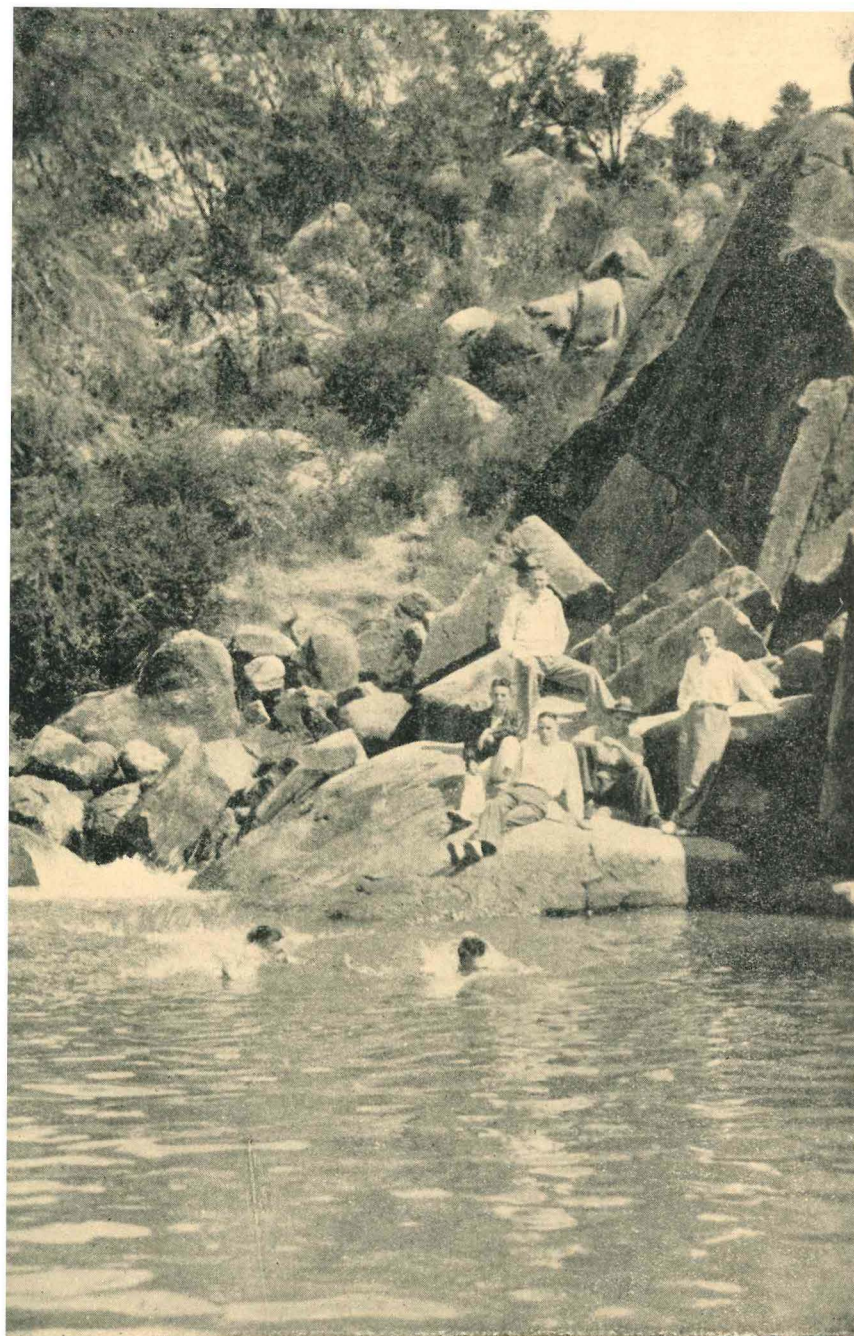


A PATH THROUGH THE GORGE

interests and pooled resources. Upon the Board devolves the obligation of giving the best results with the limited means at its command, but beyond this its personnel has a natural ambition to develop attractions for the tourist, who means so much to the State in easy money, and a readiness to spend it. The Board believes Western Australia to have many claims upon the tourist's attention, some of them unique; also that they need no embellishment beyond being made available, and, in some cases, restored to their pristine and natural charm. Gold needs no gilt, and the lily no painting. This creed consorts well with economy and simplicity. The aim of the Board, therefore, has been to make accessible its domains by road and



LOCH McNESS



NATIONAL PARK, GREENMOUNT  
The Rocky Pool

pathway, built from its own products and resources, adorned by the native flora of each particular haunt, with nature expressing itself through the birds and trees and bees and flowers, rocks and waters. To these perforce must be added the simple amenities of civilisation and comfort, but all within the limited means at command.

Naturally the Board has not been able to live upon air, and, necessarily, regard had to be given to revenue earning. Every possibility in this direction has been grasped, and the results are in ratio to public patronage and earnings won. In this respect the public have gallantly responded, and the small tolls at Yanchep, National Park, and Canning Dam have been cheerfully met. To augment earnings and provide additional pleasure for the public, bathing pools, tennis courts, sports grounds, boating, and other means of recreation have been provided; tea rooms, hostels, camping cottages and one hotel have been built and are being conducted. The Board has traded in wood, building stone, lime, granite, soils, birds and animals, and bridge timbers, and has tested other business ventures in an endeavour to make good. Here and there some bolder stroke, such as a fairly lucrative hoarding display, may temporarily offend the susceptibilities of some sensitive local body, but as all are working toward the one end, these little differences are invariably reconciled.

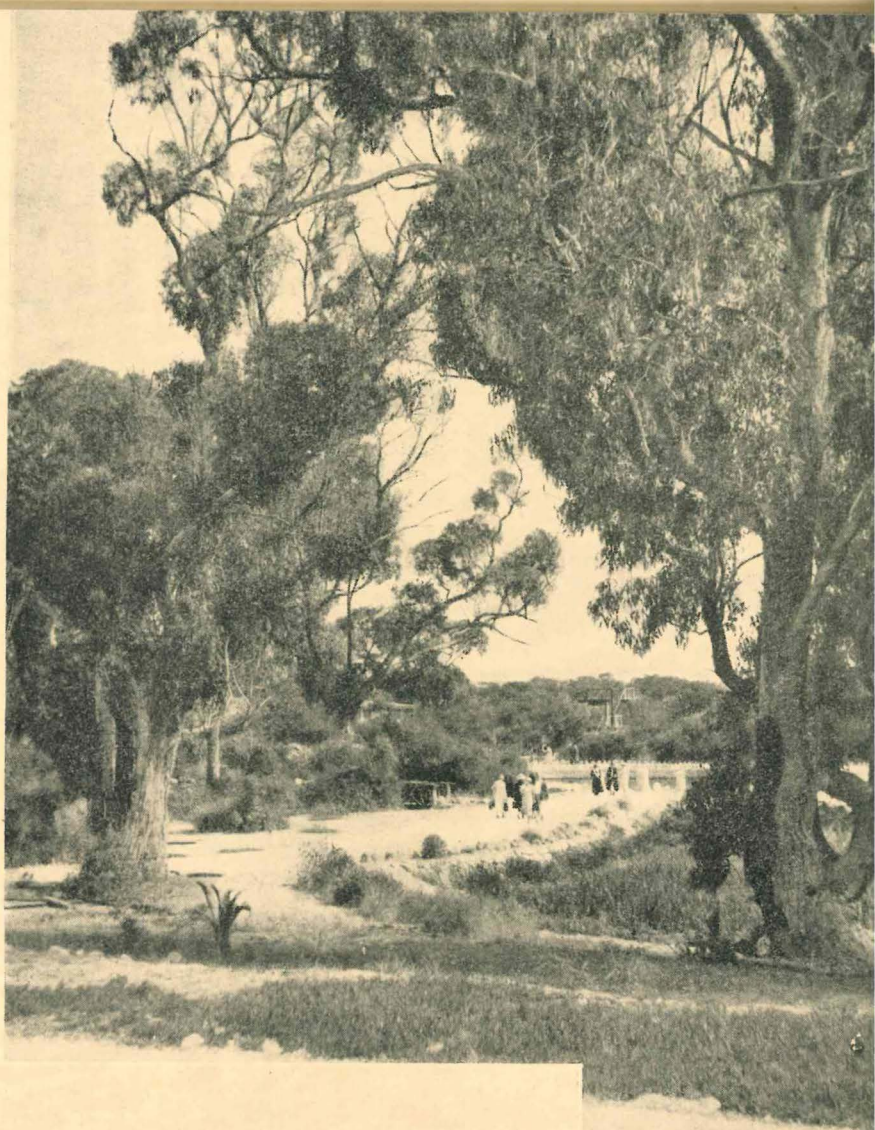


GOVERNMENT HOUSE AND GROUNDS  
The care of which is the responsibility  
of the State Gardens Board

### BOARD OF CONTROL POPULAR.

At different times during its life approaches have been made to the Board and to the Government with a view to its assumption of the control of other reserves, among which are included Mundaring Weir, Lesmurdie, Yandurup (near Mandurah), Lake Jandakot, Bibra Lake Reserve, Garden Island, Yallingup Caves Reserve, Namban Creek Caves, Jurien Bay Caves, Commonwealth Government Reserves at Naval Base, Point Peron, as well as parts of the ocean beaches and some additional river foreshores, but as the Board has never accepted anything other than Crown property which the Government may have desired it to control, such suggestions and further accretions have been discouraged.

**GENERAL PARK TRUST.** With these applications in mind, and noting the many reserves and potential pleasure resorts that are languishing for want of development, some thought regarding the future is necessary. Many places favoured by nature are suffering vandalism because they are not vested, and they are not vested because those who might be charged with their care and administration lack sufficient financial resource to shoulder the strain. It has become very evident, therefore, that some sort of general control such as a General Park Trust or a Parks and Beaches Trust, appointed to develop such domains as might be vested within its control, would be of considerable benefit to the State generally. The procedure would be simple,



YANCHEP  
Rugged Trees and  
Peaceful Water





YANCHEP : The Office

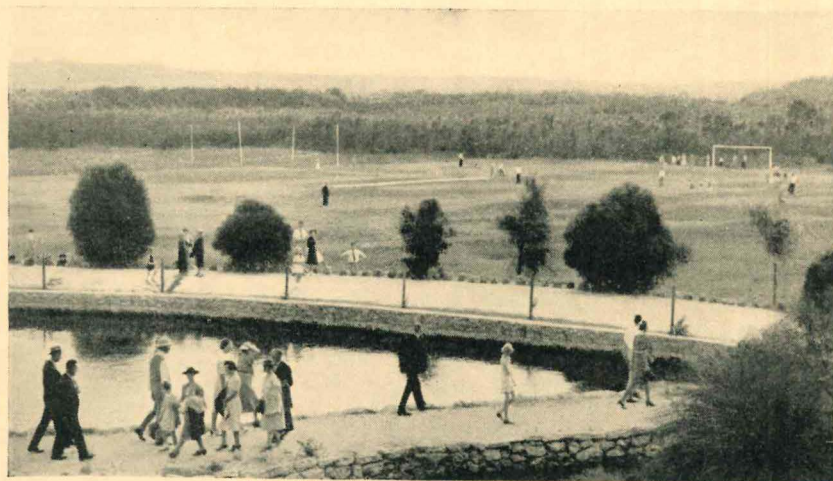
now been converted to working at small profits, and promise still better results. As to indirect results, such a work as clearing the Crawley Swamp by hand, and trucking and filling, accounted for heavy expenditure until the advent of the Stirling dredge, but for many years the Board's work minimised the mosquito pest, and thus contributed materially to the comfort of the metropolis and surroundings. The point, however, is that had these parks been declined because they were not handed to the Board as earners, much public improvement effected might have been non-existent to-day.

but such a body would need to have the right of spending its own earnings, as well as being invested with some other means of earning revenue, such as having rating power to a limited extent. An arrangement of this kind would ensure uniformity, eliminate unseemly competition, and the general scheme of development of all such places could be so arranged as to make them supplementary one to another, so that tourists would have the urge to see them all, or many of them, instead of being satisfied with something similar to another which might be supposed to be "just as good." Such a provision need not, of course, apply to the many concerns of this State which are so well run at present by local bodies, but a Park Trust would make a fine home for many neglected areas now subject to vandalism and decay. In addition, a body of this kind could be of great service in protecting historic places and monuments, if vested with the power to do so, thus encouraging historic tradition.

### POOLING RESOURCES BENEFICIAL.

In endeavouring to make every unit of the State Gardens Board ventures carry its own burden and pay its way, the Board has followed the policy of a miniature Park Trust, *i.e.*, of pooling its resources, of first developing the potential earners to aid the weaker ones, and of nursing the poorest along until better days. Six of the Board's enterprises—Crawley, Keane's Point, Point Walter, National Park, the Old Mill, and the Canning Weir—show a total deficiency from commencement or from the time of assuming control, of £19,921 12s. 10d. All have been losers; was it worth while? Four of these ventures have

**SIR CHARLES McNESS.** This report would be incomplete without reference to the substantial assistance rendered to destitute unemployed through the generosity of the late Sir Charles and Lady McNess. When in the fullness of his years the 1929 depression overtook this State, Sir Charles sought the co-operation of the Government in relieving distress, and the State Gardens Board was found to be a good vehicle of distribution, as it was also providing relief in the way of clothing and goods from other sources, and employment to the extent



YANCHEP  
Playing Field and  
Ornamental Lake



THE SHADED ROAD TO YANCHEP



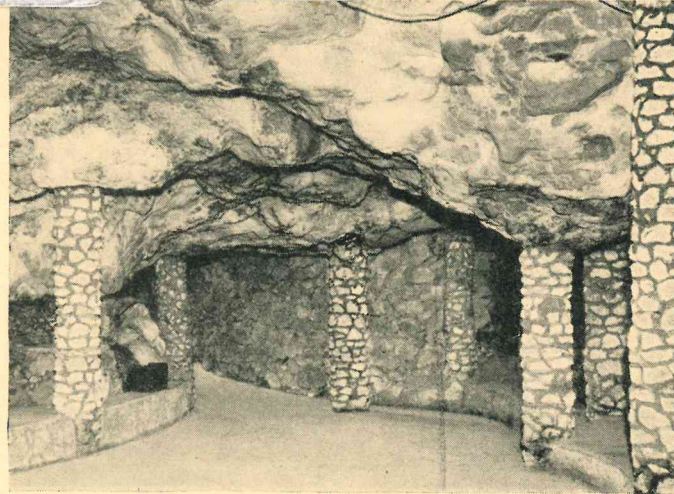
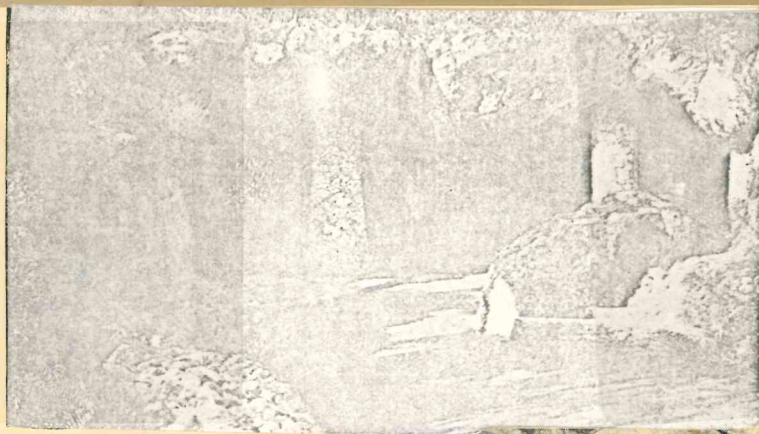
of its own ability. Where men were able to work the Gardens Board subsidised gifts on a pound for pound basis, and a continuous basic wage was provided for all its workers. As most of the men were "C" class, and, in addition, funds had to be spent extensively on food and clothing for general relief, the results could not register—nor were they expected to do so—a value of 20s. in the pound. The story of that period was a moving one, which could never be adequately told. However, a serious period of distress was tided over, and public domains received considerable benefit from those who were able and willing to work, even to a limited extent. Of great benefit also was Sir Charles's donation to the Board of £1,000 for a dredge, and £2,000, less probate, for the cost of dredging the lake at Yanchep, and £11,625, half the cost of the Lady McNess Drive from the main road to the Canning Dam.

**AN ECONOMIC ASPECT.** As the operations of the State Gardens Board have constituted something in the nature of a co-operative experiment, an economic aspect may be worth mentioning. The Board to-day has 83 employees ; including the Zoo, its wages bill amounts to £350 per week. As almost all of its employees are married with families it is fairly safe to assume that each wage-earner would average approximately two children, and, therefore, more than 330 souls look to the Board for their well-being. During the depression, when more thought was given to the workers' necessities than to their efficiency, and the support of large families was one of the greatest considerations, 237 men were employed, and the number of souls supported by the Board for a

considerable period was approximately 1,500. As the Board's gross revenue is now about £30,000 per year, and none of its employees draw more than £6 15s. per week, there is a fairly large balance left to distribute for general expenditure, much of which undoubtedly finds expression in the buildings and maintenance and improvements effected throughout the various domains controlled by the Board.

The accompanying graph indicates the Board's endeavour to maintain a public-spirited policy during years of depression, when its capital expenditure was increased to assist in relieving physical necessity. During this time, the annual capital outlay rose from £792 in 1929-30 to a peak of £8,400 in 1932-33.

YANCHEP  
The Cave Cabaret



THE NURSERY  
Orchids and Paw Paws



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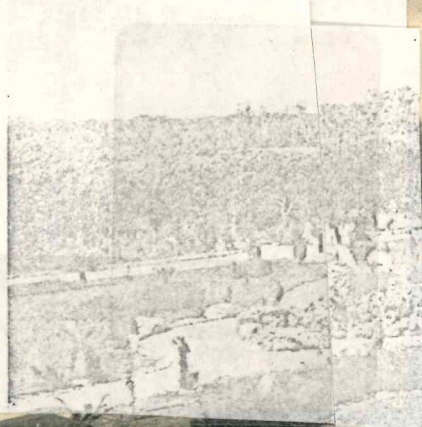
**PLANTING OF TREES**

**AND SHRUBS.** An extensive policy of tree, shrub and flower planting has been rendered necessary by the thoughtless actions of vandals and the ravages of fires. A fire through some forests like National Park or Porongorups may do little harm, but in a mixed forest like Yanchep such trees as sheoaks and Christmas bush and other tender growth suffer permanently from damaged butts and twisted, ugly, and dangerous timbers, if indiscriminate firing is permitted. Up till a few years ago, Yanchep was deliberately and consistently fired by squatters to encourage grass growth for their straying stock. Controlled burning in small patches, firebreaks, removal of useless timbers, and the development and maintenance of clean Australian bush, where the food of the koala and the encouragement of all other possible Australian growth find place, is now the order of the day. In pursuance of this policy, an experienced propagator is permanently employed to supply all Board needs.

During its career the Board has planted at Yanchep 10,500 trees and shrubs, 36 Victoria tree ferns, 114 Keysbrook tree ferns, four sacks of black, green and

yellow kangaroo paws imported from the Midland, 45,000 annuals and perennials and 153 assorted gift trees from private nurseries.

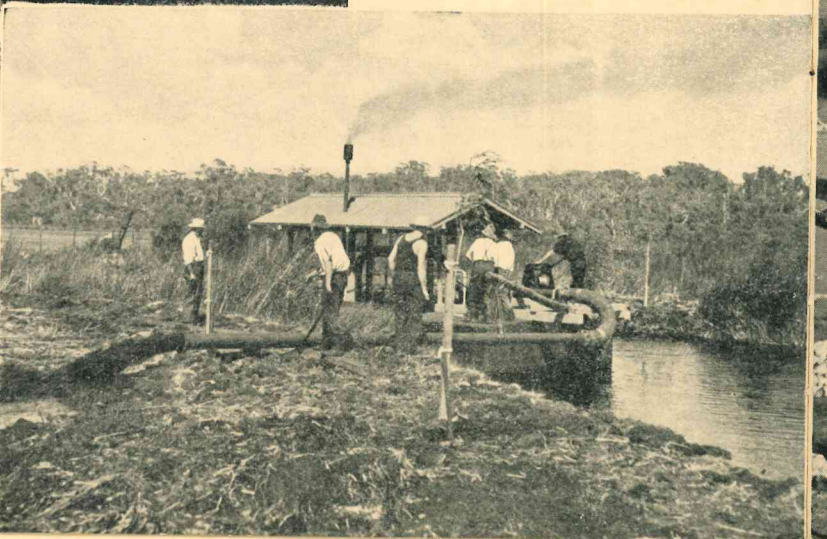
At the Zoo there have been planted 239 trees and 26,020 annuals; *Point Walter*—206 trees; *Canning Weir*—1,173 trees and shrubs; *National Park*—861 trees and shrubs and three sacks of black, green and yellow kangaroo paws from the Midland; and at *Crawley* 404 trees and 200 other growths. Several thousand assorted eucalypts for koalas have been propagated, many planted indiscriminately, to widely distribute the types, and many given away for special planting.



**YANCHEP**  
The Gardens by the Inn



**YANCHEP:** The Stream Today



Dredging the stream bed to reclaim swampy banks

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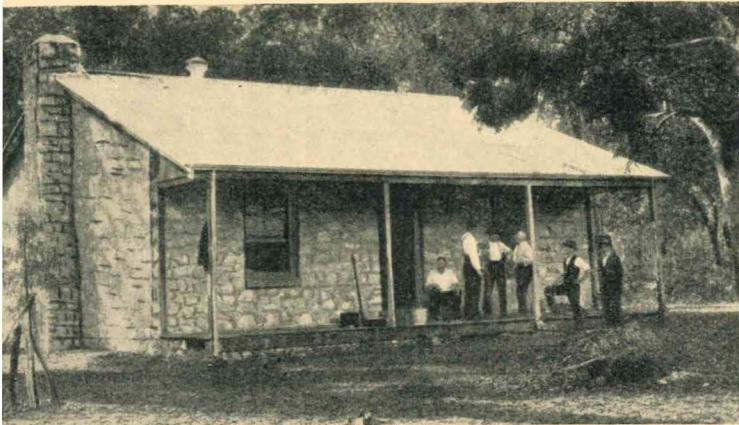
**YANCHEP:** The Stream Today



Dredging the stream bed to reclaim swampy banks

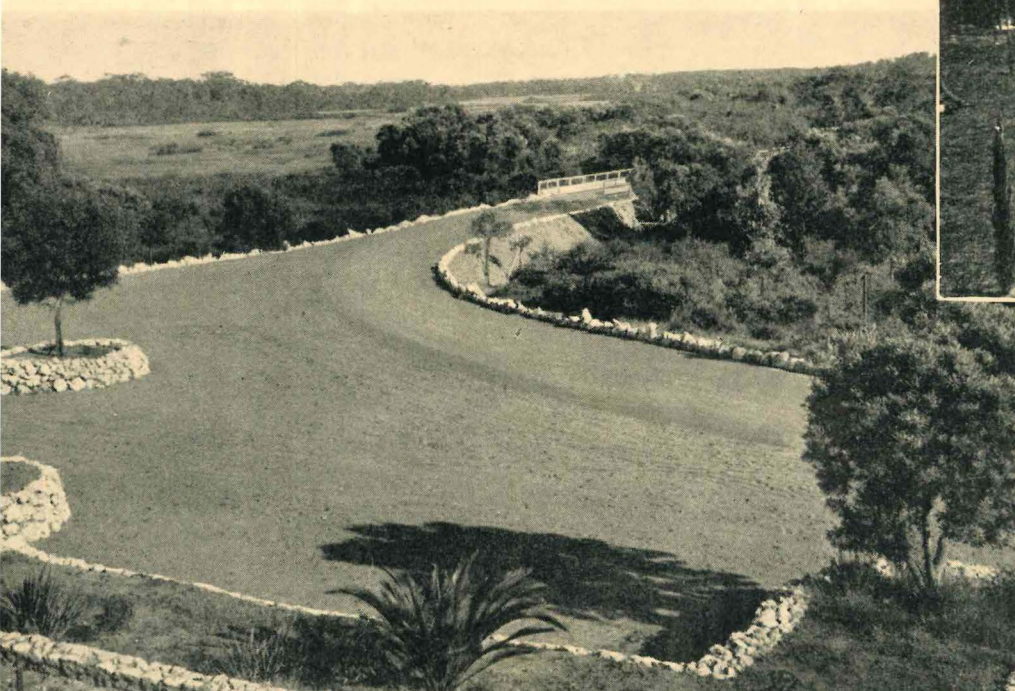
**YANCHEP.** The national park known as Yanchep was transferred from the Chief Secretary's Department to the State Gardens Board on the 13th March, 1931, the beach reserve of 40 acres on the 2nd April, and two resumed areas of 140 acres in October, all in the same year.

The name of this park is native in origin, and probably derived from the Yanget reed which abounds about the lake. Yangee-up, the place of the Yanget reeds, was probably clipped to Yanchep.



OLD YANCHEP

Yanchep, comprising 5,940 acres of limestone ranges, timbered with tuart, jarrah, banksia, sheoak and black-boys, lies 32 miles north of Perth. Nearly 2,000 acres are occupied by lake and fertile swamp land. The purlieus of the estate are fairly rugged; wildflowers and native growth in endless variety abound on the hills and in the valleys, and all game and bird life are protected. The beach reserve of 40 acres, three miles distant, is protected by a 40-chain reef parallel to the shore, making the beach and swimming pools impregnable to sharks. Along this reef also fishing is good.



The natural attractions of the reserve bear silent testimony to the wisdom of those selecting it. Over one hundred years ago Sir George Grey camped upon the Mambibby Cave, and in his memoirs told of the aboriginals and the caves wherein they threw their dead.

The developing of Yanchep was a pioneering enterprise. It boasted nothing but a 30 x 30 hut and a few other remnants of an earlier attempt to open it. As a commencement eleven miles of road were constructed with Federal and State aid. Tree spars removed for the road were segregated for the private telephone line, which has ever since given good service. The stone hut was trebled in size; caves were wired and lighted and facilities redesigned; engines were installed. One five-thousand gallon tank was constructed from the remnants of three old ones. Pipes were laid, springs trapped, pumps installed, workmen's huts erected, old trams moved from Perth and remodelled as cottages, a swimming pool and lodge erected, a Cabaret cave evolved, and a modern hotel provided. Within a year 15,000 people had visited the reserve, a figure which has now increased to over 42,000 annually, and still keeps increasing. The number of trees planted runs into several thousands, the great majority of which are food for the koala, four of which have been thriving there for 18 months past. Shortage of space precludes telling in detail of boating facilities, tennis and other playing grounds, miles of pathway, road and track provided, shrubs and flowers abounding, and of the Government Apiary established there. Future plans envisage a golf course.



YANCHEP  
By Loch Mc Ness

The road to the Beach

**Dredging.** A major venture is the dredging of Loch McNess, so named as a memorial to Sir Charles' beneficence. While living he provided £1,000 for the purchase of a dredge, and left a legacy of £2,000 to further the work. The dredge is giving splendid performance. A completed circular channel has been cleared around the Loch, and a large internal area of 50 acres dredged. At present the banks of five additional islands are being formed to receive dredging, making a total of seven in all. Future plans contemplate dredging a wide channel northward, thence east, thence south, to enable circular launch tours of several miles in length through attractive surroundings. When dredging is completed and the islands developed Loch McNess should present a scene of unusual beauty.



**Yanchep Inn.** The Yanchep Inn was a necessity forced upon the Board by the importunity of patrons, and an application which might have been deferred until later was made because a similar application for a site further removed and nearer Wanneroo might have prejudiced Yanchep's necessities. The provisional license was duly

granted, and the Inn was opened just before Christmas, 1936. Public tenders were invited for a building lease of the hotel, but as no satisfactory offers were received, the Board constructed and has conducted it ever since. The Inn was built and furnished almost entirely of local products—jarrah, limestone, local tiles, and plaster board figuring largely in construction. There are sixteen bedrooms, all modern conveniences and extensive lounges. When occasion demands extensions can be added without interference with the existing buildings.

**The Lodge and Hostel.** During the past year Gloucester Lodge has been remodelled by the addition of more spacious bedrooms, a large dining hall, the installation of hot and cold water, and extensive alterations to the store and general lay-out. This has enabled the conversion of the McNess Hostel, which was the original building on the estate, for overflow requirements in busy seasons.



A LOUNGE  
AND  
THE ENTRANCE HALL



YANCHEP INN  
A City Hotel in Country Surroundings

**Swimming Pool.** Extensive strengthening of the Crystal Pool has been undertaken to fortify it against the pressure of numerous springs. The aim is to pass a still greater volume of spring water through the pool in fuller flow, instead of by-passing the structure, and the general reinforcing is gradually providing sufficient resistance to all strain. As there are several springs available, and one alone passes over a quarter of a million gallons of pure spring water through the pool daily, any attempts at chlorination or filtration are not only unnecessary, but would be an actual detriment.

**Boomerang Gorge.** During last autumn a controlled burn in the Gorge was effected. This enabled the clearing up of the debris of centuries, the tracing of numerous springs and streams and the initiation of a plan of general improvement. Lakelets and lily pools have now been designed, the walls battered with rock, considerable planting undertaken, trees trimmed and lawns established. A central area in the heart of the Gorge capable of comfortably accommodating over 2,000 people, is being graded towards a lower elevation which will serve as a stage, with a view to holding large assemblies there. Further developments over a period of years should make this Gorge a feature of unique attraction and charm.



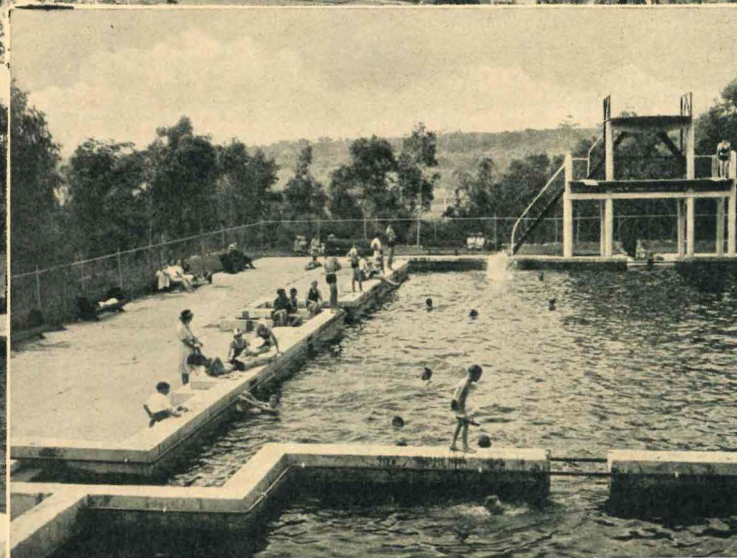
MUSIC ON THE LAWN

**Access.** In a measure Yanchep is on a dead end so far as road traffic is concerned. A stock route has traversed the reserve giving access to the Moore River. Successful prosecutions have followed shooting on the lake and the carrying of firearms on the estate. The matter is now to be simplified by taking the stock route and road northward along the eastern boundary to connect with routes to Moore River, Gingin and Moora, thus cutting out any westerly stock route through the reserve and eliminating unwarranted trespassing and vandalism. The road will thus be near enough to the coast for spur tracks for defence purposes, but the protection afforded the flora and fauna within the reserve will be more effective than ever before.

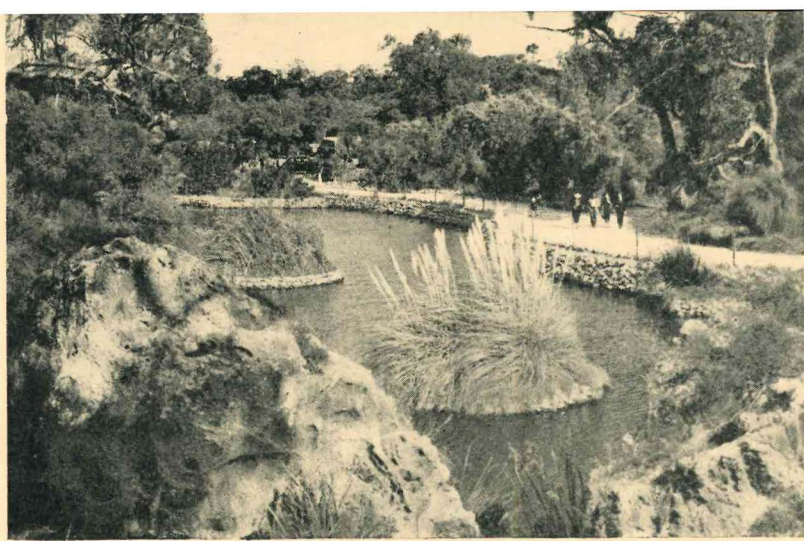
THE GLOUCESTER LODGE AND CRYSTAL POOL



Page Eleven



**Sanctuary.** Yanchep is so situated that it is easy — with a forbearance from vandalism — to develop fish, bird life and game in variety and abundance. Loch McNess already teems with fish life such as the galaxia (of the whitebait family), gambusia or top minnow, which devour the larvae of the mosquito before hatching, Chinese carp of pure golden hues, the common gold fish, marron, gilgies and many other unidentified species. Since early in 1937, 7,000 trout have been released in the lake. Many may often be seen in the water, and not infrequently specimens 18 inches long are seen leaping for insects. The dredging of the lock and the formation of islands, billabongs and secret retreats is creating havens congenial for the breeding of fish, and with the completion of the dredging programme and the maintenance of favourable conditions born of the fresh waters eternally flowing through this loch to the sea, highly favourable results may reasonably be expected.



AN ORNAMENTAL POOL

**Birds and Fish.** Bird life at Yanchep is so varied as to make an attempted category tedious. Upon the lake are many varieties, from the ponderous pelican and swan down to the minute dabchick and mudlark. The natural timbers which are everywhere in profusion provide home and perch for the kookaburra, black cockatoo, the butcher-bird, wattlers, magpies, and numerous other varieties. The many springs are carefully guarded by wild creeper to provide sanctuary for the tiny birds which dart about such places. Twenty-eights and many other gaily-coloured parrots lend dashes of colour here and there. Every endeavour is made to preserve the balance of nature as indiscriminate changes often set up a train of disaster, the origin of which is difficult to trace, the consequences of which cannot easily be remedied.

**Transport Service.** It was early realised that a regular bus service was essential. Eventually, on the 29th August, 1935, the Tourist Omnibus Company was formed. One of its functions was to serve Yanchep, and with this was linked the project of a service for Wanneroo. This appeared an ideal arrangement, but experience proved that the two interests tended to clash, and the Wanneroo traffic did not develop as anticipated. In June of this year the consent of the Transport Board was obtained for the cancellation of the Wanneroo route, and this permitted some long desired improvements in the Tourist Omnibus service to Yanchep, which is now linked with the operations of the Metropolitan Omnibus Company.



LAKES  
AND  
WOODLAND



A PLANTATION  
OF KOALA GUMS





**Koalas.** On Good Friday of 1938, one male and three female koalas were transferred to Yanchep, and established in congenial surroundings. These were of Victorian extraction, and had been in this State for some time previously. From this, the fact emerges that koalas have subsisted in this State for a few years upon foods produced in Western Australia, and they are doing well.

As there appears to be a risk of this attractive little animal dying out, this experiment should commend itself to all, as it would be a matter for great regret if the koala became extinct. As fossilised koalas have been found in this State, it is reasonable to suppose that they once existed here, and that, in common with koalas of other States, they fell victims to forest fires, the shortage of food, and the ravages of enemies such as the fox or wild dog. The koala lives upon several species of eucalypt only. Others are dangerous to him. Even his own special foods at times are also dangerous, because they develop poisons which may destroy the life of the animal. When these pets are placed on exhibition, without restraining the public, they sometimes fall victims to the kindness of their admirers, who mistakenly feed them with sweets. At Yanchep they are on full view, but segregated from the public in order to encourage their development under natural conditions, and to see how the experiment works out.

Frankly, we know comparatively little about this animal, but in an endeavour to co-operate with those in Australia who are trying to save the species, we have



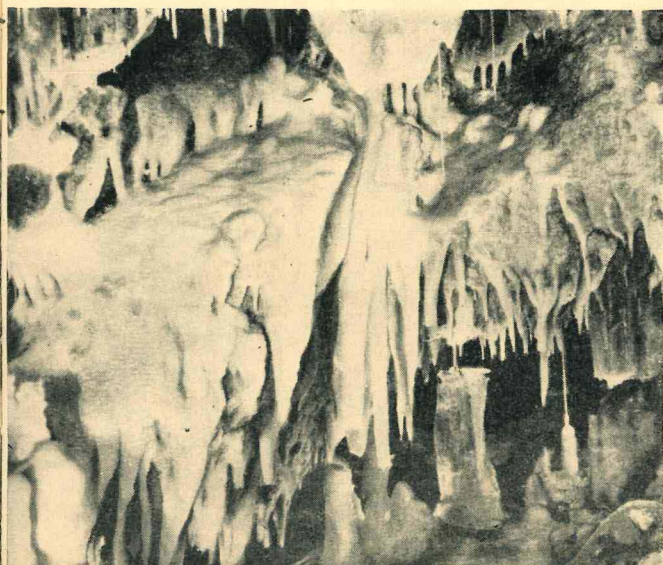
YANCHEP'S  
KOALA BEARS

planted some thousands of eucalypt koala food of assorted species, in the hope that we may assist in this problem.

Taking the long view, koala trees are planted in various places throughout the State and at Yanchep, but, in addition, special areas have been selected wherein hundreds of trees of mixed variety are grouped in smaller compounds, in the hope that one day enclosures of some suitably food-filled acres may be available, and the koala released therein to fend for himself, as it is believed that by such means he will be given the best chance. The matter of preventing his escape is easy.

As literature upon the koala is contradictory, we are marking time until further knowledge clarifies the problem. In the meantime, thousands of the planted koala eucalypt trees are throwing the years behind them, awaiting the natural pruning that will surely be theirs if we are able to release a sufficient quantity of koalas in such a park.

**Cave Development.** The caves of Yanchep are many and varied in type. The Crystal is chiefly remarkable for its brilliant crystalline stalagmites and stalactites, and flowing streams. The Yonderup is older, with larger formations and more colour, and an aboriginal burial ground, where many skeletons have been revealed. For the sake of economical working, visits are confined to these two for the moment. The combined Mambibby-Bebo Moro, are still richer in colour and mineral stainings, and span the main underground



FAIRYLAND—CRYSTAL CAVE

outlet of the lake to the sea. The Cauliflower contains masses of suspended spongy limestone bubbles which suggest its name. The original Yanchep cave and many others are sealed against present inspection. There are scores of hill caverns on Yanchep, possessing the possibilities of equally if not more beautiful caverns, noted for future exploration. It may not be generally appreciated that to present a cave to the public, expensive and careful planning and preparation are involved. Caves do not light in a convenient spot, ready for inspection. Access must be given, stairways formed, underground routes chosen, passages enlarged, viewpoints chosen, pools imprisoned, conditions made easy, and above all, safe, and all wiring concealed. The Crystal and Yonderup were completely overhauled before reopening. Hundreds of tons of rock had to be removed from the Cave Cabaret. The opened caves on Yanchep all occur below a surface level of 90 feet, but the hills beyond rise to 280 feet. In between lie deep cavities, all shedding waters from the eastern ridges through the now known caves, so that an expectation of unearthing some remarkable wonders by exploration is fully justified. The procedure requires care, patience and expenditure. Discoveries under control would now meet with care of the asset from the beginning, instead of suffering the vandalism of the past, where the order of procedure hitherto has been discovery, wreckage, and restoration.



THE SUNKEN COLUMN



THE OCTOPUS

### Yanchep Beach

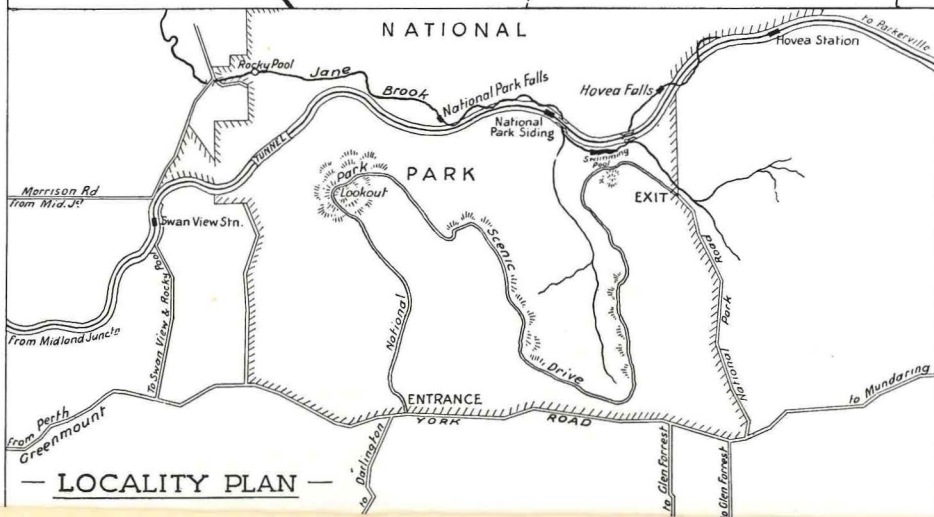
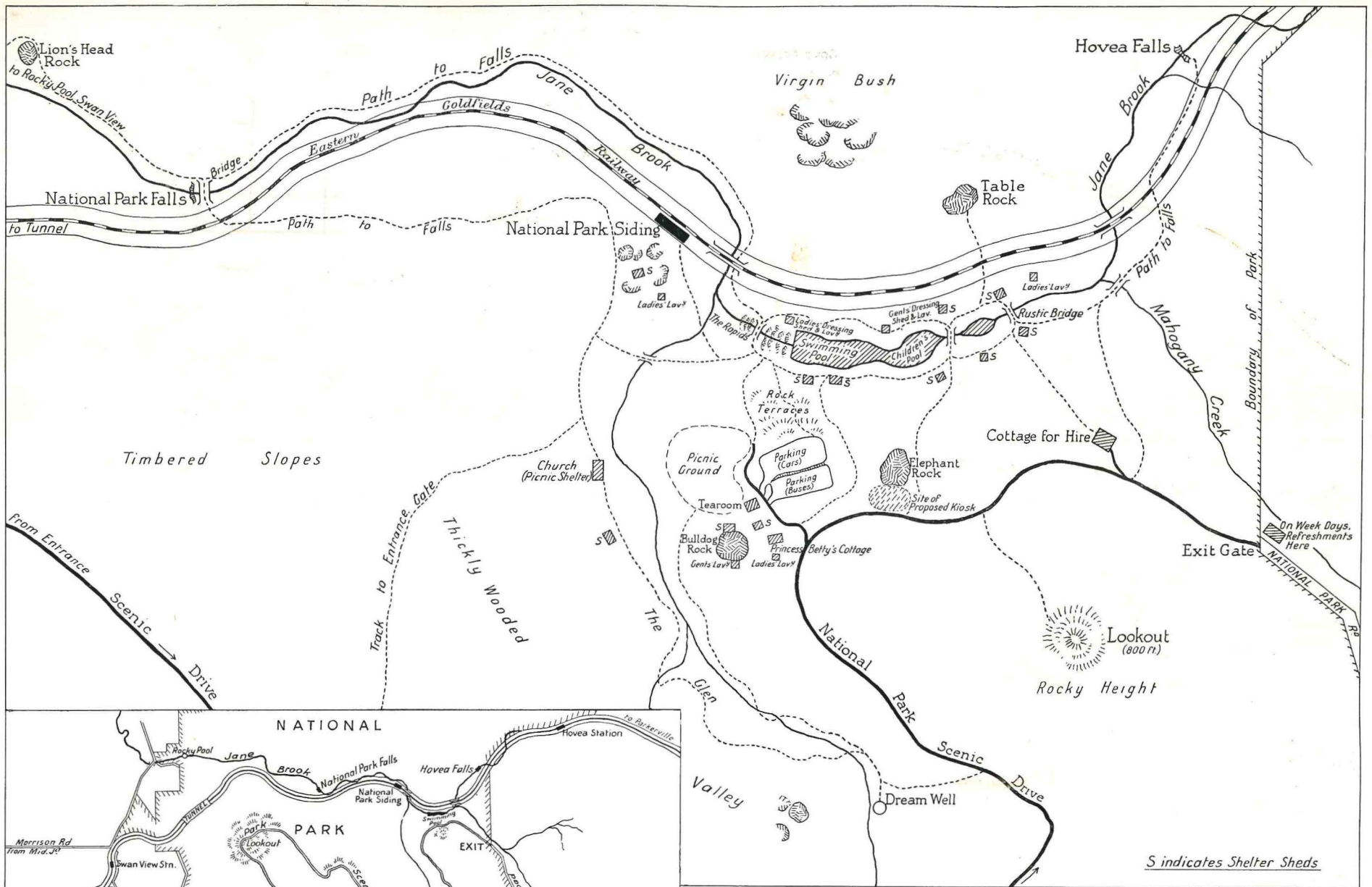
**Reserve.** The Yanchep Beach Reserve consists of 40 acres, and lies  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles due west of Loch McNess. These two points are connected by a bush track of approximately 5 miles in length. Sections of this track which were not in good repair have recently been cleared, straightened out and made reasonably passable by the Wanneroo Road Board. In the near future this route will be very much shortened by the formation of a corduroy track directly west, commencing at the Yanchep Inn, crossing by bridge the stream running north-eastward from Loch McNess and thence across the lake flats, joining the present route at about its half way mark on the western boundary of the Yanchep Caves Reserve. The work of crossing the lake is now in hand; a great deal of filling has been done, and the construction of the major portion of one of the connecting bridges has been accomplished. This route, forming as it will a  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mile spur from the main macadamised road to the beach should prove of use for defence purposes.



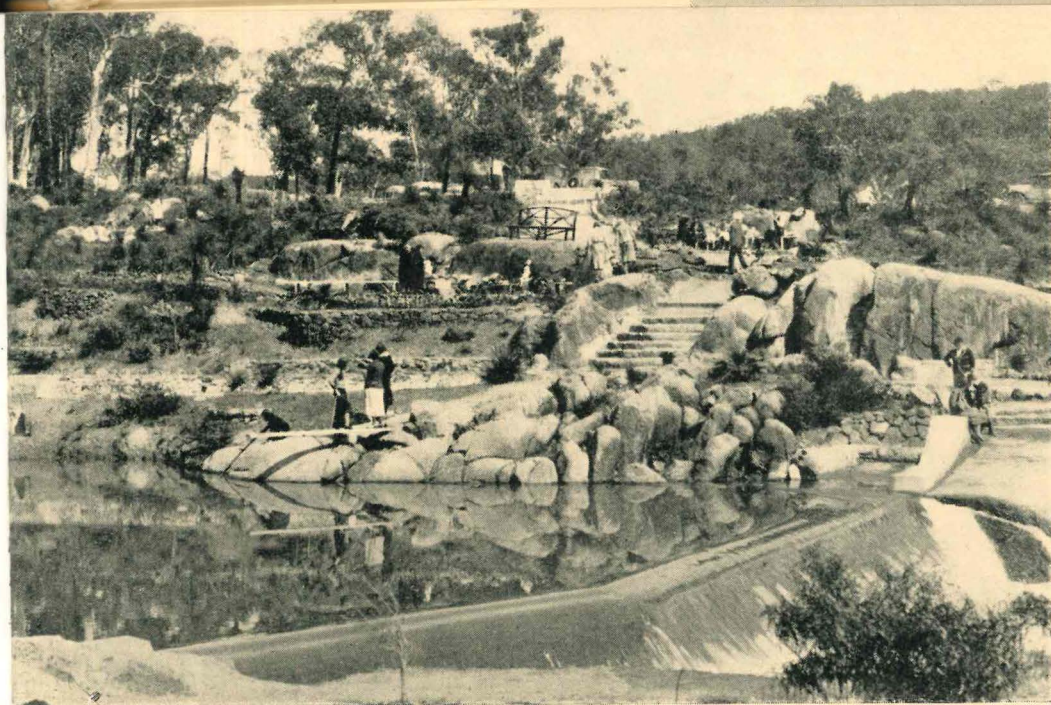
SUSPENDED COLUMNS



YANCHEP, viewed from the air.



**NATIONAL PARK**  
 showing Scenic Drive, Pathways, Location of  
 the Swimming Pool and other Attractions.



THE SWIMMING POOL, NATIONAL PARK, GREENMOUNT

Apart from this the beach has become very popular as a camping, fishing and swimming resort, the safety begotten of its reef-protected condition meeting with considerable favour. The reserve is picturesquely situated on high land, with limestone cliffs falling to the sea. The approach is over rolling downs, and the spot, with development, offers considerable possibilities.

The Board's proposals for the future include the grading down of the sides of some of the high slopes to form parking and resting places, which would be battered with limestone for durability. The loose rock lying about the beach would provide the necessary stone for this purpose; camps also may be constructed and let at reasonable rates. Sanitation will need to be provided, and an endeavour will be made to have a resident employee on the spot at all times for the purpose of control and development. There is not a great deal of tree growth in the immediate vicinity, but in due course the planting of trees indigenous to this type of limestone ridge, and of a kind that would take hold and flourish without undue attention, will be undertaken.

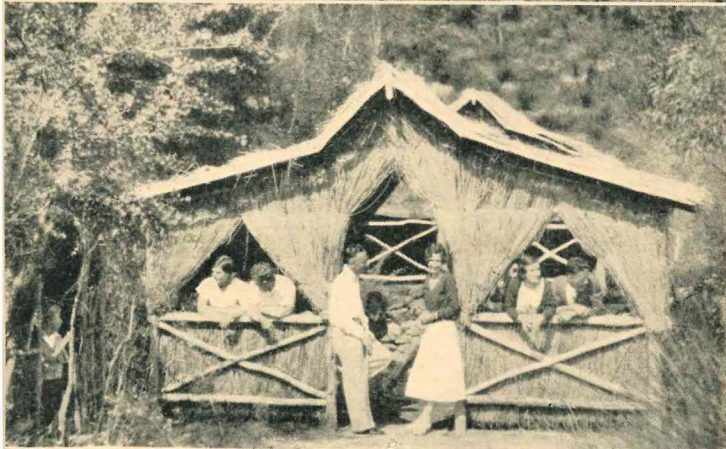
**Leasing of Garden Land.** On Yanchep there is a considerable area of land suitable for market gardening purposes. Much of this has necessarily been taken up by playing fields, swimming and ornamental pools, a Gorge which is too spectacular for such prosaic use, lakeside edges which fit the general scheme, and other areas which are desired to supplement a comprehensive lay-out. There is, however, some land here and there, such as lake beds and banks and odd plots which cannot be used so suitably for park purposes. As these locations are generally badly drained and covered with ugly and refractory growths such as stinkwort, parrot bush and reeds, which in summer suffer considerable danger from fires, it is desirable that such

places should be brought under control and converted into garden plots, which, at the same time, form useful firebreaks. Seven five-acre lots have been surveyed near the Yanchep approach, and two of these let. Beneficial results from clearing are already apparent. This innovation has the advantage of carrying settlement further out and of protecting the estate in vulnerable places.

Some little complaint has been voiced by local interests against using the land for market gardening, but it may be pointed out that before the State Gardens Board took over this area it was given clearly to understand that the Government viewed such a proposal with favour, and that the Wanneroo Road Board desired it. Following upon this the Minister for Lands received a letter from the Wanneroo Road Board dated 10th June, 1930, signed by Mr. D. Keane, the then Chairman, expressing the greatest gratification that the Government of the day were advancing the Wanneroo district by increasing its primary production.



THE FALLS,  
NATIONAL PARK



**NATIONAL PARK GREENMOUNT.** National Park, Greenmount, lies 19 miles eastward from Perth, athwart the Eastern Goldfields line, and adjoining the York road on its northern side. Originally containing 3,837 acres, it was vested in the State Gardens Board as a public park on the 15th January, 1928, and to this were subsequently added two smaller areas, increasing the Reserve to 3,850 acres.

The main feature of National Park is the simple dignity of mountain range and gully. Heavy timbers and enormous rock boulders and outcrops adorn this country, which rises to nearly 1,000 feet above sea level, and from the heights of which may be seen spacious vistas of the Swan vineyards, the metropolis, the Port of Fremantle and the sea beyond to Rottnest. Through one of its gorges runs the Jane Brook with the Swan View tunnel piercing an adjacent hillside. From the Kalgoorlie express may be seen the Hovea Falls. The country abounds in ironstone and granite, and in rich chocolate soil, which produces wild

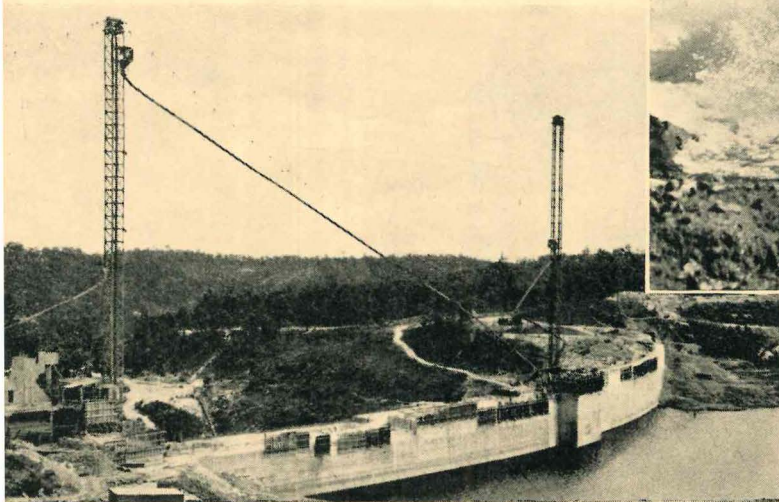
flowers in abundance, and provides the basis of many beautiful city and country gardens. The hovea and leschenaultia flowering in the Park are of unusual beauty and deep colouring.

Here again the depression period was availed of to further a lasting scheme of permanent improvement. Entering the Park from the York highway at the westerly end, a road was surveyed along and around a six-mile ridge of heights and contours roughly parallel to the York road, and overlooking here and there the Eastern Railway, the Swan View tunnel and Jane Brook. This was built with local gravel by simple grading and forming and rolling. The exit was made at the eastern end of the Park, again on the York road, and few motorists can resist the charm of a quiet drive through the Park in passing. Adjacent to one of the most beautiful bends along the Park highway a swimming pool has been built across the brook, and some acres laid out in parking grounds, resting places, terraces, seats and quaint kiosks where many congregate on Sundays and holidays. One cottage has been erected for letting, but a greater present need is a tea-rooms. A commencement was made some years ago with the erection of an octagon-shaped basement and first floor granite tea kiosk. A fine foundation and bastions were carried up to the first floor, but the work had to be suspended through lack of funds, not yet to be resumed. It is hoped later to build a more modest tea-rooms, and, when opportunity permits, to finish the structure first envisaged, adding tennis courts and other amenities to the attractions of the Park. For the moment, no development is proceeding. Maintenance, however, is scrupulously observed. The swimming pool is completely dredged yearly before the early rains; the roads and paths are properly cared for, firebreaks cleared and all assets fully protected.

THE QUAIN SHADE-HOUSES  
IN NATIONAL PARK,  
GREENMOUNT



THE CANNING DAM  
The Wall and Sluice



**CANNING DAM.** The Canning Dam Tourist Reserve comprising 400 acres, was leased from the Hon. Minister for Water Supply as from 1st August, 1936. To this has been added strips of the Canning River and its banks on both sides to the extent of an additional 50 acres. Early in the history of this great engineering enterprise it was realised by the Minister and his officers and the State Gardens Board that a decisive step should be taken to avoid a repetition of the casual history of Mundaring as a tourist resort, and a satisfactory arrangement for control was made. The State Gardens Board, of course, has no status in the reserve so far as a water supply and a water shed area are concerned. Its function is to control tourist activity, to beautify the area, to protect

all growth, to furnish comfort and facility for inspecting this mammoth work, and generally to regulate the coming and going of visitors other than those whose duties call them there. In order to explore the possibilities offering in a region so richly endowed by nature, constant attention is given this reserve in the matter of general protection, tree planting, fire elimination and coopera-

tion with the Water Supply officers in all their aims. By allying the Board's activities with the construction work proceeding it is often found possible to divert otherwise waste material to the formation of crossing places and parking grounds, so furthering the progress of the general scheme. As the work of dam construction recedes the beautification of this reserve can be intensified, more especially as trees reach ornamental size, and actual building operations are less evident. The Canning River between the dam and the bridge outlet on the reserve boundary, six miles in length, lends itself to the development of a scheme of exceptional beauty, and it is hoped that finance will soon permit of the snagging of this river, of a general clean-up, and the growth of the many attractions which could be so easily maintained in such ideal surroundings.

AN EARLY PLANTING

LADY McNESS HIGHWAY





ABOVE THE FALLS

## THE PORONGORUPS.

This park, which is about seven miles long and comprises an area of approximately 5,600 acres, is situated about 30 miles north of Albany and a few miles east of Mt. Barker.

Within the park are many points over 2,000 feet above sea level, and amongst these may be mentioned Devil's Slide, Twin Peaks, Nancy's Peak and Castle Rocks. There are also within the park some very fine karri

forests, the easternmost area of karri trees within the State. Perhaps the most attractive of these is in the Bolganup Ravine, a very delightful valley leading to the Devil's Slide, Nancy's Peak and Twin Peaks.

The State Gardens Board, in whom the park was vested in September, 1925, has not been able to do very much in the way of development internally, but regulations have been applied, and additional areas have been secured and means of access to some of the points of interest have been improved. For example, by the acquisition of additional land for the park, direct access to the Castle Rocks area from the main road has been provided, whereas for some years this was only possible of approach through private property. A road, about 1½ miles long, is being cleared to give vehicles better access to Hayward Park, at the entrance to the Bolganup Ravine.

The original area of the Porongorups was 2,860 acres; this has now been increased to 5,613 acres.

**SERPENTINE.** The Serpentine, which contains the well-known Serpentine Falls, comprises three locations, sometimes known as Campion Park. Before 1928 certain areas in this vicinity were thrown open for selection; and, as it was realised that the scenic beauties of this place constituted a national asset, representations were made to the Government, which resulted in 1928 in the withdrawal of the areas from selection. The Chairman of the Board visited and inspected the region and recommended a reserve for park and recreation. An area of 484 acres was reserved and placed under the Board's control on the 7th February, 1930. Later on two more areas, one including the Falls, were transferred to the same authority—making the total area 869 acres.

The Falls have always been very popular and, with further development, should prove even still more attractive. Grazing leases have been let on a considerable portion of the area on conditions similar to those imposed by the Forestry Department. All timber has to be preserved, waste timber may be removed under certain conditions, grazing lessees must erect fences if required and keep them in repair, the Bush Fires Act has to be complied with, lessees have to co-operate with the Forestry Department to prevent fires, and control burning is effected every three years under the supervision of the Forestry Department. Under the above mentioned conditions the park is protected and natural growth is encouraged until such time as more attention can be afforded.

SERPENTINE FALLS





## POINT WALTER.

The Point Walter Reserve, No. A 4813, consists of 167 acres. It was placed under the control of the State Gardens Board on the 3rd July, 1929, because of the severe losses entailed by the Melville Road Board in maintaining it.

Point Walter was named by Governor Stirling after his uncle, Sir Walter Stirling of Faskine, the first Baronet. Alfred Waylen settled at Point Walter on the 6th April, 1830, and was granted 13,333 acres of land. The present reserve of 167 acres was purchased by the Government in 1897, and classified a Class A Reserve in 1900, the Melville Road Board assuming control on the 3rd May, 1912.



THE PORONGORUPS: THE BALANCED ROCK

required reconditioning, manure and tools were required. The electric lighting system was dangerous, painting was neglected, tearooms were in disrepair, the caretaker's

cottage in a tumbled down state, and, generally, all equipment worn out and useless. The State Gardens Board took over control on the 2nd June, 1929, but would accept no liability for the balance of the loan. A Government grant of £100, reduced to £80 under the Financial Emergency Act, was approved. Efforts were then made to restore popularity. The place was tidied up generally, improvements effected, tennis courts were fertilised and reconditioned, and camping sites laid out. There were two tearooms upon the estate, which were much beyond necessities. £200 had been borrowed on one, and the Board is still liable for £90 of this at six per cent. The tenancies were overhauled, and eventually all structures, such as they were, came under the Board's control and ownership. Considerable losses were incurred

in effecting these necessary changes. The better of the two buildings was reconditioned and let to one lessee with sole rights.

The history of Point Walter is rather a sad one. Occupying a high eminence with north-easterly and south-westerly aspects, heavily timbered and well grassed, and boasting a lengthy sand spit over which shoals of river crabs roamed at night, this pleasure resort held pride of place on the river. With the advent of other

On the 4th February, 1928, the Melville Road Board asked the Minister for Lands to hand the reserve to the State Gardens Board, while another deputation made a similar request to the Hon. Premier. The loss to that date was £3,931, and the Road Board was considering the advisability of abandoning the whole project. There was still a loan balance of £1,975 to be repaid. At that time the road was in a bad condition; sanitation needed overhauling, hoses were needed, tennis courts

POINT WALTER



**KEANE'S POINT.**  
The Yachting Wharf reclaimed  
and constructed by the Royal  
Freshwater Bay Yacht Club

pleasure resorts, the increasing development of motor transport, the comparative remoteness from heavily populated areas, and the incidence of the depression, Point Walter lost some of its unique advantages, which only a heavy drive and considerable individual attention can hope to balance or restore.

The Point Walter reserve area would be an ideal site for the establishing of a new and spacious Zoological Garden, conforming to all the best standards of modern zoological practice, and having a magnificent outlook on almost all sides. Detailed reference to such a project is to be found in the section of this report which deals with the Zoological Gardens generally, and with such an idea for the future in mind, it is considered that the Point Walter reserve as a whole should be retained.

**KEANE'S POINT.** Keane's Point is a portion of 250 acres granted to John Butler by Governor James Stirling on the 10th January, 1835, "in consideration of certain location duties performed to the satisfaction of the Government"—hence the name sometimes used, "Butler's Hump."

In 1917, that portion of the land now known as Keane's Point was held by Mrs. Lilla Keane, who proposed to subdivide the area into residential lots for sale. Mr. A. Lovekin and Mr. Harry Boan headed a number of citizens who considered that the area should be held by the Crown, and after protracted negotiations, a purchase for £5,000 was arranged, of which the Government contributed £2,500, and prominent citizens the balance of £2,500.

On the 8th August, 1918, transfer was arranged and the house and land set aside as a convalescent home for returned soldiers. It was leased to the Repatriation Department and known as Anzac Hostel. The lease was determined by the Repatriation Department on the 30th June, 1928, and returned to the State Government with all buildings and improvements. The purpose of the reserve was changed to "recreation and other purposes incidental thereto" and placed under the control of the State Gardens Board in 1929 with power to lease. For six years from the 1st June, 1930, the premises were let as a boarding house with the right of access for the public to within 20 feet of the main buildings and 10 feet from the outbuilding. The latter provision proved rather unworkable. Some vandalism prevailed. Crabbing parties used the fences for firewood, and fishermen the wattle bark for tanning their nets, and a considerable amount had to be written off for rent unpaid.



**KEANE'S POINT**  
The Club Buildings

**KEANE'S POINT**  
A beautiful setting  
for a popular sport



The old building and fixtures were in bad condition. The sewerage had to be completely remodelled, and the whole of the verandahs rebuilt and cemented. Two truncations of the block were effected to improve visibility, one on each corner of the alignment along Lilla Street.

During June, 1936, the Board concluded arrangements with the Freshwater Bay Yacht Club for a lease of the area, with a provision for the segregation of a considerable proportion for the use of the public. A condition of the lease is that the club spend £5,000 during the first five years, and at the expiration all improvements to become the property of the Board. The club is now happily installed. It has improved this section of the public estate and bids fair to make it one of the finest institutions of its kind in the State. The old property owned by the club in the bay was levelled to the ground. The relations between the Board and the club are of

the happiest and the arrangement has been for the good of all concerned. In the near future, the removal of old fences and outbuildings will be completed, and a considerable section of the grounds and a strip of beach released to the public.

There has been a certain amount of complaint from one or two quarters regarding the use of this area, but this has mostly emanated from individuals whose contribution to the purchase was little or nothing, while generous donors like Mr. Lovekin and Mr. Boan have found no fault with what has been done. It must also be pointed out that the Board in all its dealings with this estate has acted strictly within the limits of its charter from the Crown, in using the ground "for recreation and other purposes incidental thereto," and by so doing is securing a revenue which in due course may recoup the Board for the improvement effected to this public asset.

**THE NURSERY**  
Beauty under glass





CRAWLEY BEACH  
1939 and 1919



**CRAWLEY.** The Crawley reserve consists of the river beach area extending from Stirling Highway to Nedlands along the eastern side of the University, and comprises 262 acres 3 perches, since increased by dredging.

This beach, with an easterly aspect, safe, clean and gradually shelving, has been controlled by the Board since 1920. It is deservedly popular, but it has suffered through nomadic instincts born of improved motor transport. For a time reckless vandalism prevailed in this region, but with the appointment of a resident caretaker this disappeared. Camping sites gave the Board some modest means for development. A tea-rooms was established by building lease, and this is now the property of the Board. The University Boat Club was given a site over the deep clay pit to protect bathers. The Sea Scouts were installed on Pelican Point (they help in policing the river), and the Mount's Bay Sailing Club has just commenced the building of a boat house alongside the Scouts. The clearing of Crawley Swamp, and the dredging of this area and Dalkeith have eliminated much of the mosquito pest, and no doubt a river road will be constructed in due course along the route kept for it, at least from Stirling Highway to Broadway. Although the withdrawal of tram traffic has resulted in some loss of patronage to Crawley, the beach remains a fine river resort, capable of accommodating thousands, and the development of the newly dredged area will probably stimulate a restoration of earlier popularity.

**DALKEITH.** Dalkeith is a Class A Reserve of 40 acres before dredging, set aside for the purpose of recreation. This was taken under control at the same time as Crawley, and has passed through the vicissitudes of waste land, market garden, camping ground and reclamation. The dredging has killed out all growth, but after oxidation the area will be levelled and grassed, and the Hot Pool, which has been designed for thermal treatment, will shortly be placed in commission as one of this park's amenities.

This water is radioactive and is greatly valued for medical treatment of many ailments. A recent reduction in flow, however, may delay plans for its proper utilisation pending investigation by the engineers of the Public Works Department of the cause of the reduced supply.

MILL POINT, SHOWING MILLER'S POOL



**THE OLD MILL.** The Old Mill, located on Mill Point, South Perth, is one of the earliest landmarks associated with the pioneers of this State. Picturesque, visible from many vantage points round about the city and King's Park, it makes an eloquent though silent appeal to all lovers of early history and tradition. After its usefulness as a mill ceased, it passed through the usual stages of changing ownership, neglect, decay and vandalism, until public sentiment proclaimed its willingness to hand over this aged child to anyone who would care for it, so long as the adoption did not connote providing funds to pay for its maintenance. By this time the State Gardens Board had been recognised as a possible parent for unwanted children, and consequently the Mill site was resumed by the Crown from Walter James Green in 1930, created a reserve for public recreation, and placed under the control of the State Gardens Board.

On the 4th May, 1932, following the idea that, if possible, every enterprise should pull its own weight, endeavour was made under the voluntary direction of Mr. Ednie-Brown to effect a restoration to original conditions, the idea being to satisfy all sentiment and at the same time make it pay. The Mill had been sadly interfered with; stairs were rocking; sails were gone; a modern garage had been attached; a pinafore balcony had been added years after the original building, and the roof was covered with iron. The ensemble was a sad sight. On removing the roof iron the original hewn sheoak shingles were revealed, generally in a state of splendid preservation, and showing beautiful and clear grain. New shingles were split and brought from Denmark, hewn timbers installed and the place re-shingled. Windows and doors were restored, the old round oven reconditioned, and the place ceiled and floored, cleaned and painted, water and gas were laid on, and the fence restored. Thus £300 was spent. Then tearooms were opened at a low rental and fairly well run. For a while the going was good. A turn of the wheel brought some other attraction into being, patronage dwindled, and the tenant defaulted, leaving the Board to write off £182 rental as a bad debt. Making the best of matters, the Board then let the premises under caretaking conditions for 7s. 6d. per week, and as this tenant was a Board em-

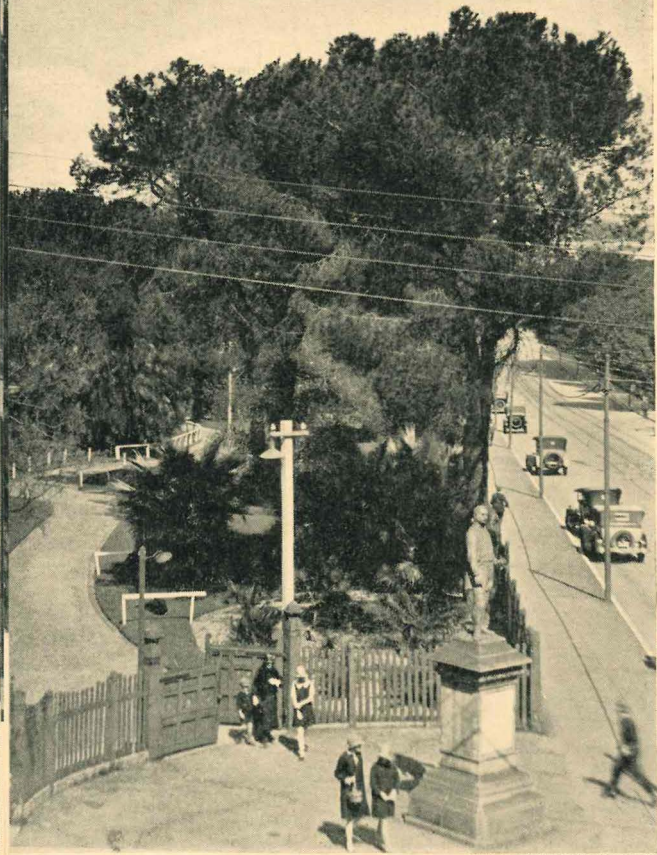


THE OLD MILL, SOUTH PERTH

ployee, no difficulty was experienced in collecting the rent. And so the Mill stands, cared for, awaiting a general resurrection.

The South Perth Mill is probably one of many illustrations of the possible usefulness of a general Park Trust. Here is a valuable national monument, its preservation desired and encouraged by all, but no one specially charged with, or financed for, its preservation. The problem is possibly too small for a State Government and may be too large for a local body. A Park Trust could be given control of such monuments, to treat them according to their relative importance.

It will be remembered that the largest portion of the area surrounding the Mill site was controlled by a Board the majority of whom were also on the King's Park Board from 1896. Some 32 years ago it was taken from this authority and vested in the local body, South Perth. Later on, in 1930, comes the State Gardens Board with a scheme for restoration of the Mill, the conversion of the grounds round about to park purposes, the deepening and beautifying of Miller's Pool, the re-establishment and maintenance of swans thereon, the arranging of sculling and sailing courses on the Swan River, designed to finish at the Narrows, and the erection of an extensive seating scheme at the finishing point, constructed, for instance, from the Royal grandstands which have been erected in this



STIRLING SQUARE  
Showing the old entrance  
and the new



**GOVERNMENT GARDENS.** What are generally known as the Government Gardens comprise Stirling Square, the Government House Domain, and the Supreme Court enclosure. When Stirling Square was handed to the State Gardens Board, the Supreme Court was separated from the lower gardens by a public road, and had traffic surging around it, while musical carnivals were conducted adjacent to the Courts, in an atmosphere of noise and bustle entirely foreign to the dignity of the Court. After

State during the course of several Royal visits, and which have otherwise gone for lesser purposes. Ideas of this kind, which would be possible of achievement under one body controlling adjacent areas and allied activities, had perforce to be strangled at birth, chiefly because there were several authorities operating over small areas in the same region and covering diverse interests and aims and no effective machinery and resources available to implement such a plan. With Miller's Pool as a centre, four governing authorities had some jurisdiction within one hundred yards square.

It is a matter for great regret that a scheme of this nature could not have reached fruition before a spot as beautiful as Miller's Pool was reclaimed, but under existing conditions of diverse control, with Miller's Pool as a mosquito-breeding quagmire, who could blame any responsible body for its reclamation?

the transfer of the lower area in September, 1923, the Board was successful in securing the closure of the dividing road, and in converting the waste land into lawns and gardens. Banks of trees were established to break all the undue noise and mask the view, thus creating a condition more in keeping with the functions of the Court. When later on Government House ballroom was converted more to public use, it was found necessary to apply State Gardens Board regulations to these grounds, and these were transferred on the 1st June, 1929.

While the war was raging, a great necessity arose for the handling under favourable conditions of the affairs of soldiers and their dependants, both officially and privately. Hence there sprang into being on the waterfront a vocational training centre, now the Repatriation Department, and in Stirling Square a Returned Soldiers'

**EARLY BEGINNINGS**  
The Supreme Court Gardens when first brought from the wilderness



Institute, it being felt necessary to have these centres in the city in congenial surroundings yet reasonably removed from city conditions prejudicial to the soldiers' interests. When the Government granted to the R.S.L. the Anzac House site, the State Gardens Board, on the 18th October, 1934, bought the old Institute, and it now serves the national purposes of the A.B.C., where they may enjoy undisturbed peace and quiet until such time as they establish a permanent station under similarly favourable auspices.

Several years ago, the small nursery in Stirling Square was found to be inadequate for the Board's increasing requirements. A transfer of this activity to spare land in Government House Domain, where ample room was available, was arranged. It is a matter for regret that the resident gardener's cottage in Stirling Square, erected in 1846, was in such a ruinous state as to be impossible to restore, and it was accordingly removed.

It is a matter of great satisfaction that it was found possible to include the historic gates and fencing of the Agricultural Department, which for so long housed the Legislative Council of our early years, in the Stirling Gardens fence.

It is expected later to erect within the Government Gardens a monument containing seats and drinking fountain, which will to some extent memorialise the work of Sir Charles and Lady McNess.

Among the minor obligations devolving upon the State Gardens Board is the maintenance of the grounds and gardens of the Public Library, the Royal Mint, the Home of Peace, the Perth Public Hospital, and the Receiving Home in Mount Lawley

## **PERTH FORESHORES.**

**Reclamations.** Over the period of its 20 years' history the State Gardens Board has co-operated with the Public Works Department in the development and dredging and filling of the river foreshores from Point Resolution at Claremont to the Causeway. The time when the river lapped Mount's Bay Road, Mill Street, Supreme Court area, Government House Domain and the Christian Brothers' enclosure, is well within the memory of many, and the present condition of affairs along the foreshore has been established as a result of the combined efforts of the Government, the State Gardens Board, and the City Council.

Page Twenty-five

**SUPREME  
COURT  
GARDENS  
TO-DAY**





PERTH AND  
MOUNT'S BAY ROAD  
for comparison with the  
earlier view of the same area  
on opposite page

The Board's contribution to the reclamation has been scores of thousands of cubic yards of filling, secured from such places as the new "West Australian" building, Cambridge, Parliament House, Malcolm street, King's Park reservoir, and, in fact, any source where cheap soil was offering. Ten years after the commencement of the Board's operations, the late Mr. McCallum, who was then Minister for Works, was able to announce that at the east end of the Esplanade, near the Causeway, and on the adjacent island, 114,000 cubic yards of silt had been deposited. Actually expenditure by the Harbours and Rivers Department on Swan River reclamation from the Causeway to Point Lewis has totalled £248,600. During the course of time Governmental and Gardens Board co-operation has resulted in the walling and finished elevation and planting of the foreshore—Perth Esplanade excepted—from Point Lewis to Hill street, and the appearance of this area to-day is a pleasing contribution to the city's aspect.

Although the City Council expressed no willingness to take over the foreshore for a long time after their refusal to do so in 1919, the project became a much more attractive proposition after the completion of the river wall and the reclamation of large sections by dredging. Gradually there evolved an arrangement for the ceding of sections of the foreshore to the Council in consideration of their building a riverside drive. This has proved beneficial to both Board and Council. The Government's reclamation scheme and the Board's activity had made the general scheme possible. The Board lost no revenues as a result of the transfer, and

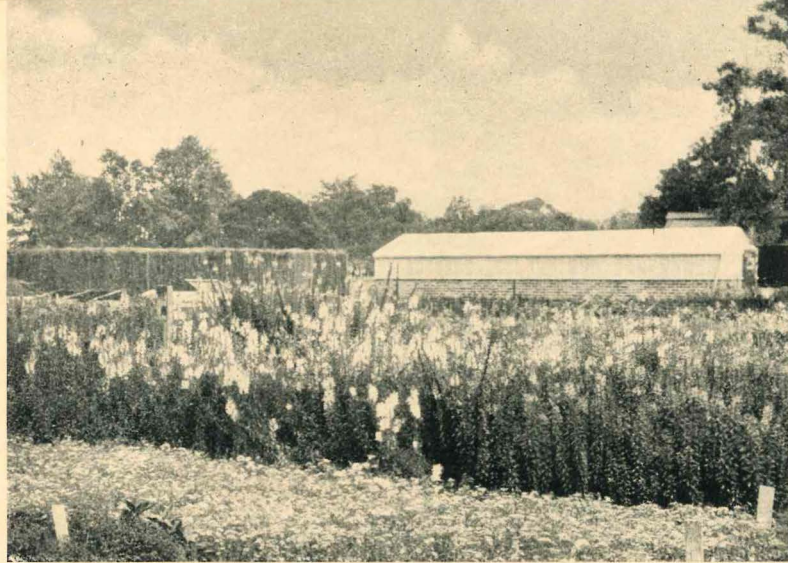
for such work as the Council has since accomplished the Council's revenues must surely improve by reason of the increased rating due to such vast improvements and the city generally is the better by far.

**Increased Values.** From the latest investigations made it would appear by a comparison of present-day values with those which existed prior to the commencement of the foreshore improvements, that the enhancement in value of privately owned land between Point Lewis and the Causeway totals not less than £50,000. It is considered, also, that the improved appearance of the north side of the river alone, particularly by night, has added not less than £10,000 to the unimproved value of land on the south side of the river from the Narrows to the Causeway (a distance of about three miles). A considerable area of land has been actually created by the filling between Point Lewis and the Causeway, and in the opinion of a competent authority, the total value of this at the present time is about £108,000. It will be seen, therefore, that the estimated value of both new land and the enhancement of existing values due to the foreshore improvements referred to, is about £168,000. It should be remarked that the benefit of these improvements is enjoyed by a wide range of people other than those directly interested in property near them. For example, the suburbs of Nedlands, Claremont and Cottesloe have increased in popularity to some extent due to the attractive drive to and from the city; also the improvement in the appearance of the city creates an asset of general value to the State.



#### THE NURSERY

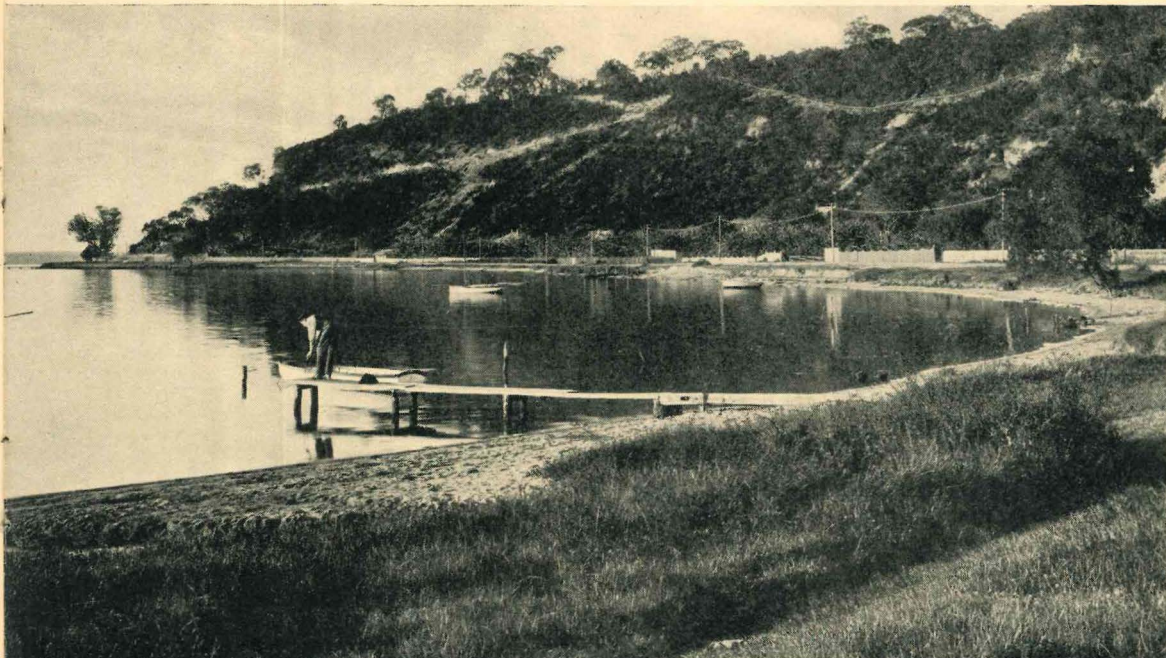
A portion of the Nursery where are grown the trees, shrubs and plants required for the Board's domains



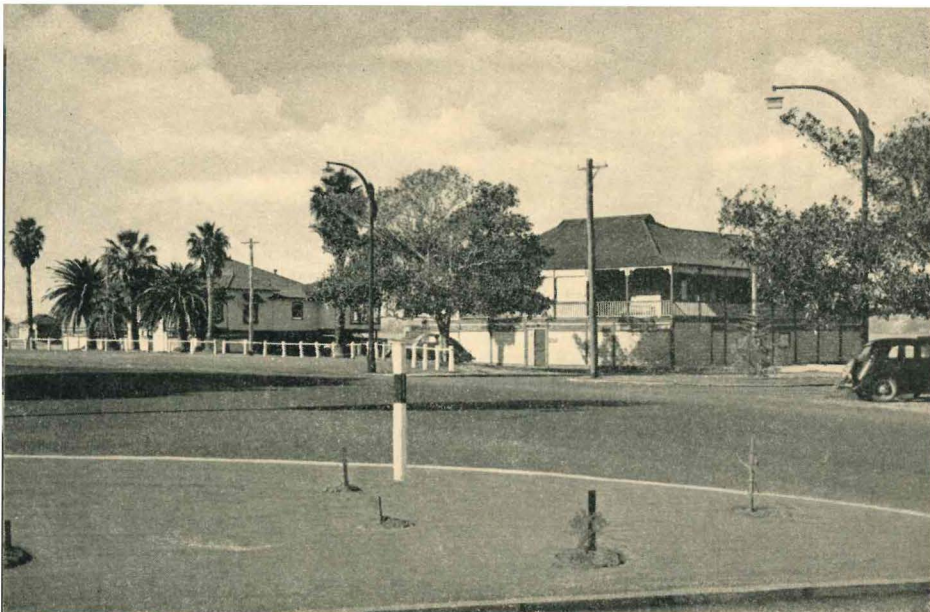
**Perth Wharves.** When the arrangement was made between the Government and the City Council on the 21st May, 1937, to transfer certain of the foreshores to the Council in consideration of the building of the Riverside drive, the Government undertook the removal of all buildings then existing in the section bounded by Mill street, Bazaar terrace, William street and the river, within five years from that date. In August of the following year the lightering companies decided to discontinue the lightering business and to surrender their areas, but in October asked that they be permitted to continue the use of the sheds for storage for another year or two. The Government approved of a lease for a further year, but did not interfere with the arrangement regarding their buildings. The companies, however, were unable to continue with the scheme they had in mind and advised the Government that so soon as the last of the cargo delivered into the sheds up to the termination of the service had been removed by the consignees they would proceed with the removal of the buildings. The City Council was informed of this decision. On the 26th October, 1938, in answer to a parliamentary question, it was intimated that the buildings would not be removed

immediately, but within five years from the date of the arrangement, as was originally undertaken, and that the Department was negotiating with the lightering companies to have the buildings removed at an earlier date.

Up to date one of the structures occupied by the lightering companies has been sold and dismantled. Crystal Park has been leased for parking and recreation. The work of cleaning up, and the transfer of buildings generally is proceeding, but an aspect of uncertainty has now occurred in relation to the lightering premises and equipment, which needs clarifying before complete dismantling and disposal. International relations are strained. If war occurs and air raids eventuate the river bridges will be definite military objectives, and may go. Petrol supplies will be shortened. River transport, especially of heavy tonnage, will be essential. Transport of armaments, possibly guns to Rottnest, will be vital. The McIlwraith and Swan River services are the heaviest and best equipped in this State. They contain barges specially designed for the carriage of explosives, and necessary wharves and storage. To jettison these at this junction would be stupid and almost criminal; therefore no undue pressure toward this end will be applied until it can be fully justified.



MOUNT'S BAY ROAD  
before dredging and development  
by the State Government and  
the State Gardens Board



BOAT CLUBS ON THE PERTH RIVER FRONT

So far as the problem of boat-building is concerned, the difficulty has been to select a suitable site. Each particular interest is satisfied with a site anywhere but on or about its own domains, but there is considerable objection from one source or another to any such enterprise in the Perth or Melville Water area from the Causeway to Crawley. Yet the boat builders have a right to live, and are an integral part of the life of a city such as ours, endowed by nature with a fine river and ideal conditions for aquatic sport.

**Perth Boat Sheds.** The appearance of the Perth foreshore when the Board assumed control was deplorable, by reason of the structures cluttering the water-front, including boat-sheds, tea-rooms, yacht clubs, rowing clubs and boat-building premises. Over the course of years the Board has endeavoured to clean up many of the areas involved by elimination of undesirable buildings, and the amalgamation of other interests in such a way as to present a more attractive aspect generally. The underlying principle has been that boat-letting premises and boating clubs in Perth waters and suburban areas should be encouraged, as they contribute to the healthy, outdoor life of the community, provided their premises are reasonably well built and cared for, and present a tidy and attractive appearance; and that boat-building premises should be grouped in an area where the least offence is created, and yet within reasonable distance of the various centres served.

It has been considered for years that the most suitable place for a boat-building centre is above the Causeway on the city side of the river, but here again difficulty has presented itself because of shallow channels and the low Causeway clearance. Until a suitable site could be made available it was unreasonable to force builders from their old holdings, but at the same time there was a clamour to have them removed from the Perth water front, although those clamouring could suggest no suitable alternative. To meet the situation a site was selected on waste land near the western end of the Causeway. Builders have been told that the permission to operate there is a temporary expedient; that when suitable access can be given to a site above the Causeway they must be prepared to move; and with this in view they have been advised to construct their premises in sections, bolted together and capable of easy removal. No permission will be given for boat-building premises in Perth water on any site other than this.

PERTH RIVER FRONT  
Showing the premises of boat  
builders and lightering com-  
panies, the eventual removal  
of which is intended



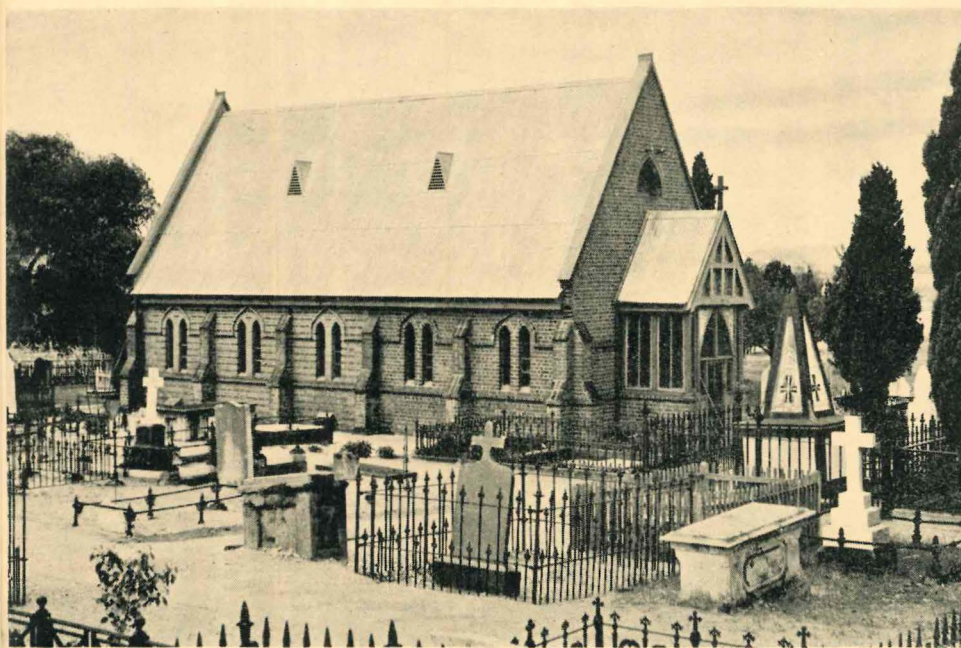
Up to the present many structures have been eliminated from the Perth foreshore, including a group of sheds and shops formerly existing at the foot of Barrack street—Hudson's boat-shed, Hill's boat-shed, Lawrence's boat-shed, Rann's boat-shed, some of the lightering companies' premises, and numerous old stalls and buildings on Carnival Square.

So far as yachting and boating clubs and boat-letting premises are concerned, the Board is supported by the Government in encouraging the sporting possibilities of the Swan River. Several such concerns are established on a rental rather lower than equitable. Some boat-houses have been removed from Perth, one has gone from Peppermint Grove, three are established at Crawley. Future applications should be referred to this area. There is no desire to interfere with those now existing on the Perth foreshore providing premises are kept in an acceptable state of repair, and other obligations are met, as is being done in all but one instance. In this case a cancellation of the license is contemplated for continued default.

**THE EAST PERTH CEMETERY.** The East Perth Cemetery was placed under the control of the State Gardens Board as a disused burial ground on the 9th May, 1934. Eleven years before this time the Board found the cemetery to be held by various denominations in fee simple for burial purposes, and when it was seen that rampant vandalism existed, that rabbits were nesting in coffins, and that human remains were actually exposed, the Board offered, subject to all plots being transferred to the Crown, to fence and clean and care for the area in an adequate, though not luxurious way.

After conference with heads of churches, the offer was gratefully accepted on the basis that access would be given to the cemeteries; that the interest of those who had relatives buried there would be conserved, and that monuments would not be removed until such time as it was felt that this could be done without offending any who had relatives buried there.

Shortly afterwards a caretaker was appointed, and a plain strong fence was erected around all sections and painted. Since then close attention has been continued, regulations applied, fire-breaks maintained, trees and shrubs planted, and vandalism eliminated.



THE EAST PERTH CEMETERY  
AND CHAPEL

Considerable pride is felt in the Swan River, the achievements of the devotees of aquatic sport, and the possibilities such unique advantages as the river offers, and the co-operation of the State Gardens Board may be relied upon by the boating fraternity in all legitimate aims.

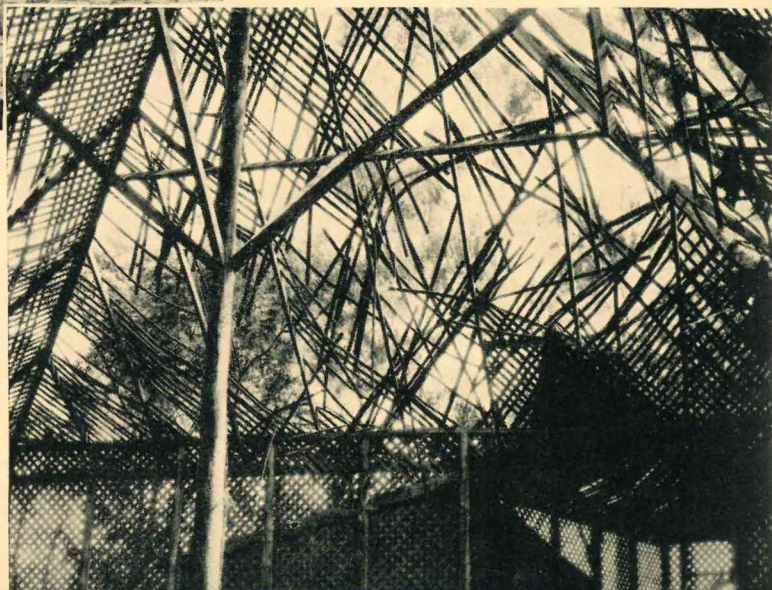


Future policy regarding the East Perth Cemetery is worthy of some consideration. Comprising 12 acres of land, and occupying probably the choicest position in Perth, it is hardly likely to remain merely a disused cemetery for all time. In the above arrangement an ultimate conversion from its present condition was visualised, but not until it would cease to give offence to those immediately concerned. With a few remote exceptions of burials in vaults, the ground has now been closed to all interments for over 23 years, so that immediate survivors and acute sentiment are rapidly dying out. Actual identity of many graves, except in a very small percentage of instances where a tomb tells its own story, is impossible. Pegs have been removed, and other liberties taken, which intensify difficulties. Thus the urge for retaining it as a cemetery is steadily but surely receding. On the other hand, there are over

ten thousand dead there, including the Western Australian pioneers of one hundred years. There rest Governor Andrew Clarke, Surveyor General Roe, Ministers of the Crown before and after the advent of Responsible Government, Speakers of the Council, Judges, Premiers, Ministers of Religion, Bishop Hale, Colonel Bruce, North-West explorers murdered by blacks, Maitland Brown, and a host of others justly famous, down to Tommy Dower, the aboriginal associated with the Forrests in several surveying expeditions. A great body of public opinion hallows these revered grounds, and would surely like to see such memorials preserved in perpetuity, as well as the little church which forms the central gem in its unique setting. In a section of the general area such as this might be grouped the remaining headstones, even perhaps accorded denominational segregation. The central area could then be treated as a park, developed, beautified and used for rest and quiet enjoyment, but closed against sport. The outlying fringes or sections, of which there are some already vacant, could then be converted to some approved purpose by the Government. A trend towards this end should surely satisfy the deepest sentiment of all concerned, and, if due regard is given to the wishes of living relatives of any buried there, should give no offence.



A SHADE HOUSE IN THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS  
 Comparing its former dilapidation  
 with the present neat  
 and serviceable appearance





A NEW GROUP OF SMALL MAMMAL CAGES

RUBBISH, NEAR THE ENTRANCE GATE, REMOVED BY THE BOARD



**THE ZOO.** In order to view the history of the Zoological Gardens in proper perspective, and correctly appraise the work of the past seven and a half years, reference must be made to its earlier history, more particularly during the last decade, in the beginning of which a change in administration was effected.

**Birth.** It will be remembered that the Zoo enjoys the protection of a special Act of Parliament, and that its barque was launched upon a sea of public favour on the 18th October, 1898, with the blessing of such influential citizens as Sir John Forrest and Sir Winthrop Hackett. Funds were found from the public purse for the institution generally, its occupants and their multifarious needs. A mineral bore yielding radio active mineral water of therapeutic quality was included in the lay out. Fences, cages and water reticulation were provided, and under the guidance of a board of six, the skill of a competent Director, and the persuasion of thermal waters, gardens and exotic growth leaped into being comparatively fully fledged.

**Decline.** After a period of moderate prosperity the Zoo declined from a meridian of comparative well being, and notwithstanding much good work done, and the efforts of the late Director and many generous and public spirited citizens who vainly endeavoured to stem the ebb tide, adversity began to gain the ascendancy; exhibits became scarcer, buildings, fences and cages depreciated, and, worst of all, the water reticulation system, so costly and expensive, commenced, with the ravages of the mineral water, to disintegrate to final decay and uselessness.

**Change of Control.** When the position appeared incapable of rectification in view of the existing depression and lack of patronage, the then Chairman of the Zoological Gardens Committee, the Hon. A. Clydesdale, stated the case to the Premier of the day, Sir James Mitchell, in the following terms:—

“ The matter has become so serious that we feel we cannot carry on any longer without Government assistance, and if this cannot be given we suggest that you take the Institution over as a Government and hand it to the State Gardens Board.

“ You must be aware that the present stage in the life of the Zoo has coincided with the most terrific depression this State has ever felt. Owing to lack of patronage and lack of other support we have not only been prevented from buying fresh stock, but our assets have depreciated until the place is a heap of ruins. The pipes carrying the bore water have deteriorated through chemical content, and are broken and leaking all over the place. Fences are down, trellises are ruined, the place is desolate, weed infested and full of rats and other vermin, and the bank is threatening to foreclose because our overdraft is £7,245 in addition to current liabilities as against a legal limit of £7,000.

“ We are sorry to trouble you, but we can see no way out. Up to the present you have given me no encouragement to expect further assistance, and my committee wish to place the matter before you in plain language, and we would strongly urge that adequate funds be found for us or that arrangements be made to take the institution over.

## THE NEW MONKEY WALK

"I regret that the matter has now become somewhat urgent, as the buildings and cages are in such a condition that many enclosures are no longer safe. Cages of reptiles are dangerous. Some of these have actually escaped, but, I am glad to say, were re-captured; the enclosures for the big carnivora such as lions and tigers are rotting at the bases, and it is quite possible that in any excitement such as a storm or a fire, with animals milling against them, the mesh will break and create a condition of the greatest danger."

To this the Premier replied in the following terms:—

"With further reference to the discussion between yourself, the Honourable Mr. Davy and myself, regarding the finances of the South Perth Zoological Gardens and your desire that I should render further financial assistance, I have to advise you that I have looked into this matter and regret that this cannot be done.

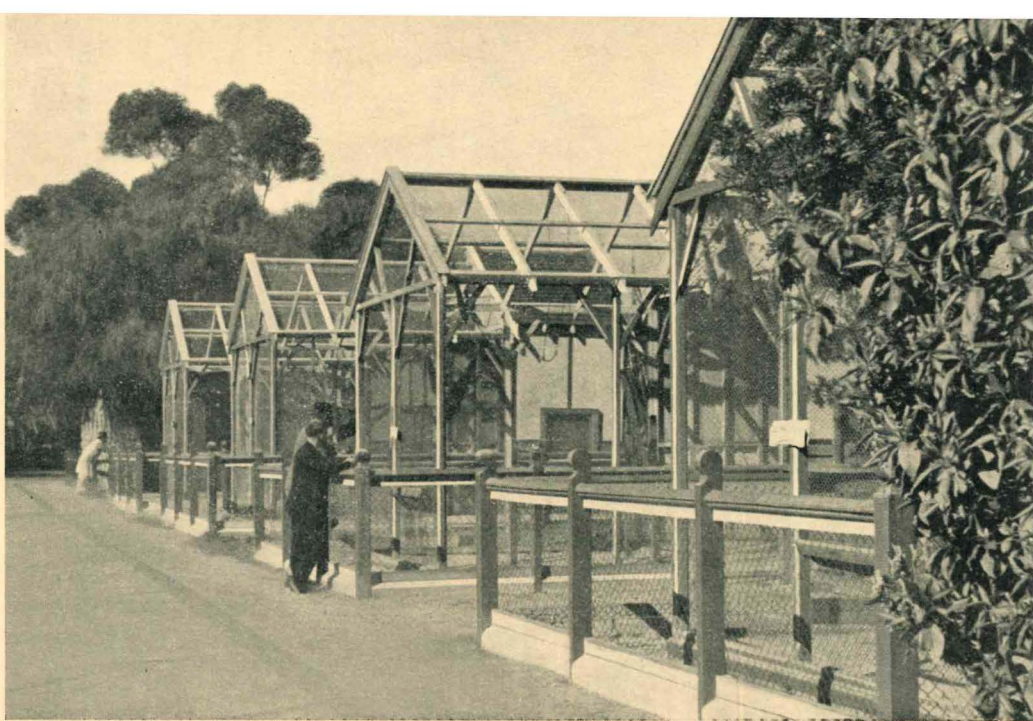
"There are three things that concern me for the moment:—

"The first is: the overdraft is secured by the title deeds of the Zoo. If the bank calls upon the Committee to pay up the amount, they would simply hand the demand on to the Government and it would be very awkward for us to find the money—and still more awkward to allow the bank to exercise its right under the mortgage.

"The second is: that we cannot find more money than we are finding now, and it is even difficult to continue the present amount.

"The third is: that the buildings and fences and other things at the Zoo have fallen into a bad state of repair, and something must be done immediately to repair them.

"You have made a suggestion to me that the State Gardens Board should take over control, and, so far as I am concerned, I am willing to fall in with that suggestion, but it is for members of the State Gardens Board to agree. The difficulty in the way, however, is that the Act requires that there must be a Committee and Trustees. To get over this difficulty, I suggest that a member of the Committee retire, that Mr. Shapcott be appointed to the vacancy as President and Trustee, and that the State Gardens Board be the Executive. I realise that the Committee, of necessity, meets infrequently, and their work must of necessity be more or less advisory. Of course, the Trustees must accept



responsibility of setting straight the Bank position and, of course, they must gradually liquidate the debt to the Bank. The State Gardens Board have at their disposal an organisation and resources and facilities which can be used with value to the Zoo.

"Since I have been approached in the matter and made aware of the difficult circumstances in which the Committee finds itself, I venture to make the above suggestions, there being no alternative, because additional money cannot be found under any circumstances and the desperate condition of the Zoo and the parlous state of its finances render it imperative that something should be done to remedy the position at once."

These terms were accepted by the President in the following communication:—

"In answer to your letter of 4th March, 1932, my Committee have carefully considered this matter and have had an interview with Mr. L. E. Shapcott.

"They are willing to fall in with the suggestions in your letter that Mr. L. E. Shapcott be appointed President and Trustee and that the present committee act in an advisory capacity.

"The one condition they feel constrained to make is that the present Director, Col. E. A. Le Souef, be secured in another position, whilst we also feel to be a matter of the utmost importance that skilled veterinary supervision be exercised over the Zoo to prevent disease being introduced to the State.

Yours faithfully,

A. CLYDESDALE, President."

Thereupon the late Director, Col. Le Souef, was appointed to a position in the Agricultural Bank, which he held until retirement, and the State Gardens Board commenced functioning in control of the Zoo, with the following Acclimatisation Committee:—Mr. L. E. Shapcott, President and Trustee; the Hon. J. Scaddan, and Mr. H. A. Pilgrim, Trustees; the Hon. T. A. L. Davy, the Hon. A. Clydesdale and Professor G. E. Nicholls, as members, on the clear understanding expressed by the Premier:—"Committee to be advisory only; the chairman to have the full powers of director and to be permitted to carry out his policy without interferences."

A GATEWAY TYPICAL OF CONDITIONS AT TRANSFER OF CONTROL



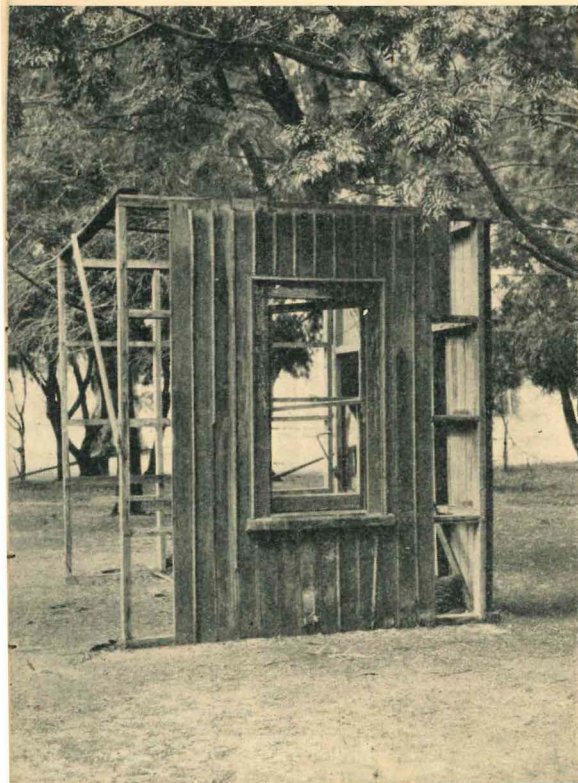
**Zoo Board Control and Audit.** It will now be clear that the two institutions, the State Gardens Board and the Zoological Gardens Acclimatisation Committee, rest upon a different basis. The Gardens Board is appointed under the Parks and Reserves Act, 1895, and consists of two members. It has a current account with the National Bank and a Trust Account with the Treasury. Its auditors of many years standing are Messrs. W. Hayes & Co. The Zoological Gardens Committee under the present arrangement consists of three trustees and three members. One of the former and one of the latter are dead. Two other appointments have lapsed. As this Zoo is under a special Act, the affairs of the two Boards are kept entirely separate, though they have the same administration. The Zoo's bankers are the National Bank and the Zoo's auditor is the Auditor General.

**Scientific Help.** As the management of the Zoo appeared to be chiefly a matter of common sense and economical business arrangement, and the scientific and veterinary supervision could be undertaken by the State Agricultural Department under Mr. McKenzie Clarke's control, a considerable saving was effected by making no further appointment of a Scientific Director,

and the quarters were converted to a revenue producer by letting. This step provided half as much again as the total interest bill on the overdraft, and for a time cancelled some sleepless nights. The overdraft to-day stands at £5,521 11s. 2d.



THE BIRD WALK



THE TOOL SHED  
at time of transfer

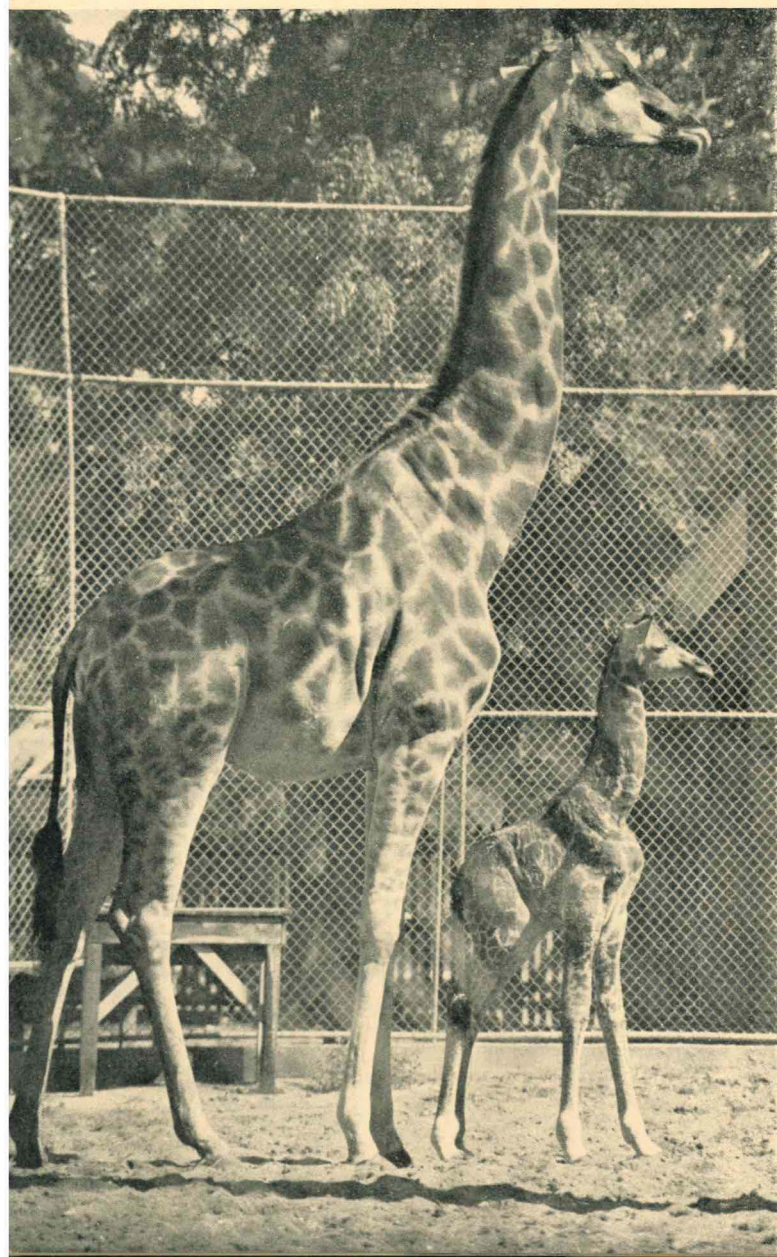
**Colonel Le Souef.** It is fitting that a warm tribute should be paid to the work of the late Colonel E. A. Le Souef, B.V.Sc., F.R.Z.S., V.D., who, from the inception of the Zoo until the assumption of its control by the State Gardens Board—which the late Director consistently urged—directed the destinies of this Institution from a scientific point of view. When the change was effected he placed his enthusiasm and services on command in an honorary capacity in the work of reconstruction. He accepted the appointment of Honorary Scientific Adviser giving the Board the advantage of his accumulated experience in the care of wild animals. Colonel Le Souef also rendered yeoman service to veterinary science in his association with the University, the Royal Agricultural Society —on which he had served as Committeeman and President—and in his military activities here and abroad with the A.I.F. His work in the Zoo was marked by constructive ability and attention to detail, and the community generally is the poorer for the passing of this fine personality.

**Reconstruction.** Upon inspection it was found that the condition of the Zoo had fallen very low. All assets had deteriorated badly, the fencing, buildings and cages being in a particularly sad condition. A group of pines had been sold for 12s. 6d. per tree, and the removal of the stumps cost the new management £1 per stump. The water supplies, the tearooms, paths and roads were in a state of disrepair. The lack of proper sanitation was shocking. Payment for stock previously purchased had to be made, including in particular £200 for a chimpanzee. Credit with the zoos of the world was bad. One thousand pounds had to be spent in the first year on internal and external fencing to establish a semblance of control. As transport had been scarce, accumulations of rubbish and foul-smelling refuse were such that 4,700 loads were removed, burnt or bedded down as manure. Complete animal skeletons were disinterred—including Nat the Hippo, who died as the

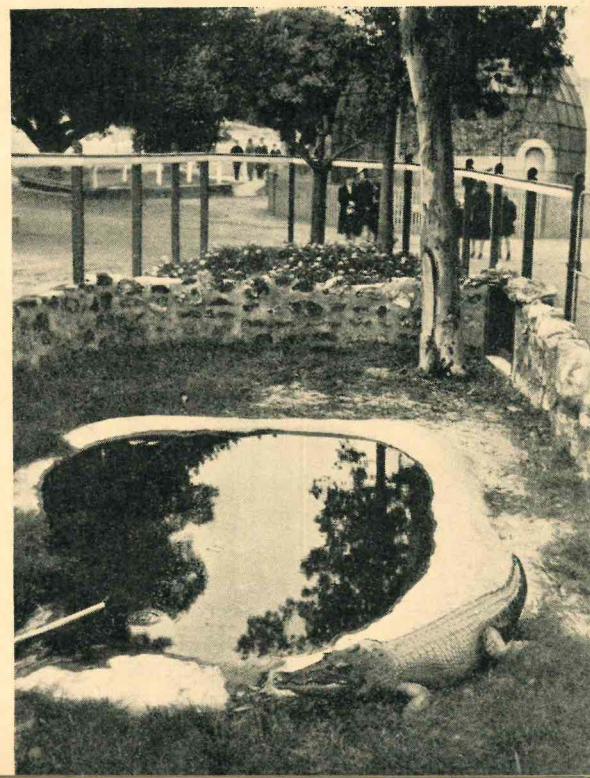


result of a tennis ball thrown into his enclosure—and delivered to the Museum for reconstruction.

Here also considerable assistance was derived from Sir Charles McNess in the general clean up, and when the Board was able to start constructive work, with the aid of a friendly press, the public began again to patronise the Zoo, and many helped it along with gifts in money and kind. Correspondence emanating from an institution which appeared to have a Government backing met with credit from foreign zoos, and good business deals resulted. Distinguished visitors were influenced to make a call and comment. With the aid of visiting celebrity artists, warship bands, other attractions, and good publicity, a large measure of support and good-will was won, and the Zoo commenced to make the grade.



TYPES OF NEW CAGES  
AND THEIR INHABITANTS







A MONKEY HOUSE  
The new one which  
replaced the old

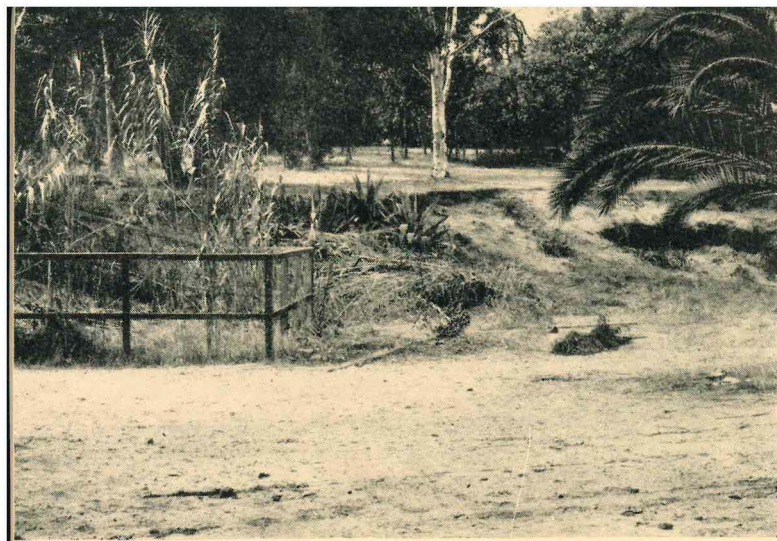
**Stock.** The stock taken over on the 31st March, 1932, was 204 animals, 523 birds and 33 reptiles. On the 30th June, 1939, the stock stood at 287 animals, 2,415 birds and 60 reptiles, being increases of 83, 1,892 and 27 respectively, in animals, birds and reptiles. This takes no account of summer flocks of birds, which sometimes reach 10,000, nor the stock eliminated before stock-taking. At the end of the past year cognisance was taken of surplus animals, injured stock and hybrids. Supplies of buffalo, deer, antelope and cattle were reduced and used as food for carnivora. All freaks and progeny of crossed species were destroyed, as it is hardly the function of a zoo to breed or exhibit such oddities, which in many instances are offensive to good taste.

**Food Bill.** During the financial year just finished the food bill for the various exhibits at the Zoo amounted to £2,064. A system of strict rationing and daily feeding has been arranged according to each individual need. By this means it has been found possible to cut the food bill down by £350 per year, £30 of which is due to the elimination of undesirable exhibits and surplus stock, and £320 to the economy effected by rationing as against indiscriminate feeding.

**Stock Run.** For years the Zoo rented a paddock in Suburban road, in which to hold stock destined for lion food. In 1938 the value of this paddock was destroyed by dredging operations, and a lease was taken of a property of 21 acres situated in East Cannington, for a period of five years, with power to purchase at an agreed price at the end of the term. The property includes a good house, wells and springs, and the Canning River runs through it. It has proved a valuable adjunct.



**Special Structures.** Some of the new major undertakings within the Zoo may be mentioned. A large carnivora cage of masonry, angle iron and link mesh has been established on the eastern hill. Stone, grotesque and plain, was back-loaded from National Park and Yanchee for all construction purposes. A spacious hippo pond and yard was constructed and a large ornamental seal pond installed. A series of stone bird cages has been built near Labouchere road, the fernery fully restored, monkey houses turned to the sun, several new aviaries established on the bird parade, and a crocodile and alligator yard built at the end of the Monkey Walk; a housing system for small mammals finds a place near the carnivora; a penguin yard has been laid out in rock; a large stone feedhouse fronted, on both sides with cages for exhibits, took the place of an old broken-down wooden building; new and sunny monkey cages were constructed all along the Monkey Walk; all roads and paths have been reconditioned and kept in good order; literally miles of fencing have been replaced; all enclosures and cages have been secured and made safe according to their respective needs. The reptile house is quite a feature.



THE SITE OF THE SEAL POND

**Bear Enclosure.** For forty-one years the Zoo has possessed a bear enclosure consisting of four cages and one pit. Each compartment contains an area of about 13ft. x 13ft., with a smaller inner chamber for sleeping ; running water was provided, and the facade decorated very attractively with ornamental stone. The appearance was very pleasing, but from the viewpoint of the comfort of the occupants the cages left much to be desired. Three or four successive attempts have been made by the present management to establish a large and deep rock work enclosure with swimming pools therein, so that the bears might enjoy open air exercise,

thus making for more healthful conditions, and better exhibition. As a preliminary two large Norfolk Island pines on the pool site were felled, and the ornamental rock work on the face of the cages removed and stored for future use. Tentative plans have been prepared, steel work designed and steel rails secured to form the framework of a structure presenting the appearance of a hill at the rear with swimming pools in front and sleeping pens and store houses hidden internally.

It soon became obvious, however, that this structure would cost some hundreds of pounds and involve the closest attention during building. Considerations of finance interposed, and the scheme had to be regretfully set aside until better days.

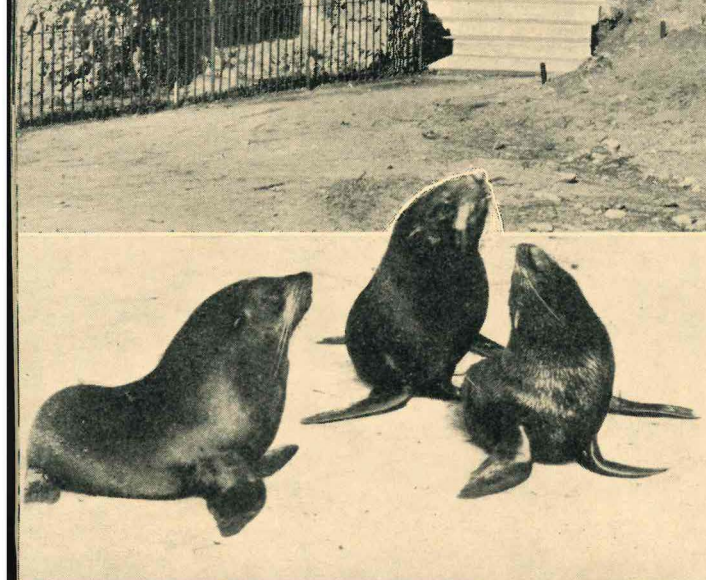
The provision of this open yard, with swimming pools, is regarded as the greatest and most urgent necessity in the Zoo at the present time, as it would provide the exhibits with exercise and open air conditions, permit of their present quarters being used as sleeping compartments only, and furnish the Zoological Gardens with an excellent added attraction.

**Quality of Work.** In all work at the Zoo durability and simplicity have been the keynotes. Woodwork has been eliminated as much as possible ; stone structures, cement floors, angle iron supports, and link mesh are

the favoured materials used. Yards are mostly made with rock foundations, steel rails embedded and cased in cement for posts, with linked mesh stretched along steel rods running through the posts. These wear well. A great deal of trouble has been taken to eliminate vermin by providing close - fitting tin-lined bins, and making all buildings rat-proof as far as possible.

Page  
Thirty-six

THE SEAL POND





CHILDREN'S DAY

**Zoo Railway.** The installation of a children's railway at the Zoo has provided a welcome amusement, and, at the same time, given a good return. This was constructed from light rails which had lain in the ground at Rottnest for 20 years, and, by courtesy of the Rottnest Board, a sound one-third of a mile of line was secured and laid, under the guidance of the present Commissioner of Railways, Mr. Ellis. A Ford car was converted into an imposing little railway engine. Zoo-manufactured trucks were attached. Since then, over a period of seven years, this little enterprise has consistently turned in an average of approximately £9 per week, nearly all profit, and it is sometimes jocularly claimed to be one of the finest railway investments in Australia.

**Special Exhibits.** Notable additions to the Zoo exhibits in recent years include Pondo, a male hippo, imported from Auckland in 1934 at a cost of £400; a pigmy hippo of great scientific interest, which also cost £400, but which is not so attractive as the large one; a bull giraffe from Kenya Colony; African ostriches; rare monkeys, particularly Wau-Wau gibbons and spider monkeys; a chimpanzee baby; two young mandrils; macaws; toucans; African bishops; whydahs and weavers; porcupines; axis deer; hyenas; cheetahs; cranes; marmosets; salamanders; panthers; parrots; a

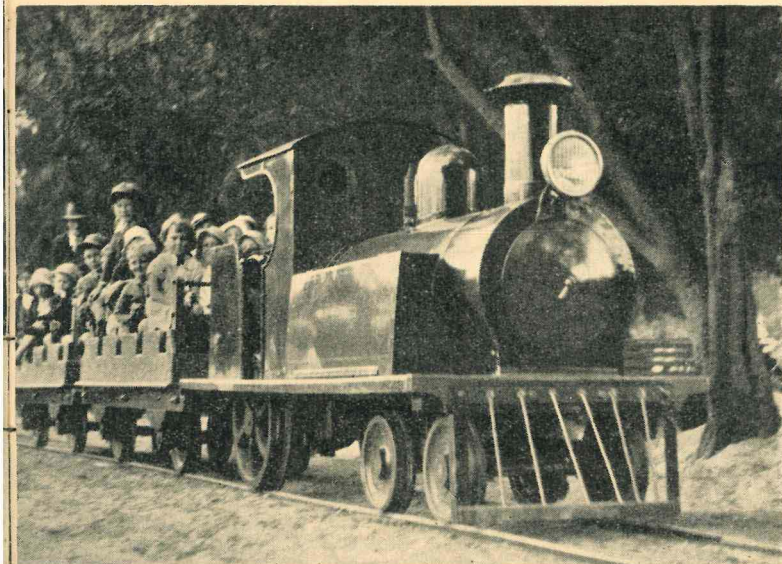
30ft. python from Singapore, and other unusual specimens. Unfortunately, the salamanders were destroyed as the result of an accident with hot bore water, but the balance have done well. Some old favourites will be missed. The patriarch Leo, and tiger Tom, the latter a present from the Sultan of Johore, saw beyond the 30th milestone before being transferred to their happy hunting grounds. In the South Perth Zoo they exceeded their

average expectation of life by 25 years; tame, well fed, well housed and happy through what some regard as "cruelty." Teddy, the favourite chimp., died of a twisted bowel. The popular acrobatic chacma also passed on. Big Nat, the hippo, died as the result of a swallowed tennis ball, and a baby giraffe succumbed after one day of life in mid-winter.



**Name Plates.** An entire renewal of the name plates covering the whole bird, animal and reptilian collections in the Zoo has been completed, with the co-operation of Mr. L. Glauert, Curator of the Museum. These are of heavy gauge galvanised iron enamelled white—lettered in black.

GOOD EARNERS  
The Tennis Courts and  
Miniature Train



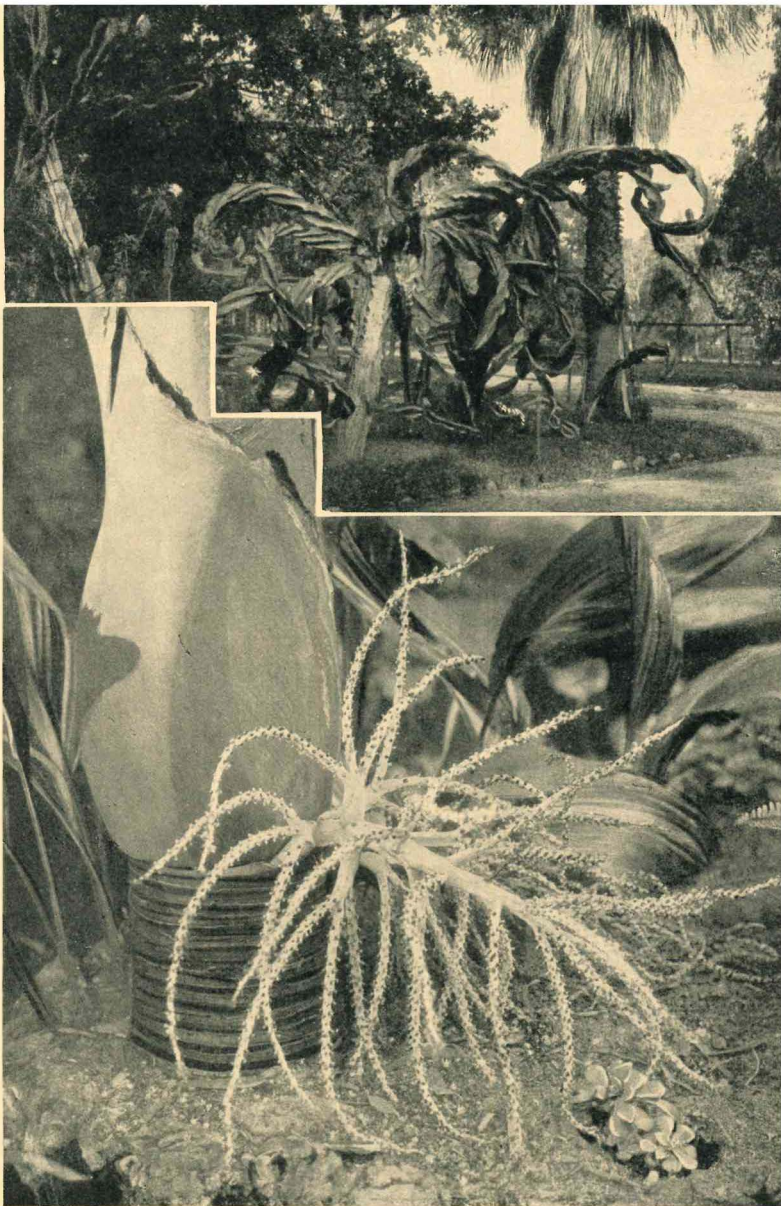
**Furs for Ladies.** Experiments have proved that many species which have economic value may be reared at South Perth Zoo, such as the coypu rat from Madagascar, whose fur makes a coat popular with ladies, but time has not permitted the development of this type of industry. Col. Le Souef was a consistent advocate of these experiments.

**Admission Charges.** The Zoo necessarily wins its revenues mainly from the consistent patronage of our own people. It has no great visitation from tourists, and counter influences such as variations of weather, visiting warships, hikes, or the overflow of the Munding Weir, react seriously upon gate takings. The entrance fee has been stationary since inception, but wages and other costs have probably doubled in that period. During the last year the basic wage was again increased by 7s. 2d. These rising costs may make unavoidable an increase in admission charges, which are at present, the lowest in Australia, and perhaps in the world. It is remarkable that the institution has achieved and maintained a measure of solvency on entrance fees ranging downward from 6d. to 3d. for adults, and 3d. to 2d. for children, with large numbers of young children, orphans and country children brought to the City under holiday schemes, admitted without charge.

**POINT WALTER**

**A ZOO SITE.** Point Walter is probably one of the most favoured sites about the metropolitan area for such an establishment as a zoo, as it will no doubt in the near future be brought into very much closer touch with Perth and Fremantle and all surrounding suburbs by improved roads, road transport, and tramway and ferry services.

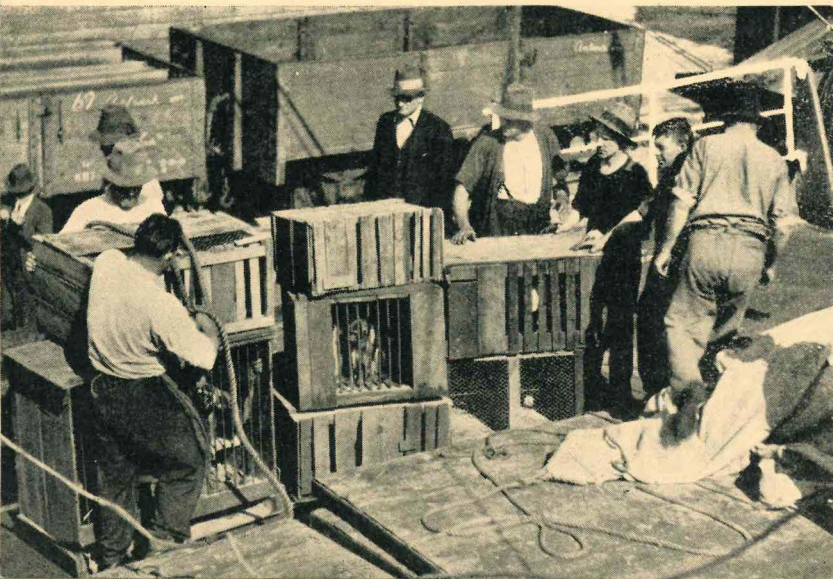
One of the most favourable features of this area from the point of view of a zoo is its aspect, one fall being south-westerly and the other north-easterly, lapped all round by salt water, with a fine block of forest



STRANGE GROWTHS

country behind the centre. In housing the animals of a zoo and providing for their well-being, it is very essential to command varying conditions of climate. The hill-side and limestone formation lend themselves to suitable excavation for the installation of cages and enclosures under apparently natural conditions. Very fine shelter can be secured on the easterly slopes, suitable for reptiles and the more delicate animals from warmer countries, while the more rigorous conditions on the Fremantle fall would be suitable for fauna from colder climates, and the various inhabitants of the sea. Salt water would be a great asset, being of particular benefit to seals, sea lions, ocean bird life, captive sharks, and other denizens of the deep. The outlook from the heights of Point Walter is spacious, commanding and beautiful. The area is larger than is actually necessary, but all of this could be turned to account in providing more space and more natural conditions, and in growing food for the various exhibits.

NEW ARRIVALS FOR THE ZOO



We are very liable to under-rate the advantages of our own country, which visitors can readily appreciate, but there are in Western Australia conditions which, correctly exploited, could place us ahead of even some of the most famous zoos of the world. Western Australian climate is very suitable for the breeding of many unusual species not reproduced elsewhere, and although the names of Whipsnade and Taronga have become bywords of excellence so far as zoos are concerned, the fact remains that no State in Australia can produce a reptile collection such as can be reared in the South Perth Zoo, while South Perth in the matter of the production of the beautiful hues of the flamingo and the furs of many equatorial animals leaves Whipsnade entirely in the shade.

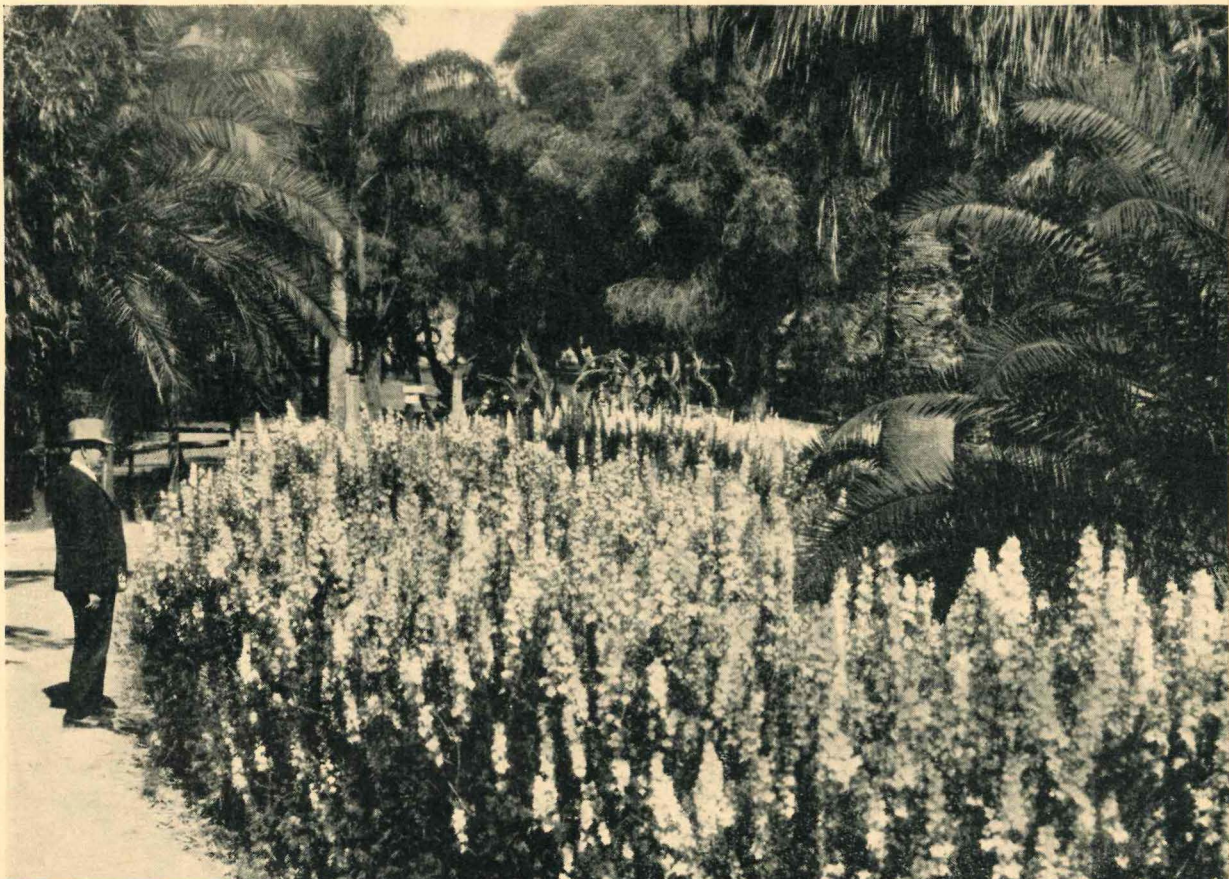
Probably the time for such a venture as the moving of the Zoo to Point Walter, even if agreed upon, would not be opportune until transport services by land and water, and other facilities of access, are such that people can reach their objective with reasonable speed, and at a cost little, if any, greater than has prevailed in the past. The commonsense arrangement would be to make the value of the present institution defray the cost of establishing a new and modern zoo, if not wholly, then to the greatest extent possible. The whole of the area of the South Perth Zoo, with the exception of the mineral bore and its site, could be released for realisation. This should go far in the direction of enabling a change over, but would involve some financing during the transition period.



DOMESTIC DUTIES

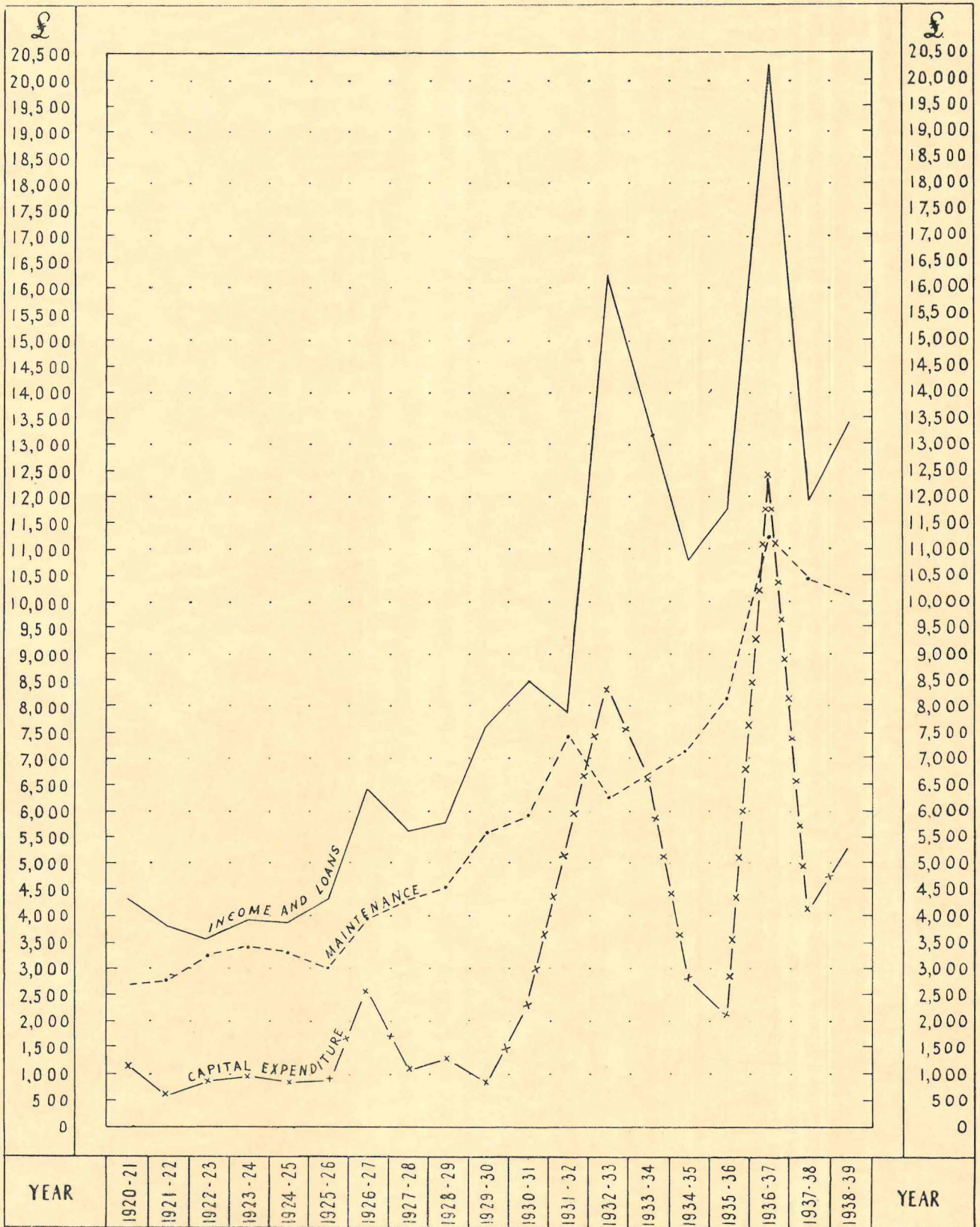
It would appear, all things considered, that any change in the location of the Zoo at present would be premature for many reasons, but the above ideas are projected for consideration. In the meantime, it would appear to be a sound policy to preserve Point Walter and its environs intact, so that this splendid site may be available if and when a change of location of the Zoological Gardens is decided upon.

BRILLIANT LARKSPURS  
Over six feet high



# STATE GARDENS BOARD

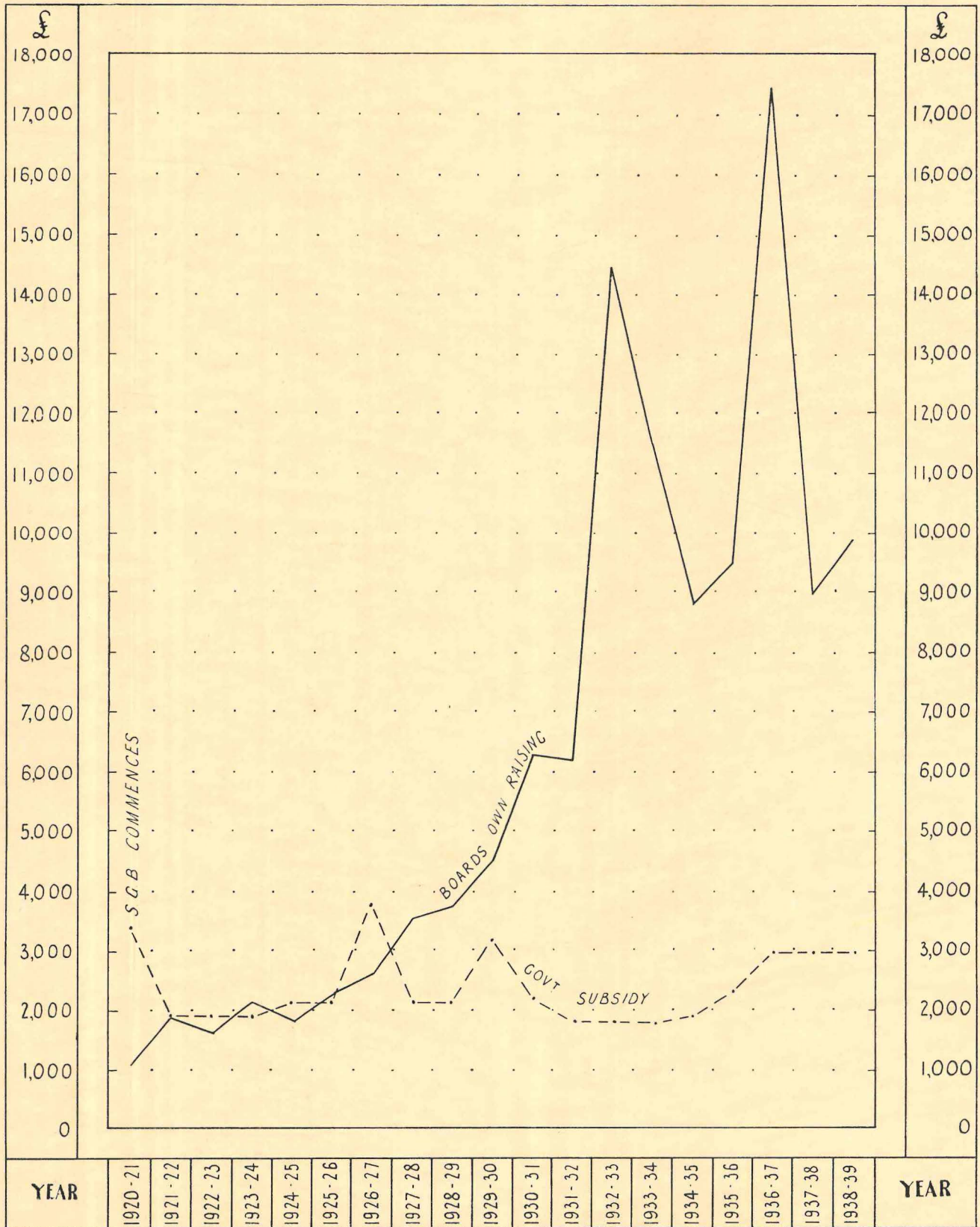
## Comparison of Income (including Loans) with Capital and Maintenance Expenditure



Depression 1930-31 and onwards. Note how the State Gardens Board increased capital expenditure to absorb idle labour and increase State's assets. Figures do not include "sustenance."

# STATE GARDENS BOARD

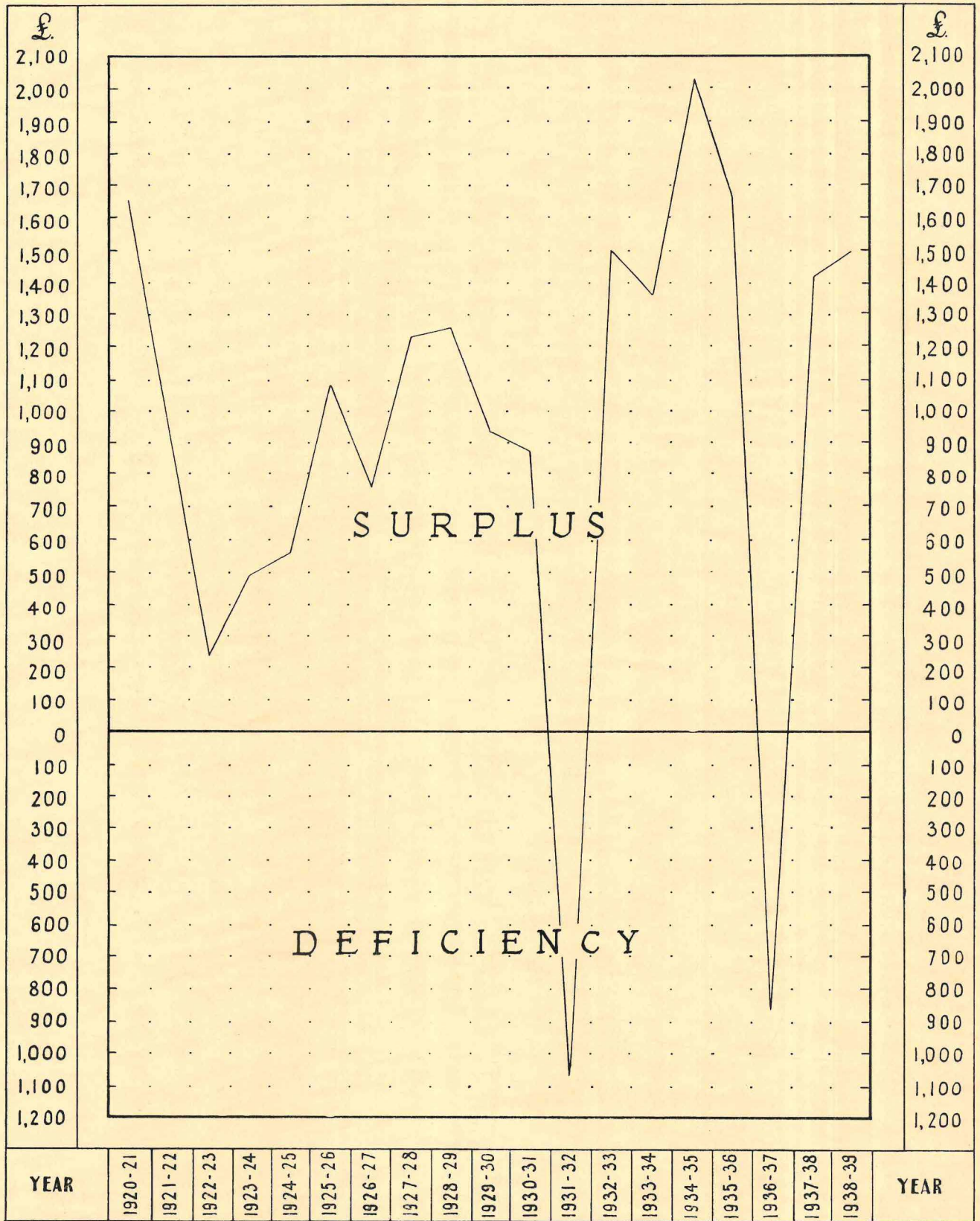
## Contrast of Funds Raised by the Board with the Government Subsidy



The amount of funds raised by the Board includes sums borrowed by the Board on its own credit and without Government guarantee.

# STATE GARDENS BOARD

## Surplus of Revenue over Maintenance, Excluding all Capital and Loans

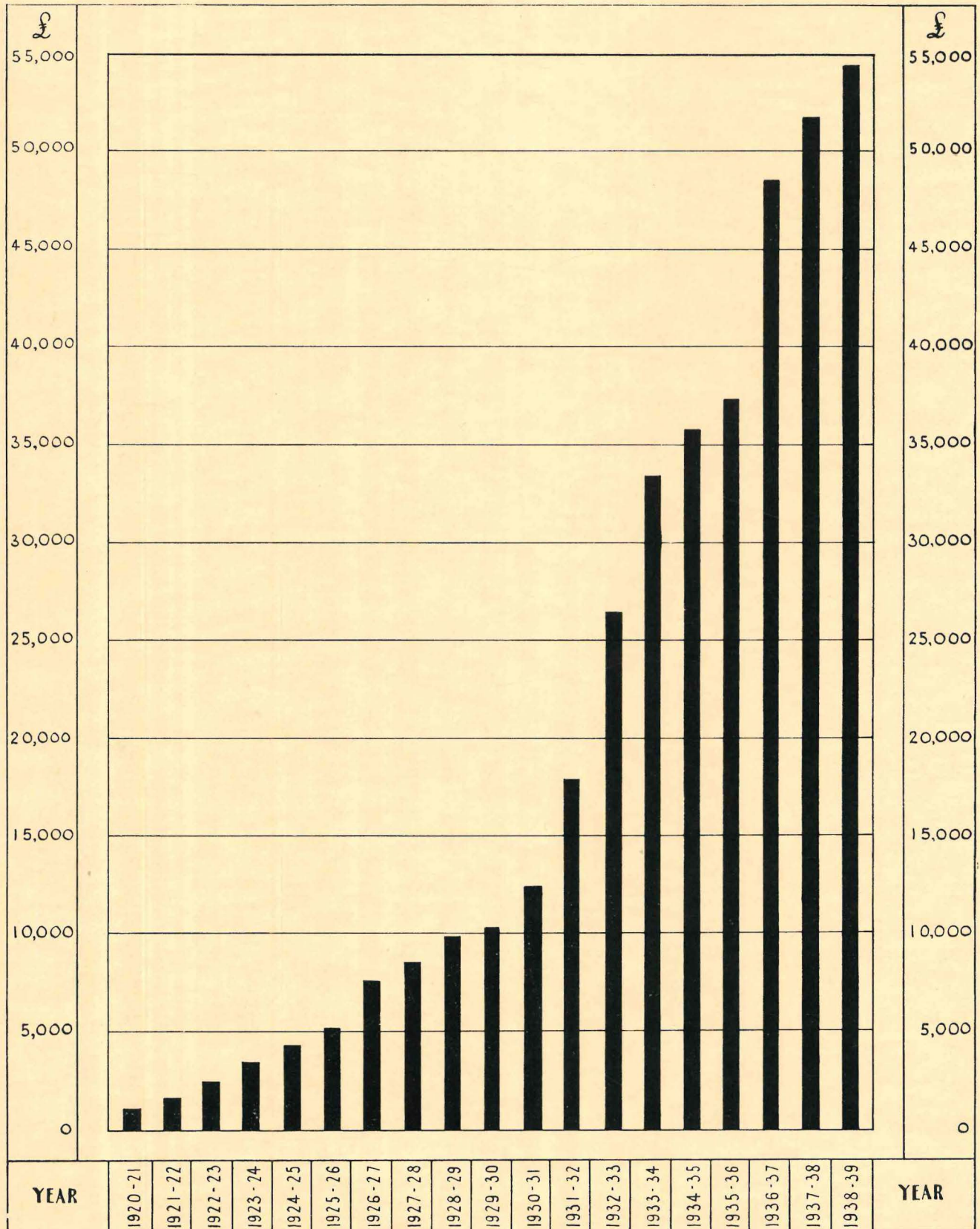


The deficiency in 1931-32 was caused by reduction of earnings due to the depression and adjustments of depreciation, etc., covering several years.

The deficiency in 1936-37 was caused mainly through temporary interruptions in earnings from some sources.



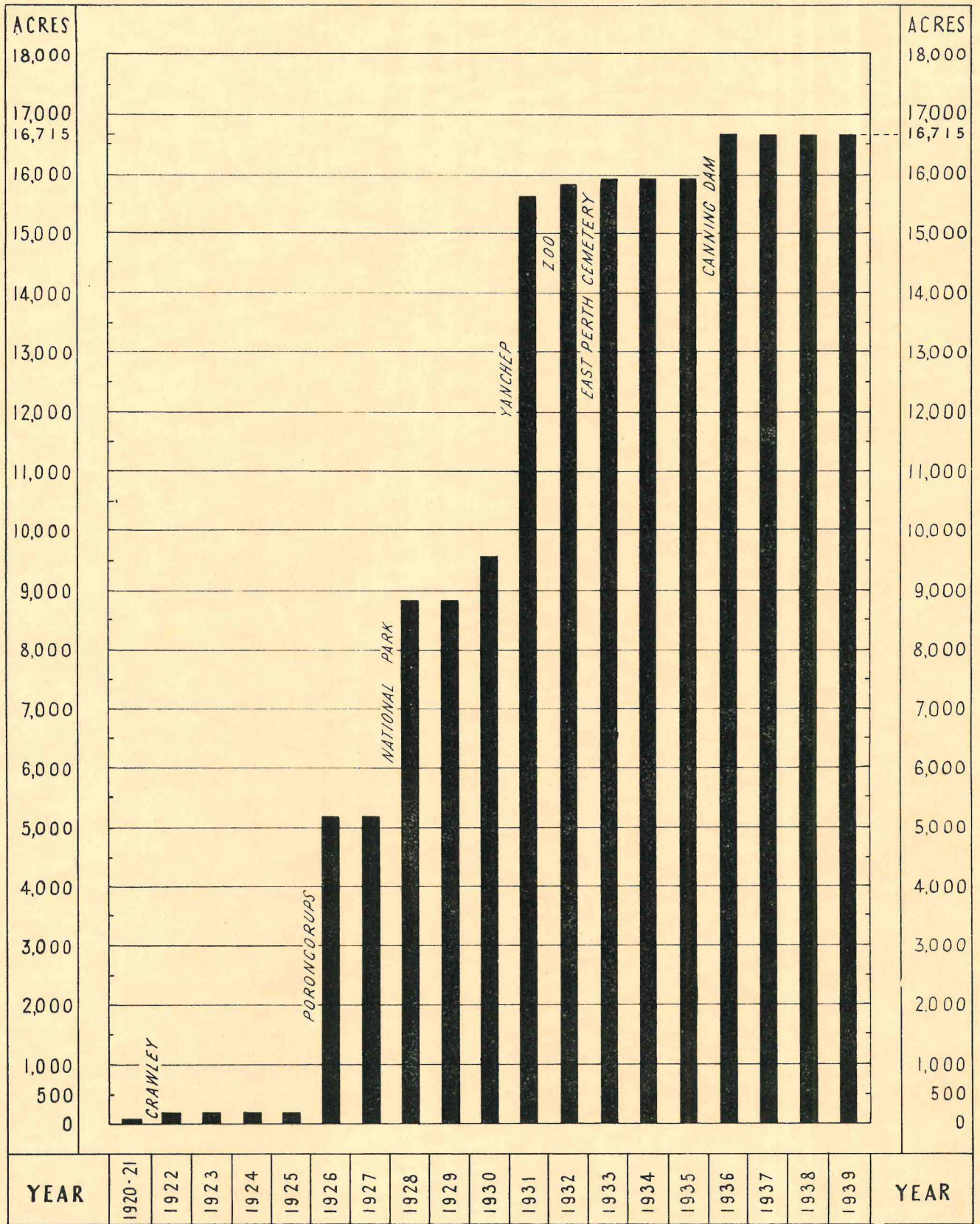
**STATE GARDENS BOARD**  
**Showing Increasing Aggregate of Assets Created from**  
**Moneys Found by the Board**



These figures exclude the value of land, the value of assets handed to the Board at its inception, and the value of sustenance paid by the Government. Depreciation has been deducted.

# STATE GARDENS BOARD

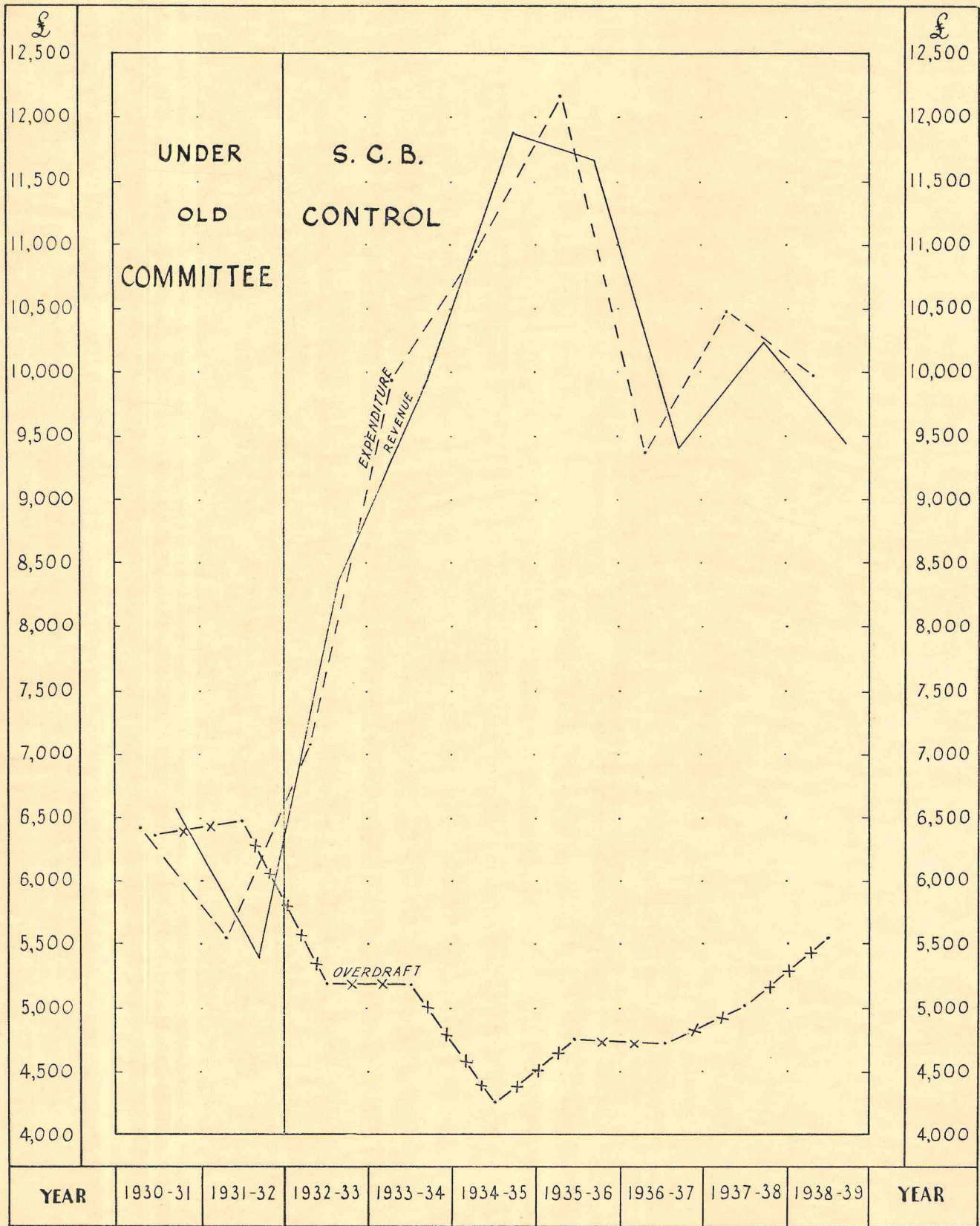
Showing the Total Area Controlled by the Board



The names placed against extensions of columns indicate the acreage added by the transfer of areas to the control of the Board.

# ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS

## Comparison of Revenue and Expenditure, and the Bank Overdraft



**LIST OF BIRDS, ANIMALS, ETC., AT THE ZOO STOCKTAKING  
AT 26th JUNE, 1939.**

Item.	Total.	Item.	Total.
African Birds (various) ... ..	126	Duck, Red Bill Tree ( <i>Dendrocygna Autumnalis</i> ) ...	4
Aguti, Common ( <i>Dasyprocta Aguti</i> ) ... ..	2	,, Ruddy Shell ( <i>Casarca Ferruginea</i> ) ... ..	4
Alligators ( <i>Caiman Latiostris</i> ) ... ..	1	,, Red Whistling ( <i>Dendrocygna arcuata</i> ) ... ..	2
Antelope, Indian ( <i>Antilope Cervicapra</i> ) ... ..	9	,, White Face Tree ( <i>Dendrocygna viduata</i> ) ... ..	3
Ape, Red Face ... ..	1	,, Widgeon ( <i>Anas Penelope</i> ) ... ..	1
Baboon, Arabian ( <i>Cynocephalus Hamadryas</i> ) ... ..	2	Eagles, Wedge Tail ( <i>Uroaetus audax</i> ) ... ..	4
,, Manjara ( <i>Cynocephalus Anubia Ibeanus</i> ) ... ..	3	Egret, Little ( <i>Egretta Garzetta</i> ) ... ..	2
,, Yellow ( <i>Cynocephalus Baboon</i> ) ... ..	3	Elephant ( <i>Elephas Indicus</i> ) ... ..	1
Banteng ( <i>Bibos Banteng</i> ) ... ..	2	Emus ( <i>Dromaius Novae Hollandiae</i> ) ... ..	5
Barbette, Laviallands ( <i>Trachyphonus Vaillantii</i> ) ... ..	1	Finches, Bichens ( <i>Steganopleura Bichenooii</i> ) ... ..	13
Bat, Fruit ... ..	1	,, Blackheart ( <i>Poephila acuticauda</i> ) ... ..	317
Bear, Black ( <i>Ursus Americanus</i> ) ... ..	1	,, Chocolate ... ..	2
,, Himalayan ( <i>Ursus Tibetanus</i> ) ... ..	2	,, Black Head Gouldion ( <i>Poephila Gouldiae</i> ) ... ..	481
,, Honey ( <i>Ursus Malayanus</i> ) ... ..	1	,, Red Head Gouldion ( <i>Poephila Gouldiae</i> ) ... ..	114
Bison ( <i>Bison Americanus</i> ) ... ..	2	,, Painted ( <i>Caylena picta</i> ) ... ..	3
Boa Constrictor ( <i>Constrictor Constrictor</i> ) ... ..	10	,, Scarlets ( <i>Neochmia phaeton</i> ) ... ..	10
Bower Bird, Great ( <i>Chlamydera Nuchalis</i> ) ... ..	1	,, Various ... ..	54
Budgerygahs ( <i>Melopsittacus Undulatus</i> ) ... ..	94	,, Zebra ( <i>Teniopygia Castanotis</i> ) ... ..	161
Buffalo, Water ( <i>Bubalis Bubalis</i> ) ... ..	6	Fish, Fantail ... ..	4
Bul Bul, Black ( <i>Pycnonotus Pygaeus</i> ) ... ..	1	Flamingoes ( <i>Phoenicopterus Ruber</i> ) ... ..	9
Bullfinch ( <i>Donacola Castaneothorax</i> ) ... ..	1	Fowl, Chinese Silky ( <i>Gallus Gallus</i> ) ... ..	7
Bungarra ( <i>Varanus Gouldi</i> ) ... ..	1	,, Vulturine Guinea ( <i>Acryllium Vulturinum</i> ) ... ..	1
Bustards ( <i>Eupodotis Australis</i> ) ... ..	2	,, White Pea ( <i>Pevo Cristatus</i> ) ... ..	1
Camel ( <i>Camelus Dromedarius</i> ) ... ..	1	Foxes ( <i>Canis Vulpes</i> ) ... ..	7
Canaries ( <i>Serinus Canarius</i> ) ... ..	57	Francolin, Red Bill ... ..	1
Cassowary ( <i>Casuarius Australis</i> ) ... ..	2	Geese, Bar Headed ( <i>Anser Indicus</i> ) ... ..	3
Cat, Ceylon ( <i>Felis Rubiginosa</i> ) ... ..	3	,, Brent ( <i>Branta Bernicla</i> ) ... ..	2
,, Native ( <i>Dasyrurus Geoffroyi</i> ) ... ..	1	,, Canadian ( <i>Branta Canadensis</i> ) ... ..	4
,, Tiger ( <i>Felis Viverrina</i> ) ... ..	2	,, Cape Barren ( <i>Cereopsis Novae Hollandiae</i> ) ... ..	1
Cheetah ( <i>Acinonyx Jubatus</i> ) ... ..	1	,, Egyptian ( <i>Alopochen Aegyptiacus</i> ) ... ..	1
Chimpanzees ( <i>Pan Troglodytes</i> ) ... ..	2	,, Greylag ( <i>Anser Anser</i> ) ... ..	2
Civet, Brown Palm ( <i>Paradoxurus Terdoni</i> ) ... ..	1	,, Magellan ( <i>Chloephaga Nagellanica</i> ) ... ..	2
Cockatoos, Black Red Tail ( <i>Calyptorhynchus Banksi</i> ) ... ..	17	,, Maned ( <i>Chenonetta jubata</i> ) ... ..	1
,, Black White Tail ( <i>Calyptorhynchus Baudini</i> ) ... ..	4	Giraffe ( <i>Giraffa Camelopardalis</i> ) ... ..	2
,, Little Corella ( <i>Kakatoe Sanguinea</i> ) ... ..	24	Gnu, Brindled ( <i>Connochaetes Taurinus</i> ) ... ..	3
,, Long Bill Corella ( <i>Kakatoe Tenuirostris</i> ) ... ..	13	Goats ( <i>Capra hircus</i> ) ... ..	6
,, Major Mitchell ( <i>Kakatoe Leadbeateri</i> ) ... ..	7	Goshawk, Allied ( <i>Astur Approximans</i> ) ... ..	1
,, Sulphur Crested ( <i>Kakatoe Galerita</i> ) ... ..	6	Guanaco, Llamas ( <i>Lama Huanacus</i> ) ... ..	2
Crane, Asiatic White ( <i>Anthropoides Leucogeranus</i> ) ... ..	1	Guinea Fowl ( <i>Numida Galeata</i> ) ... ..	16
,, Crowned ( <i>Balearica Pavonina</i> ) ... ..	2	,, Pigs ( <i>Cavia Porcellus</i> ) ... ..	48
,, Sarus ( <i>Megalornis Antigone</i> ) ... ..	2	Gulls, Pacific ( <i>Gabianus Pacificus</i> ) ... ..	3
,, Stanley ( <i>Tetrapteryx Paradisea</i> ) ... ..	4	,, Sea ( <i>Larus novae hollandiae</i> ) ... ..	49
Crocodile ( <i>Crocodylus Porosus</i> ) ... ..	1	Hare, Patagonian ( <i>Dolichotis Magellanica</i> ) ... ..	2
Deer, Axis ( <i>Axis Axis</i> ) ... ..	4	Hawk, Fish ( <i>Pandion haliaetus</i> ) ... ..	1
,, Fallow ( <i>Dama Dama</i> ) ... ..	3	,, Molly ( <i>Macronectes Giganteus</i> ) ... ..	2
,, Rusa ( <i>Rusa Tunjuc</i> ) ... ..	8	Hippopotamus ( <i>Hippopotamus Amphibius</i> ) ... ..	1
Dingoes ( <i>Canis Dingo</i> ) ... ..	4	,, Pigmy ( <i>Choeropsis Liberiensis</i> ) ... ..	1
Doves, Cape Turtle ( <i>Turtur Capicola</i> ) ... ..	6	Hyena, Spotted ( <i>Hyaena Crocuta</i> ) ... ..	1
,, Diamond ( <i>Geopelia Cuneata</i> ) ... ..	70	Ibis, Straw Necked ( <i>Threskiornis Spinicollis</i> ) ... ..	2
,, Laughing ... ..	4	,, Sacred ( <i>Ibis Aethiopica</i> ) ... ..	6
,, Peaceful ( <i>Geopelia Placida</i> ) ... ..	2	,, Scarlet ( <i>Eudocimus Rubra</i> ) ... ..	1
,, Ring Neck ( <i>Columba Palumbus</i> ) ... ..	6	Jabiru ( <i>Xenorhynchus Asiaticus</i> ) ... ..	5
Duck, Black ( <i>Anas Supercliosa</i> ) ... ..	9	Kangaroo, Euro ( <i>Macropus robustus erubescens</i> ) ... ..	10
,, Caroline ( <i>Aix Sponsa</i> ) ... ..	2	,, Grey ( <i>Macropus Giganteus</i> ) ... ..	7
,, English (Mixed) ... ..	8	,, Red ( <i>Macropus Rufus</i> ) ... ..	8
,, Eyton Tree Duck ( <i>Dendrocygna eytoni</i> ) ... ..	2	Kestrel, Nankeen ( <i>Falco cenchruides</i> ) ... ..	4
,, Mallard ... ..	2	Kite, Whistling ( <i>Haliastur Sphenurus</i> ) ... ..	2
,, Mandarin ( <i>Aix Galerikulata</i> ) ... ..	1	Kookaburras ( <i>Dacelo Gigas</i> ) ... ..	18
,, Mountain ( <i>Casarca Tadormoides</i> ) ... ..	36	Lemur, Black ( <i>Lemur Macaco</i> ) ... ..	1
,, Red Crested Pochard ( <i>Netta Rufina</i> ) ... ..	2	Leopards ( <i>Felis Pardus</i> ) ... ..	3

LIST OF BIRDS, ANIMALS, ETC.—continued.

Item.	Total.	Item.	Total.
Lions ( <i>Felis Leo</i> ) ... ..	14	Peccary, Collard ( <i>Dicotyles Tajacu</i> ) ... ..	5
Lizards (Varieties) ... ..	8	Pelicans ( <i>Pelecanus Conspicillatus</i> ) ... ..	6
Llama ( <i>Lama Glama</i> ) ... ..	3	" Crested ( <i>Pelecanus Crispus</i> ) ... ..	2
Love Birds, Masked Face ( <i>Agapornis Liliana</i> ) ... ..	9	Petrel, Sooty ... ..	3
"  " Nyassa ( <i>Agapornis Liliana</i> ) ... ..	43	Pheasants, Crested Fireback ... ..	4
"  " Peach Face ( <i>Agapornis Liliana</i> ) ... ..	9	" Fireback ... ..	2
"  " Red Face ( <i>Agapornis Liliana</i> ) ... ..	1	" Golden ... ..	3
Magpies ( <i>Gymnorhina Dorsalis</i> ) ... ..	1	" Lady Amherst ( <i>Chrysolophus Amherstiae</i> ) ... ..	2
Marmoset, Ecquador ... ..	1	" Mongolian ... ..	3
Marmoset, Silky Lion ( <i>Leontocebus Rosalia</i> ) ... ..	1	Pigeons, Common ... ..	5
Monkey, Sapajou, White Fronted ( <i>Cebus Albifrons</i> ) ... ..	3	" Bronze Wing ( <i>Phaps Chalcoptera</i> ) ... ..	4
" Brown Capuchin ( <i>Cebus Fatuellus</i> ) ... ..	2	" Crested Bronze Wing ( <i>Ocyphaps Lophotes</i> ) ... ..	15
" Red Capuchin ( <i>Cebus flavascens</i> ) ... ..	5	" Diamond Side Rock ... ..	6
" Crab Macaque ( <i>Macaca Irus</i> ) ... ..	1	" Fantail ( <i>Macropygia Phasianella</i> ) ... ..	6
" Grivet ( <i>Cercopithecus Aethiops</i> ) ... ..	2	Podargus, Tawny Shouldered ( <i>Podargus Strigoides</i> ) ... ..	2
" Macaque ( <i>Macaca cynomolgus</i> ) ... ..	1	Porcupine ( <i>Hystrix Cristata</i> ) ... ..	5
" Mandrill ( <i>Mandrillus Sphinx</i> ) ... ..	2	Python, Indian ( <i>Python Molurus</i> ) ... ..	2
" Pig Tail ( <i>Macaca Nemestrina</i> ) ... ..	2	" Cave ... ..	1
" Rhesus ( <i>Macaca Mulatta</i> ) ... ..	23	Quail, Californian ( <i>Callipepla californica</i> ) ... ..	19
" Sooty Mongaby ( <i>Cercocebus Fuliginosus</i> ) ... ..	1	" Cape ... ..	2
" Spider ( <i>Ateles Atar</i> ) ... ..	4	" Harlequin ( <i>Coturnix histronica</i> ) ... ..	4
" Sykes ( <i>Cercopithecus Albogularis</i> ) ... ..	3	Rabbits, Angora ( <i>Oryctolagus Cuniculus</i> ) ... ..	6
" Vervet ( <i>Cercopithecus Lalandii</i> ) ... ..	2	" Blue Bevron ( <i>Oryctolagus Cuniculus</i> ) ... ..	1
" Wanderoo Long Tail ( <i>Macaca Silenus</i> ) ... ..	2	" Chinchilla ( <i>Oryctolagus Cuniculus</i> ) ... ..	2
"  " Short Tail ( <i>Macaca Silenus</i> ) ... ..	1	"  " Angora ( <i>Oryctolagus Cuniculus</i> ) ... ..	1
" Wau Wau Gibbon ( <i>Hylobates Lar</i> ) ... ..	4	" Crossbred ( <i>Oryctolagus Cuniculus</i> ) ... ..	1
" Whitefront Sapajou ( <i>Cebus Albifrons</i> ) ... ..	1	" Grey ( <i>Oryctolagus Cuniculus</i> ) ... ..	2
" Humboldt Woolley ( <i>Lagothrix Humboldtii</i> ) ... ..	2	" Sable ( <i>Oryctolagus Cuniculus</i> ) ... ..	6
Nylghaie ( <i>Boselaphus Tragocamelus</i> ) ... ..	1	Rats, Black and White ( <i>Mus Rattus</i> ) ... ..	11
Opossums, Common ( <i>Trichosurus Vulpecula</i> ) ... ..	1	" Grey Kangaroo ( <i>Pettongia Lesueuri</i> ) ... ..	2
" White ( <i>Trichosurus Vulpecula</i> ) ... ..	1	" White ( <i>Mus Rattus</i> ) ... ..	4
Ostriches ( <i>Struthio Camelus</i> ) ... ..	3	" Kangaroo ( <i>Mus Rattus</i> ) ... ..	1
Owl, Barn ( <i>Tyto Alba</i> ) ... ..	1	Seals, Fur ( <i>Arctocephalus Doriferus</i> ) ... ..	8
" Western Boo Book ( <i>Ninox boobook</i> ) ... ..	3	Sea Lion, Australian ( <i>Zalophus Lobatus</i> ) ... ..	1
Panther, Black ( <i>Felis Pardus</i> ) ... ..	1	Snake, Banded ... ..	1
Parrots, African Grey ( <i>Psittacus Erithacus</i> ) ... ..	2	" Rock ( <i>Liasis Olivaceus</i> ) ... ..	1
" Alexandrian ( <i>Polytelis Alexandrae</i> ) ... ..	1	Sparrows, Java ( <i>Zonaeginthus gutatas</i> ) ... ..	2
" Amazon ( <i>Amazona Anazonica</i> ) ... ..	2	Stork, Adjutant ( <i>Leptoptilos Dubius</i> ) ... ..	1
"  " Yellow Head ( <i>Amazona Anazonica</i> ) ... ..	3	" White ( <i>Ciconia Ciconia</i> ) ... ..	1
" Blue Mountain ( <i>Trichoglossus Moluccanus</i> ) ... ..	3	Swan, Black ( <i>Chenopsis Atrata</i> ) ... ..	5
" Bourke ( <i>Neophema Bourkii</i> ) ... ..	43	" Mute ( <i>Cygnus Olor</i> ) ... ..	8
" Browns ( <i>Platycercus venustus</i> ) ... ..	7	Tasmanian Devil ( <i>Sarcophilus harrisi</i> ) ... ..	1
" Crimson Rosella ( <i>Platycercus Elegans</i> ) ... ..	4	Teal, Brown ( <i>Anas Crecca</i> ) ... ..	6
" Eastern Rosella ( <i>Platycercus eximius</i> ) ... ..	6	Tigers ( <i>Felis Tigris</i> ) ... ..	4
" Galahs ( <i>Kakatoe Roseicapilla</i> ) ... ..	45	Toucan ( <i>Ramphastos vitellinus</i> ) ... ..	1
" Hooded ( <i>Psephotus dissimilis</i> ) ... ..	24	Turkey, Scrub ( <i>Alectura lathami</i> ) ... ..	2
" W.A. King ( <i>Purpuricephalus Spurius</i> ) ... ..	1	Turtle ... ..	12
" Military Macaw ( <i>Ara Militaris</i> ) ... ..	2	" Chelodine ( <i>Chelodina Oblonga</i> ) ... ..	14
" Red and Blue Macaw ( <i>Ara Macao</i> ) ... ..	4	" Galapagos ( <i>Testudo nigra</i> ) ... ..	2
" Mulga ( <i>Psephotus varius</i> ) ... ..	35	" Loggerhead ( <i>Caretta Caretta</i> ) ... ..	1
" Musk ( <i>Glossopsitta Concinna</i> ) ... ..	1	" Long Neck ( <i>Chelodina Oblonga</i> ) ... ..	1
" Port Lincoln ( <i>Barnardius Zonarius</i> ) ... ..	1	" Mud ... ..	1
" Red Head Conure ( <i>Pionopsitta Pileatus</i> ) ... ..	2	" Sea ... ..	3
" Red Rump ( <i>Psephotus haematonotus</i> ) ... ..	26	Vulture ... ..	1
" Regent ( <i>Polytelis Anthopeplus</i> ) ... ..	12	Wallaby, Black Glove ( <i>Macropus Irma</i> ) ... ..	1
" Splendid ( <i>Neophema splendida</i> ) ... ..	2	" Rottnest ( <i>Macropus Brachyurus</i> ) ... ..	10
" South Australian Rosella ( <i>Platycercus adelaidae</i> ) ... ..	1	" Tamar ( <i>Macropus Eugeniei</i> ) ... ..	4
" Victoria Rosella ... ..	1	" Tasmanian ( <i>Macropus ruficollis bennettii</i> ) ... ..	6
" Twenty-eights ( <i>Barnardius Semitorquatus</i> ) ... ..	7	Wolves, Indian ( <i>Canis Pallipes</i> ) ... ..	2
" Weiro ( <i>Leptolophus Hollandicus</i> ) ... ..	25	Wombat, Australian ( <i>Phascolumys Mitchelli</i> ) ... ..	1
Peafowl ( <i>Pavo Cristatus</i> ) ... ..	54	Zebra ( <i>Equus Zebra</i> ) ... ..	3

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