

(c) *Trading Activities*

Adequate details are not available to analyse the full financial implication of all local bodies' trading activities. Certain figures are available, but are not altogether satisfactory, as it is more than probable that the figures shown as total payments do not include in every case payments on account of loans. This is particularly the case where loans by local bodies have been consolidated, and it is impossible to isolate the loans referable to a particular trading activity.

Among other operations, some Borough Councils undertake one or all of the following types of trading activities: gasworks; electricity works; tramways, buses, or ferries; ownership of buildings from which rent is received; ownership of quarries and other territorial sources of revenue; ownership of picture-theatres; ownership of abattoirs; and, in one case, the ownership of a milk-supply institution.

(i) *Gasworks*.—The following table shows receipts and payments on account of gasworks owned by Borough Councils:—

Table showing Receipts and Payments of Borough Councils on account of Gasworks from 1924-25 to 1943-44

Financial Year.				Number.	Receipts.	Payments.*
					£	£
1924-25	..	..	..	34	456,943	290,191
1925-26	..	..	..	29	451,898	461,179
1926-27	..	..	..	28	457,272	438,684
1927-28	..	..	..	29	443,098	443,141
1928-29	..	..	..	28	442,437	436,627
1929-30	..	..	..	27	455,456	384,171
1930-31	..	..	..	27	446,898	417,926
1931-32	..	..	..	27	413,395	354,711
1932-33	..	..	..	27	384,800	299,096
1933-34	..	..	..	27	372,809	282,541
1934-35	..	..	..	27	368,583	290,628
1935-36	..	..	..	27	377,726	315,868
1936-37	..	..	..	27	391,707	343,531
1937-38	..	..	..	27	414,499	379,794
1938-39	..	..	..	27	439,255	413,216
1939-40	..	..	..	26	470,590	410,575
1940-41	..	..	..	26	459,096	406,661
1941-42	..	..	..	26	467,910	418,937
1942-43	..	..	..	25	490,826	418,173
1943-44	..	..	..	25	527,572	460,843

* Does not include payments on interest and sinking fund.