

by the increased rate imposed on the reduction. I do not want to take up the time of the Committee further, Mr. Chairman. Until the statement was made in the House about political influence I never previously heard of such a suggestion. I consider the Board were dealing with everybody in the same way without any distinction. I have never known a loan dealt with as the result of political influence of any kind.

11. *Mr. Hanan.*] In election year, Sir Joseph, were loans granted about election time to districts represented by the then members of the Opposition as well as to districts represented by members of the then Government?—I was not attending the Board meetings, so I can only say by reference to the minute-book. On the 24th October, at the Board's meeting on that date, the minute book shows:—

Return showing Loans provisionally approved, finally approved, &c., between 20th October, 1911, and 15th December, 1911.

Date.	Name of Local Body.	Provisionally approved.	Finally approved.
		£	£
24/10/11	Arch Hill Road Board	3,500	..
"	Waimarino County Council	1,250	..
"	Karaka Road Board	6,000	..
"	Featherston County Council	2,000	..
"	Oakura Road Board	60	..
"	Otane Town Board	1,500	..
"	New Brighton Borough Council	4,500	..
"	Waimate Borough Council	850	..
"	One-tree Hill Road Board	20,000	..
"	Christchurch Drainage Board	200	..
"	Waipukurau Town Board	929	..
"	Waimarino County Council	500	..
"	Frankton Town Board	5,000	..
"	Matamata County Council .. .. .	..	150
"	Drury Road Board .. .. .	..	500
"	Upper Wangaehu Road Board .. .. .	..	300
30/10/11	Rangiaohia Road Board .. .. .	..	2,000
"	Cook County Council .. .. .	..	1,800
"	" .. .. .	..	1,800
"	Wanganui Borough Council .. .. .	..	11,500
6/11/11	Waikouaiti Borough Council	9,000	..
"	Otahuhu Road Board	1,500	..
"	Raglan County Council	3,000	..
"	Hawera County Council	600	..
"	Waverley Town Board	3,000	..
"	Manaia Town Board .. .. .	..	2,000
"	Pelorus Road Board .. .. .	..	2,950
"	Waitotara County Council .. .. .	..	5,300
"	Waikohu County Council .. .. .	..	1,250
"	Waipawa Borough Council .. .. .	..	3,900
13/11/11	Dargaville Borough Council	900	..
"	"	600	..
"	New Lynn Town Board .. .. .	..	100
"	Gisborne Borough Council .. .. .	..	5,215
"	Titirangi Road Board .. .. .	..	750
"	Waihemo County Council .. .. .	..	250
"	Remuera Road Board .. .. .	..	42,090
"	Pukekohe Town Board .. .. .	..	1,165
20/11/11	Taihape Borough Council	4,000	..
"	Waimarino County Council	200	..
"	Hobson County Council	3,000	..
"	Taranaki County Council	300	..
"	Eketahuna Borough Council	170	..
"	Hawera County Council .. .. .	..	600
"	" .. .. .	..	600
"	Mangatarata Road Board .. .. .	..	3,000
"	Waipukurau Town Board .. .. .	..	925
"	Waimate West County Council .. .. .	..	375
"	Wanganui East Borough Council .. .. .	..	12,000
"	Oroua County Council .. .. .	..	1,800
"	Havelock Town Board .. .. .	..	370
27/11/11	Rodney County Council	500	..
"	Wanganui East Borough Council .. .. .	..	11,500
"	Dargaville Borough Council .. .. .	..	20,000