

latter sum was much larger than usual and included £238,000 representing the purchase-money of assets sold by two local authorities. The purchase-money could not conveniently be utilized in loan-repayment, and accordingly approval was given for it to be expended on capital works.

The amount sanctioned for new works shows a very substantial increase, as was to be expected with the expansion of local-authority activity following the abnormally low level of activities during the war period. Increased costs also are reflected in the amounts of loan proposals. The borrowing by Hospital Boards was again very heavy and was the highest annual figure on record, being more than 50 per cent. higher than any previous year's figure. Hospital Board borrowing was also the highest of any individual category for local-body works.

Large increases are shown in proposals for drainage and sewerage works, borough street works, recreational facilities, machinery purchases, and transport. The latter item is largely accounted for by the Dunedin City Council's scheme for the complete replacement of electrical tramways by a trolley-bus service involving loans totalling £858,000.

Proposed harbour works resulted in another item which exceeded £1,000,000, mainly for major long-term programmes at Auckland and Wellington. Notwithstanding the immediate difficulties associated with the shortage of power, electric-supply authorities are undertaking heavy capital expenditure in the extension of supply to new areas, in the further reticulation of areas already receiving supply, and in increasing the carrying-capacity of reticulation lines. The new loans under this heading show a £740,000 increase over the 1945-46 figure and reached a total of £1,471,900.

Local-authority housing proposals have shown an increase during the year, transit housing still being a substantial item. It is noteworthy, however, that whereas in 1945-46 transit housing proposals well exceeded the amounts provided for permanent housing, in 1946-47 permanent housing predominated greatly. Municipal buildings, offices, &c., show a very modest increase, presumably giving place to the more urgent provision of housing.

The amount referred back during the year (£2,427,027) was considerably higher than usual and reflects in a measure the fact that the Board is unwilling to sanction excessive borrowing under buoyant conditions that might later prove unjustified or too great a burden for the local authorities concerned. Approximately half the amount referred back was in respect of Hospital Board proposals.

Applications dealt with by the Board have been as follows:—

	Total Applications.	Sanctioned.	
		New Works.	Redemptions.
	£	£	£
1927-28 .. .. .	4,636,649	3,212,185	1,048,796
1928-29 .. .. .	6,007,045	3,866,551	809,221
1929-30 .. .. .	4,218,730	3,563,842	967,875
1930-31 .. .. .	3,840,505	1,766,256	838,901
1931-32 .. .. .	3,412,365	781,195	2,483,810
1932-33 .. .. .	2,951,645	466,521	2,348,231
1933-34 .. .. .	3,884,132	917,560	2,744,245
1934-35 .. .. .	3,859,363	1,585,440	2,379,955
1935-36 .. .. .	4,051,076	1,550,690	2,051,790
1936-37 .. .. .	2,804,308	2,411,358	430,313
1937-38 .. .. .	3,362,173	3,098,445	122,758
1938-39 .. .. .	5,158,917	3,013,872	1,188,525
1939-40 .. .. .	2,674,450	1,701,460	355,800
1940-41 .. .. .	5,336,640	2,709,505	1,602,670
1941-42 .. .. .	4,589,653	1,898,096	1,391,728
1942-43 .. .. .	3,336,770	1,497,120	1,121,000
1943-44 .. .. .	3,999,665	1,349,335	2,359,755
1944-45 .. .. .	3,242,327	1,737,807	698,120
1945-46 .. .. .	3,497,820	2,643,935	243,235
1946-47 .. .. .	9,843,543	7,289,436	1,005,430
	84,697,776	47,000,609	26,193,158
		73,193,767	