

*Enamel Baths*

Material and labour difficulties continue to limit local manufacture, and deliveries lag considerably behind orders. The shortage is being overcome largely by increased importations, stocks being gradually built up. The improvisation formerly adopted to enable houses to be occupied should no longer be necessary.

*Galvanized Wrought-iron and Steel Tubes*

There has been no improvement in the supply of these materials and progress on the reticulation of areas requiring the larger-sized pipes in particular has been delayed. An early improvement is not anticipated. However, no effort is being spared to make our requirements known, and it is hoped that the anticipated freer supply of steel will be beneficially reflected in the supply of iron and steel pipes.

## BUILDING CONTROL

Government policy in giving greater emphasis to housing has resulted in a record number of houses being completed during the year. In part this achievement is due to the increase which took place in the available labour force during the previous year, but in the main to freer supplies of materials, notably timber.

The total number of building permits authorized during 1948-49 was 49,295, classified as follows:—

(a) State and other Government housing	..	..	4,652
(b) Private housing	..	..	11,878
(c) Housing additions	..	..	8,680
(d) Works and buildings other than housing	..	..	24,085
			49,295

The undermentioned table details applications dealt with during the year:—

Type of Work.	Permits Authorized.		Applications Deferred.	
	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.
		£		£
Engineering .. .. .	67	1,674,734	8	9,410
Hospitals .. .. .	129	707,609	6	29,202
Schools .. .. .	387	1,462,584	27	27,424
Other Government .. .. .	641	1,275,605	12	139,548
Local bodies .. .. .	302	371,944	22	148,823
Commercial .. .. .	3,798	2,683,260	804	2,691,583
Factories .. .. .	473	816,891	158	780,087
State housing .. .. .	3,973	7,035,835	..	..
Other Government housing .. .. .	679	1,034,324	..	..
Rehabilitation housing .. .. .	248	409,889	..	..
Private housing .. .. .	11,630	17,722,180	712	1,145,508
Housing additions .. .. .	8,680	2,000,455	567	169,215
Community buildings .. .. .	711	539,085	125	255,364
Farm buildings .. .. .	3,433	748,029	20	5,006
Maintenance—				
Buildings .. .. .	1,594	239,883	24	10,033
Other works .. .. .	38	21,956	1	176
Miscellaneous .. .. .	12,512	812,959	1,463	142,698
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>49,295</b>	<b>39,557,222</b>	<b>3,949</b>	<b>5,554,077</b>