

SOCIAL CONDITION.**MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.**

The University of Melbourne.

The University of Melbourne was incorporated and endowed by an Act of the Governor and Legislative Council of Victoria, to which the Royal assent was given on 22nd January, 1853. The University buildings, together with those of the affiliated colleges, are situated on 106 acres of land in the southern part of Carlton. Under the provisions of Act No. 3285 assented to on 23rd October, 1923, the University is to consist of a Council and Convocation. It has power to grant degrees, diplomas, certificates, and licences in all faculties except divinity. There is no religious test for admission.

The Council is composed of 31 members, as follows :—

Eight to be appointed by the Governor in Council, of whom one shall be a member of the Legislative Council, two shall be members of the Legislative Assembly, one shall represent manufacturing and commercial interests, one shall represent agricultural interests, two shall represent industrial interests, and one shall be elected by the councils of the technical schools.

Ten to be elected by the Convocation, none of whom shall be a member of the teaching staff or other officer of the University or the head of an affiliated college.

Three (being professors or deans of faculties) to be elected by the professors.

One (a member of the teaching staff) to be elected by the teaching staff other than the professors.

Two to be elected by the undergraduates, but not to include any member of the teaching staff or any person under the full age of 21 years.

Two to be heads of affiliated colleges, and to be appointed by co-option of the Council.

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Three—the Director of Education, the Chairman of the Council of Agricultural Education, and the President of the Professorial Board—to be *ex officio* members of the Council.

The tenure of office of members of the Council is four years, but one-half of the number elected at the first election by the Convocation must retire at the end of two years, the Council determining by lot which of the members are to retire.

The Convocation consists of all graduates. It elects a Warden annually, or whenever a vacancy occurs, from its own members.

Power is given to the Convocation to submit suggestions to the Council with respect to the affairs of the University. Provision is made for the constitution of a standing committee of Convocation, consisting of the Warden of Convocation *ex officio* and not less than 40 other persons who are members of Convocation.

A University Students Loan Fund has been established to which a payment of £10,000 has been made from the Assurance Fund under the Transfer of Land Acts and a grant of £2,000 is to be made annually from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for ten years from 1st July, 1923. In addition, all moneys received from University students in repayment of loans and interest on loans and all moneys standing to the credit of any trust fund in the Treasury in respect of loans to students made by the Treasurer of Victoria before the passing of Act No. 3285 are to be credited to the Fund. Out of this Fund loans may be made to students who are nominated by a committee of three members of the Council appointed for the purpose.

The Act of 1923 provided for an endowment of £45,000 annually from 1st July, 1923. An additional grant of £8,500 is to be made for each of the ten financial years commencing 1st July, 1923. The amount of this grant is to be expended on the maintenance within the University of a school (including a faculty) of commerce for the teaching of and conducting research in commerce and the granting of degrees or diplomas in commerce; also for teaching and conducting research in science, and the establishment and maintenance within the University of a University Extension Department.

By Royal letters patent of 14th March, 1859, it is declared that the degrees of the University of Melbourne shall be as fully recognised as those of any University in the United Kingdom. Scholarships, exhibitions, and prizes are provided in all the principal subjects, the cost being defrayed partly out of University funds and partly by private bequests. In the matter of large individual gifts from private persons the Melbourne University does not compare favorably with other Universities. Still, the investments at present held as the result of private benefactions amount to about £468,000. In addition,

gifts, which have been spent on buildings and equipment, amount to about £45,750. Since 1853 the amount received from the Government has been £1,948,670—£461,948 for building and apparatus, £1,019,500 endowment under "Special Appropriation Acts" Nos. 34 and 3285, and £467,222 additional endowment by annual votes of the Legislature. In addition to grants from the Government the Council derives income from the fees paid by students for lectures, examinations, certificates, and diplomas.

The system of junior and senior public and commercial examinations was superseded in December, 1917, by examinations for Intermediate and School Leaving Certificates. Under the regulations the rights of all candidates who have passed any subject of the junior or senior public examinations are reserved. The appended table gives the results of the public examinations conducted by the University during 1928 :—

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS CONDUCTED BY THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1928.

	Number who attempted to Pass fully.	Number who Passed fully.	
		Total.	Percentage.
Examination—			
Intermediate	5,371	2,457	45.74
Leaving	2,640	1,317	49.88

There is included in the above, a number of candidates, in whose cases Headmasters' Certificates were accepted as wholly or partially satisfying the requirements of the examination, qualified for Certificates as follows :—Intermediate 1,005; Leaving 413.

The number of degrees taken in 1928 was 479, all of which were direct, as against a total of 2,823 for the preceding five years, or an average of 564 per annum for that period. During those five years all the degrees obtained were direct and none *ad eundem*. Of the total of 11,693 degrees granted since the establishment of the University, 1,779 have been conferred on women, 1,773 of which were direct and 6 *ad eundem*. These were apportioned as follows :—813 Bachelor of Arts, 298 Master of Arts, 185 Bachelor of Medicine, 13 Doctor of Medicine, 183 Bachelor of Surgery 26 Bachelor of Laws, 3 Master of Laws, 5 Doctor of Science, 152 Bachelor of Science, 43 Master of Science, 40 Bachelor of Music, 13 Bachelor of Dental Science, 1 Bachelor of Agricultural Science, and 4 Bachelor of Commerce. The following table shows the number of degrees conferred at the University between the date of its first opening and the

Degrees.

end of 1928—the particulars for the years 1927 and 1928 being given separately :—

DEGREES CONFERRED.

Degrees.	Prior to 1927.			During 1927.			During 1928.			Total.		
	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem.</i>	Total.	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem.</i>	Total.	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem.</i>	Total.	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem.</i>	Total.
Bachelor of Arts ..	2212	118	2330	105	..	105	94	..	94	2411	118	2529
Master of Arts ..	957	184	1141	39	..	39	24	..	24	1020	184	1204
Doctor of Letters	16	1	17	..	..	..	1	..	1	17	1	18
Bachelor of Medicine	2072	15	2087	45	..	45	83	..	83	2200	15	2215
Doctor of Medicine	295	107	402	9	..	9	7	..	7	311	107	418
Bachelor of Surgery	2003	4	2007	45	..	45	83	..	83	2131	4	2135
Master of Surgery	37	..	37	4	..	4	3	..	3	44	..	44
Bachelor of Laws	782	12	794	44	..	44	35	..	35	861	12	873
Master of Laws ..	145	3	148	2	..	2	2	..	2	149	3	152
Doctor of Laws ..	23	23	46	2	..	2	..	..	..	25	23	48
Bachelor of Civil Engineering ..	308	2	310	17	..	17	13	..	13	338	2	340
Bachelor of Mining Engineering ..	61	1	62	..	..	..	2	..	2	63	1	64
Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering	17	..	17	5	..	5	6	..	6	28	..	28
Bachelor of Electrical Engineering	51	..	51	10	..	10	8	..	8	69	..	69
Bachelor of Metallurgical Engineering	2	..	2	2	..	2	2	..	2	6	..	6
Master of Engineering ..	118	..	118	4	..	4	8	..	8	130	..	130
Doctor of Engineering ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Bachelor of Science	456	5	461	31	..	31	37	..	37	524	5	529
Master of Science	135	2	137	13	..	13	9	..	9	157	2	159
Doctor of Science	51	8	59	3	..	3	2	..	2	56	8	64
Bachelor of Music	46	2	48	5	..	5	1	..	1	52	2	54
Doctor of Music ..	1	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	3
Bachelor of Dental Science ..	324	..	324	15	..	15	21	..	21	360	..	360
Doctor of Dental Science ..	22	..	22	..	..	..	1	..	1	23	..	23
Bachelor of Veterinary Science ..	94	..	94	1	..	1	4	..	4	99	..	99
Master of Veterinary Science ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Doctor of Veterinary Science ..	11	..	11	..	..	..	2	..	2	13	..	13
Bachelor of Agricultural Science	54	..	54	5	..	5	4	..	4	63	..	63
Master of Agricultural Science ..	4	..	4	2	..	2	3	..	3	9	..	9
Bachelor of Commerce ..	..	..	..	18	..	18	24	..	24	42	..	42
Total ..	10299	489	10788	426	..	426	479	..	479	11204	489	11693

NOTE.—*Ad eundem* degrees have been abolished.

Students attending lectures, and undergraduates admitted.

The number of persons attending lectures has greatly increased during the past ten years, the total in 1928 having been 2,790 as compared with 1,448 in 1918, thus showing an advance of 92 per cent. A great improvement is also shown in the admission of undergraduates, the number having increased by 42 per cent. in the period mentioned. Details for the last five years are given in the following statement :—

PERSONS ADMITTED AS UNDERGRADUATES AND STUDENTS ATTENDING LECTURES, 1924 TO 1928.

Year.	Number of Persons Matriculated and Admitted as Undergraduates.			Number of Students Attending Lectures.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1924 ..	374	135	509	1,764	659	2,423
1925 ..	463	137	600	1,919	638	2,557
1926 ..	444	161	605	2,019	701	2,720
1927 ..	493	171	664	2,038	745	2,783
1928 ..	427	185	612	1,999	791	2,790

Of the number attending lectures in 1928—2,790—788 were students in Arts, Education and Journalism, 269 in Laws, 216 in Engineering, 400 in Medicine, 231 in Science, 252 in Music, 75 in Dental Science, 392 in Commerce, 44 in Agriculture, 2 in Veterinary Science, 7 in Public Health, and 86 in Architecture, and 28 were doing Science Research Work.

University finance.

A statement of receipts and expenditure for the year 1928 is given below :—

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1928.

	General Account.	Other Accounts.	All Departments.
Receipts—	£	£	£
Government Grants ..	45,000	20,599	65,599
Lecture, Degree, Examination, and other Fees ..	61,831	19,700	81,531
Other sources, including benefactions	17,664	58,611	76,275
Total	124,495	98,910	223,405
Expenditure	119,919	79,796	199,715

Included in the amounts shown above, the University received £31,444 from private benefactors, to be held in trust for scholarships and other purposes.

AFFILIATED COLLEGES.

The affiliated colleges. The permission accorded by the "University Act of Incorporation" for the establishment of affiliated colleges has been taken advantage of by the clergy and people of the Church of England, Presbyterian, Methodist, and Roman Catholic Churches of Victoria. Large residential colleges have been built upon the sites reserved for this purpose in the northern portion of the University grounds fronting Sydney-road and College-crescent, Carlton. These colleges, which admit students without regard to their religious beliefs, maintain efficient staffs of tutors and lecturers for the teaching of the principal subjects in each of the University courses. They also provide training for the ministers of their respective denominations. In 1906 the Australian College of Dentistry was formally affiliated with the University, which obtained certain rights of supervision and control, and in return undertook to recognise the professional teaching of the College in connexion with the Degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery.

Information relating to the foundation and progress of Trinity, Ormond, and Queen's Colleges is given in the *Year-Book* for 1917-18 on pages 319 to 321.

Trinity College. This college, which was established by the Anglican Church, is open to students of all religious denominations, and the same remark applies to Janet Clarke Hall. The latter was established for the benefit of women students, and is an integral part of Trinity College. The college buildings consist of a chapel, dining hall, chemical and biological laboratories, lecture-rooms, libraries, billiard-room, and students' common-room, in addition to accommodation for the Warden, tutors, and students.

The Warden of the college is J. C. V. Behan, M.A., LL.D. (Melb.), M.A., B.C.L. (Oxon.)—first Rhodes Scholar for the State of Victoria, formerly Stowell Civil Law Fellow and Dean of University College, Oxford—who is assisted by a staff of tutors and lecturers. The college holds annually, in the month of November, an examination for open scholarships and exhibitions. Prospectuses may be obtained on application to the Warden.

Ormond College. This college, which was established by the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, is a residential college for students of the University of Melbourne (without restriction as to religious denomination). It has a staff of lecturers and tutors from whom the students receive the assistance they require in their University work; non-resident students are also admitted to the college classes. The work of the Theological Hall of the Presbyterian

Church of Victoria is carried on in the Victoria Wing; there is an independent staff of professors and lecturers for this work. Theological students may reside in the college if they are matriculated students of the University.

The *Year-Book* for 1919-20 contained a statement of the nature of the college buildings, and reference was made to additions and alterations to the buildings. This information was amplified in subsequent issues.

The year 1928-29 has seen the completion of the post-War scheme of construction and re-construction. The old Theological Library has been renovated, and fitted for College Prayers and general purposes, with quite beautiful simple panelling in Victorian mountain ash and other furnishing in keeping.

The third theological professor's house has been built in the grounds, and the lay-out of the grounds is being remodelled.

Sir John MacFarland gave a handsome donation, to construct a tennis court, for use primarily by the women students associated with the college.

The 1929 Rhodes Scholar for Victoria was Mr. K. C. Wheare, a resident scholar of Ormond College.

The college has lost by death three valued members of its Council: Rev. Dr. John Mathew, who entered the college as a resident student in 1884, became a member of its council in 1890 and its chairman in 1910—resigning from that office only when he became seriously ill in 1926; Mr. R. K. Gillespie, who was chairman of the Finance Board of the Presbyterian Church, and represented the Trusts Corporation on the council; Rev. Professor A. Skene, M.A., formerly Professor of Old Testament in the Theological Hall. The Hon. Mr. Justice Higgins, who died in January, was also a friend and benefactor of the college. He established two memorials to his son, a former student of Ormond College, and of Balliol College, Oxford, who was killed in action on the Sinai Peninsula in 1916, viz., the Mervyn Bournes Higgins Memorial Rowing Trophy, for competition between the four residential colleges of the university; and the Mervyn Bournes Bursary Fund administered by the Master of Ormond College, to assist university students of insufficient means.

The Master of the College is D. K. Picken, M.A. (Cambridge, Glasgow, Melbourne), formerly Professor of Pure and Applied Mathematics in Victoria University College, Wellington, N.Z. All inquiries as to admission, scholarships, &c., should be made to him.

Queen's
College. This college was founded under the auspices of the Methodist Church, opened in 1888, and now contains accommodation for 90 students in residence. The building comprises fully equipped lecture-rooms, laboratory, a large library,

reading-rooms and common rooms, billiard-room, music-room, and apartments for the Master and tutors. It was considerably extended in 1923 at a cost of about £50,000 by the addition of the Sugden (central) tower, named after its first Master, Dr. E. H. Sugden (1888-1928), and a new chapel, students' common room, and lecture rooms; a new and completely equipped chemical, biological, and physical laboratory, agreeing with the Tudor architecture of the main buildings, will be built immediately at a cost of £6,000, and will be named after the donors the Nicholas Laboratory. Lectures and tuition supplementary to university lectures are given in the college. These are open to non-resident students, whether men or women. Visiting women students are also provided with a common-room. There are two active societies for past students, the Wyvern Society for men, the Wyverna Club for women. Upwards of £1,300 a year is awarded in scholarships for students following any University course, by the Master, fellows, and tutors of the college, on the results of entrance or faculty examinations. The college is open to students of all denominations.

The Master is Rev. F. Walwyn Kernick, M.A. (Christ Church, Oxford), and the Vice-Master is Mr. John F. Foster, B.A., L.L.M.

**Newman
College.**

Newman College is built in the section of the University Reserve granted by the Government of Victoria to the Roman Catholic Church in the Act of Incorporation of 2nd October, 1882. The foundation-stone was laid by the late Archbishop of Melbourne (the Most Reverend Thomas Joseph Carr, D.D.), on 11th June, 1916. It was founded by the generosity of the Roman Catholic people of the State of Victoria, and cost nearly £70,000. The Archbishop Carr Memorial Chapel, to be erected in the future at a cost of £20,000, will be a striking addition to the College. A separate study and a bedroom are provided, where possible, for each student. There is also provision of hot and cold shower and plunge baths, a large covered-in swimming bath, a gymnasium, and billiard and recreation rooms. The library consists of more than 10,000 volumes. Lectures, demonstrations, and private tuition are given in the College with the special object of assisting students in their University work. Women students as well as non-resident men students are admitted to all college lectures. St. Mary's Hall, Royal Park, is the residential hall for women students of Newman College. Students of the college enjoy the advantage of residence, instruction in the doctrine and discipline of the Roman Catholic Church, and tuition supplementary to University lectures.

All applications for information, &c., should be made to the Rector. The present Rector is the Very Rev. J. M. Murphy, S.J., M.A. He is assisted by the Rev. Dominic Kelly, S.J., M.A., the Rev. Wilfrid Ryan, S.J., M.A., F.G.S., and a staff of competent lecturers and tutors.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

University
extension.

Tutorial Classes organized by the Workers' Educational Association of Victoria are conducted by the University Extension Board. The personnel of the Board, numbering 15 appointed by the University, comprises representatives from the Workers' Educational Association, Trades Hall Council, and the teaching staff of the University and other persons representing the public. In addition to these classes, which are in operation in the city, suburbs, and country, the University Extension Board has inaugurated a system of advice by correspondence for the benefit of country students. This advice is confined to social and cultural subjects, and is not intended for those seeking to qualify for degrees. Its purpose is rather to cultivate knowledge of such subjects as will elevate the mind and fit the student the better to discharge the more social functions of his daily life and citizenship. For the above purposes and also for Extension Lectures and Vacation Schools, the Government grant is £4,250.

Professor J. A. Gunn, M.A., Ph.D., is Director of University Extension and Chairman of the University Extension Board. The Secretary to the Board is Mr. J. P. Bainbridge, Registrar, University, Carlton.

THE STATE EDUCATION SYSTEM.

The
educational
system of
Victoria.

The present system of "free, compulsory, and secular" education came into operation on 1st January, 1873, the Act which introduced it having been passed in the previous year. Subsequently, this Act and two amending Acts passed in 1876 and 1839 were consolidated in the *Education Act* 1890, which in turn was amended by Act No. 1777 passed in December, 1901, Act No. 2205 passed in December, 1905, Act No. 2301 passed in December, 1910, and Act No. 2330 passed in October, 1911, and is now, with its amendments, incorporated in the *Education Act* 1915, No. 2644.

Under the Act of 1872 education was made free to all willing to accept it; compulsory, in the sense that whether they attend or do not attend State schools, evidence must be produced that all children are educated up to a certain standard; and secular, no teacher being allowed to give other than secular instruction in any State school building. Facilities are, however, afforded to persons other than State school teachers to give religious instruction, on one or two days each week, to the children of the parents who desire that their children shall receive such instruction. In each school four hours at least are set apart during each school day for secular instruction, two of which must be before, and two after, noon.

In December, 1910, an Act of Parliament of a most comprehensive and far-reaching character was passed. It marked a most important epoch in the history of education in Victoria, and laid the foundation of a complete national system from the infants' school to the highest educational institutions in the State. Power is given in this Act for the establishment of higher elementary schools, and of secondary and technical schools of various types, the aim being to create a co-ordinated system of public education, leading through elementary schools and evening continuation classes to trade and technical schools on the one hand, or through elementary schools and high schools to the University or to higher technical schools on the other. Provision is also made for evening continuation classes, in which the education of children who have left the day school at fourteen years of age may be continued till they are seventeen years of age. Power is given to make attendance at evening continuation classes compulsory in any district proclaimed for that purpose. Education is made compulsory in the case of deaf and dumb, blind, and physically or mentally defective children between seven and sixteen years of age.

In order to provide for the due co-ordination of all branches of public education a Council of Public Education has been created, representative of the various educational and industrial interests of the State. This body, which consists of 20 members presided over by the Director of Education, reports annually to Parliament on the development of public education in Victoria and elsewhere.

**Compulsory
Clauses.** Parents and custodians of children not less than six nor more than fourteen years of age are required to cause such children (unless there is a "reasonable excuse") to attend a State school on every school half-day in each week. Non-attendance may be excused for any of the five following reasons :— (1) If the child is receiving efficient instruction in some other manner, and is complying with the prescribed conditions as to regularity of attendance; or (2) has been prevented from attending by sickness, reasonable fear of infection, temporary or permanent infirmity, or any unavoidable cause; or (3) has been excused by a general or particular order of the Minister; or (4) is at least thirteen years of age, and has obtained a certificate of merit as prescribed; or (5) that there is no State school within 1, 2, 2½, or 3 miles in the case of children under seven, between seven and nine, between nine and eleven, and over eleven years of age respectively. Parents and custodians who fail to make a child attend as provided may be summoned and fined not less than 2s., nor more than 10s., for each such offence, or in default may be imprisoned for any term not exceeding three days. Attendance officers are appointed to see that the compulsory provisions are carried out.

Conveyance allowance. In cases where schools are closed through low average attendance, or where, though there is no school, the number of children would warrant the Department in establishing a school, allowances are made by the Department for the conveyance of children to the nearest school. The amount of the allowance is 3d. per day for children over six and under eleven who reside between $2\frac{1}{2}$ and 3 miles from the nearest school, and 4d. per day for children over six and under fourteen who reside 4 miles or over from such school. Where arrangements are made for the conveyance of pupils in numbers to district high schools, higher elementary schools, central schools, central classes, domestic arts schools or technical schools, the Department may, if the circumstances warrant it, grant an allowance on the £1 for £1 basis, up to a limit to be fixed, towards the cost of such conveyance.

School Committees. Under Act No. 2301 (now incorporated in the *Education Act* 1915, No. 2644) provision was made for the appointment of a School Committee for each school consisting of not more than seven persons. The members of School Committees are nominated by the parents of children attending the school for which the Committee is to be appointed. The main duties of such Committees are:—(a) to exercise a general oversight over the buildings and grounds, and to report to the Minister on their condition when necessary; (b) to carry out any necessary work referred to the Committee in connexion with maintenance or repair of or additions to buildings; (c) to promote the beautifying and improvement of school grounds, the establishment and maintenance of school gardens and agricultural plots, the decoration of the schoolroom, and the formation of a school library and museum; (d) to provide for the necessary cleansing and the sanitary services of the school; (e) to visit the school from time to time; (f) to use every endeavour to induce parents to send their children to school; and (g) to arrange, where necessary, for suitable board and lodging at reasonable rates for teachers (especially women teachers) appointed to the school.

Free subjects. The following are the subjects in which instruction is absolutely free:—English (literature, reading, recitation, spelling, writing, composition, grammar), mathematics (arithmetic, algebra, geometry), nature knowledge (geography, science, nature-study), hygiene, history and civics, manual work (drawing, needlework, woodwork, and other occupations such as modelling in clay or plasticine, or brush drawing, or weaving with some material other than paper, for example, raffia), singing, physical training, and, where practicable, agriculture for boys, cookery and domestic economy

for girls, gymnastics, and swimming. Pupils buy their own books and material. Provision, however, is made for a free supply of books and material in necessitous cases.

New Features.

The course of study contains provisions to secure a more realistic treatment than formerly of the essential subjects of school education, and a larger share of attention to the training of the hand and eye through manual instruction in various forms. The requirements from teachers of infants are also such as to secure methods of teaching in accord with the principles enunciated by Froebel, the founder of the kindergarten system and by Dr. Maria Montessori. Great activity has been displayed in the training of teachers for their work. During the past few years a large number of teachers have taken the course at the Teachers' College and the Melbourne University, and, in addition, hundreds have been instructed in special classes held in the evenings and on Saturdays at centres of population, and, on a larger scale still, during the Christmas vacations at what are called "Summer Schools." The Education Department, in collaboration with the Extension Board of the Melbourne University, held vacation schools at the University in May of each of the years 1924, 1925, and 1927. They were attended by teachers and by members of the general public, and lasted in each case for a fortnight. Probably further schools of a like nature will be held. The vacation school appears to have established itself as a successful educational experiment in Victoria. Much attention has been given to the beautifying and improvement of school grounds by the planting of trees and shrubs, and by the establishment of school gardens. One day in each year—termed Arbor Day—is specially set apart for tree-planting, and for the giving of lessons on the value of trees. The teaching of elementary agriculture is warmly encouraged by both the Department of Education and the Department of Agriculture, and the subject is being dealt with in a very practical way.

Drill, swimming, school gardens, &c.

There were, on 30th June, 1928, 85 woodwork centres in operation, having an attendance of 8,312 boys; and 63 cookery centres, apart from those at the Domestic Arts Schools, with an attendance of nearly 3,350 girls. Twelve Schools of Domestic Arts, attended by nearly 2,958 girls, have been established. In these schools girls over twelve years of age are given, during the last two years of their school life, a training in the subjects of a comprehensive domestic arts course. At the same time their general education is continued. In addition to the instruction given in the woodwork centres, woodwork is being taught to boys in country schools by the head teachers as one of the ordinary subjects. Swimming is taught in schools that have

the necessary facilities, the children being formed into swimming clubs, which hold annual competitions at various centres. Drill is taught in all schools. During 1912 the system of physical training approved of by the Commonwealth military authorities was introduced. Nearly every State school now has its garden and some of the school gardens are among the beauty spots of their districts. The Victorian State Schools Horticultural Society, founded in 1913, assists teachers in obtaining the best seeds, seedlings, ornamental trees, and flowering shrubs. It has a nursery of its own at Oakleigh, maintained partly by members' subscriptions (5s. yearly), and partly by a Government grant. Most of the State schools are affiliated with the Society, which sent out in 1928 to its members, at reduced rates, 18,000 packets of seeds, 170,000 seedlings, 2,300 rooted roses, 11,800 shrubs, 6,500 herbaceous plants, 450 climbers, 6,000 indoor pot-plants, 1,280 dahlias, 1,300 carnations, and 1,300 chrysanthemums.

In addition to Arbor Day (to which reference has been made), other special days—Anzac Day, Discovery Day, Pioneers' Day, Shakespeare Day, Empire Day, and Bird Day—call for mention. The landing of the Australians and New Zealanders on the Gallipoli Peninsula on 25th April, 1915, has been commemorated in the schools each year since, on Anzac Day, by the holding of a special service, consisting of hymns and addresses together with the saluting of the flag. The schools of Victoria held a celebration of Empire Day in 1905, being among the first of the oversea Dominions to recognise the day, and have since enthusiastically kept it in remembrance year by year. The first sighting of Australia by Captain Cook in April, 1770, is commemorated on Discovery Day, though this is merging into Pioneers' Day, when honour is paid not only to explorers and discoverers but also to the early settlers—the path-finders in general. The date chosen for Pioneers' Day was the 19th of November, the day on which Edward Henty landed on the shores of Portland Bay to establish a pastoral and agricultural settlement in 1834. On Shakespeare Day, the teachers and children commemorate the birth of Shakespeare by readings from his works, and the recital and acting of selected passages. Bird Day has for its object the protection of native birds and their eggs. On that day lessons are given on bird life, and, where possible, bird-observing excursions are made. Over 61,000 of the older school children have joined the "Gould League of Bird Lovers," which was established for the protection of bird life.

During the Great War the teachers and children in the State schools, with the aid of departmental officers, school committees, and parents, were instrumental in raising a sum of £410,000 for the Department's War Relief Fund. Particulars

**Patriotic
Fund.**

are given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, pages 333 and 334. The fund was closed in 1920. At the end of 1922, the executive committee of the fund transferred the balance of £84,910 to a body of seven trustees, who were empowered by the deed of trust to expend the money, as occasion arose, for the benefit of seriously disabled soldiers and their dependants. The sum of £40,000 was invested to form an old-age fund and now stands at £48,014. To the 31st December, 1928, the following disbursements had been made:—£25,136 to alleviate distress, £27,252 under the housing scheme, and £5,486 granted on loan. On 30th June, 1929, there was a sum of £48,014 invested, and £2,747 to the credit of the general account.

**Memorial
School at
Villers-
Bretonneux.**

In 1921, the citizens of Melbourne decided to "adopt" the town of Villers-Bretonneux and to provide money to rebuild the ruined buildings, one of which was the school-house. The Education Department's War Relief Fund contributed £12,500 to defray part of the cost, and, in 1924, a fine structure, containing five bright class rooms, an assembly hall, manual training rooms, and teachers' residences was erected. The buildings surround a spacious quadrangle, and the class rooms lead off from a long airy passage, which runs parallel to the front length of the main building. The Assembly Hall is panelled in Victorian blackwood, the design including sixteen pilasters, each of which is surmounted by a carved cap representing Australian flora and fauna. The timber is beech with a frame of blackwood. The building with its fittings is a worthy gift on the part of Victoria, and a permanent memorial to the valor and devotion of those who fought and fell in defence of Villers-Bretonneux in 1918.

The principal street, which, before the war, and following the custom of French townships, was called the Grande Rue, is now called Rue de Melbourne. A park, of which only the site exists, and which is waiting to be cleared and laid out, will be called Parc de Melbourne.

The gratitude of the people of Villers-Bretonneux is expressed in the form of a pillar of stone near the school gates. Inscriptions on three of its four faces record the different phases of the construction of the groups of school buildings. For generations to come the pillar will be an eloquent memorial of what has been done in Villers-Bretonneux by the State of Victoria.

Schools have taken up the Junior Red Cross movement **Social Service.** in order to continue the training afforded by the Young Workers' Patriotic Guild, in which pupils earned money during the war period and gave it to the War Relief Fund. Members of the Junior Red Cross branches are assisting their local charities or helping local cases of indigence in their neighbourhood.

**League of
Young
Gardeners.**

A widespread movement is being fostered for the carrying out of "home projects," as has been done in the United States of America. The idea is to link school, home, and farm in one common interest. The growing of sugar-beet, the culture of the potato, the selection of wheat, and the rearing of poultry and stock have engaged the united attention of children, teachers, and parents in various Victorian school districts.

**School
forestry.**

A scheme for the utilization of waste lands by the establishment of school plantations of hardwood and soft-wood trees was inaugurated in 1923. Areas in the vicinity of State schools have been reserved for the purpose. These are vested in local trustees, are fenced by voluntary local effort, and are planted by the children at the rate of about two acres per year. When the trees reach maturity, the revenue derived from the sale of the timber will be used by the trust for the benefit of the school concerned. Monetary gains will accrue, and further gains also—a training in practical forestry, and a training in unselfish social service. Up to 30th June, 1929, there were established 241 of these school plantations, with an area of 3,000 acres, and applications are being considered for 82 more.

**Medical
Inspection.**

The need for the medical inspection of school children has received widespread recognition, and the Victorian Education Department has followed the lead of progressive countries by appointing medical inspectors. They consist of eight full-time school medical officers and four district health officers. The latter perform part-time school medical inspection duties as well as the duties they are entrusted with by the Health Department. There are also two full-time school nurses employed. The medical officers devote their time to investigating the hygienic condition of school premises and the physical and mental condition of the pupils, and to giving instruction to teachers.

Dental Clinic. A dental clinic has been established and is under the charge of three full-time school dentists with four dental attendants. Great service is being rendered by this clinic. In addition, five dentists, with attendants, are travelling from school to school in country districts, while another dentist and dental attendant have been appointed to work four months each year at Bendigo, four months at Ballarat, and four months at Geelong.

Three of the travelling dentists referred to have been provided with well-equipped dental motor vans, and are thereby enabled to reach the children of schools remote from railway lines.

Under the provisions of Act No. 3416, assented to on 24th December, 1925, teachers in elementary schools are divided into five classes. This Act also provided that at least half of the male teachers shall be in classes above the Fifth Class in the following ratio :—

Class	I.	..	..	..	2
„	II.	..	..	..	3
„	III.	..	..	..	6
„	IV.	..	..	..	11
„	V.	..	..	..	22

For female teachers the following ratio was fixed :—

Class	II.A	..	..	..	1
„	II.	..	..	..	3
„	III.	..	..	..	9
„	IV.	..	..	..	27
„	V.	..	..	..	81

The salaries of males, excluding junior teachers, range from £156 to £600, and those of females, excluding junior teachers and sewing mistresses, range from £120 to £480. Provision, however, has been made for a minimum salary of £226 for male classified teachers of 21 years of age and of £180 for female classified teachers of 21. In addition to the head and assistant teachers, there are three classes of junior teachers, with commencing salaries ranging for males from £82 to £94 and for females from £62 to £74. The higher salary is paid to junior teachers who have passed the Leaving Examinations of the University of Melbourne. Those who do not possess that qualification are paid the lower amount. Sewing mistresses receive £60 yearly. Junior teachers residing away from home are paid an allowance sufficient to bring total emolument to £84 per annum.

Teachers in schools other than elementary were included in a Classified Roll for the Secondary Schools Division. This roll contains five classes for men (I., II., III., IV., V.) and five classes for women (II.A, II., III., IV., and V.). Excluding rates for junior teachers, which are the same as those for elementary schools, salaries for teachers on the Secondary Roll range from £192 to £650 per annum for men and £168 to £528 per annum for women.

No definite ratio was provided in the Act for the Secondary Division, but the numbers in each class are determined by the Public Service

Commissioner after report from the Committee of Classifiers, Secondary Schools Division.

The following statement shows the progress as regards State schools, teachers, and scholars since 1872. The figures relating to the number of schools and teachers refer to 30th June for all years to 1921, and to 31st December from the year 1922. Those relating to the number of scholars refer to the year ended 31st December, except for the eight years ended 1916-17; the figures for each of those years relate to the year ended 30th June :—

STATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, 1872 TO 1927.

Year.	Number of Schools at end of Year.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Scholars.		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In Average Attendance.	Distinct Children (estimated).
1872	1,049	2,416	136,055	68,456	113,197
1880	1,810	4,215	229,723	119,520	195,736
1890	2,170	4,708	250,097	133,768	213,886
1900	1,948	4,977	243,667	147,020	218,240
1909-10 ..	2,036	4,957	235,042	145,968	206,263
1910-11 ..	2,059	5,087	234,766	146,464	204,086
1911-12 ..	2,093	5,533	238,111	151,247	205,695
1912-13 ..	2,127	5,683	241,042	152,600	209,172
1913-14 ..	2,175	5,710	246,447	158,213	214,986
1914-15 ..	2,227	6,085	250,264	160,885	218,427
1915-16 ..	2,225	6,194	257,726	161,632	221,777
1916-17 ..	2,202	6,275	254,033	161,034	221,202
1917 (31st Dec.)	2,236	6,455	†214,048	†161,574	†186,523
1918	2,272	6,570	240,664	164,350	208,861
1919	2,280	6,518	235,292	160,345	207,633
1920	2,333	6,637	247,337	158,554	213,738
1921	2,334	6,784	247,204	167,154	216,037
1922	2,405	6,789	248,882	171,129	216,329
1923	2,460	6,919	253,307	167,638	218,835
1924	2,503	6,977	254,144	171,382	217,858
1925	2,525	7,020	255,101	175,131	220,295
1926	2,529	6,715	255,779	†174,494	221,592
1927	2,564	*7,166	258,205	175,624	223,215

* In addition to these teachers, 948 were temporarily employed on 31st December, 1927.

† These are the figures for the six months ended 31st December, 1917; hence the apparent falling off in "number enrolled" as compared with the number for the preceding year. Had the figures been compiled to June, 1918, probably the new number would have been greater, not less than that of the previous year. An increase in the same ratio as the increase in average attendance would fix the number at 255,280.

‡ The apparent falling off as compared with the previous year is due to the transfer of pupils to secondary schools at which the average attendance for the year ending 31st December, 1926, was increased by 2,517 pupils.

State
Secondary
Schools—
Enrolment
and
attendance.

The enrolment and attendance at State secondary schools are as follow :—

STATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1927.

	Number of Schools.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Pupils.		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In average Attendance.	Distinct Children (estimated).
Central Schools* ..	35	} 1,202	5,122	4,135	4,722
Higher Elementary Schools	47		4,827	3,696	4,658
Schools of Domestic Arts ..	10		2,992	2,061	2,842
Junior Technical Schools†	25		7,329	5,881	7,199
High Schools	35		9,523	8,142	9,363
Total	152	..	29,793	23,915	28,784

* Central Schools are not independent establishments. They are worked in conjunction with Elementary Schools.

† Junior Technical Schools are worked in conjunction with Technical Schools.

Ages of State
school scholars.

The following table shows the number and percentage of children attending State schools (Senior Technical Schools excepted) below, at, and above the school age (6 and under 14), during the year ended 31st December, 1927* :—

AGES OF STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS, 1927.

	Under 6 Years.	Between 6 and 14 Years.	Over 14 Years.	Total.
Elementary Schools	17,241	193,821	12,153	223,215
Central Schools .. ..	..	3,495	1,227	4,722
Higher Elementary Schools .. ..	..	2,322	2,336	4,658
Schools of Domestic Arts .. ..	..	1,549	1,293	2,842
Junior Technical Schools .. ..	..	3,233	3,966	7,199
High Schools .. ..	..	3,676	5,687	9,363
Total	17,241	208,096	26,662	251,999
Estimated number after making allowance for duplicate enrolments between the various types of schools	17,241	207,271	26,220	250,732

* The latest statistics published by the Education Department of Victoria (*vide* "Report of the Minister of Public Instruction for the year 1927-28") are for the period ended 31st December, 1927.

REGISTRATION OF TEACHERS AND SCHOOLS.

By Act No. 2013, passed in 1905, all private schools and teachers of private schools had to be registered by the Teachers and Schools Registration Board. This Board consisted of three representatives of the Education Department, four of non-State schools, two of the University, and one of State-aided technical schools. Its chief functions were to see (1) that only qualified persons were employed in private schools; and (2) that private schools met requirements in hygienic matters. Under the provisions of Act No. 2301, passed in December, 1910, the Teachers and Schools Registration Board was abolished, and its duties were taken over by the Council of Public Education.

The appended statement shows the number of registered schools, of instructors in same, and of individual scholars in attendance in 1872, the year before the adoption of the present secular system, and in a number of subsequent years, including the latest year for which particulars are available:—

REGISTERED SCHOOLS AND ATTENDANCE,
1872 TO 1927.

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Individual Scholars.
1872	888	1,841	24,781
1880	643	1,516	28,134
1890	791	2,037	40,181
1900	884	2,348	48,483
1909-10	641	2,067	49,964
1914-15	509	1,879	52,638
1915-16	495	1,909	57,400
1916-17	495	1,970	56,193
1917-18	499	2,002	58,366
1918 (31st December)	493	1,903	56,996
1919	486	1,991	56,684
1920	489	1,950	59,314
1921	486	2,063	59,922
1922	486	2,109	60,105
1923	486	2,154	63,105
1924	490	2,163	64,265
1925	495	2,212	64,835
1926	493	2,220	65,180
1927	483	2,253	65,026

Number and ages of pupils in registered schools.

The number and ages of pupils in attendance at registered schools are shown hereunder :—

NUMBER AND AGES OF PUPILS IN ATTENDANCE AT REGISTERED SCHOOLS ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1927.

Age of Pupils.	Gross Enrolment.	Number of Individual Pupils (estimated).
Under 6 years	4,864	4,339
Between 6 and 14 years	53,806	48,136
Above 14 years	13,891	12,551
Total	72,561	65,026

Scholars attending State and registered schools.

On comparing the number of scholars with the number attending schools, it is seen that 21 per cent. of the scholars during 1927 attended registered schools, and that the balance, 79 per cent., attended State primary and secondary schools.

Ages of children in all schools.

After allowance has been made for duplicate enrolment caused by the attendance of children at both State schools and registered schools it is estimated that the number of individual children at school during the year was as follows :—

NUMBER (ESTIMATED) OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN UNDER INSTRUCTION AT SCHOOL DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1927.

Under 6 years of age	21,376
Between 6 and 14 years of age	251,235
Above 14 years of age	38,301
Total	<u>310,912</u>

THE TRAINING OF TEACHERS.

Teachers' College.

Since 1926, the training of teachers for the State Department has been considerably modified. All intending teachers must now complete a successful probationary period as Junior Teachers in the schools before entering one of the Teachers' Colleges. Junior teachers who do not complete their Leaving Certificate, or who are unable to obtain studentships at a Teachers' College will, at the end of five years, be asked to leave the Service. This will ensure a reasonable aptitude for the work of teaching in all officers appointed to permanent positions.

There are three Teachers' Colleges in Victoria—Melbourne, Ballarat, and Bendigo. The Melbourne College is the largest institution, training students for all types of teaching work; Ballarat and Bendigo are smaller colleges preparing teachers for work in the Rural Schools. The only avenue of promotion for Junior Teachers in the Service is through the Teachers' Colleges, and no untrained teachers can now enter the Department's service. In order to make this position possible, a new Teachers' College is to be built in Melbourne on a suitable site. This College will accommodate up to 600 students, while Ballarat and Bendigo will be able to take up to 100 each. Thus, in a few years' time, the three Colleges will provide each year 500 trained teachers for the Primary and Rural Schools, together with nearly 100 trained graduates for work in all kinds of Secondary Schools.

The courses of training in the Melbourne College at present are as follows:—

1. Primary Course for teachers going to take charge of Rural Schools. One year.
2. Infant Teachers' Course for students going out to Kindergarten work. Two years.
3. Manual Arts Course for students who will teach Arts and Crafts in the Secondary schools. Three years.
4. Domestic Arts Course for students who will teach Household subjects in the Secondary Schools. Three years.
5. Secondary Course for students who will teach general subjects in the High Schools. Four years.

The Secondary studentship is one of the most valuable in Australia. It provides a four years' course at the University without any expense to the student concerned. In addition, he receives an allowance for books and ordinary expenses. Thus, at the end of four years, he should have a University degree, the Diploma of Education and an assured position in a High School without any expense to himself.

In view of the extension and development of these facilities, and of the liberal allowances paid to students in training, the system of training teachers for the Victorian service compares favorably with most other modern systems of training in the world.

DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOLS.

The Education Act of 1910 authorized the establishment of these schools in order to open a broad highway, at little or no cost to the parents of the pupils, leading from the elementary schools to the technical schools and the University. A further important function of these institutions is to give the necessary preliminary education to boys and girls intending to take up teaching. Under the scheme of training now in operation aspirants for the teaching profession are expected during the period spent at a district high school to complete their preliminary studies. Any pupil who has satisfactorily

**District
High Schools.**

completed the work of Grade VI. in an elementary school is qualified for admission to a district high school. The course of study lasts for six years in the case of pupils who enter from the sixth grade of the elementary school after passing the qualifying examination, or for four or five years in the case of those who enter from the eighth grade after completing the course of the elementary school. Winners of Government scholarships are also trained at these schools, but parents are at liberty to select an approved secondary school for the education of their boys and girls. Besides the day classes there are formed at a few of the district high schools special classes for the instruction of teachers living in the vicinity, and correspondence classes for those residing at a distance. Four of the District High Schools are specially equipped for the teaching of agriculture in addition to providing other courses of secondary education. There are district high schools at Ararat, Bacchus Marsh, Bairnsdale, Ballarat, Benalla, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Coburg, Colac, Dandenong, Echuca, Essendon, Frankston, Geelong, Hamilton, Horsham, Kerang, Kyneton, Leongatha,* Maryborough, Melbourne, Mildura,* Mordialloc-Chelsea, Northcote, Sale, Shepparton,* St. Arnaud, Stawell, Swan Hill, University (Carlton), Wangaratta, Warracknabeal, Warragul,* Warrnambool, and Williamstown. The schools the names of which are asterisked are equipped with farms.

During the term ended 31st December, 1927, there were in attendance at these schools 8,142 pupils, of whom 4,075 were boys and 4,067 were girls. Education is free up to the age of fourteen years, after which a fee of £6 per annum is charged.

University High School. For the practical part of the work of training secondary teachers the institution now known as the University High School was opened in a State building in 1910, and the school was specially staffed by lecturers in methods of teaching in addition to the teachers of the ordinary form subjects of secondary schools. The practical training in teaching received at this school is part of what is prescribed for the course for the Diploma of Education at the Melbourne University. In its management of the school the Department is aided by an advisory committee from the Faculty of Education of the University.

HIGHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Higher Elementary Schools and Classes. On 31st December, 1927, there were forty-nine higher elementary schools—at Beaufort, Beechworth, Birchip, Boort, Bright, Camperdown, Casterton, Charlton, Chiltern, Clunes, Cohuna, Coleraine, Corryong, Daylesford, Dimboola, Donald, Eltham, Euroa, Foster, Gisborne, Hampton, Heathcote, Inglewood, Korumburra, Kyabram, Lilydale, Maffra, Mansfield, Mirboo North, Murtoa, Nathalia, Nhill, Numurkah, Orbost, Portland, Port Fairy, Rainbow, Rochester, Rushworth, Rutherglen,

Sea Lake, Seymour, Swan Hill, Terang, Traralgon, Werribee, Yarram, Yarrawonga, and Yea. During the term ended 31st December, 1927, there were in attendance at these schools 3,696 pupils, of whom 1,908 were boys and 1,788 were girls. Education in the higher elementary schools is free throughout the course, which extends over two or four years.

There were also thirty-five schools, principally in the metropolitan area—known as “Central” schools—in which a preparatory course of secondary education was provided. These were attended by 4,722 pupils in 1927.

The purpose of the district high school and the higher elementary school is to provide the essentials of a good general education for pupils who have completed the work of the sixth grade in elementary schools, and are likely to profit by a further course of study, and to give them, in the third and fourth years, a specialized training which will help to prepare them for their several careers in life. These schools thus form a link between the elementary school and technical institutions, or the University, or vocations that may be followed by pupils upon the completion of the course of study.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND ALLOWANCES TO PUPILS.

The Minister of Public Instruction awarded scholarships at the beginning of 1929 as under :—

No. and Kind.	Age Requirement of Candidates	Period of Tenure.	Annual Value.
100 Junior scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Under 14½ years	4 years	Free tuition at a district high school and £4 for school requisites, or £12 towards tuition fees and school requisites at an approved registered secondary school; also, in certain cases, up to £26 for maintenance or up to £5 for transit.
44 Senior scholarships open to candidates attending district high schools, technical schools, and registered secondary schools	About 18 years	3-6 years	£40 towards expense of a course at the University.
60 Teaching scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	14-17 years	3 years	As for Junior scholarships.
50 Junior Technical scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Under 14 years	3 years	Free tuition at a junior technical school and £4 for school requisites; also, in certain cases, up to £26 for maintenance or £5 for transit.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND ALLOWANCES TO PUPILS—*continued.*

No. and Kind.	Age Requirement of Candidates	Period of Tenure.	Annual Value.
105 Senior Technical scholarships open to candidates attending district high schools, junior technical schools, technical schools, and registered secondary schools	16-18 years	3-5 years	Free tuition for full length of approved courses at technical schools; also £30 in the case of day scholars and £10 in some and £5 in other cases of evening scholars. Exemption from payment of fees for lectures and examinations at University; also, in special cases, an allowance up to £50 for maintenance.
20 Free Places in agriculture, metallurgy, mining, or veterinary science at the University open to candidates attending district high schools, technical schools, and registered secondary schools	About 18 years	4-5 years	
50 Free Places in any course (other than dental science) at the University open to candidates attending district high schools, technical schools, and registered secondary schools	About 18 years	3-6 years	
5 Free Places in an approved course at the University open to officers (other than teachers) in the employment of the Government of Victoria	Under 25 years	3-4 years	
15 Free Places in the course for Arts, Commerce, Science or Education at the University open to certificated teachers of the Education Department	..	3-4 years	

In addition to these scholarships, there is a scheme whereby free tuition and allowances for school requisites up to £2 per annum and for maintenance up to £26 per annum or for transit up to £5 per annum may be granted to enable pupils who show special capacity and promise, and whose parents are in necessitous circumstances, to attend district high schools, higher elementary schools, schools of domestic arts, central schools, central classes and technical schools. Free tuition is allowed

also to children of deceased or totally and permanently incapacitated sailors and soldiers attending district high schools or technical schools.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION IN STATE SCHOOLS, 1923.

At the request of the Joint Council for Religious Instruction in Day Schools, Victoria, the Education Department sent out circulars to all the head teachers, and, as a result, the Council has been able to tabulate the following information relating to the year 1923 from the answers received:—

**Religious
Instruction in
State Schools.**

Number of schools which returned answers to circular	2,460
Number of schools receiving religious instruction ..	949
Number of schools not receiving religious instruction	1,511
(These are chiefly outlying schools of low attendance. The large technical schools are also included.)	
Number of instructors engaged	2,181
Number of scholars enrolled for religious instruction	122,598
Net enrolment for the 2,460 schools	218,835

Information relating to Melbourne and suburbs and the rest of Victoria is given below. The area included in Melbourne and suburbs is a radius of ten miles from the Elizabeth-street Post Office, and includes a few schools outside that radius, as far as Croydon and Mordialloc.

MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS.

Number of schools in which religious instruction is given	185
Number of instructors engaged	827
Number of pupils receiving religious instruction ..	64,322

REST OF VICTORIA.

Number of schools in which religious instruction is given	764
Number of instructors engaged	1,354
Pupils receiving religious instruction	58,276

The objective of the Joint Council is to obtain more instructors for those schools in the metropolis where the staffs are weak, and for the country schools where religious instruction is not given.

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

Technical schools. The whole of the technical schools in the State, prior to 1910, were under the control of local councils. Act No. 2301, passed in that year, provided for the schools being brought under the control of the Minister of Public Instruction. The Education Department, in all cases, retains the general direction of technical education. Regulations are issued defining the powers of the councils, allotting the Government grants, and providing for the instruction and examination of the students. The number of technical schools receiving aid from the State on 30th June, 1928, was 29, attended by 7,199 junior and 16,267 senior students.

The previous lack of organized method in preparing pupils for courses in technical schools largely neutralized the efforts of the instructors in these institutions. In order to overcome this difficulty, junior or preparatory technical schools have been established in connexion with all the higher technical schools. These schools offer a course of two or three years' instruction for boys between the ages of twelve and a half and fifteen years. Instruction in English subjects is carried on in conjunction with mathematics and the more technical subjects. The curriculum is designed to qualify for entrance to the senior schools. A large majority of the students doing full day diploma courses come from the junior technical schools, while nearly all the effective trade students attending evening classes are drawn from that source.

The aim of the Victorian technical schools is to provide vocational courses of training in industrial subjects, and, as far as possible, to provide for the training of the expert technologist. The various branches of engineering and its subdivisions, mining, metallurgy, technical and agricultural chemistry, subjects connected with the building trades (including architecture) and with other trades, applied art, commercial subjects and those connected with household economy are included in their syllabuses. Trade courses correspond to the period of apprenticeship, which extends over five years.

The larger technical schools, such as the Working Men's College, the Swinburne Technical College, and the Ballarat and Bendigo Schools of Mines, have an extensive curriculum embracing the most important industrial subjects. Of the smaller schools, some in country districts have courses in mining, metallurgy, and engineering subjects as well as courses in drawing and applied art work, while in a few schools the subjects taught are mainly drawing and art work. The only technical schools for women's industries are the College of Domestic Economy and the girls' junior

technical departments in the Swinburne, Ballarat, Prahran, Box Hill, and Brighton Schools.

The fees per term range from 10s. per subject to £35 per course of subjects per annum.

The following is a statement of the Government expenditure on each technical school during the five years ended 1927-28:—

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON TECHNICAL SCHOOLS,
1923-24 TO 1927-28.

Name.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1926-27.	1927-28.
	£	£	£	£	£
*Ararat	129	91	53	7	..
Bairnsdale	3,376	3,696	3,742	4,104	4,100
Ballarat	18,181	20,358	19,421	20,597	24,244
Beechworth	1,205	1,334	1,301	1,090	1,499
Bendigo	12,222	11,973	16,466	27,655	14,308
Box Hill	6,706	4,428	4,230	6,093	4,692
Brighton	16,169	13,675	14,303	19,523	14,311
Brunswick	8,590	10,467	11,649	11,206	12,556
Castlemaine	5,755	5,865	10,339	12,124	7,881
Caulfield	8,832	12,322	12,006	11,869	15,462
Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy	2,943	3,261	21,188	4,987	16,000
Collingwood	30,179	18,904	14,700	19,169	16,780
Daylesford	2,466	1,990	2,219	2,429	2,889
Echuca	2,607	4,438	8,400	3,426	3,366
Footscray	13,343	23,540	17,877	16,463	19,712
Geelong (Gordon Tech. Col.) ..	10,019	12,458	24,370	20,659	15,065
Glenferrie (Swinburne Tech. Col.)	21,728	20,540	20,840	25,842	24,824
†Horsham	6	..	..	..	..
Maryborough	5,604	5,439	6,729	12,420	15,692
Melbourne (Working Men's Col.)	33,434	35,277	40,575	40,376	44,246
Prahran	8,052	9,166	8,389	8,964	11,763
Richmond .. .. .	..	9,159	13,788	9,314	9,784
Sale	2,648	2,997	5,274	7,771	4,043
South Melbourne	9,014	9,982	10,340	13,208	13,119
Stawell	3,129	5,195	6,210	3,247	3,502
Sunshine	3,969	6,330	5,156	5,529	6,500
Wangaratta .. .. .	..	1,650	1,650	4,582	16,749
Warrnambool	5,433	8,107	13,658	5,819	5,891
West Melbourne	14,006	13,117	17,396	16,116	15,568
Wonthaggi	4,409	7,038	6,561	6,971	7,016
Yallourn .. .. .	..	..	..	..	698
Other votes for technical schools	3,741	4,768	4,758	4,968	5,478
Miscellaneous	3,070	5,326	7,889	5,829	4,681
Total	260,965	292,891	351,477	352,357	362,419

* Closed 31st August, 1926

† Closed 31st December, 1923.

College of
Dentistry and
Pharmacy.

Particulars relating to the Australian College of Dentistry and the Melbourne College of Pharmacy are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 516 to 519.

THE WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, MELBOURNE.

Working
Men's
College,
Melbourne.

The Working Men's College is a technical institution and school of mines, founded in 1887. It is open to all classes and both sexes, and supplies the higher technical instruction.

Its revenue is obtained from students' fees, supplemented by a Government grant. There are both day and evening courses.

Fees. All fees are payable in advance, and no refund is allowed. Examinations are held in November, and entrance to these examinations is free to students of the college attending the classes in which they present themselves for examination, provided they have made the necessary attendances, and completed sufficient Laboratory Work. The year is divided into three terms.

Fees Payable.

		Full Day Courses.			Fee.		
					£	s.	d.
Preparatory School for Diploma Courses—							
	First year	...	...	...			Free
	Second year	...	...	...			Free
Diploma Courses—Mechanical, Electrical, Municipal, Marine, and Mining Engineering—							
	First year	...	...	...	5	10	0 per term
	Second year	...	...	...	6	15	0 „
	Third year	...	...	...	8	0	0 „
Diploma Course—Metallurgy—							
	First year	...	...	...	5	10	0 „
	Second year	...	...	...	6	15	0 „
	Third year	...	...	...	8	0	0 „
Diploma Courses—Applied Chemistry—							
	First year	...	...	...	5	10	0 „
	Second year	...	...	...	6	15	0 „
	Third year (Inorganic Diploma)	...	...	...	8	0	0 „
	Fourth year (Organic Diploma)	...	...	...	8	0	0 „
	Carpentry Apprenticeship Course	...	...	...	3	15	0 „
Motor Mechanics Course—							
	First year	...	...	...	7	0	0 „
	Second year	...	...	...	7	0	0 „
	Woolsorting	...	...	...	8	0	0 „
	Art Course, Full Time	...	...	...	3	15	0 „
	„ „ Five Half-Days	...	...	...	3	0	0 „

Evening Classes.	Fee.
Arithmetic	} Various amounts ranging from 15s. upwards per term.
Algebra	
Geometry	
Trigonometry	
Graphical Algebra and Analytical Geometry	
Differential and Integral Calculus	
Practical Geometry	
Applied Mechanics	
Applied Electricity	
Heat Engines	
Architecture	
Building Construction	
Surveying	
Civil Engineering	
Hydraulics	
Chemistry	
Assaying	
Metallurgy	
Engineering Drawing	
Science, Trade, Commercial, Mining, and numerous other Subjects	
Evening Art and Applied Art Courses (Drawing, Design, Modelling, &c.)	30s. per term.
Preliminary Year for Courses for Experts' Certificates	35s. per term.
Courses for Experts' Certificates	From 40s. per term.

Special prizes are awarded to students annually. There is a prize to the best student in each year of the day courses, and to the best student in each of the evening classes. The Magee prize, of the annual value of £3, is awarded to the student who obtains highest marks at examination in the work of the senior mechanical drawing class. The Royal Victorian Institute of Architects awards prizes in the architecture and building construction classes, the Green Field Tap and Die Corporation gives a set of stocks and dies to the best student in fitting and turning, and Messrs Brown and Sharp give a set of fitter's tools to the best student in the second grade fitting and turning class, and a micrometer to the best student in milling. Several employers donate prizes, notably in the Printing and Plumbing trades.

The Beazley Bequest Scholarships, of which there are thirty-six of the value of £10, £12, £15, and £25, according to grades, are awarded annually for trade subjects. The Arnot and Colin Thompson scholarships cover five years' free instruction in the day courses. Five Entrance Scholarships, value £11 each, are awarded to the carpentry apprenticeship course of one year, and twenty-five, value £4 to £8, to the commercial day classes. There are six scholarships available annually to students in the Preparatory School and tenable

at the Diploma Courses, value £60 each. There are also numerous Government Scholarships available to students and tenable at the College or the University.

The receipts from the Government in 1928 amounted to £37,719.

About 180 classes are held in the following departments :—Commercial, Elocution and Music, Mathematics, Engineering and Science, Architecture, Chemistry, Mining and Metallurgy, Art and Applied Art, Rural Industries, and Trade Courses. The work is divided into—(1) day courses, and (2) evening courses and classes. In the day school students are prepared for the higher positions of industrial life in the following complete courses :—(1) Mechanical Engineering, (2) Electrical Engineering, (3) Civil Engineering, (4) Mining Engineering, (5) Metallurgy, and (6) Applied Chemistry—(organic and inorganic). To students who complete any of the above courses, pass the necessary examinations, and produce evidence of having obtained twelve months' approved practical experience, the Diploma of "Associateship" of the College is issued. The entrance standard for these courses is the Intermediate Certificate or the completion of a two years' course in the College Preparatory Technical School. The preparatory school bridges the gap between the Merit Certificate and the entrance to the Diploma Courses. It also gives a two years' preparation for industrial life in town or country.

In the Applied Art School classes are held in the following subjects :—Drawing, Design, Modelling, Architecture, Building Construction, Geometrical Drawing, Practical Plane and Solid Geometry, Perspective, Blackboard Drawing, Still Life Painting, Anatomy, Figure Drawing, Figure Composition, Book Illustration, Lettering, Illuminating, Stencilling, Leather Embossing, Decorative Metalwork, Silver-smithing, Jewellery, Engraving, Die Sinking, Lead Glazing, Stained Glass, Plaster Casting, Signwriting, Ticket Writing, Lithography, Process Engraving, Textile Design and Weaving, and Decorative Needlework.

In the evening school the following courses for certificates are in operation :—Assayers, geologists, electrical engineers, civil engineers (municipal and hydraulic), mechanical and marine engineers, land surveyors, mechanical draughtsmen, public analysts, architects, carpenters, printers, signwriters and house decorators, plumbers, coach builders, and motor car body makers. Science, Art and Trade Courses are also available by correspondence. The following figures

give an indication of the comparative amount of work done at the College during the years 1924 to 1928 :—

STUDENTS AT WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE*, 1924 TO 1928.

	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Students enrolled—					
Average per term	2,511	2,629	2,608	2,610	2,825
Males over 21	571	568	530	550	548
" under 21—Apprentices ..	605	647	652	672	679
" " Others	1,059	1,099	1,102	1,112	1,350
Females	276	315	324	276	248
Fees received during the year† ..	£11,891	£12,933	£13,433	£12,856	£12,115
Average fee per student	94s. 8d.	98s. 5d.	103s.	98s. 6d.	85s. 9d.
Number of classes	177	176	176	175	179
" instructors	128	129	130	131	136
Salaries paid instructors	£27,241	£29,234	£31,149	£31,955	£36,118

* The Preparatory School of the College, in which there are 360 pupils, was made free by the Government as from the third term of 1927.

† Not including fees for correspondence courses, which amounted to £1,034 in 1924, £1,057 in 1925, £981 in 1926, £1,264 in 1927, and £1,255 in 1928. The subjects taught by correspondence are those included in the college curriculum.

LIBRARIES.

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF VICTORIA.

The buildings of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of Victoria cost £396,349. The funds were provided by the Government, as also were further moneys expended on maintenance (including salaries) and amounting, with the sum just named, to a total of £1,960,484 at the end of 1928. The Library consists of three distinct sections, viz. :— the Reference Library, the Lending Library, and the Country Lending Library. In regard to the Reference Library, the librarian reports that 8,443 volumes were purchased, 1,817 volumes presented, 266 volumes obtained under the "Copyright Act," and 50,346 newspapers added to the Library during the year 1928. At the end of that year the Reference Library contained 351,483 volumes. It is open to the public without payment on week days (Christmas Day, Good Friday and Anzac Day excepted) between the hours of 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. The Lending Branch, which is also free to the public, issued 204,066 volumes during 1928, the number of persons to whom the books were lent being 12,262. The number of volumes in the Lending Library at the end of the year mentioned was 54,107, of which 4,426 were added during the year.

The National Gallery at the end of 1928 contained 24,807 works of art, viz., 755 oil paintings, 5,558 objects of art, statuary, &c., and 18,401 water colour drawings, engravings, photographs, &c. It is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily on week days (Christmas Day, Anzac Day and Good Friday excepted),

and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. The school of painting in connexion with the institution was attended during the year by 35 students, and the school of drawing by 151 students. The income from the Felton bequest amounted to £28,000, which was available for expenditure on paintings, statuary, and other works of art.

**Industrial
Museum.**

The Industrial and Technological Museum occupies the whole of the first floor of the building facing Swanston-street. At the end of 1928 it contained more than 10,000 exhibits.

**National
Museum.**

The collection in the National Museum, formerly kept in a building situated on the grounds of the Melbourne University, is now located in the Public Library Buildings. It comprises natural history, geology, and ethnology. The National Museum is open to the public free of charge on all week days throughout the year, except Christmas Day, Anzac Day, and Good Friday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

**Patent
Office
Library.**

There is a free public library attached to the Department of Patents, which contains over 46,000 volumes, including specifications of inventions for which patents have been granted by the principal countries of the world, as well as Patents, Trade Marks, and Designs Acts and Regulations, and illustrated abridgments of inventions and official gazettes and indices.

The library also contains a comprehensive selection of scientific and technical works.

The library is open to the public on each week-day except Saturday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4.30 p.m., and on Saturday from 9 a.m. until noon.

A librarian is in attendance to facilitate searching through any section of the records.

**Supreme
Court
Library.**

The Supreme Court Library at Melbourne has nineteen branches in the assize towns. It is free to members of the legal profession between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., except on Saturdays, when it closes at noon. It is supported by fees paid under Acts of Parliament and Rules of Court for the admission of barristers and solicitors.

OTHER LIBRARIES.

**Free
Libraries.**

Most of the suburban and country libraries receive Government aid—the amount granted in 1927-1928 to free libraries and country museums having been £4,000. Of these libraries 418 furnished returns in 1928, which show that they possessed 964,568 volumes, and received £104,619 in revenue, that the total expenditure was £94,798—£16,562 on books, &c., and £78,236 on maintenance—and that 2,454,345 visits were paid to the 386 institutions which kept records of the attendances of visitors.

EXHIBITION BUILDINGS.

Exhibition
Buildings,
Aquarium,
and Museum.

The Exhibition Buildings, which are situated in the Carlton Gardens, Melbourne, when first opened for the purpose of an exhibition in October, 1880, occupied a total space of 907,400 square feet. The original cost of the permanent structure, temporary annexes, &c., was £246,365. After the close of the exhibition, on 30th April, 1881, the annexes were removed, and the permanent building was vested in trustees. Another exhibition was opened in the building on 1st August, 1888, to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the first Australian Colony. On that occasion a further sum of £262,954 was expended. At the close of the exhibition there was realized from the sale of various materials, including temporary annexes, a sum of £56,904.

The receipts for the twelve months ended 30th June, 1928, amounted to £9,185, consisting of rents £8,201, aquarium receipts £954, and other receipts £30. The expenditure totalled £11,093, viz. :—£1,817, expenses of the aquarium; and £9,276 for general maintenance, improvements to buildings, insurance and sundry expenses. There was an overdraft at the bank amounting to £2,897 at 30th June, 1928.

THE MELBOURNE BOTANIC GARDEN.

Botanic
Garden.

The Melbourne Botanic Garden, which was established in 1846, is situated on the south side of the Yarra, at a distance of about one mile from the city. The area of the garden proper is 102 acres, and includes lakes, lawns, groups, plantations, conservatories, &c. Associated with the Botanic Garden are the grounds of Government House, the Domain, the Alexandra Park and Gardens, and the Queen Victoria Gardens. The Botanic Garden and the Domain are administered by the Lands Department, the Government House Grounds temporarily by the Federal Government, and Alexandra Park and Queen Victoria Gardens solely by the Melbourne City Council. The whole reservation, probably the most valuable asset of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere, embraces an area of approximately 320 acres, and, in addition to the divisions mentioned above, includes the grounds and buildings of the Observatory and the National Herbarium.

Records of the commencement of the Gardens and their progress are to be found in the *Descriptive Guide to the Botanic Gardens*, published by the Government Printer and obtainable at a price of 6d. A reference to some of the principal features appears in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 525 to 527.

The Gardens are open to the public daily from 7 a.m. in summer and 7.30 a.m. in winter, and are closed at sunset.

ROYAL ZOOLOGICAL AND ACCLIMATISATION SOCIETY.

**Royal
Zoological
and Acclimatisation
Gardens.**

The gardens of the Royal Zoological and Acclimatisation Society of Victoria are situated in the centre of Royal Park, on the northern side of the city, nearly 2 miles distant from the Elizabeth Street Post Office, and can be reached by tramcars starting every few minutes from the lower end of Elizabeth-street, or by electric train to Royal Park Station. The West Brunswick electric trams from corner Collins and William streets run every few minutes, and it provides another facility for reaching the Gardens.

The ground enclosed contains 50 acres, rather more than half of which is laid out as a Zoological garden and the rest in deer paddocks, and spacious lawns for convenience of visitors. Most of the large animals of the world, such as the hippopotamus, giraffe, Indian elephant, &c., are exhibited there, as well as many native animals. The Patron of the Society is His Excellency the State Governor, and the Director is Mr. A. Wilkie.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA.

This society was founded in the year 1849 by John Pascoe Fawcner, and a brief statement of its history and of the work carried on by it appears in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 528 and 529. The membership subscription is 10s. per annum. Four shows are held each year, two in the autumn and two in spring. The members' monthly meeting is held on the second Thursday of each month.

The business of the society is vested in a committee, consisting of the president, four vice-presidents (two amateur and two professional), an honorary treasurer, and sixteen members (eight amateurs and eight professionals), the administrative work being conducted by the honorary secretary, Mr. Roy V. Mattingley, 8 Emily-street, Brighton.

**Other
Societies.**

There are about 40 other horticultural societies in the State, situated at Ballarat, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Kyneton, Mildura, Terang, Traralgon, and other centres.

PUBLIC RESERVES.

**Public
Reserves.**

The total area devoted to public reserves in Greater Melbourne in 1928 was 7,455 acres. A list of the public reserves in 1917, together with a statement of their respective areas, appeared in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 529 to 533.

A further statement showing the number and area of reserves in 17 of the largest towns outside Melbourne was given on page 533 of the same volume.

RELIGIONS.

At the end of 1928 there were in the State, according to returns received, 3,434 regular churches and chapels, and 1,552 other buildings where religious services were held—a total of 4,986 places of public worship—and these were attended by 2,337 regular clergymen. The following statement contains particulars in regard to the different denominations :—

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS, 1928.

Denominations.	Number of Clergy, Ministers, &c.	Buildings used for Public Worship.		
		Churches and Chapels.	Other Buildings.	Total.
Protestant Churches—				
Church of England ..	466	756	486	1,242
Presbyterian Church of Victoria	303	611	294	905
Free Presbyterian ..	3	7	3	10
Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland ..	1	1	..	1
Methodist	320	949	387	1,336
Independent or Congregational	67	75	6	81
Baptist	98	114	61	175
Lutheran	24	51	25	76
Salvation Army	515	149	21	170
Church of Christ	74	110	8	118
Church for Deaf Mutes ..	2	1	..	1
Free Christian	2	1	..	1
Other Protestant	22	32	18	50
Roman Catholic Church ..	408	566	240	806
New Church (or Swedenborgian)	1	2	1	3
Catholic Apostolic Church ..	9	1	..	1
Jews	6	4	2	6
Re-organized Church of Latter-Day Saints	12	3	..	3
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints	4	1	..	1
Total	2,337	3,434	1,552	4,986

The Sunday Schools of the various religious bodies numbered 2,990, and the teachers 24,053; the number of scholars on the rolls was 235,469—107,430 males and 128,039 females.

**Religions of
the people.**

The following table shows the principal religions of the people as ascertained at the census of 1921:—

**RELIGIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF VICTORIA AT THE
CENSUS OF 1921.**

Religion.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per cent. of Population.
Protestant Churches—				
Church of England	300,159	301,650	601,809	39·88
Protestant so stated	10,127	8,509	18,636	1·23
Presbyterian	125,741	131,331	257,072	17·04
Methodist	86,854	96,975	183,829	12·18
Independent or Congregational	7,175	8,718	15,893	1·06
Baptist	14,531	17,774	32,305	2·14
Lutheran	4,905	3,779	8,684	·58
Salvation Army	4,071	5,112	9,183	·61
Unitarian	253	173	426	·03
Church of Christ	9,862	12,388	22,250	1·47
Seventh Day Adventists	920	1,515	2,435	·16
Roman Catholic Church (including				
Catholic undefined, 6,847)	156,329	166,236	322,565	21·38
Other Christians	5,801	6,130	11,921	·79
Other Denominations—				
Jews	3,949	3,728	7,677	·51
Buddhist, Confucian, &c.	1,021	42	1,063	·07
Mohammedan	280	24	304	·02
Others (Non-Christian)	457	164	621	·04
Sceptics, &c.	8,334	3,991	12,325	·82
Total specified	740,769	768,229	1,508,998	100·00
„ unspecified	13,955	8,327	22,282	..
Grand Total	754,724	776,556	1,531,280	..

**Religions per
cent. of
population,
1871 to 1921.**

The next table shows the principal religions of the people per 100 of the population in the six census years 1871 to 1921:—

RELIGIONS OF THE PEOPLE PER 100 OF THE
POPULATION, 1871 TO 1921.

Religion.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1921.
Protestant Churches—						
Church of England (including Protestant so stated)	36·01	36·74	37·33	36·52	37·02	41·11
Presbyterian	15·78	15·65	14·94	16·16	18·27	17·04
Methodist	13·16	13·58	14·14	15·21	13·76	12·18
Independent or Congregational	2·54	2·35	1·98	1·45	1·28	1·05
Baptist	2·28	2·40	2·50	2·75	2·43	2·14
Lutheran	1·47	1·32	1·39	1·18	·91	·58
Salvation Army .. ..	..	..	1·21	·74	·61	·61
Church of Christ	·50	·57	·74	·90	1·29	1·47
Other Protestant Churches	·51	·37	·66	1·45	·78	·78
Total Protestant Churches	72·25	72·98	74·89	76·36	76·35	76·96
Roman Catholic Church	23·82	24·02	22·24	22·26	22·31	21·38
Jews	·50	·51	·58	·50	·49	·51
Others	3·42	2·49	2·29	·58	·85	1·15
Total specified	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

Friendly societies seem to have been established in Victoria very soon after the first settlement of the territory, but it was not until after the passing of the 1855 Act that any steps were taken for their registration as institutions recognized by law. That statute consolidated and amended the laws then in force relating to friendly societies, and was the first Act passed in this connexion by the Victorian Legislature after the separation of Victoria from New South Wales in 1851. It was assented to on 12th June, 1855. This Act provided for the appointment of a registrar, and also a certifying barrister, to whom the rules of a society had to be submitted for examination, and whose certificate, that such rules were in accordance with the law, was necessary before registration could be effected. It also provided that the tables of contributions should be certified by an actuary of an assurance company, or "some person" appointed by the registrar before the rules of the society could be registered.

Registration was not, however, made compulsory, and the actuarial certificate, given by the actuary appointed by the registrar under the provisions of the Act for this purpose, was only of a provisional nature, issued subject to the condition that the tables were to be submitted to him for approval after a certain period had elapsed. This temporary certificate was given because there were no data then available in Australia on which to calculate the amount necessary to provide the sickness benefits. As there was no power under the Act to compel a

society to apply to the actuary for a renewal of the provisional certificate when the time covered by that certificate had expired, the registration of these institutions was unfortunately permanently effected with rates of contribution which afterwards proved to be, in almost every instance, inadequate. The control exercised over friendly societies as a result of this legislation was very slight.

No further serious attention was given by the Government to friendly societies until 1875, when a Commission was appointed to inquire into "the working of the Friendly Societies Statute, the position and operations of the societies registered under it, and what amendment, if any, is desirable in the existing law." The outcome of this Commission was the 1877 Act, which provided (*inter alia*) for the appointment of a barrister of not less than seven years' standing as registrar, and also that each society should furnish returns annually to the Government Statist, and once at least in every five years should either have its assets and liabilities valued by a valuer appointed by the society or send such particulars to the Government Statist as would enable him to have the valuation made. The fees for valuation were purposely fixed at a low rate, and average less than two-pence per member, the result being that, although it is competent for the societies to employ outside valuers, should they so desire, as a matter of fact they have rarely done so, and nearly all the valuations have been made by the Government Actuary. The passing of this Act had the effect of considerably increasing the control exercised by the Government over the operations of friendly societies.

In accordance with its provisions, an actuary was appointed under the Government Statist in 1881, whose chief duty was to make periodical valuations of the assets and liabilities of societies, and the result of these valuations disclosed the fact that, in almost every instance, the rates then being paid by the members were insufficient to provide the benefits which the societies had by their rules agreed to pay. The Act gave no power to enforce payment of adequate rates of contribution, and the actuary could not therefore compel a society to take such steps as would enable it to meet its liabilities, but could only give advice as to the best means to be adopted to secure that end. It is only just to the managing bodies of these institutions, however, to state that most of the principal societies made a serious effort to carry out the suggestions of the actuary. Several of them passed rules requiring future members to pay adequate rates of contribution, and in nearly every case some effort was made to improve the financial position.

It was not until 1907 that registration of societies was made compulsory, and that they were required to adopt adequate rates of contribution in respect of all members, existing as well as new members. An Act which was passed in that year embodied these provisions, the

penalty for failure to adopt adequate rates of contribution being cancellation of registration. The operation of the Act, in so far as it related to the scale of contributions payable, was, however, limited to a period of eighteen months. This was a serious defect, as contributions which are sufficient at one time may at a future date become inadequate, owing to fluctuations in interest, sickness, or mortality rates or faulty management. To remedy this defect an amending Act was passed in the year 1911. This Act provides that, if a society receives two successive notifications from the Government Statist that its rates are inadequate, it must adopt adequate rates within twelve months of the second notification, otherwise its registration will be cancelled. There must be an interval of at least three years between the two notifications. It is expected that a society on receiving the first notification will take such steps to improve its position as will obviate the necessity for the second being issued.

The legislation which has been referred to has had a very beneficial effect. The latest valuation reports show that there are only two societies in Victoria with a ratio of assets to liabilities of less than 20s. in the £1, and in these two the ratios are 19s. 4d. and 18s. 8d. In Victoria the societies have received no subvention from the State.

On a valuation being made under the Friendly Societies Act of the assets and liabilities of a society the Government Statist may authorize the whole or any portion of any surplus of assets over liabilities thereby disclosed in respect to any one fund or benefit, to be used or applied in any manner for the purposes of the same or any other fund or benefit.

The *Statistics Act* 1915 provides that no person shall be appointed to the office of Government Statist unless he has passed the final examination of the Institute of Actuaries of Great Britain and Ireland or of the Faculty of Actuaries of Scotland, or examinations of an equivalent standard set and examined by the University of Melbourne. Since 1908, the year in which this legislative provision was made, all the actuarial valuations of the assets and liabilities of societies have been made by the Government Statist.

Central bodies of societies are empowered by statute to appoint auditors to audit and inspect the accounts and securities of branches at such time as the central body may direct. Every trustee, treasurer, secretary, chairman or member of the committee of management who takes any money or valuable thing in consideration of any benefit received or to be received by any member of an unregistered society is liable to a penalty of £50. The investment of funds on leasehold property is now illegal, but the power to invest is extended to any securities on which a trustee is under any Act

authorized to invest any trust funds in his hands. All loans on freehold property must be on first mortgage only, and are not to exceed three-fifths of the value as certified by a practical surveyor or valuer. The trustees are prohibited from investing on mortgage if the fee-simple of the property has been in the possession of a trustee or his wife during the previous five years. An Act passed in 1910 created a new stock for the special benefit of friendly societies, investment in which is optional and on which interest is payable at 4 per cent. The amount invested in the stock at the end of June, 1928, was £291,789. Prior to the year 1907 it was not lawful for a friendly societies dispensary to sell patent or other medicines to members of friendly societies or their relatives, but this restriction has been removed, so that all benefit members, who have paid the full subscription to the dispensary and the full amount payable to their society for medicines and medical appliances, may now be supplied with medicines for which payment is required.

The *Friendly Societies Act* 1915 consolidates all Acts passed up to 1914 inclusive. An Act passed in 1915—the *Friendly Societies Act* 1915 (No. 2)—gave power to societies to reinsure with the Government or with an approved life assurance company their liabilities to members who were engaged on naval or military service in connexion with the war. The number of societies which took advantage of the scheme was twelve, and the number of their enlisted members was about 15,120. The sum paid by them in sickness and mortality benefits on account of those members under the contracts which were reinsured was about £232,000, and of this sum £46,500 was reimbursed to the societies by the Government in accordance with the arrangement made with it.

An Act was passed in 1922 in relation to Dividing Societies, *i.e.*, friendly societies which divide the whole or a portion of their funds each year. Its principal provisions are (1) that no dividing society shall be established in future unless it limits its membership to the employees of a particular Government department, municipality, company, or other body, firm or person; and (2) that every existing dividing society, the membership of which is not limited in the manner indicated, is required to make application for renewal of registry each year. Should a society not make such application it ceases to exist. One of the conditions of renewal of registry is that the society shall forward to the Registrar an actuarial certificate that its rates of contribution are adequate to provide the benefits specified in its rules.

Under the *Friendly Societies Act* 1923, which was assented to on 2nd October, 1923, societies may provide for the payment of sums of money on the deaths of members, their husbands, wives, widows, children, or kindred up to an aggregate of £100 instead of sums for defraying the expenses of burial of members and the other persons

mentioned. Societies are also permitted to contract with a person for the payment of a maximum amount of sick pay of £3 per week. Previously the periodical payment was limited to £2 per week. Another important provision of the Act is that the Government Statist may make or cause to be made such inspection and examination of the books of a society or branch as he deems necessary.

The societies perform a function which cannot be carried out with the same success by other means—that of providing for the loss which would otherwise be sustained by the wage-earners of the community and those dependent on them, through illness or death. Their organization enables them to keep in touch with their members, to guard against malingering, and to perform satisfactorily a work which, on account of its peculiar nature, could not be attended to satisfactorily by institutions organized on the lines of the ordinary insurance company. Their main objects are to afford relief in sickness, and to provide a moderate payment on the death of a member or his wife. The usual sickness benefits are 20s. per week during the first six months of sickness, 10s. per week during the second six months, and 5s. per week thereafter so long as the sickness continues. The member has also the benefit of medical attendance and medicine for himself and his near relatives. A sum of £20 is usually payable on the death of the member, and £10 on the death of his wife should she predecease him. In pursuance of the provisions of the *Friendly Societies Act 1923*, referred to in a previous paragraph, members of some of the societies are now being given the opportunity to contribute for larger sickness and death benefits than those which have hitherto been provided. The benefits coming under the heading of medical attendance and medicine extend usually to the whole family, embracing in the general case member, wife, and children up to the age of 16 years in the case of males and 18 years in the case of females, widowed mother of unmarried member, and also widow and family after death of member on payment of medical fees.

The funds of the societies are divided into two or more portions. Of these the most important are the sick and funeral fund, out of which are payable the sickness and death benefits, and the medical and management fund, from which are taken the payments for medical attendance, medicines, and management expenses. The weekly contribution to the sick and funeral fund for the benefits above mentioned usually ranges from 6d. for entry ages 16 to 19 to 1s. for ages at entry 37 to 39. The contribution to the other fund is fixed irrespective of age at entry, the usual charge being from 9d. to 11d. per week, the rate varying according to the cost of medical benefits. The total sums payable by members thus ranges from about 1s. 3d. to 1s. 11d. per week. There are in addition small initiation fees, and, in some instances, registration fees for second wives.

**Progress of
friendly
societies.**

The total membership of Victorian friendly societies increased from 158,181 at the end of 1917 to 161,850 in the middle of 1928—an increase during the ten and a half years of 3,669 members.

There was a slight decline in the membership between the ends of the years 1914 and 1917 due to deaths of members while on active service and to the absence from Victoria of many young men who might otherwise have joined the societies. A marked decrease in the membership of nearly all societies occurred in 1918 and 1919—the decrease in the earlier year was 7,004 in male and 1,619 in female members, and in the later year 3,918 in male and 1,360 in female members. In 1920 there was a further decline of 757 male and 502 female members, making a total loss for the three years of 11,679 males and 3,481 females. This numerical decrease was principally due to a dispute between the British Medical Association and the societies which led to the resignation of nearly all the medical officers as from 1st February, 1918. A settlement of the dispute was arrived at in 1920. In 1921 numerical recovery set in. There was an increase during that year of 618 male and 181 female members, and in 1922 of 2,448 male and 420 female members. The membership continued to advance during the following five and a half years, 1st January, 1923, to 30th June, 1928, the increase for that period was 13,793 males and 1,369 females, making a total gain of 16,859 male members and 1,970 female members since the settlement of the medical dispute in 1920.

The funds increased during the ten and a half-year period 1918 to June, 1928, from £3,017,503 to £4,758,383, there being an addition of £1,740,880. They are well invested; the average rate of interest earned on the capital of the sick and funeral fund for the year 1927-28 was 5.63 per cent. There is a number of female societies, the particulars for which are included above. At the end of June, 1928, these had a membership of 11,664, and funds amounting to £114,627.

A table is appended showing the membership, revenue, expenditure, and total funds of friendly societies in Victoria during the five and a half years 1923-24* to June, 1928:—

Year.	Membership (end of year).	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Funds.
		£	£	£
1923-24*	153,840	1,193,550	905,296	3,838,052
1924-25	155,378	800,028	572,272	4,065,808
1925-26	157,820	820,550	605,958	4,280,400
1926-27	160,411	907,025	673,453	4,513,972
1927-28	161,850	951,700	707,289	4,758,383

* A period of eighteen months.

The statement which follows contains further information in regard to the societies for the five and a half years, 1923-24* to 1927-28 :—

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES, 1923-24* TO 1927-28.

(Including Female Societies.)

—	1923-24.*	1924-25.	1925-26.	1926-27.	1927-28.
Number of societies ..	60	58	62	59	59
Number of branches ..	1,469	1,470	1,467	1,473	1,481
Average number of members ..	150,264	154,609	156,599	159,115	161,130
Number of members sick ..	41,688	28,850	31,093	31,020	31,202
Weeks for which sick pay was allowed ..	405,245	268,209	281,377	294,879	315,827
Deaths of members ..	2,153	1,394	1,428	1,541	1,521
Deaths of registered wives ..	771	480	543	542	567
	£	£	£	£	£
Income of sick and funeral fund.. ..	584,487	412,979	426,893	444,566	460,873
Income of incidental fund ..	544,879	346,582	353,632	419,594	448,275
Other Income ..	64,184	40,467	40,025	42,865	42,552
Total Income ..	1,193,550	800,028	820,550	907,025	951,700
Expenditure of sick and funeral fund ..	383,454	218,829	240,732	301,958	318,449
Expenditure of incidental fund.. ..	465,739	317,737	323,716	332,220	350,011
Other Expenditure ..	56,103	35,706	41,510	39,275	38,829
Total Expenditure ..	905,296	572,272	605,958	673,453	707,289
Amount to credit of sick and funeral fund ..	3,442,561	3,636,711	3,822,872	3,965,480	4,107,904
Amount to credit of incidental fund ..	302,363	331,208	361,124	448,498	546,762
Amount invested—sick and funeral fund ..	3,371,784	3,566,778	3,753,701	3,884,515	4,060,692
Amount invested—incidental fund ..	299,777	324,652	353,577	440,355	524,742
Amount invested—other funds ..	89,033	92,277	92,436	96,603	98,379
Total invested ..	3,760,594	3,983,707	4,199,714	4,421,473	4,683,813
„ funds ..	3,838,052	4,065,808	4,280,400	4,513,972	4,758,383

* A period of eighteen months.

NOTE.—There are juvenile branches connected with some of the societies, but the information in regard to these has not been considered of sufficient importance to be included in the above table.

During the twelve months ended in June, 1928, the societies lost by secession 11,195 members, which was equal to a rate of 6.9 per cent.; this was slightly higher than the rates of 6.6 per cent. in 1926-27, and of 6.7 per cent. in 1925-26. The rate was 7.8 per cent. in 1921, 8.2 per cent. in 1920, 8.5 per cent. in 1919, 7.5 per cent. in 1918. These higher secession rates were due mainly to the dispute between the British Medical Association

Secessions
and expenses.

and the societies, which is referred to in a previous paragraph. They were due, in part, to a number of members, who had been on active service and whose contributions had been paid for them while absent from Australia, having failed to resume payment of contributions on their return. As a rule, most of the secessions are those of new members who allow their membership to lapse before they have time to appreciate its value. Expenses of management absorbed 19.8 per cent. of the contributions to all funds during the period 1927-28. This ratio is considerably below the usual rate in industrial assurance business. When it is remembered that the benefits and contributions are generally payable fortnightly and that this entails a great deal of administrative work, it will be seen that the rate of expense is very moderate.

An investigation was made into the sickness and mortality experience of three of the largest Victorian friendly societies for the period 1903-07. This relates to male lives only. Tables containing rates of sickness and mortality obtained by the investigation are given in the *Year-Book* for 1913-14.

The following statement shows the number of weeks' sickness experienced by male members of ordinary friendly societies in respect of which claims for sick pay were paid in 1914 (the last year unaffected by the war), 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919 (the years in which the full effect of the war was experienced), and 1924-25, 1925-26, 1926-27 and 1927-28 (years which were affected to only a very limited extent by the war); also the numbers of weeks' sickness per effective member and the numbers of deaths of male members of such societies in those years and the number per 1,000 effective members:—

Year.	Average Number of Effective Members.	Weeks of Sickness.		Deaths.		
		Number.	Number per Effective Member.	Number.	Number per 1,000 Effective Members.	
		Weeks.	Weeks.	Days.		
1914 ..	125,952	216,520	1	4	1,263	10.03
1915 ..	127,237	223,672	1	5	1,649	12.96
1916 ..	128,008	244,426	1	5	1,838	14.36
1917 ..	128,989	257,847	2	0	2,409	18.68
1918 ..	125,667	288,088	2	2	2,457	19.55
1919 ..	119,308	382,247	3	1	2,080	17.43
1924-25	123,505	247,524	2	0	1,296	10.49
1925-26	124,925	259,208	2	0	1,325	10.61
1926-27	126,637	272,000	2	1	1,443	11.39
1927-28	128,924	290,583	2	2	1,423	11.04

The large increase in the sickness rate of 1919 was due chiefly to members who had been on active service having deferred until their return to the Commonwealth their claims for sick pay for incapacity arising out of sickness experienced and wounds received during previous years. It was also due in part to the influenza epidemic of that year.

In the following table the mortality rates of three of the largest Victorian Friendly Societies in recent years are compared with the Australian population mortality rates according to the mortality table known as the "Australian Life Table (males) 1920-1922." This table is based upon the mortality experience of the Commonwealth of Australia for the years mentioned. The rates given are averages for five-yearly age groups which have as their centres the ages shown in the table. Those relating to friendly societies apply only to members who did not take part in the war.

Mortality compared with Australian Population Rates.

FRIENDLY SOCIETY MORTALITY RATES COMPARED WITH THOSE OF THE AUSTRALIAN POPULATION.

Age next Birthday. (1).	Mortality Rates per 100 Lives of—		Ratio of Col. (2) to Col. (3). Per cent. (4).
	Three large Friendly Societies, 1914-21. (2).	Australian Population, 1921. (3).	
18 .. .. .	.21	.23	91
23 .. .. .	.34	.32	106
28 .. .. .	.32	.37	86
33 .. .. .	.40	.43	93
38 .. .. .	.53	.54	98
43 .. .. .	.70	.72	97
48 .. .. .	.88	1.00	88
53	1.11	1.33	83
58	1.77	1.95	91
63	2.51	2.94	85
68	4.15	4.32	96
73	7.13	6.58	108
78	8.94	10.47	85
83	16.23	15.86	102
88	24.52	22.86	107
93	28.57	31.59	90
98	66.67	41.86	159

CONDITIONS OF LABOUR IN FACTORIES AND SHOPS.

**Labour
legislation.** The earliest attempt at regulating the conditions of labour in Victoria was made by the passing of an Act dated 11th November, 1873, forbidding the employment of any female for more than eight hours in any day in a factory. The same Act defined "factory" to be a place where not fewer than ten persons were working.

This small provision was administered by the Board of Public Health, and was followed, in 1885, by a much larger statute, providing for the registration of factories, their sanitation, fire escape, and guarding of machinery, and regulating the conditions of work generally to a much greater extent than formerly, besides providing for the closing of shops at fixed hours. These latter provisions were designed to give some relief to the employees, who could previously be kept at work in shops as long as their employers chose.

Since that year further legislative provisions have been made for the regulation of conditions of labour, and the community has gradually recognised the necessity of securing the health, comfort, and reasonable ease of the workers. The opposition, which was at first very strong, has gradually disappeared, until now it is safe to say that all sections of the community realize the humanitarian aspects of the movement, and have accepted the principle that the rights of work-people shall be conserved by law.

The interests of the factory worker as regards wages, personal safety, and health now receive a large amount of attention. Government inspectors prosecute employers wherever underpayment is found. They take proceedings also to carry out all the provisions of the factory laws. No one can occupy a factory unless the place is properly lighted and ventilated, has ample means of escape in case of fire, has all its machinery fenced and guarded, and has proper sanitary arrangements provided for both sexes. The Minister may now require the occupier of any factory, shop, or place to provide for the use of the employees a dining-room and a bath-room, and, for the use of the female employees, suitable sitting accommodation and a rest-room. The closing time of shops is carefully regulated. The hours of shop employees are restricted, and they must be given a half-holiday every week.

**Wages
Boards.** The Wages Board method of fixing wages and settling the conditions of employment had its origin in Victoria. It was introduced into an Act of Parliament in 1896 by Sir Alexander Peacock. The principle embodied in the British jury system that a man can only be tried by his peers is the essence of the Victorian Wages Board system. The Boards are composed of equal

numbers of employers and employees. The representatives are carefully chosen, so that every shade of interest in the trade shall be represented as fully as possible on the Board. The Board thus becomes a jury of trade experts, all of whom are versed in the requirements and intricacies of the trade they are dealing with.

An application for a Board in any trade which has not been brought under the Wages Board system can be made either by a Union or by a meeting of employees. Upon receipt of such an application the Minister usually orders the collection of figures to show the rates of wages, the average number of hours worked, the number of persons employed in the trade, and so on. If he finds that there is good reason therefor, the Governor in Council may appoint a Wages Board and define the scope of its operations. The Board consists of from six to ten members (half elected by employers and half by employees), who nominate some outside person as chairman; or, if no agreement can be arrived at as to such nomination, then the Minister appoints the chairman. The Board may fix the rates of payment either by piece-work or wages, or both; the maximum number of hours per week or per day for which such rates shall be paid; a higher rate for work done in excess of such maximum number of hours; the times of beginning and ending work, including the hours of each shift; a higher rate for work done outside such times; special rates for casual work in the case of any trade not usually carried on in a factory or shop, or for work done on Sundays and public holidays, and for time occupied in travelling to and from work; the day and latest hour when payment of wages is to be made, also what notice of termination of employment shall be given by either employer or worker; and the number of and the rates of pay to apprentices and improvers who may be employed. Casual work is now defined in the Act as work or labour during any week for not more than one-half of the maximum number of hours fixed by the Wages Board appointed to fix rates for the work in question.

By an amendment of the law made in 1922 the Boards are given power to provide that in trades carried on in factories or shops a person working fewer hours than those fixed for an ordinary week's work shall be paid from 33 to 50 per cent. above ordinary wages' rate for the first half of such week's work. For each hour worked beyond the aforesaid first half ordinary rates are payable up to but *not exceeding* the wage fixed by the Board for the full week's work.

By this provision the wages of an employee are stabilized as far as possible. Previously he could be employed on a systematic short time principle each week, and be paid only *pro rata* for the hours worked. As a safeguard against imposition on the part of the worker, he is not entitled to any wages if he refuses to complete the full number of hours fixed as a week's work.

By an amendment made in 1927 any Wages Board, in addition to exercising the powers conferred upon Wages Boards by the Factories and Shops Acts, when dealing with any question not covered by such powers may, by a unanimous decision of the Board, including the chairman, determine any matter whatsoever with respect to conditions of employment in any trade or branch or branches thereof, or in any group or groups of trades for which such Board has been appointed.

Under this provision if there is a unanimous decision, the Board may determine any matter whatsoever with respect to conditions of employment.

NEW BOARDS AND ALTERATION OF POWERS.

The powers conferred on the Governor in Council by the *Factories and Shops Act* 1920 to appoint Wages Boards without reference to Parliament were, during the year 1928, exercised in the following nineteen cases :—

Five new Boards appointed as follows :—

Gramophone Records Board.

Excavation or Road-work Board (appointed in lieu of the Excavation or Earthwork Board).

Knitting Trade Board (appointed in lieu of the Knitters Board and of the Country Knitters Board).

Laundry Workers Board.

Saltworkers Board.

Powers were extended in two cases :—

The Carpenters Board was given power to fix prices or rates for persons employed in the process, trade or business of fixing metal ceilings or laying wood block or parquet flooring.

The Furniture Board was given power to fix prices or rates for persons employed in—

(a) fixing or repairing new or second-hand furniture or seating in buildings ;

(b) French, wax or lacquer polishing new or second-hand furniture or fittings in or in connexion with buildings.

Powers were varied in five cases :—

Charworkers Board.—To make it clear that persons subject to the Determination of the Boarding Houses Board were not under the Charworkers Board.

Law Clerks Board, Sand-pit Board, Wicker Board, Wire Fence and Tubular Gate Board.—New powers in lieu of those previously held were given to these Boards.

Piecework :—

78 Boards have exercised the powers given them in connexion with piecework as follows :—

38 Boards have fixed a schedule of piecework rates.

25 Boards have given power to the employer to fix and pay piecework rates, to be based on the Board's minimum wage and the earnings of an average worker working under like conditions.

15 Boards have exercised both the above powers.

On 31st December, 1928, there were 187 Wages Boards existent or authorized, affecting about 207,000 employees.

A Wages Board, having been constituted, meets (until the first Determination is made) as often as it chooses, usually once a week, at the Factories Office. An officer of the Department of Labour acts as secretary. The chairmen and members of Boards are paid as follows :—

Three hours' attendance or less—Chairman, 15s. ; member, 7s. 6d.

Over three hours' attendance—Chairman, 30s. ; member, 15s.

Any member residing 10 miles or more from Melbourne is paid, in addition, train fares and 15s. per day expenses.

Provided that members are not to be paid fees, fares, or expenses for more than—

(a) Ten meetings in the first twelve months after the constitution of the Board.

(b) Six meetings in any subsequent year.

When computing the time occupied in attendance, intervals for meals are not to be counted.

After a Determination has been arrived at it is sent to the Minister of Labour and gazetted, and it thereupon becomes law. It is then the duty of the officers of the Department of Labour to enforce it. Where the Minister considers that any breach of the law is trivial, or has occurred through a mistake, he administers a warning ; in more serious cases he orders a prosecution. The prosecutions are carried out by the officers of the Department of Labour, without expense to the worker, and on a conviction being obtained the Court may make an order for arrears of wages, that may be due for any period not exceeding twelve months, to be paid. It is, however, open to any worker, if he has made demand in writing on the employer within two months from the date same became due, to sue in a civil court for the amount of wages owing to him.

WEEKLY HOURS FIXED BY WAGES BOARDS.

Wages Boards, when fixing weekly wages, also determine the maximum number of hours for which such weekly wages shall be payable and provide overtime rates for time worked in excess of the number of hours fixed.

The following figures show the range of hours adopted by such Boards, viz. :—

- 5 Boards have fixed fewer than 44 hours ;
- 41 Boards have fixed 44 hours ;
- 11 Boards have fixed 45 to 47 hours ;
- 112 Boards have fixed 48 hours ; and
- 3 Boards have fixed more than 48 hours.

Appeals. Provision has been made in the law for the constitution of a Court of Industrial Appeals for deciding all appeals against a Determination of a Wages Board, and for dealing with any Determination of a Wages Board referred to the Court by the Minister. Seventy-five applications have been made for alteration of Determinations by the Court. Since 1st January, 1915, it has consisted of a President and two other persons. The President, who must be a Judge of the Supreme Court, holds such office for such period as the Governor in Council thinks fit, and must sit in every Court of Industrial Appeals. Mr. Justice C. J. Lowe has been appointed President. The other members can only act in the Court for which they are appointed, and one must be a representative of employers and the other a representative of employees. Each must be nominated in writing by the side which he represents, and must have been *bonâ fide* and actually engaged in the trade concerned for at least six months during the three years immediately preceding his nomination. When an appeal is made to the Court nominations to enable the Court to be constituted must be made within twenty-one days. If default is made for fourteen days in nominating an eligible person to represent the employers or employees the President alone shall constitute the Court. Subject to the Act a majority decision decides every reference to the Court. Since its re-constitution in 1915 it has dealt with thirty-eight cases. A determination of the Court may now be altered by the Wages Boards without the leave of the Court if a period of more than twelve months has elapsed since the date of the last Determination of the Court.

During the year 1928 Determinations made by 172 Boards appointed under the Act were in force. The following statement shows the average weekly wage paid to employees in certain trades before the first Determination was made, and under Determinations of Wages Boards in 1914 and in 1928:—

Trade.	Average Weekly Wage Payable to all Employees.					
	Before First Determination was made.		In 1914.		In 1928.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Aerated Water	1	6 7	1	17 8	3	15 7
Agricultural Implements	1	19 5	2	10 1	4	10 9
Asphalters	2	2 10	2	13 8	4	14 4
Bedsteadmakers	1	12 2	2	9 6	4	10 10
Boot	1	3 2	2	1 7	3	9 7
Bread	1	12 6	3	2 7	5	12 1
Brewers	1	14 4	2	10 2	5	6 1
Brushmakers	1	3 1	2	4 9	3	14 11
Candlemakers	1	4 8	2	4 2	4	0 4
Carpenters	2	7 6	3	3 10	5	10 6
Clothing	1	0 0	1	6 9	2	18 4
„ Waterproof	1	2 3	1	17 4	2	17 6
Commercial Clerks	1	10 7	2	9 6	3	14 11
Coopers	1	15 7	3	6 3	6	4 11
Engravers	1	16 11	2	5 11	3	18 2
Farriers	1	15 2	2	4 5	5	3 3
Furniture Trade—						
(a) European (Cabinet making &c.)	1	9 1	2	5 10	4	2 1
(b) European (Mantelpieces) ..	1	13 6	2	9 7	4	17 11
Glassworkers	1	14 11	2	7 3	4	19 1
Hairdressers	1	2 9	2	2 7	3	18 6
Ice	2	10 3	3	4 7	6	1 10
Jewellers	1	13 10	2	9 8	4	4 0
Lift Attendants	1	5 2	2	7 8	4	9 6
Malt	2	1 1	2	17 1	5	9 7
Marine Store	1	5 7	2	5 0	4	6 10
Millet Broom	1	7 11	2	2 9	4	13 11
Painters	2	0 9	2	14 11	5	8 4
Picture Frame	1	3 11	1	19 9	4	1 1
Plate Glass	1	7 6	2	5 11	4	15 10
Plumbers	1	12 8	2	14 4	5	10 9
Pottery	1	8 1	2	0 8	3	17 8
Saddlery and Harness	1	7 1	2	2 11	4	14 11
Shops Board No. 1—(Boot Dealers)	1	6 11	2	0 11	3	4 6
Shops Board No. 3—(Butchers) ..	1	17 8	3	1 2	4	10 8
Shops Board No. 15—(Grocers) ..	1	7 4	2	6 8	4	0 5
Slaters and Tilers	2	0 8	3	7 3	5	15 5
Starch	1	0 9	2	0 6	4	14 6
Stonecutters	1	15 11	3	2 0	5	8 3
Tanners	1	11 9	2	10 6	4	7 4
Watchmakers	1	14 2	2	19 2	4	12 5
Wicker	1	2 11	2	2 4	3	17 10
Woodworkers	1	13 2	2	11 9	4	15 0
„ Country	2	9 0	2	14 11	4	17 8

Apprentices. The wages of apprentices in Victoria are fixed by the Wages Boards in each trade. These Boards also prescribe the form of indenture and the term of apprenticeship. Once a boy is indentured, it becomes the duty of the Department of Labour on the one hand to see that he is taught his trade properly, and on the other to enforce his proper attendance at his work, and generally to protect both parties and see that they carry out the agreement.

Under the *Apprenticeship Act* 1927, No. 3546, the Apprenticeship Commission of Victoria was appointed. It consists of five members, two representatives of employers and two of employees, with an independent chairman with definite powers to administer the Act. The Commission will be assisted by expert trade or advisory committees appointed for any trade or group of allied trades declared to be "skilled trades" under the Act. The Commission will have full control as to the number of apprentices in apprenticeship trades, and to make provision so that they will be properly indentured, registered, and taught their trades.

The Plumbing and Gasfitting trades were proclaimed on 10th October, 1928, as apprenticeship trades under the Act and a trade committee appointed to confer with the Commission in preparation of draft regulations and to assist in the supervision and administration of the Act. Other trades proclaimed on 28th November, 1928, as apprenticeship trades under the Act were Carpentry and/or Joinery; Painting, Decorating and/or Signwriting; and Plastering. Trade committees for these trades have been appointed.

Factories. A factory is defined to mean any place in which four or more persons, other than a Chinese, or in which one or more Chinese are employed in any handicraft, or in preparing articles for trade or sale; or any place in which one or more are employed, if motive power be used in the preparation of such articles, or where furniture, bamboo goods, or wicker goods are made, or where bread, pastry is made or baked for sale, or where any confectionery or cereal food for human consumption is prepared or manufactured for trade or sale, or in which electricity is generated or mechanically transformed for the supply of heat or light, or power, or in which coal gas is made; and also any clay pit or quarry worked in connexion with and occupied by the occupier of any pottery or brickyard. The expression "handicraft" includes any work done in a laundry or in dyeworks. Provision is made for the registration of factories, and inspectors are appointed to inspect and examine them in order to insure that the health requirements and other provisions of the Acts are complied with. The employment of males under 14 and females under 15 years of age is debarred, but provision is made by which a girl of 14 can

receive permission to work in a factory if it be shown that the parents are poor, and that the best interests of the girl will be served. A strict limitation is placed on the hours of employment of all females and of males under sixteen. There are special provisions to guard against accidents, and persons in charge of engines and boilers must hold certificates of competency of service. The working hours of Chinese are specially restricted, with the object of preventing or lessening unfair competition. Every employee in a factory must be paid at least 2s. 6d. per week, this provision being, of course, intended as a protection for juvenile workers. All earnings must be paid at least once in every fortnight. There were registered in 1886 only 1,949 factories, with 39,506 employees, whereas in 1928 the figures were 11,135 factories, with 137,244 employees.

Factory legislation. The *Factories and Shops Act* 1915, No. 2650. No changes were effected in the law by this measure. The existing Acts were merely consolidated.

The *Factories and Shops Act* 1919 (No. 3048), passed at the close of the year 1919, made some important changes in the law, but it consists mainly of machinery clauses designed in the interests of the smooth working of the law.

Two short Amending Acts passed at the close of the year 1920 made important alterations in the law.

The *Factories and Shops Act* 1920, No. 3093, altered the procedure regarding the appointment of Wages Boards. Prior to that Act coming into operation these Boards could only be created whilst Parliament was in session. The Governor in Council now has the power to appoint a Wages Board whenever it is deemed expedient to do so, and to alter the scope of any existing Wages Board.

The *Factories and Shops Act* 1920, No. 3112, introduced a new principle into the legislation. For many years the closing hour of shops has been fixed by law. This Act for the first time fixed a legal opening hour which affects butchers' shops in the Metropolitan District.

Act of 1922. The *Factories and Shops Act* 1922, No. 3252, made some important alterations, the principal of which are as follows :—

A new scale of fees was fixed for registration of factories and shops, which resulted in an increase in revenue nearly sufficient to cover the whole cost of the administration of the Department of Labour.

The powers of Wages Boards were simplified and consolidated.

Rates for casual workers in factories and shops were put upon a different basis with a view to the stabilizing of the weekly wage.

The appointment of members of Wages Boards was simplified. Members had previously been appointed for three years, and much trouble was caused in getting new nominations at the date of expiry of each Board. Now Boards are appointed for one year, and every Board expires on the 30th September of each year, but will be automatically re-appointed unless objection is lodged. The result has been a saving of much time and expense as very few objections have been received.

The Minister now makes all appointments to fill vacancies instead of the Governor in Council.

The Governor in Council has now power to exempt new industries from the provisions of Wages Boards for six months, to enable operatives to learn their work.

Bread may now be sold at any hour of the day or night.

The provisions of the Act relating to the guarding of dangerous machinery have been extended so that chaffcutting machines on farms or elsewhere may be guarded for the protection of the workers.

Boards are empowered to fix what notice shall be given by either side of the termination of employment, also to fix the day and latest hour on which wages shall be paid.

The *Factories and Shops Act* 1927, No. 3573, made many alterations in the law which will be of considerable value to the general community, and in effective administration by the Department.

The definition of what constitutes a factory has been widened considerably.

A registered pharmaceutical chemist is given a legal right to dispense prescriptions at any hour.

Any person who posts any bill on any wall, fence or hoarding between the hours of six o'clock in the evening and six o'clock the following morning is liable to a penalty of not more than £10.

The hours for opening and closing shops in the farriers' trade are regulated.

The penalties for repeatedly breaking the law for late trading by shop-keepers have been considerably increased.

The hours of closing for hairdressers and tobacconists in the Metropolitan District have been brought into line.

In order to effectually prevent the delivery of bread on the bread-carters' holiday the baking of bread from 12 noon on the day before the holiday to 6 p.m. on the holiday is prohibited.

Provision is made for the constitution of a Wages Board for employees in the laundry trade, no determination of which is to apply to any person who is an inmate of any institution conducted in good faith for religious or charitable purposes.

In order to secure a uniform definition of "accident" throughout Australia, and thus enable statistics to be prepared on a uniform basis, the Federal and State Conference on Industrial Hygiene recommended an alteration providing for the reporting of an accident which prevented an employee returning to work within 24 hours. The Victorian Act fixed the period of absence at 48 hours. This alteration brings the Victorian law into line with the laws of most of the other States.

Formerly petitions regarding closing hours of shops required the certificate of the municipal clerk of the locality to be affected. This has been altered and this duty is now imposed on an officer of the Department of Labour.

The Act formerly required any person who employed outworkers to keep a record of work done by them and forward a copy of same whenever demanded by the Secretary for Labour. The law has been tightened up by making it necessary for the employer to send this information monthly to the Department.

Briefly stated, the hours for closing of shops in the Metropolitan District, as defined in the *Factories and Shops Act 1915*, are as follows:—From the 1st February, 1928, Hairdressers' shops and Tobacconists' shops must be closed on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 7 p.m., on Friday at 9 p.m., and on Saturday at 1 p.m. Butchers' shops are required to close at 5 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, at 6 p.m. on Friday, and at 12.30 p.m. on Saturday. They are required to be closed till 6 a.m. on Saturday and 7.30 a.m. on other week days. All other shops (except Fourth Schedule shops) must be closed at 6 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. On Friday the closing hour is 9 p.m., and on Saturday 1 p.m.

**Shops,
Metropolitan
District.**

The Fourth Schedule shops are :—

- Bread shops.
- Booksellers' and news agents' shops.
- Confectionery and pastry shops.
- Cooked meat (other than tinned meat) shops.
- Eating-houses.
- Fish and oyster shops.
- Flower shops.
- Fruit and vegetable shops.

The hours for closing such shops are not fixed by the Act, but the Governor in Council is given power to make Regulations for their closing. Section 2 of Act No. 3181, which came into force on 29th August, 1922, provides that such Regulations shall not apply to fruit shops in the area enclosed by Flinders, Spencer, Latrobe, Victoria, and Spring streets, Melbourne.

The following are the only cases where these Regulations have been made. The hour of closing on each day of the week is given :—

---	Regulation Gazetted.	Sun.	Mon.	Tu.	Wed.	Th.	F.	Saturday.
Booksellers and News Agents	18th May, 1927	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
		..	8	8	8	8	9.30	1 and may re-open from 4 to 10 p.m. 1
Cooked Meat (other than tinned meat)..	27th October, 1920	..	6	6	6	6	9	1
Fruit and Vegetable (May to September inclusive only. See previous paragraph re exempted area)..	16th October. 1918	..	7	7	7	7	..	..

Under the provisions of the *Factories and Shops Act* 1915 the Minister can grant permission to keepers of certain shops known as "small shops," who would ordinarily be required to close their shops at 6 p.m., to keep open till 8 p.m. Such permission can only be granted to widows and old people, or in cases of great hardship, and applies only to the Metropolitan District.

Provision is also made under the Acts for overtime and tea money for shop employees.

The shops provisions of the Acts now apply to the whole State. Previous to 1st January, 1915, they did not apply to shires or portions of shires unless the shopkeepers therein had petitioned for them to be extended, and there was little uniformity throughout the Country Districts either as to the hours

**Shops outside
the Metropolitan
District.**

of closing shops or the observance of a weekly half-holiday. A universal Saturday half-holiday was legalized by Act No. 2558, passed in November, 1914, the shops being allowed to remain open till 10 p.m. (now altered to 9 p.m.) on Fridays, and the Country Districts were thus brought into line with the Metropolitan District, in which the Saturday half-holiday had been observed for years. In certain cases an exemption may be petitioned for and the half-holiday fixed for a day other than Saturday. From 30th June, 1928, the portion of the section giving this power was repealed by section 10 of the *Factories and Shops Act 1927*.

The hours of closing *on other days* outside the Metropolitan District are fixed at 7 p.m., but, if a petition be received from a majority of any class of shopkeepers, they may be fixed earlier or later. The hours have been altered in accordance with this provision in a few municipalities. From 1st February, 1928, hairdressers and tobacconists in the cities of Ballarat, Bendigo, Warrnambool, the Geelong District, and the Boroughs of Eaglehawk and Sebastopol are required by section 11 of the *Factories and Shops Act 1927* to close at 7 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 10 p.m. Friday, and 1 p.m. Saturday. Hairdressers and tobacconists in other parts of Victoria, outside the Metropolitan Districts may choose either Wednesday or Saturday as the day on which they will observe the half-holiday, but, if they choose Wednesday, they are required to close at 7 p.m. on Friday and 10 p.m. on Saturday. If they choose Saturday, or do not make a choice of half-holiday, they are required to close at 7 p.m. on Wednesday and 10 p.m. on Friday. Fourth Schedule shops are not affected by these provisions. Petrol may be sold at any hour to travellers to enable them to continue their journey.

Registration of shops became compulsory as from 1st **Registration of** March, 1915. The registration fee formerly ranged from **shops.** 2s. 6d. to 63s., according to the number of persons employed, but from 1st March, 1923, it has varied from 2s. 6d. to £10 (Act 3252, Sec. 4). During the year 1915, 26,401 shops, employing 25,632 persons, were registered, whereas in 1928 the figures were 36,590 shops, with 41,387 employees.

Registered shops are divided into 27 classes. There was an increase for the year 1928 as compared with 1927 of 901 shops and

1,033 employees. Particulars of the increases and decreases in shops registered are given below:—

INCREASES AND DECREASES IN SHOPS REGISTERED, 1928.

	Metropolitan and Provincial Cities.		Country.		Whole State.	
	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
Bread	123	..	152	..	275	..
Confectionery and Pastry	20	..	..	15	5	..
Booksellers, News Agents						
Fancy Goods Dealers						
Boot Dealers .. .. .	..	15	9	..	..	6
Boot Repairers	37	..	..	12	25	..
Butchers	43	..	..	10	33	..
Chemists	14	..	26	..	40	..
Crockery .. .. .	..	1	1	..	..	..
Cycle and Motor	65	..	84	..	149	..
Dairy Produce and Cooked						
Meat	16	..	8	..	24	..
Drapery .. .. .	..	29	34	..	5	..
Fish	57	..	..	2	55	..
Florists	46	..	..	11	35	..
Fruit and Vegetable .. .. .	..	42	..	35	..	77
Fuel and Fodder	49	..	13	..	62	..
Furniture .. .. .	..	33	..	1	..	34
Grocers	58	..	48	..	106	..
Hairdressers	83	..	49	..	132	..
Hardware .. .. .	..	4	..	3	..	7
Jewellery .. .. .	..	6	..	9	..	15
Leather Goods .. .. .	..	15	..	18	..	33
Men's Clothing .. .. .	..	23	8	..	..	15
Musical Instruments .. .. .	..	62	..	7	..	69
Tobacconists	62	..	22	..	84	..
Mixed .. .. .	..	5	..	55	..	60
Shops not classified	96	..	91	..	187	..
Totals	769	235	545	178	..	..

GOVERNMENT LABOUR EXCHANGE.

Prior to 1st October, 1900, two labour bureaux were administered by the Railway Department. One registered men in search of work, and distributed all Government work, each Department paying the cost. The other was a Railway Staff Office, regulating and distributing all temporary and casual railway employment. Both these are now administered by an exchange under the control of the Labour Department, where applicants are registered for temporary or casual employment, principally as artisans

**Government
Labour
Exchange.**

and labourers on Government works, including railways. Men are supplied, when work is available, according to their order of registration, subject to fitness. The Exchange also undertakes to supply workmen for private employment, and advances railway tickets to deserving applicants who may themselves have obtained employment in country districts, which they would otherwise be unable to reach, these advances being subject to orders for repayment out of earnings.

The following is a summary of the operations of the Exchange for the year 1928 in respect to registrations and applicants sent to employment :—

GOVERNMENT LABOUR EXCHANGE.

Year and Month.	Number of Applicants for Work remaining on the Register at the end of each Month in the Metropolis.	Total Number of Men for whom Employment was Obtained in the Metropolis and Country.
1928—January	3,814	271
February	4,254	262
March	3,603	158
April	3,704	141
May	4,689	231
June	4,733	572
July	5,559	619
August	4,400	291
September	3,378	190
October	3,531	193
November	2,211	175
December	1,732	165
Total .. ..	..	3,268

In the next table particulars are given of the operations of the Exchange during the five years ended 1928 :—

Year.	Registrations Effected.		Engagements Effected.
	In the City.	In the Country.	
1924	13,504	526	2,550
1925	25,727	1,311	3,068
1926	28,400	2,250	4,949
1927	41,815	3,340	5,672
1928	40,636	2,314	3,268

Regarding the number of distinct individuals included in the registrations and engagements effected, the officer in charge of the Exchange states that the number of men who are regular applicants at the Exchange is very considerable, especially amongst unskilled labourers, and consequently a large allowance must be made for duplication of registrations. Of the total 40,636 city registrations last year, 25,683 were effected by men registering for the first time. In connexion with the engagements effected in the course of a year, allowance must be made for the fact that the same applicants may be employed more than once during the year and also to the fact that the figures quoted do not include the big numbers of labourers engaged "on the job" for Government earthworks in the country.

During the year 1928 the number of railway tickets advanced was 3,746, valued at £3,634, of which £3,109 has been refunded. During the past twenty-seven years 81,640 railway tickets have been advanced, of the value of £69,698, of which £50,122 has been refunded.

REPATRIATION.

On 8th April, 1918, Repatriation became an Australian national undertaking for the provision of benefits for Australian soldiers, sailors and nurses who served in the great war. On that date the Commonwealth Government established the Department of Repatriation, with (the late) Senator the Hon. E. D. Millen as first Minister. Its objects are to find employment for the fit, to re-establish the disabled, to provide for the dependants of those who have died and of those who are no longer able, in consequence of war disabilities, to support themselves, and to supply medical and surgical treatment for disabilities due to or aggravated by war service.

Organization of Department. A description of this is given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, page 369.

The *Year-Book* for 1920-21 contains, on pages 383 to 385, an epitome of the main work of the Department, also particulars of the sustenance rates granted to applicants awaiting fulfilment by the Department of certain specified obligations, and of the rates of pension payable to ex-members of the Forces and their dependants.

Administration of Department. The administration of the Department has rested with the Repatriation Commission since 1st July, 1920, and its Head-quarters Office is at Commonwealth Offices, Post Office Place, Melbourne. The present Minister in charge of Repatriation is the Hon. Frank Anstey, M.H.R. The Victorian branch office is in St. Kilda-road. The personnel of the Commission is Colonel

J. M. Semmens, O.B.E., V.D., J.P. (Chairman), Lieut.-Colonel L. E. Tilney, D.S.O., V.D., and Major M. B. Ryan. Mr. C. B. W. Smith is secretary. The Deputy-Commissioner for Victoria is Mr. J. C. McPhee.

The operations of the Repatriation Commission are conducted under the Australian Soldiers Repatriation Act.

A Repatriation General Hospital (Caulfield), Macleod Repatriation Sanatorium (Mont Park), Anzac Hostel (Brighton), Out-patient Clinic (St. Kilda-road), and Commonwealth Artificial Limb Factory (South Melbourne) are conducted.

The activities of the Department include the administration of a wide variety of benefits, such as employment, vocational training, medical treatment, children's education, land settlement and assistance. Under "assistance" establishment in small businesses, furniture loans and grants, educational grants, equipment with tools of trade, and funeral expenses are provided. With the progress of time, the great majority of the ex-soldiers have become re-established in the community, and the benefits of assistance to establish small businesses, to secure furniture and tools of trade are now required only in very few cases. Also, vocational training is nearly completed, and with few exceptions, trainees have been absorbed in their respective callings. In co-operation with the State Governments a land settlement scheme was devised, whereby the Federal Government lent the States money to provide the required holdings and to construct railways or other works necessary to their successful operation. Under this scheme the Commonwealth Government also made available an average grant of £625 per settler. This afforded every ex-soldier possessing the natural aptitude and fitness an opportunity of ultimately owning his own farm. With the exception of South Australia, all the States agreed to extend the benefits of the Land Settlement scheme to persons who were munition or war workers, and the Commonwealth Government's advance of £625 will be available for such persons. This scheme is closed by the operation of a time limit.

In 1929 the main activities of the Repatriation Commission were confined to all matters pertaining to granting, reviewing, and assessing war pensions; medical treatment, which includes medical benefits to widows and orphans of deceased soldiers and widowed mothers of deceased unmarried soldiers, and the provision and renewal of artificial limbs and surgical aids; the granting and reviewing of Living Allowances; and the administration of the Soldiers' Children Education Scheme.

Despite the progress of time and the fact that an ex-soldier may not have previously applied for medical benefits, the Repatriation Commission at all times is ready to investigate the causation of any

physical incapacity and its attributability to war service. Treatment and artificial limbs and surgical aids are provided without cost to the ex-soldier.

Adequate arrangements still exist for the treatment of ex-soldiers of the Commonwealth suffering from disabilities who are resident in the British Isles, Canada, South Africa, New Zealand, Newfoundland, and the United States of America. The Commission provides treatment in its Institutions for ex-soldiers from these countries resident in the Commonwealth, and also carries out any medical re-examinations for pension review purposes.

The Repatriation Commission acts as the agent for the Imperial Government, the Dominions of New Zealand and Newfoundland, and the Union of South Africa, for the payment of War pensions to ex-members of the Forces of these countries residing in the Commonwealth.

The following is a summary of the work of the Department in Victoria from its inauguration, 8th April, 1918, to 30th June, 1929 :—

Summary of
Work of
Department.

Employment—

Number of applications received	..	..	87,627
Number of positions filled	..	..	48,089

Assistance other than vocational training and employment—

Number of applications received	..	..	255,454
Number of applications approved	..	..	232,638

Assistance granted—

Gifts	£3,290,863
Loans	524,970
General	1,747,200

Total	£5,563,033
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Vocational training statistics from 8th April, 1918, to 30th June, 1929 :—

Number of applications received	16,558
Number of applications approved	..	..	11,743
Completed training	..	..	5,741
In training at 30th June, 1929	..	..	6

N.B.—The above figures relate to day training only.

War Pensions.

Since 1st July, 1920, war pensions have been administered by the Repatriation Commission. The number of such pensions in force in Victoria on 30th June, 1929, was 90,638 and the annual liability of the Commonwealth Government in connexion therewith was £2,224,352. Of the total number of pensioners, 23,837 were incapacitated members of the Forces, and 66,801 were dependants of deceased and incapacitated members.

Appeal Tribunals.

It was decided by the Commonwealth Government to create as from 1st June, 1929, tribunals to hear appeals in regard to war pensions.

The War Pensions Entitlement Appeal Tribunal consists of—

Lieut-Colonel A. W. Ralston, C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D., B.A., LL.B.,
(chairman),

Brig.-General T. Griffiths, C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O.,

Lieut.-Colonel E. J. Dibdin, D.S.O., V.D.,

and is empowered to hear and decide any appeal against a decision of the Repatriation Commission, by or on behalf of ex-members of the forces or their dependants, that an incapacity or death of an ex-member arose out of war service.

Two Assessment Appeal Tribunals were created, each to consist of one legal practitioner as chairman and two medical members with a knowledge of the nature of the disability from which the appellant is suffering, selected from a panel approved by the Minister, and they hear and decide any appeal against a current assessment of war pension made by the Repatriation Commission in respect of an incapacity of an ex-member of the forces which has been accepted as arising out of war service. The two chairmen are :—H. H. Howard, Esq., LL.B., and N. R. Mighell, Esq.

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.

Charitable and reformatory institutions, &c.

The total number of organizations throughout the State which administered relief to persons in necessitous circumstances or were of a reformatory character, and which forwarded returns to the Government Statist for the year 1928, was 233. The total receipts of all the organizations were £5,103,709, of which £4,109,104 was contributed by the Government and £994,605 was received from all other sources. The total expenditure was £5,160,263. The daily average number under care indoors throughout the year in charitable and reformatory institutions was 17,859, and there were no less than 259,397 distinct cases of out-door relief. With regard to the out-door relief, it has been ascertained that

in some institutions the "distinct cases treated" represent the actual number of persons treated; in others, they represent the actual cases of illness, accident, or disease; in these latter cases, unfortunately, the books of the institutions do not furnish the necessary particulars as to the number of distinct persons. Again, it is considered probable that some obtained relief at more than one establishment, and that some, in the course of the year, became inmates of one or other of the institutions. There is no available information upon which an estimate of the number of these duplications can be based.

The following table gives in summarized form full particulars in relation to all these charitable and reformatory institutions, and shows the number in each class, the daily average number of persons under care in the institutions, and the total number of distinct cases receiving out-door relief, together with the receipts and expenditure:—

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS, ETC.—
INMATES, RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, 1927-28.

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Daily Average in-door Patients.	Out-door Relief Distinct Cases.	Receipts.			Expenditure (including Building Expenses for Year).
				From Government.	From Other Sources.	Total.	
				£	£	£	£
HOSPITALS.							
General Hospitals	55	2,863	91,181	149,656	480,804	630,460	584,655
Women's Hospital	1	207	6,263	8,039	35,989	44,028	55,235
Children's Hospital	1	270	19,942	13,331	46,192	59,523	90,260
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children ..	1	71	9,661	2,350	18,574	20,924	55,194
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	1	68	..	9,221	910	10,131	10,131
Heatherton Sanatorium ..	1	120	..	7,117	8,242	15,359	14,946
Janefield Sanatorium ..	1	35	..	5,726	489	6,215	6,215
Convalescent Homes ..	3	105	2,800	3,150	12,762	15,912	14,685
Deaf and Dumb, Blind, and Eye and Ear Institutions ..	4	466	19,956	6,600	65,948	72,548	88,324
Hospitals for Insane, Idiot Asylum, and Receiving Houses	11	6,523	..	498,875	48,494	487,369	487,369
Foundling Hospitals ..	2	314	..	8,400	9,854	18,254	18,872
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital ..	1	357	..	27,478	32,316	59,794	68,286
Total	82	11,399	149,803	679,943	760,574	1,440,517	1,494,181

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS, ETC.—INMATES,
RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, 1927-28—*continued.*

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Daily Average in-door Patients.	Out-door Relief Distinct Cases.	Receipts			Expenditure (including Building Expenses for Year)
				From Govern-ment.	From Other Sources.	Total.	
				£	£	£	£
BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS AND SOCIETIES.							
Benevolent Asylums ..	8	2,005	580	35,397	47,855	83,252	80,707
Old Colonists' Association ..	1	90	..	..	10,220	10,220	4,823
Benevolent Societies ..	88	..	23,615	28,580	32,681	61,261	61,887
Orphan Asylums ..	10	1,663	..	7,775	56,575	64,350	75,444
Total ..	107	3,758	24,195	71,752	147,331	219,083	222,861
REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.							
Children's Welfare Department ..	12	637	16,190	421,598	16,477	438,075	438,075
Lara Inebriates' Institution ..	1	40	..	4,256	1,131	5,387	5,387
Brightside Inebriates' Institution ..	1	28	..	739	1,430	2,169	2,246
Female Refuges ..	10	672	..	3,370	42,138	45,508	44,593
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	3	150	..	320	8,299	8,619	8,688
Prisoners' Aid Society of Victoria	1	..	847	500	727	1,227	1,255
Gaols and Penal Establishments	12	1,044	..	111,511	..	111,511	111,511
Total ..	40	2,571	17,037	542,294	70,202	612,496	611,755
MISCELLANEOUS.							
Old-age and Invalid Pensioners ..	..	..	57,040	2,813,840	..	2,813,840	2,813,840
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	1	131	..	850	7,580	8,430	8,187
Charity Organization Society	1	..	140	..	7,870	7,870	7,909
Free Dispensaries ..	2	..	11,182	425	1,048	1,473	1,530
Total ..	4	131	68,362	2,815,115	16,498	2,831,613	2,831,466
Grand Total..	233	17,859	259,397	4,109,104	994,605	5,103,709	5,160,263

The receipts of all charitable institutions for the year 1927-28 amounted to £2,178,358, of which £1,183,753, or 53 per cent., was contributed by the Government, and the expenditure amounted to £2,234,912. Of the Government contribution, £886,793 was expended on the Receiving House for the Insane, Hospitals for the Insane, the Idiot Asylum, the Children's Welfare Department, the Greenvale, Heatherton and Janefield Sanatoria for Consumptives, and the Lara Inebriates' Institution, which are Government institutions.

The expenditure of charitable institutions has considerably increased during the past ten years. In 1919 it was £1,042,295, and it had increased to £2,234,912 in 1928. This is equivalent to an advance of 114 per cent. The aid from Government increased by about 105 per cent., and that from other sources by about 100 per cent. in the period mentioned. Information in regard to the receipts and expenditure in each year of the period is given in the accompanying table:—

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, 1919 TO 1928.

Year ended 30th June.	Receipts.			Expenditure.			
	Government aid.	Other.	Total.	Building and extraordinary Repairs.	Maintenance.	Other.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1919 ..	578,055	497,945	1,076,000	62,144	963,647	16,504	1,042,295
1920 ..	681,626	688,356	1,319,982	66,191	1,155,558	8,817	1,230,566
1921 ..	818,766	709,011	1,527,777	95,153	1,351,856	12,154	1,459,163
1922 ..	815,316	753,757	1,569,073	166,146	1,339,982	15,151	1,521,278
1923 ..	794,706	775,243	1,569,949	119,520	1,351,949	16,589	1,488,058
1924 ..	870,984	859,720	1,730,704	182,094	1,438,791	33,089	1,653,974
1925 ..	1,047,998	881,235	1,929,233	375,988	1,532,695	35,623	1,944,306
1926 ..	1,093,526	1,028,424	2,121,950	359,061	1,628,980	75,978	2,064,028
1927 ..	1,111,191	979,779	2,090,970	281,808	1,707,260	68,996	2,058,064
1928 ..	1,183,753	994,605	2,178,358	306,383	1,848,179	80,850	2,234,912

Charitable
Institutions
—average
cost per
inmate.

The following statement shows the average number of inmates of the respective institutions, the total cost of their maintenance, and the average cost for the year of each inmate :—

COST OF MAINTENANCE, 1927-29.

Description of Institution.	Daily Average Number of Inmates.	Total Cost of Maintenance.	Average Cost of each Inmate.
		£	£ s. d.
General Hospitals	2,863	485,097	169 8 9
Women's Hospital	207	40,262	194 10 1
Children's Hospital	270	45,272	167 13 6
Eye and Ear Hospital	78	16,220	207 19 0
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	71	16,144	227 7 7
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	357	61,525	172 6 9
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows)	129	5,928	45 19 1
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	185	8,441	45 12 6
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	68	8,271	121 12 8
Heatherton Sanatorium	120	12,733	106 2 2
Janefield Sanatorium	35	5,373	153 10 3
Receiving Houses for the Insane	}	6,523	446,545
Hospitals for the Insane			
Idiot Asylum			
Benevolent Asylums			
Convalescent Homes	2,005	66,574	33 4 1
Blind Asylums	105	12,216	116 6 10
Blind Asylums	258	7,699	29 16 10
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	130	6,886	52 19 5
Orphan Asylums	1,663	42,781	25 14 6
Children's Welfare Department	16,827*	433,838	25 15 8
Female Refuges	672	28,582	42 10 8
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	150	7,518	50 2 5
Old Colonists' Association	90	4,688	52 1 9
Lara Inebriates' Institution	40	4,411	110 5 6
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	28	2,246	80 4 3
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	131	6,348	48 9 2
Total	33,005	1,775,598	53 15 11

* Including children boarded out with their own mothers.

In calculating the average cost of each inmate the cost of treating out-patients is necessarily included, as there is no available information showing the cost of in-patients and out-patients separately.

The institutions showing the lowest average cost per inmate are the Orphan Asylums, the Children's Welfare Department, Blind Asylums,

and the Benevolent Asylums. As many of the wards of the Children's Welfare Department cost the State nothing—maintaining themselves at service or being supported by relatives—the cost of maintenance per head shown above is not a correct indication of the burden on the public. The true cost per head of those supported by the State is somewhat higher. The average cost per inmate of the Foundling Hospitals, Female Refuges, and Salvation Army Homes would be reduced if allowance were made for mothers of infants in the Foundling Hospitals, and for infants in the other institutions mentioned.

Of the total income of charitable institutions in 1927-28 more than half was contributed by the Government, and about 11 per cent. was collected from patients. The receipts of hospitals and other charitable institutions in the State under various headings are shown hereunder :—

**SOURCES OF INCOME OF CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS
IN VICTORIA, 1927-28.**

Receipts.	General Hospitals.	Women's Hospital.	Children's Hospital.	Eye and Ear Hospital.	Queen's Memorial Hospital.	Other Hospitals.	Other Institutions.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Government Aid	149,656	8,039	13,331	3,700	27,478	10,750	970,799	1,183,753
Municipal Grants	21,600	530	742	517	30,912	857	17,753	72,971
Private Contributions ..	74,886	3,165	10,232	3,004	..	4,712	73,317	169,316
Proceeds of Entertainments	29,964	2,432	1,203	11	..	2,022	16,392	52,024
Legacies, Bequests, Special Donations and Proceeds of Intestate Estates ..	179,408	9,886	22,503	4,685	4	9,717	41,687	267,800
Hospital Sunday and Church Donations	21,464	1,684	3,120	425	..	1,128	5,750	33,571
Contributions of Indoor Patients	73,334	12,757	3,532	2,016	725	3,846	106,181	202,341
Out-patients' Fees	23,017	1,516	2,726	3,366	..	2,894	765	34,284
Proceeds of Inmates' Labour	..	..	..	..	..	..	42,608	42,608
Interest or Rent	32,400	1,000	2,099	4,652	583	2,324	28,209	71,267
Other Sources	24,871	3,019	35	827	92	928	18,761	48,333
Total	630,460	44,028	59,523	23,203	59,794	39,178	1,322,172	2,178,358

Particulars relating to the accommodation in the most important of the various classes of charitable institutions in the State are given below. The information relates to the year ended 30th June, 1928, except in the case of the

Charitable Institutions—accommodation.

Hospitals for the Insane, the Idiot Asylum, and the Children's Welfare Department, where it relates to the calendar year 1928. Of the general hospitals, six are in Melbourne, and the remainder in country towns. The accommodation available for indoor patients was as follows :—

AMOUNT OF ACCOMMODATION, 1927-28.

Description of Institution.	Number of Institutions.	Dormitories.		Number of Beds for Inmates.	Number of Cubic Feet to each Bed.
		Number.	Capacity in Cubic Feet.		
General Hospitals ..	55	462	5,382,538	4,160	1,294
Women's Hospital ..	1	21	265,113	233	1,138
Children's Hospital ..	1	27	219,560	222	989
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children ..	1	14	59,021	70	843
Eye and Ear Hospital ..	1	16	89,298	105	850
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital ..	1	50	499,098	514	971
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows) ..	1	8	86,388	196	441
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home ..	1	8	129,250	107	1,208
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives ..	1	13	32,671	90	363
Heatherton Sanatorium ..	1	14	133,660	124	1,078
Janefield Sanatorium ..	1	17	50,320	56	898
Receiving Houses for the Insane ..	2	22	63,782	105	607
Hospitals for the Insane ..	8	1,300	3,845,578	5,342	720
Idiot Asylum ..	1	29	172,416	371	465
Benevolent Asylums ..	8	186	2,609,368	2,272	1,148
Convalescent Homes ..	3	28	142,580	132	1,080
Blind Asylums ..	2	18	99,850	91	1,097
Deaf and Dumb, Asylum ..	1	4	98,037	115	852
Orphan Asylums ..	10	91	1,004,630	1,692	594
Children's Welfare Department ..	12	71	661,472	980	675
Female Refuges ..	10	171	653,855	797	820
Salvation Army Rescue Homes ..	3	16	84,416	173	488
Lara Inebriates' Institution ..	1	11	46,796	50	936
Brightside Inebriates' Institution ..	1	32	41,565	40	1,039
Talbot Colony for Epileptics ..	1	24	116,885	132	885
Total ..	128	2,653	16,588,147	18,169	913

Charitable
Institutions
—inmates
and deaths.

The next statement shows the number of inmates and of deaths in these institutions :—

INMATES AND DEATHS, 1927-28.

Description of Institution.	Number of Inmates.		Number of Deaths.	Proportion of Deaths to Total Number of Inmates.
	Total during the Year.	Daily Average.		
				per cent.
General Hospitals	48,270	2,863	3,658	7·6
Women's Hospital	6,861	207	117	1·7
Children's Hospital	4,694	270	515	11·0
Eye and Ear Hospital	2,165	78	14	·6
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	1,875	71	66	3·5
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	4,661	357	110	2·4
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows)	227	129	15	6·6
Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	255	185	3	1·2
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	196	68	11	5·6
Heatherton Sanatorium	295	120	74	25·1
Janefield Sanatorium	105	35	20	19·0
Receiving Houses for the Insane	932	89	37	4·0
Hospitals for the Insane	7,051	6,000	395	5·6
Idiot Asylum	488	434	47	9·6
Benevolent Asylums	3,824	2,005	503	13·2
Convalescent Homes	2,247	105	4	·2
Blind Asylums	281	258	5	1·8
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	143	130	..	..
Orphan Asylums	2,218	1,663	4	·2
Children's Welfare Department	18,002	16,827	42	·2
Female Refuges	1,233	672	18	1·5
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	530	150	..	..
Old Colonists' Association	98	90	8	8·2
Lara Inebriates' Institution	231	40	..	..
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	78	28	..	..
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	161	131	4	2·5
Total	107,121	33,005	5,670	5·3

In addition to the inmates shown in the above table, there were 45 mothers of infants in the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home, 80 mothers of infants in St. Joseph's Foundling Hospital, Broadmeadows, 374 infants in the Female Refuges, and 219 infants in Salvation Army Homes during the year.

Patients treated, etc., in hospitals.

The following statement contains particulars as to the number of beds, the number of patients treated, and the deaths which occurred in general hospitals during the year 1927-28. The receipts, distinguishing moneys received from the Government and from other sources, and the expenditure per head for maintenance (based on the average number of indoor patients) are also shown :—

NUMBER OF PATIENTS TREATED IN GENERAL HOSPITALS ;
ALSO DEATHS, TOTAL RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE
PER HEAD FOR MAINTENANCE, 1927-28.

Hospital.	Number of Beds.	Total Indoor Patients treated during Year.	Average Daily Number of Indoor Patients treated.	Number of Deaths.	Receipts.			Expenditure per Head for Maintenance.
					From Government.	Other.	Total.	
					£	£	£	£ s. d.
Amherst ..	115	255	72·9	9	4,751	734	5,485	102 1 5
Ararat ..	65	590	35·2	32	950	2,919	3,869	113 9 11
Bairnsdale ..	39	540	27·3	44	750	3,546	4,296	125 10 7
Ballarat ..	192	2,136	114·5	136	7,200	10,726	17,926	113 19 8
Beechworth ..	100	240	26·3	21	900	2,442	3,342	105 4 11
Bendigo ..	262	1,963	113·6	172	7,164	11,370	18,534	154 17 0
Castlemaine ..	53	502	30·4	47	1,240	3,082	4,322	127 0 2
Colac ..	66	824	41·9	47	1,090	4,160	5,250	125 10 9
Daylesford ..	52	227	14·7	13	500	2,123	2,623	190 2 9
Echuca ..	46	851	43·1	49	1,300	6,116	7,416	78 11 8
Geelong ..	162	1,962	113·0	143	3,450	12,813	16,263	141 18 3
Hamilton ..	108	943	50·3	27	2,500	6,096	8,596	132 7 9
Horsham ..	78	746	40·2	33	1,800	6,335	8,135	117 15 9
Kyneton ..	62	393	24·9	27	700	3,344	4,044	136 5 10
Maryborough ..	80	684	36·2	29	1,100	3,963	5,063	121 7 7
Melbourne ..	358	8,230	396·1	993	30,716	117,653	148,369	268 1 8
Alfred ..	340	6,730	310·1	621	29,022	66,029	95,051	250 2 4
Austin ..	301	718	292·1	251	13,638	60,242	73,880	134 3 0
Caulfield Con- valescent ..	150	2,834	124·4	10	4,684	15,470	20,154	170 1 5
Homoeopathic ..	117	1,947	115·5	115	3,475	13,932	17,407	143 6 8
St. Vincent's ..	120	2,737	127·7	188	8,130	37,177	45,307	253 11 7
Mildura ..	82	1,032	51·0	58	2,000	6,170	8,170	149 15 8
Mooroopna ..	126	1,843	109·9	103	4,250	10,020	14,270	109 0 2
Sale ..	68	941	59·7	69	1,750	6,507	8,257	114 5 5
Stawell ..	66	475	20·8	21	600	3,342	3,942	124 7 6
St. Arnaud ..	56	614	38·6	26	1,050	3,512	4,562	101 5 11
Swan Hill ..	45	622	37·1	31	800	5,490	6,290	100 13 6
Wangaratta ..	65	899	53·5	35	1,500	4,736	6,236	89 19 3
Warragul ..	58	559	32·6	29	825	3,582	4,407	148 4 5
Warrnambool ..	98	784	44·2	57	3,575	4,639	8,214	118 7 5
Williamstown ..	30	393	22·8	15	150	5,149	5,299	100 15 9
Wonthaggi ..	24	525	24·6	40	821	4,034	4,855	161 1 2
Other Hospitals*	576	3,531	218·5	167	7,275	33,351	40,626	162 17 6
Total ..	4,160	48,270	2,862·8	3,658	149,656	480,804	630,460	169 8 9

* 23 in number.

HOSPITALS AND CHARITIES ACT 1922.

An Act (No. 3260) to amend the law relating to the management of hospitals and charities in the State of Victoria was passed by the State Parliament in the year 1922. Its principal provisions are as follows :—

Part I. provides for the appointment by the Governor in Council of a Board to be called the Charities Board of Victoria and consisting of 14 members, nominated or appointed as under :—

- (a) Four persons to be nominated by the body known as the Metropolitan Hospitals Association, one at least of whom is to be a legally qualified medical practitioner ;
- (b) Four persons to be nominated by the body known as the Country Hospitals Association, one at least of whom is to be a legally qualified medical practitioner ;
- (c) Two persons to be appointed from persons nominated by the committees of subsidized institutions and benevolent societies within the metropolis (other than hospitals), one at least of whom is to be a woman ;
- (d) Two persons to be appointed from persons nominated by the committees of subsidized institutions and benevolent societies outside of the metropolis (other than hospitals), one at least of whom is to be a woman ;
- (e) Two other persons, one of whom is to be appointed as a member of the Metropolitan Standing Committee and the other as a member of the Country Standing Committee to be provided for under the Act.

The duties of the Board are from time to time to make such inquiries as it thinks fit and to report to the Minister as to :—

- (a) What charitable relief is required to meet the needs of the diseased, infirm, incurable, poor, or destitute persons resident in Victoria (including children and convalescent patients) ;
- (b) What institutions or benevolent societies should in the opinion of the Board be subsidized ;
- (c) What sum of money should in the opinion of the Board be paid from the Fund, and for what purposes, to each subsidized institution or benevolent society in any financial year ; and
- (d) Any amendments of existing legislation and proposals for future legislation which are in its opinion desirable for carrying into effect any of the objects or purposes referred to in the Act, and in particular for improvement in and the prevention of overlapping in the administration of institutions and benevolent societies.

Special powers of the Board include the closing of any subsidized institution including a benevolent society (not being a separate institution) and the amalgamation of any two or more subsidized institutions (not being separate institutions). Before the Board can exercise the power of closing an institution it must be satisfied that the institution or benevolent society is seriously mismanaged or that the funds thereof are substantially applied otherwise than for affording the relief for which the institution or benevolent society exists, or that the accommodation provided is defective, insanitary, or unsuitable, or that relief can be provided more effectively and economically by some other institution or benevolent society. All institutions existing before the commencement of the Act must be registered within six months of a date to be fixed by the Board, and every institution established subsequently must register in order to participate in any grant or aid of any kind from the Consolidated Revenue or from any municipality. A non-registered charity will not be allowed to appeal or apply to any person or body of persons for any contributions towards its funds.

A fund called "The Hospitals and Charities Fund" is kept in the Treasury. To this fund the Government contributed a sum of £219,831 for the financial year 1927-28, and £227,500 for 1928-29. The salary of an Inspector of Charities, who has been appointed under the Act, together with the remuneration of other necessary officers and expenses, are paid out of the fund. Subject to these payments the fund may be applied to the establishment or maintenance of subsidized institutions or benevolent societies, the cost of the erection of new buildings or of repairs, additions, alterations, or equipment of existing buildings used for the purposes of any subsidized institution or for any other prescribed purposes. Matters to be considered in making payments out of the fund are the financial position of each institution or benevolent society, and the amount likely to be contributed to it during the next financial year otherwise than from the fund, the probable net receipts and expenditure of that financial year, also the actual number of persons relieved by it, the average number of beds (if any) occupied, the average length of stay of patients, and the average cost per bed during the preceding financial year.

Other sections relate to restrictions on certain means of raising money for institutions, the incorporation and government of hospitals and philanthropic institutions generally, the liability of patients to contribute for the relief afforded them according to their means, and the power to resume land required for institutions in the manner provided by the *Lands Compensation Act 1915*.

Since the appointment of the Board some important reforms have been given effect to. The Caulfield Military Hospital was taken over from the Defence Department in May, 1925, and is managed by the Melbourne Hospital. The whole of the Metropolitan General Hospitals are co-operating in

Operations
of the Board.

the scheme, and have agreed, after the subsidies provided have been exhausted, to recompense the Melbourne Hospital for net expenditure on a proportionate basis of beds available to the respective institutions. The official opening took place on 13th May, 1925, when 50 beds were available. The number was afterwards increased to 150 beds, and further accommodation is being arranged.

During the year 1928-29 the Board arranged the transfer of 200 patients from metropolitan hospitals to country institutions. This was done in order to make available more beds in the metropolitan area.

A standard has been set as the minimum requirements for a base hospital in the country. The number of occupied beds is to be not fewer than 50, giving in addition to general medical and surgical accommodation, beds for midwifery and children, each at least 5 per cent. of total accommodation. Fully established and equipped Out-Patients' Department to be established, available to patients at any time in case of emergency, and with at least tri-weekly attendance of honorary medical officer. Equipped sub-departments of radiology, pathology and bacteriology, massage, and other sub-departments to be maintained as the needs arise. Honorary attending medical officers to be elected to the various positions for a fixed term; applications to be called publicly. A training school for nurses to be in operation. The hospitals raised to base grade are:—Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, Hamilton, Horsham, Mildura, Mooroopna, Sale and Warrnambool. The committees of the larger provincial hospitals have adopted the Board's proposals.

When the Board commenced its operations only one country hospital had maternity wards, whereas in 1929 there are eighteen either in existence or in process of construction.

During the year the Board, in co-operation with the Government, has been active in framing regulations in regard to Community Hospitals. These regulations were gazetted on 29th May, 1929, and the provisions, in brief, are that—

- (a) Public hospitals may, on the recommendation of the Board, attach paying wards (divided into private and intermediate) to existing institutions.
- (b) That the conditions of admission to these wards will be prescribed in order to safeguard the interests of patients, the hospital, and the medical profession.
- (c) The scale of charges for accommodation will be subject to approval by the Governor in Council, and the fees chargeable by medical practitioners to patients in the intermediate section will be on an approved scale.
- (d) That no portion of the charitable funds of any public hospital shall be used in the erection, equipment, or for maintenance of the community section of the hospital.

Evidence of the importance of the policy of the Government regarding community hospitals is found in the eagerness of the majority of Committees of the institutions to take advantage of the regulations. Since the formation of the Board, there has been no decision which is more acceptable or of greater value to the Hospital System of Victoria. The Board is of the opinion that, under the Community Hospital Scheme, the benefits to the public and to the finances of the institutions will be substantial.

There are now four proposals before the Board for the erection of entirely new hospitals on community lines, viz.:—Gippsland (Sale), Stawell, Wangaratta, and Castlemaine; other Committees have signified their desire to attach private and intermediate wards to existing hospitals, but the Board recommends the immediate development at the four places named instead of attempting to deal with a greater number at once.

The progress of buildings at the new hospitals at Ouyen and Orbost marks the first stages of the development of entirely new institutions in places where settlement and growth of population has warranted this action.

It is with gratification that the Board records the formation of a Central Council of Ladies' Benevolent Societies of Victoria. Despite considerable opposition from some of the Societies, the efforts have achieved a successful result, and it is anticipated that great benefit will accrue.

The origin of this institution belongs to the very earliest days of Melbourne. The *Year-Books* for 1915-16 and 1916-17 contain a statement of the circumstances associated with the foundation of the hospital in 1846, and a reference to its rebuilding in recent years.

It has always been the principal general hospital of Victoria, and the chief medical training school for University students. The wards now contain normally 358 beds. The number of in-patients treated in 1927-28 was 8,230, the daily average number being 396.1. In the out-patients' and casualty departments 56,212 persons were treated in that year. The aggregate number of attendances of out-patients was 301,668.

The usefulness of the Melbourne Hospital since its inauguration may be judged from the work carried out. The in-patients treated to 30th June, 1928, numbered 336,388, and the out-patients, 1,549,179.

In 1927-28 the Government grant for maintenance amounted to £30,000; government fees to £716; the revenue derived from municipal grants was £1,766; private contributions amounted to £17,917; special appeal to £36,366; revenue from entertainments in aid to £315; bequests to £15,520; Hospital Sunday collections to £2,882; payments and

Melbourne
Hospital.

contributions by indoor patients to £8,898; and out-patients' fees to £8,833; interest yielded a revenue of £16,976; and £8,180 was received from all other sources. The receipts for the twelve months reached a total of £148,369 and the expenditure was £107,566.

The Melbourne Hospital is also a training school for nurses, and has a nursing staff of 229. Attached to the hospital is the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Research in Pathology and Medicine, which is endowed by the Trustees of the Walter and Eliza Hall Trust. The Institute is proving of valuable assistance in the many lines of research which are being conducted by an efficient and highly-trained staff.

To relieve the pressure on the City Hospitals the Convalescent Hospital at Caulfield was established in 1925. In six wards there are 150 beds open, 147 of which are occupied daily. The management is undertaken by the committee of the Melbourne Hospital. The total expenditure for the year 1927-28 was £24,633.

**Alfred
Hospital.**

In the year 1868 a large committee of Melbourne citizens decided that the establishment of a second general hospital for Melbourne had become imperatively necessary. A site comprising 13 acres within the municipality of Prahran was secured, and the foundation stone of "The Prince Alfred Hospital" (so named in commemoration of the escape from assassination of Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh), was laid in March, 1869. In May, 1871, the hospital was opened, the buildings being added to in 1885. In 1921 an extensive scheme of building expansion was approved, subject to funds becoming available. Since then remarkable progress has taken place. The whole of the original buildings have been remodelled and enlarged, while many buildings, including new wards, operating theatres, research and investigation departments, a fine new nurses' home, and important additions to existing buildings have been erected. The cost of works carried out in this scheme of expansion up to the end of June, 1929, was £200,160. The hospital is recognized by the Melbourne University as a clinical school for medical students, and is also a training school for nurses. On 30th June, 1929, there were 340 beds and cots in the Institution. The total number of in-patients who received treatment during the year 1927-28 was 6,730, and during 1928-29 the number was 6,462. In the out-patients and casualty departments, 43,865 persons were treated in 1927-28, while in 1928-29 the total was 45,498. The attendances of these patients rose in number from 243,794 in 1927-28 to 262,067 in 1928-29. The total of the receipts for the year 1928-29 in all the accounts was £69,073. The principal items of receipt were Government grants, £20,650; municipal grants, £1,596; private contributions, £5,925; revenue from entertainments in aid, £1,436; Hospital Sunday collections, £1,894; Lord Mayor's Fund, £2,008; in-door patients' fees, £8,253; out-door patients' fees, £8,058; interest, £660; visitors' contributions, £4,236; special donations and bequests, £6,168;

donations from auxiliary, £3,450; Boutique profits, £700; and miscellaneous, £3,861 (including £1,787 Government on account V.D. Clinic). The total expenditure on maintenance was £80,954, and in addition £25,328 was spent on buildings, furniture, fittings, &c. The Alfred Hospital was equipped early in 1924 with a powerful wireless receiving plant, with installation throughout the different wards, enabling the patients to receive the benefit of wireless broadcasting by means of individual head telephone sets. The Hospital is recognized by the University of Melbourne as a clinical school for gynæcology and the diseases of children. During 1925 extensive additions were made to the X-ray pavilion and a fine new building for the biochemistry department was erected and equipped. The latter is now known as the Thos. Baker, Alice Baker and Eleanor Shaw Medical Research Institute, and its maintenance is guaranteed under the will of the founder of the Institute, the late Mr. Thos. Baker. Important additions to the casualty and nurses home are in course of construction.

The Alfred Hospital has a very fine clinic for the treatment of venereal diseases, the institution being the first in this State to establish such a department.

During 1926 the Pathological Laboratory was enlarged by the addition of a museum, made possible by a generous donation from the estate of the late Mr. H. J. Stead. In the museum specimens are displayed in natural colors by an original scheme of reflected electric light.

Arrangements have been made for the teaching of students, and a screen has been provided for demonstrating lectures by lantern slides and moving pictures. The Hospital's activities in this direction are well to the fore amongst similar institutions of its kind.

The diamond jubilee of the institution was celebrated in 1929 by a fair in the Hospital grounds, the proceeds of which were used to erect a new Boutique and tea rooms for the convenience of the staff, patients, and visitors. It is also proposed to establish a community wing, a donation of £5,000, as a nucleus to such a fund, having been received from the President and Mrs. F. D. Michaelis, to commemorate the diamond jubilee year.

Other Hospitals, &c. Statements showing the nature of the work performed by other hospitals, societies, &c., are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 568 to 582, and 586.

HEALTH ACT 1919.

The main features of this Act are given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, pages 383 to 385. ●

SANATORIA FOR CONSUMPTIVES.

Greenvale Sanatorium. The Greenvale Sanatorium at Broadmeadows for incipient and early stage cases was opened for the reception of patients on 10th May, 1905. It was established by the Government, and is under the control of the Public Health Department. Females only are now admitted to the institution, and provision is made for 90 patients. During the year ended 31st December, 1928, 208 patients were treated at the sanatorium, 81 of these being cases admitted during the previous year. Of this number, 84 did very well and were discharged apparently cured or greatly benefited, and 20 were discharged not benefited or incurable. Coupled with the last-mentioned cases were other patients who were discharged either at their own request after a brief stay, or for disciplinary reasons, and some who were sent in for a short period for educational purposes, making a total of 34. Nine deaths occurred during the year. At the end of the period under review there were 61 patients remaining under care. The benefits of treatment and education that the institution affords to cases of consumption in the early stages have now been received by 5,855 patients. Of these, 3,568 had the disease arrested or their condition much improved; 1,123 were not benefited or were incurable; 135 died; and 968 left of their own accord. A most important function of the institution is the teaching of patients how to avoid communicating the disease to others. Immediately after the admission of a patient to the sanatorium the house or room vacated is disinfected under the supervision of the municipal council of the district, a centre of infection being thus removed.

Amherst and Heatherton Sanatoria.

The Amherst Sanatorium, for early-stage cases, is maintained by the Government and administered by the local hospital authorities under the direction of the Public Health Department. It is now reserved for the treatment of males only, and there is, ordinarily, accommodation at the institution for 80 patients. During the year 1928, 167 patients were treated, of whom 61 were discharged with the disease arrested or their condition much improved; 13 left, not benefited; 28 left of their own accord; 10 died; and 55 remained under treatment at the end of the year. Sanatorium treatment has now been received by 2,875 patients. Of these, 2,303 were discharged cured or relieved; 129 left of their own accord; 240 were incurable; 86 died; and 55 remained on 31st December, 1928.

There is a sanatorium for intermediate and advanced cases of both sexes at Heatherton, near Cheltenham, adjacent to the Melbourne Benevolent Asylum. The sanatorium now contains 124 beds. There were on 1st January, 1928, 120 persons in the institution, and the number admitted during the succeeding twelve months was 178, making a total of 298 who received treatment during the year 1928. Of these, 105 were discharged, 70 died, and 123 were under care at the end of the year.

With regard to other cases of advanced consumption, 168 beds are provided at the Austin Hospital, and 56 beds at Janefield, which is controlled by the Austin Hospital authorities.

St. John Ambulance Association. The work carried on by this Association is referred to in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 582. Its objects are to instruct all classes of people in the preliminary treatment of the sick and the injured. During the past year 2,401 students have been instructed in first aid and home nursing, of whom 1,264 received certificates. Since the formation of the Victorian Centre of the Association, in 1883, 70,827 persons have received instruction, and 45,203 have been awarded certificates. The Association medallion has been awarded to 3,511 students. Full information in regard to the formation of classes may be obtained from the secretary, Mr. J. Harold Lord, 217 Lonsdale-street, Melbourne. (Telephone, Central 1370.)

Victorian Civil Ambulance Service. This service attended to 14,215 calls, of which 2,427 were connected with accidents, during the year ended 30th June, 1929; the mileage travelled was 140,738. In 4,048 cases no fee was paid. Country trips, to the number of 1,229 (three of over 200 miles), were undertaken during the year. The decentralisation of the service has commenced by the inauguration of Ambulance Stations at Preston, Prahran, Hawthorn, and Footscray, with the intention of extending same to all suburban areas.

In addition, 21 Country Ambulance Stations have been successfully opened and operated since March, 1923, under the Country Division of the Service, with a view to providing ambulance facilities throughout all districts in Victoria. In addition to these stations 34 stretchers and first aid outfits have been supplied to smaller centres and placed in charge of the police officer in each district. These country stations, during the year ended 30th June, 1929, conveyed 2,496 patients, the distance covered being 34,736 miles. Since the formation of the country service in 1923, 12,042 patients have been conveyed a distance of 137,287 miles.

The registered office and head depot is situated at 217 Lonsdale-street, Melbourne. (Telephone, Central 121.)

Charity Organization Society. A statement of the objects of this society appears in the *Year-Book* 1916-17, page 583.

The income and outgo for the year ended 30th June, 1928, were—Administration Account (for payment of all general expenses of management as well as all charges connected with the administration of the trust and relief funds)—Receipts, £2,687; expenditure, £2,765; Trust Account (being donations for special applicants and objects)—Receipts, £5,047; expenditure, £4,453; Emergency Relief Account—Donations and refunds, £225; expenditure, £193. The number of

separate cases dealt with during the year was 4,496, of which 2,094 had not previously come under the notice of the society. The total number of cases actually investigated was 1,466. During the year under review 96 men and women obtained temporary or permanent employment through the Society's assistance. The records of the Society now contain more than 43,000 social histories of distressed families and individuals.

**Royal
Humane
Society.**

The Royal Humane Society of Australasia was established in 1874 under the name of "The Victoria Humane Society." Its objects are as follows:—(1) To bestow awards on all who promptly risk their lives to save those of their fellow-creatures; (2) To provide assistance, as far as it is in the power of the society, in all cases of apparent death occurring in any part of Australasia; (3) To restore the apparently drowned or dead, and to distinguish by awards all who, through skill and perseverance, are successful; (4) To collect and circulate information regarding the most approved methods and the best apparatus to be used for such purposes.

During the year ended 30th June, 1929, 114 applications for awards were investigated, with the result that 40 certificates, 29 bronze medals, and 9 silver medals were granted. The receipts during 1928-29 amounted to £564, and the expenditure to £481. The institution has placed and maintains 343 life-buoys at various places on the coast, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs throughout all the Australian States and Fiji. The society has an honorary correspondent in the capital city of each State.

Swimming competitions have been inaugurated in the schools of the Commonwealth, and awards of medals and certificates are made to those pupils who attain proficiency in exercises which have special reference to saving life from drowning. The society makes a special feature of the development of swimming and life saving proficiency.

**Royal Life
Saving
Society.**

With a desire to minimize the great loss of life from drowning a society was established in Melbourne in 1904 entitled the "Royal Life Saving Society." Its objects are:—(1) To promote technical education in life saving and resuscitation of the apparently drowned; (2) To stimulate public opinion in favour of the general adoption of swimming and life saving as a branch of instruction in schools, colleges, &c.; (3) To encourage floating, diving, plunging, and such other swimming arts as would be of assistance to a person endeavouring to save life; (4) To arrange and promote public lectures, demonstrations and competitions, and to form classes of instruction, so as to bring about a widespread and thorough knowledge of the principles which underlie the art of natation.

The work done by the society has increased greatly since its inauguration, and in 1928-29 the awards granted totalled 1,764. The total income for 1928-29 was £1,217 and the expenditure £1,317. The whole of the State schools in Victoria have become affiliated to the society, and it is expected that the awards will be considerably increased as the result of this connexion.

The objects of this society are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 589. During the year ended 30th June, 1928, 3,381 cases were dealt with by it, of which 1,976 were connected with cruelty to horses. There were 135 prosecutions in cases of deliberate cruelty, in nearly all of which the law was vindicated by the punishment of the offenders. The receipts for the year amounted to £3,199, and the expenditure to £3,216.

The initiation of the movement to assist in the maintenance of the Metropolitan Hospitals and Charities, which resulted in the inauguration of the Lord Mayor's Fund, is credited to the late Sir J. W. Swanson, K.B., a former Lord Mayor of Melbourne. The first definite step to make the fund a permanent one was taken in April, 1923, when a chief executive officer and organizing secretary was appointed. An important feature of the first year's work was the merging of the Hospital Saturday Fund in the Lord Mayor's Fund. No change was made in regard to the constitution or administrative functions of the Hospital Sunday committee. The receipts and disbursements of the Lord Mayor's Fund from 1st July, 1928, to 30th June, 1929, are given hereunder :—

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS OF THE LORD MAYOR'S FUND, 1ST JULY, 1928, TO 30TH JUNE, 1929.

Receipts.	Amount.	Expenditure.	Amount.
	£		£
Balance 1/7/28	2,188	Distributions made to Institutions from General Fund	18,979
October Appeal (1928) ..	15,163	Distributions to specified donees	46,493
General donations, etc. ..	8,416	Salaries of secretary and staff	2,570
Police Carnival	1,544	Miscellaneous	888
Flower Day	2,921	Expenses of special Efforts	1,596
Donations for specified institutions	41,664	Balance 30/6/29	1,370
Total	71,896		71,896

The amounts allocated to the various charitable institutions in 1928-29 from the Lord Mayor's Fund, including Hospital Saturday receipts, and from the Hospital Sunday Fund were as follows :—

Institution.	From Lord Mayor's Fund.	From Hospital Sunday Fund.	Total.
	£	£	£
Melbourne Hospital	6,421	2,439	8,860
Alfred Hospital	4,632	1,894	6,526
Children's Hospital	3,345	1,167	4,512
Women's Hospital	4,617	876	5,493
Austin Hospital	3,589	949	4,538
St. Vincent's Hospital	3,771	836	4,607
Melbourne Benevolent Asylum	1,166	620	1,786
Queen Victoria Hospital	3,460	304	3,764
Homœopathic Hospital	2,769	478	3,247
Melbourne Ladies' Benevolent Society	1,763	..	1,763
Eye and Ear Hospital	1,455	430	1,885
Williamstown Hospital	400	157	557
Melbourne District Nursing Society	983	259	1,242
Salvation Army	782	..	782
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	348	176	524
St. John Ambulance Association	625	..	625
Other institutions	25,345	896	26,241
Total distributed	65,471	11,481	76,952

In Melbourne and suburbs the last Saturday and Sunday of October in each year are set apart for making collections for the Lord Mayor's October Appeal. The following amounts were collected in each of the last ten years :—1919, £18,586 ; 1920, £19,750 ; 1921, £29,723 ; 1922, £20,368 (including a bequest of £2,461 from the estate of a deceased person) ; 1923, £24,013 ; 1924, £30,100 ; 1925, £31,100 ; 1926, £32,000 ; 1927, £38,000, and 1928, £46,000.

The total amount which has been collected since the movement was inaugurated in 1873 is £696,532.

**Wattle
Day.**

On a day fixed, about the middle of August in each year, ladies attired in white costumes sell sprigs of wattle blossom in the streets and elsewhere, and the amounts obtained are allotted to charities for children. The sums which have been raised each year during the last ten years are as follows :—1919, £5,393 ; 1920, £4,304 ; 1921, £5,951 ; 1922, £5,293 ; 1923, £6,674 ; 1924, £7,645 ; 1925, £5,872 ; 1926, £6,566 ; 1927, £5,783 ; 1928, £5,343 ; and 1929, £5,003.

From 1915 to 1920 the Wattle Day collection was organized and controlled by the Commonwealth Button Fund, and emblematic "buttons" and badges were sold in addition to wattle blossom. The Commonwealth Button Fund was wound up in January, 1921, and the organization of the annual Wattle Day appeal is now undertaken by the Children's Welfare Association. This association consists of all the societies participating in the appeal, and its work is carried out by a body of voluntary assistants. Since 1927 W. T. Hughes-Jones has organized the campaign in an honorary capacity. The Charities Board has approved of the movement, and the proceeds are distributed through the Lord Mayor's Fund.

INVALID AND OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

These pensions are payable by the Commonwealth Government under an act passed in 1908 and amending acts. The *Year-Book* for 1916-17 contains, on pages 591 to 597, information relating to the amounts of pensions payable and the persons entitled to receive them. The amounts have since been increased.

The maximum pension, whether old-age or invalid, is £1 per week. This rate was paid from 8th October, 1925. The commencing age for old-age pensions is 65 years in the case of men (60 years where a man is permanently incapacitated for work) and 60 years in the case of women.

The number of old-age and invalid pensioners in Victoria on 30th June, 1929, was as follows:—Old-age pensioners—men, 16,713; women, 26,082; total, 42,795. Invalid pensioners—men, 7,779; women, 9,778; total, 17,557.

Of the persons living in Victoria at or above the ages at which old-age pensions commence, 36·7 per cent. were receiving pensions on 30th June, 1929.

The State system of old-age pensions came into force on 18th January, 1901, and the highest number of pensioners was reached in November, 1901, when 16,300 were on the register. Alterations in the Act in the direction of compelling relatives, when in a position to do so, to support applicants for pensions had the effect of reducing the number to 10,732 in 1907. On 1st July, 1909, when the Federal Act came into operation, there were 12,368 old-age pensioners in Victoria. Thereafter the number rapidly increased, and on 30th June, 1929, it had reached a total of 42,795 (exclusive of invalid pensioners). The number of old-age and invalid

Federal
Invalid and
Old-age
Pensions Act.

Pensioners,
1901 to
1928-29.

pensioners at the end of each financial year from the inception of the system and the amount expended each year are shown in the following statement:—

OLD-AGE AND INVALID PENSIONERS IN VICTORIA,
1901 TO 1929.

Financial Year.	Number of Pensioners at end of Period.			Actual Amount Paid in Pensions.
	Old-Age.	Invalid.	Total.	
13th January to 30th June, 1901 (under State Act)	16,275	...	16,275	£ 129,338
1901-2	14,570	...	14,570	292,432
1902-3	12,417	...	12,417	215,973
1903-4	11,609	...	11,609	205,150
1904-5	11,209	...	11,209	200,464
1905-6	10,990	...	10,990	189,127
1906-7	10,732	...	10,732	187,793
1907-8	11,288	...	11,288	233,573
1908-9	12,368	...	12,368	270,327
1909-10 (under Federal Act)...	20,218	...	20,218	470,656
1910-11 " " ...	23,722	2,272	25,994	573,699
1911-12 " " ...	24,449	3,162	27,611	672,593
1912-13 " " ...	25,434	3,918	29,352	715,924
1913-14 " " ...	27,150	4,844	31,994	795,449
1914-15 " " ...	28,365	6,054	34,419	839,718
1915-16 " " ...	28,446	6,869	35,315	908,159
1916-17 " " ...	29,064	7,921	36,985	1,070,386
1917-18 " " ...	29,159	8,901	38,060	1,168,498
1918-19 " " ...	29,179	9,337	38,516	1,199,787
1919-20 " " ...	29,565	10,277	39,842	1,348,100*
1920-21 " " ...	30,355	11,174	41,559	1,533,430*
1921-22 " " ...	30,958	11,444	42,402	1,581,898*
1922-23 " " ...	31,248	11,707	42,955	1,589,362*
1923-24 " " ...	32,603	12,220	44,823	1,947,069*
1924-25 " " ...	33,845	12,950	46,795	2,027,202*
1925-26 " " ...	36,800	14,062	50,862	2,348,571*
1926-27 " " ...	38,702	15,327	54,029	2,666,470*
1927-28 " " ...	40,642	16,398	57,040	2,813,840*
1928-29 " " ...	42,795	17,557	60,352	2,972,581*

* This includes payments of pensions of 2s. per week (increased to 3s. per week from 13th September, 1923, to 4s. per week from 8th October, 1925, and to 5s. 6d. per week from 4th October, 1928) to inmates of Benevolent Asylums and Hospitals. There were respectively 1,225 and 351 such pensions in force on 30th June, 1929.

An act was passed by the Federal Parliament in October, 1912, providing for the payment, on application, of £5 to the mother of every child born in the Commonwealth on and after 10th October, 1912. The number of claims

Maternity Allowance.

granted in Victoria to 30th June, 1929, was 584,134 and the total of the allowances paid in the State to that date was £2,920,670.

For the year ended 30th June, 1929, the number of claims granted was 34,132, and the amount paid in allowances, £170,660.

LUNACY DEPARTMENT.

Lunacy Department. The subjoined table sets forth the numbers under the care of the Department for the years 1927 and 1928 :—

INSANE PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS OF THE LUNACY DEPARTMENT, 31ST DECEMBER, 1927 AND 1928.

	On 31st December—		Increase (+). Decrease (-).
	1927.	1928.	
In State Hospitals	5,552	5,644	+ 92
On Trial Leave from State Hospitals	684	737	+ 53
Boarded Out	124	120	- 4
In Licensed Houses	69	62	- 7
On Trial Leave from Licensed Houses	22	24	+ 2
Total Number of Registered Insane	6,451	6,587	+ 136
In Receiving Institutions	89	93	+ 4
Total	6,540	6,680	+ 140
Voluntary Boarders	52	92	+ 40
Cases of Mental Disorder in Returned Soldiers (not included in other statistics)	169	183	+ 14

The number of admissions to Hospitals for Insane for each of the years 1924 to 1928 is given below :—

Year.	First Admissions.			Re-admissions.			Total Admissions.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
1924	349	314	663	53	93	146	809
1925	370	283	653	29	64	93	746
1926	384	345	729	50	62	112	841
1927	387	318	705	43	77	120	825
1928	441	303	744	42	91	133	877

The number of discharges from, and the deaths in, the Hospitals for the Insane for each of the years 1924 to 1928 are given below :—

Year.	Discharges.			Deaths.			Total of Discharges and Deaths.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
1924 ..	142	151	293	254	176	430	723
1925 ..	147	145	292	198	158	356	648
1926 ..	141	151	292	208	195	403	695
1927 ..	154	180	334	268	180	448	782
1928 ..	132	156	288	248	194	442	730

The variation in the numbers annually admitted over a period of years into the State Hospitals and Receiving Houses is comparatively small, and the same may be said of the number of deaths and discharges, but the general result is that a small annual increase occurs in the total number of the registered insane. In the year 1928, however, the increase of 136 was considerably above the average, as evidenced by the fact that there was an annual average increase of 70 in the preceding five years (1923-27). The numbers in Military Mental Hospitals and of voluntary boarders are not counted in the total number of registered insane—these have increased by 14 and 40 respectively.

The ratio of insanity in 1928 was 1 in 267 of the total population as against 1 in 270 for 1927. The highest ratio recorded in the history of the State occurred in 1916, when 1 in 238 was registered.

The use of the voluntary boarder provisions of the Lunacy Act has been considerably increased during the year.

The important point to remember with regard to the State is that the daily average number of those resident in the State Hospitals during 1928 has increased to the extent of 86 persons.

CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

Neglected and reformatory children.

There were at the end of 1928 two industrial and four reformatory schools in the State. Two of these (one industrial and one reformatory school) are wholly maintained and managed by the Government, and are used merely as receiving and distributing dépôts, the children being sent as soon as possible after admission thereto to foster homes or situations, or to other institutions for dealing with State wards. The other schools are under private management and receive a capitation allowance from the Government for those inmates who are wards of the Children's Welfare Department. Many of the inmates of the reformatories are either placed with friends or licensed out. The

wards of the State on 31st December, 1928, numbered 7,496—7,319 neglected and 177 reformatory children—and there were 25 others, free from legal control, who, being incapacitated, were maintained by the State. The following table shows the number of neglected and reformatory children under control at the end of each of the last five years :—

NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY CHILDREN,
1924 TO 1928.

Year.	NUMBER OF NEGLECTED CHILDREN AT THE END OF THE YEAR.					Total Neglected Children *
	Boarded Out.	Placed with friends on Probation.	Maintaining themselves at Service or Apprenticed.	In Institutions (including Hospitals)	Visiting Relatives, &c.	
1924 ...	4,123	1,263	480	495	2	6,363
1925 ...	4,212	1,355	501	508	1	6,577
1926 ...	4,263	1,497	470	533	9	6,772
1927 ...	4,367	1,599	431	585	15	6,997
1928 ...	4,473	1,793	424	617	12	7,319

Year.	NUMBER OF REFORMATORY CHILDREN AT THE END OF THE YEAR.					Total Reformatory Children.
	In Reformatory Schools.	Placed with Relatives.	Maintaining themselves at Service.	In Institutions (including Hospitals).	Visiting Relatives, &c.	
1924 ...	75	30	19	...	1	125
1925 ...	86	29	19	1	...	135
1926 ...	83	45	13	...	...	141
1927 ...	98	46	19	1	...	164
1928 ...	111	49	17	...	...	177

* Under the provisions of section 9 of the *Children's Maintenance Act* 1919, children who had previously been committed as "neglected" children and boarded out to their mothers, were discharged in 1919 as wards of the State, but payments for their maintenance were continued to the mothers. At the end of 1928 there were 9,904 such children.

Children boarded out, &c.

The welfare of the children boarded out is cared for by honorary committees, who send to the Department reports as to their general condition. The rate paid by the Government to persons accepting charge of these children is 12s. 6d. per week for children under 18 months, and 8s. per week for those over that age. These rates have been payable since 1st December, 1921. For the previous twelve months the rates were 11s. 6d. per week for children under 12 months, and 8s. per week for those of an older age. Children from either industrial or reformatory schools may be placed with friends on probation, without wages, or at service.

Children
committed to
the care of the
State, 1928.

The circumstances leading to the commitment of children to the care of the Department in 1928 were as follows :—

Cases in which Parents were held to be—	Number.
Blameable—One Parent—	
Father deserted and mother dead	50
" " " in asylum	1
" " " invalid	10
" " " poor	293
" drunkard	4
" in gaol	8
" " " poor	15
" unknown	11
" " " invalid	2
" " " mental	1
" " " poor	33
Mother deserted and father dead	9
" " " invalid	2
" " " poor	10
" drunkard	1
" of doubtful character and father dead	8
" " " poor	4
Both Parents—	
Father deserted and mother in gaol	1
" " " of doubtful character	21
" drunkard	3
" in gaol	1
" unknown	15
" " " of doubtful character	4
Parents deserted	34
" drunkards	6
" in gaol	6
" of doubtful character	10
" unknown	21
Total	584
Blameless—Both Parents—	
Father dead and mother insane	4
" " " invalid	9
" " " poor	66
" in asylum and mother in hospital	5
" " " poor	4
" in hospital and mother dead	2
" invalid	54
" " " poor	19
" poor	9
" " " in asylum	34
" " " dead	45
Parents dead	2
" in asylum	2
" invalids	103
" poor	358
Total	942
Total number of children placed under control during the year	942

CHILDREN'S MAINTENANCE ACT 1919, No. 3001.

A statement of the principal provisions of this Act is given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, pages 395 and 396. For the twelve months ended 31st December, 1928, assistance was granted under the Children's Maintenance Act in respect of 3,251 children, and 9,904 children were boarded out to their mothers at the end of the year, an increase of 810 as compared with the number at the end of the previous year, viz., 9,094.

The following statement shows the number of wards of the State and of children boarded out with their mothers for the years 1911 to 1928 inclusive :—

WARDS OF STATE AND CHILDREN BOARDED OUT WITH MOTHERS, 1911 TO 1928.

Year.	Number boarded out to Foster Mothers at end of Year.	Number boarded out with Mothers at end of Year†	Total number boarded out at end of Year.	Total Cost of maintenance of boarded out Children.	Other Wards of State.	Total Wards of State and Children boarded out with Mothers.
				£		
1911 ..	2,958	2,358	5,316	74,719	1,865	7,181
1912 ..	2,991	2,978	5,969	83,327	1,815	7,784
1913 ..	3,090	3,696	6,786	93,509	1,767	8,553
1914 ..	3,342	4,144	7,486	102,051	1,853	9,339
1915 ..	3,359	4,681	8,040	127,898*	2,136	10,176
1916 ..	3,817	4,984	8,801	140,752	1,979	10,780
1917 ..	3,979	5,151	9,130	147,794	2,013	11,143
1918 ..	3,981	5,324	9,305	153,350	2,042	11,347
1919 ..	3,989	6,206	10,195	161,944*	2,142	12,337
1920 ..	4,128	6,928	11,056	210,457*	2,098	13,154
1921 ..	4,281	7,534	11,815	249,555*	1,945	13,760
1922 ..	4,189	7,651	11,840	264,257	1,979	13,819
1923 ..	4,133	7,641	11,774	268,255	2,227	14,001
1924 ..	4,123	7,660	11,783	274,628	2,365	14,148
1925 ..	4,212	8,154	12,366	284,384	2,500	14,866
1926 ..	4,263	8,532	12,795	308,250	2,650	15,445
1927 ..	4,367	9,094	13,461	339,028	2,794	16,255
1928 ..	4,473	9,904	14,377	385,036	3,023	17,400

* Payment for children over the age of two years was increased from 5s. to 6s. per week from 1st April, 1915, and from 6s. to 7s. per week from 1st December, 1919. On 1st November, 1920, payment was increased from 10s. to 11s. 6d. per week for children under the age of 12 months, and from 7s. to 8s. per week for all over that age. From 1st December, 1921, the rate of pay for children under the age of 12 months was increased from 11s. 6d. to 12s. 6d. per week, and for those between 12 and 18 months from 8s. to 12s. 6d. per week.

† Prior to the year 1919 these children were wards of the State.

Cost of maintenance of neglected and reformatory children. The governmental expenditure for the maintenance of neglected children amounted in 1928 to £411,269, and that for reformatory school children to £5,069; the expenses of administration amounted to £17,500, making a total gross expenditure of £433,838. A sum of £16,210 was received from parents for maintenance, and of £267 from other sources, making the net expenditure £417,361. The number of neglected children under supervision on 31st December, 1928, was 7,319; of this total, 4,473 were maintained in foster homes, 241 were in Government receiving dépôts, 337 were in other institutions, 424 were at service earning their own living, 39 were in hospitals, 12 were on a visit, and 1,793 were with relatives and others at no cost to the State. The number of reformatory wards under supervision on 31st December, 1928, was 177. Of this number 111 were maintained in private schools, 17 were in service earning their own living, and 49 were with relatives at no cost to the State. The expenditure for the maintenance of neglected children has increased greatly during the past ten years, as is shown by the statement which follows:—

NET COST TO THE STATE OF NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY SCHOOL CHILDREN, 1919 TO 1928.

Year.			Net Expenditure.	Year.			Net Expenditure.
			£				£
1919	..	..	181,385	1924	..	..	312,943
1920	..	..	238,448	1925	..	..	322,710
1921	..	..	282,380	1926	..	..	348,868
1922	..	..	295,440	1927	..	..	368,172
1923	..	..	299,456	1928	..	..	417,361

Neglected children maintained by societies or private persons. Part VIII. of the *Children's Welfare Act* 1915 deals with the committal of neglected children to the care of private persons or institutions approved by the Governor in Council, and also provides for the wardship of the children, and for their transference, if there be sufficient cause, to the control of the Children's Welfare Department. The following return shows the societies and persons registered under the provisions of this part of the Act, and gives particulars respecting the children under their care during 1928:—

**WORK OF SOCIETIES AND PERSONS REGISTERED UNDER
PART VIII. OF THE CHILDREN'S WELFARE ACT.**

Name of Society or Person.	Number of Children under Supervision on 31.12.27.	Admissions during 1928.			Number of Children under Supervision on 31.12.28.
		Court Committals.	Transfer of Guardianship.	Voluntary Admissions.	
Melbourne Orphanage Asylum, Brighton	279	..	..	93	303
Presbyterian and Scots' Church Society	273	5	17	21	264
Victorian Children's Aid Society	126	..	4	29	125
Church of England Mission..	104	2	7	42	99
Methodist Homes, Cheltenham	226	2	8	63	210
Gordon Institute ..	59	5	..	11	60
Burwood Boys' Home ..	41	1	..	30	35
Methodist Boys' Home (Central Mission Training Farm) ..	75	..	..	42	66
Presbyterian Girls' Home, Elsternwick ..	36	..	10	..	36
St. Joseph's Home, Surrey Hills	140	3	98	85	127
Sutherland Homes ..	157	..	3	50	148
Minton Boys' Home, (Ragged Boys' Home) ..	47	..	11	..	49
Church of England Boys' Home, Auburn and Canterbury ..	59	2	4	5	51
Kilmany Park Boys' Home, Sale ..	47	2	2	7	52
Seaside Garden Home for Boys, Newhaven ..	117	7	..	75	112
Mrs. Emily Dare, 56 Francis-street, Yarraville ..	47	5	1	3	34
Church of England Home, Clarendon-street, East Melbourne ..	54	..	28	42	56
St. Agnes' Home for Girls, Glenroy ..	57	..	1	20	61
St. Nicholas' Home for Boys, Glenroy ..	60	..	2	22	61
Central Mission, 47 Lang-street, South Yarra	18	3	..	13	17
Total ..	2,022	37	196	653	1,966

The number of children who were under the guardianship of the State or maintained in public institutions or by societies on 31st December, 1928, reached the large total of 21,212, viz., 7,521 (7,496 State wards and 25 incapacitated) under the control of the Children's Welfare Department, 9,904 boarded out with mothers, 1,966 under the supervision of societies registered under Part VIII. of the Children's Welfare Act, 360 in Foundling Hospitals, and 1,461 in Orphan Asylums.

Infant Life Protection Act. With the view generally of exercising more efficient supervision over unprotected child life, and of lessening the excessive mortality amongst boarded-out children, the State Legislature passed an act No. 2102 (which came into force on 31st December, 1907), to amend the Infant Life Protection Act of 1890. These acts are now incorporated in the *Infant Life Protection Act 1915 (No. 2670)*.

On 31st December, 1928, there were 337 children under supervision in registered homes under the provisions of this Act. The

deaths during the year numbered 15. In addition, 127 children became wards of the Children's Welfare Department by the operation of section 15 of the Act. Twenty-two cases of adoption of children were notified during the year. Five female inspectors are engaged in the work of inspection.

RELIEF FUNDS.

VICTORIAN MINING ACCIDENT RELIEF FUND.

**Victorian
Mining
Accident
Relief Fund.**

In December, 1882, an inrush of water in the New Australasian Company's mine at Creswick caused the deaths of 22 miners. Consequent on this disaster 79 persons, comprising 18 widows and 61 children, were left in destitute circumstances. Public subscriptions to the amount of £21,602 were raised throughout Victoria for the relief of the widows and orphan children of those who lost their lives, and a fund was established, out of which the widows and children to a certain age were paid weekly allowances. On 31st December, 1928, there remained on the fund five widows, who were receiving 15s. per week each. In addition to the amounts paid to these recipients, grants of surplus moneys are made annually to deserving cases. In 1928, the sum so allotted was £1,031. The amount at credit of the fund on that date was £24,620, of which £9,500 was a mortgage on freehold premises in Queen-street, Melbourne, £9,500 was invested in Commonwealth bonds, £5,607 was in Victorian Government inscribed stock and debentures, and £13 was cash in hand.

VICTORIAN COAL MINERS' ACCIDENTS RELIEF FUND.

**Victorian
Coal Miners'
Accidents
Relief Fund.**

A provision of the *Coal Mines Regulation Act 1909* (No. 2240)—now the *Coal Mines Regulation Act 1915* (No. 2630)—relates to the constitution of a Fund called the Victorian Coal Miners' Accidents Relief Fund, to which every person employed in a coal mine is compelled to contribute 4½d. per week, the mine-owners paying an amount equal to one-half of that deducted from the miners' wages, and the Government of Victoria a sum equal to the payment by the owners. The Board held its first meeting on 4th April, 1910, and decided that the employers' contributions should commence from 2nd April, 1910. Committees were formed at the collieries (numbering 8 in 1928), their principal functions being to collect contributions and, subject to the approval of the Board, to allot the allowances.

During the year 1928 the contributions from employees amounted to £1,642, and the allowances paid at the mines totalled £924. For the year ended 31st December, 1928, the total revenue was £3,740—remittances from committees at the mines amounting to £764, interest to £1,240, and miscellaneous to £13, and the balance being contributed by the mine-owners (£852) and the Government (£871). The expenditure included £1,429 paid in allowances in addition to the amounts paid at the mines, and £303 cost of administration. The accumulated

funds amounted to £27,670—£8,700 invested in Victorian Government 3½ per cent. inscribed stock, £1,300 in Victorian Government 6 per cent. inscribed stock, £3,950 in Victorian Government 5¼ per cent. inscribed stock, £13,600 in Commonwealth inscribed stock, and £120 bank balance. Relief was given in 415 non-fatal cases. In respect to non-fatal accidents, there are 26 persons on the permanently disabled list, the number of children dependent upon such persons being 12. Two fatal accidents occurred during the year. There are 16 widows, 2 mothers, and 24 children receiving aid from the fund as the result of fatalities during 1928 and previous years.

WATSON SUSTENTATION FUND

**The Watson
Sustentation
Fund.**

This fund was inaugurated as the result of an offer made by the late Mr. J. B. Watson to the Bendigo Miners' Association about the year 1889. Information in relation to its establishment is given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 612. Payments to beneficiaries were first made in 1891 at the rate of 5s. per week, and this rate was maintained for about two years, when the sick pay was increased to 7s. 6d. per week. Further changes were afterwards made as necessity arose.

The following are the particulars of members of the Fund relieved, &c., and of receipts and expenditure :—From the inception of the Fund in 1891 to the end of 1928 the total expenditure was £40,670, of which £36,301 represented sick pay and £3,427 donations to members and wives and families of deceased members. During 1928, 27 members were relieved and 3 died, and 22 were on the funds at the end of the year. The receipts for the year were £682. Sick pay for 1928 amounted to £422, donations to members and wives and families of deceased members to £57, and expenses of administration to £59; the total expenditure being £538. The balance in hand at the end of the year 1927 was £914, and at the end of 1928, £1,058.

QUEEN'S FUND.

Queen's Fund. This fund was instituted in 1887 by Lady Loch to commemorate the Jubilee of the late Queen Victoria. It is for the relief of women in distress, and it is arranged that only the interest on the capital shall be expended yearly. The number of women relieved during 1928-29 was 64, to whom £576 was allotted either by way of grant or loan, and the cost of management was £116. The accumulated fund on 30th June, 1929, was £17,623. In addition to the ordinary receipts of the Fund for the year 1928-29 (£930) an amount of £260 was received from the trustees of the Walter and Elizabeth Hall Trust for distribution to governesses, nurses, and ladies in similar positions who from age, misfortune, or infirmity were unable to earn their living. A sum of £260 was distributed in this manner, £3 was expended on management, and £12 remained in the bank at the date of balancing.

PATRIOTIC FUNDS.

**Patriotic
Funds.**

The *Year-Book* for 1918-19 contains, on pages 391 and 392, a statement of the collections in money and the value of the goods contributed in the State of Victoria to the various Patriotic Funds from the outbreak of hostilities to the 31st December, 1918. The total amount for the State, including contributions received after the last-mentioned date, is estimated to have been well over £4,000,000.

IMMIGRATION BUREAU.

**Immigration
Bureau.**

The Immigration Bureau, which is a branch of the Public Works Department, deals with the subject of assisted immigration to Victoria.

On 1st March, 1921, a joint Commonwealth and State Scheme of Immigration came into operation, and from that date the Government of the Commonwealth assumed responsibility for the booking of passages for nominated and other settlers proceeding to Australia, and took over all administrative work in London, including advertising and the medical inspection of prospective settlers.

Approval of nominations is dealt with by the State authorities, who also indicate the classes and numbers of persons who it is considered may be absorbed in the population without detriment to local artisans and other residents, and for whom it is desired that passages be arranged. To the States is also intrusted the matter of settling on the land or providing employment for new arrivals.

The Government, through this Bureau and in other ways, affords all advice and assistance possible to prospective settlers arriving from overseas, whether desiring to take up land or to obtain employment. In the cases of private purchases of land by new arrivals, valuations on their behalf will, if desired, be made by expert officers free of charge. Nominated passages may be arranged from Great Britain, also under special conditions from Canada and other British Dominions and the United States of America. The Government contributes from £16 10s. upwards towards the fares of approved nominees from Great Britain, special concessions being available in the cases of domestics, married couples, widows and widowers with young families.

Nomination forms and all particulars as to rates, &c., may be obtained on application to the Officer-in-Charge, Immigration Bureau, Exhibition Buildings, Rathdown-street, Carlton, with whom nominations should be lodged. Inquiries in Great Britain should be addressed to the Director, Commonwealth Migration and Settlement Office, Australia House, Strand, London.