VICTORIAN YEAR-BOOK 1928-29.



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Victorian Year-Book

1928-29

By

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CONTENTS.

							PAGES
MAP OF VICTORIA.							
INTRODUCTION			•••			••	1 to 9
CONSTITUTION AND	GOVERNM	IENT	••••	•••		••	9 to 36
POPULATION					••	•••	37 to 74
FINANCE	•••			•••		•••	75 to 126
MUNICIPAL STATIS	TICS			•••			127 to 188
LAW AND CRIME							189 to 222
VITAL STATISTICS-	_						
MARRIAGES	•••	•••		•••		•••	223 to 236
BIRTHS			•••		••	••••	237 to 249
DEATHS			•••	·	••	· • •	249 to 302
ACCUMULATION						•••	303 to 346
SOCIAL CONDITION	••••				•••	<i>,</i>	347 to 440
INTERCHANGE		••	•••		••••		441 to 502
MAP ILLUSTRATIN	с тне Рв	ODUCTION	N OF EAC	h Distri	CT.		
PRODUCTION-							
LAND SETTLE	MENT, W	ATER SU	PPLY, ET	C.	•••	•••	503 to 538
AGRICULTURA	L AND PA	STORAL	Pursuits				539 to 593
MINING		•••					593 to 603
MANUFACTUR	ES					••••	604 to 658
STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR VICTORIA, 1836 TO 1929						• • • •	659 to 687
Appendix		•••	••	•••			688 to 689
GENERAL INDEX		•••	· •••		•••	• •••	691 to 712

PREFACE.

THIS is the forth-ninth issue of the Victorian Year-Book.

The main object of the work is to show the progress made by the State during the year under review, and with this end the particulars appertaining to that year are compared with those relating to previous years. An endeavour is made to present such information as will assist legislators, publicists, and others in forming an opinion in regard to the most suitable methods to be adopted in the future in developing the natural resources of the State and promoting the welfare of the people.

The first part shows the progress of the State since the early days of settlement, and contains a description of the Constitution, as well as an epitome of Acts passed during 1928 by the State Parliament, Parts II., III., IV., VII., and lists of members of Parliament, &c. IX. deal with the wealth and progress of the community, as indicated by the growth of population, and by increases in bank deposits, in amounts assured with life offices, in volume of trade, &c., and details are given of the revenue and expenditure of the Government, and of municipalities. Parts V., VI., and VIII. contain statistics relating to births, marriages and deaths, crime, education, charitable institutions, and other cognate subjects. In Part X. a detailed account is given of the agricultural, mineral, manufacturing, and other productions of the State. The various parts were issued as soon as completed. The information in all parts has been brought up to the latest possible date, on many subjects to the middle of the year 1929, and in a few instances to a later date.

The new matter appearing in the volume includes a statement in Part "Finance" of the Pension and Superannuation schemes in force in the Public Services of Victoria at 30th June, 1928. In this Part information in relation to State and Local debts is given in more detail than formerly. The table in Part "Interchange" relating to Traffic Accidents has been extended so as to show those occurring in the metropolitan area and the remainder of the State separately.

Part "Production" contains a series of tables showing, according to size of holdings, the land occupied in the State in March, 1929, and the cultivation and live stock (including dairy herds) thereon. This part also includes information in regard to the value of the building and construction work carried out in the State in 1928–29, and the number of dwellings of various sizes which were completed in that year.

I have to thank the heads of Government Departments and the various experts who have supplied information and in other ways assisted in the preparation of this book. I also wish to thank the members of my staff for their hearty co-operation and for the valuable assistance received from them, and in particular I desire to express my appreciation of the work performed by Mr. J. B. Hourigan and Mr. J. S. Macdermott in supervising the preparation of the parts. Mr. Hourigan, who was Assistant Government Statist, retired from the Public Service in October, 1929, and was succeeded by Mr. Macdermott.

The figures and other material in each portion of the book have been carefully examined and checked. If, however, any errors be detected, I shall be pleased to receive information as to their nature and position.

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Office of the Government Statist,

Melbourne, 31st May, 1930.

