

INTERCHANGE.

By the Commonwealth Constitution Act the collection of Customs and Excise duties was transferred to the Federal Government on 1st January, 1901, and the departments of Posts and Telegraphs and Defence were transferred by proclamation on the 1st March following. The Commonwealth Government collects the revenue of these departments, and after deducting the expenditure of the transferred departments incurred in each State, and the State's proportion of new expenditure on a population basis, returns the balance to the State. A limit has, however, been placed on the amount which the Commonwealth Government may expend. (See page 130, Part Finance.)

Customs
and Excise
transferred
to Com-
monwealth.

One of the provisions of the Constitution Act—Section 93—relating to duties of Customs and of Excise is, that duties collected on goods imported into or manufactured in a State, and afterwards passing into another State for consumption, shall be taken to have been collected in the latter State. Monthly adjustments are accordingly made between the States by the Commonwealth Government, and under the provision referred to Victoria has refunded to the other States the sum of £3,175,784 during the eight years ended 30th June, 1910—a striking illustration of the important position Melbourne holds as a distributing and manufacturing centre for Australia.

The following table shows the net adjustments between the several States during the last eight years. The credits represent the net amounts received for duties collected in other States, and the debits represent the net refunds.

NET INTER-STATE ADJUSTMENTS OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DUTIES,
EIGHT YEARS ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1910.

State.	Debits.	Credits.
	£	£
Victoria	3,175,784	—
New South Wales	1,235,253	—
Queensland	—	1,886,497
South Australia	—	421,131
Western Australia	—	1,117,015
Tasmania	—	986,394
Total	4,411,037	4,411,037

Up to the end of 1902 each State published statistical information regarding its trade, showing countries from and to which articles were imported and exported. Under this arrangement there occurred material differences in the classification of the goods, making it

practically impossible to institute accurate comparisons. Arrangements were accordingly made by the Federal Government for uniform tabulation of trade returns in each State, and the information so tabulated was issued for the first time in 1903. The Inter-State returns for later years, while tabulated according to a uniform system, are defective to the extent that in exports they do not distinguish home produce from that brought from other States.

Imports and exports.

The total values of Victorian imports and exports and their values per head of the population for each of the last ten years are shown in the following table:—

VALUE OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, 1900 TO 1909.

Year.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Total.	Per Head of Population.	Total.	Per Head of Population.
	£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
1900 ...	18,301,811	15 6 9	17,422,552	14 12 0
1901 ...	18,927,340	15 14 8	18,646,097	15 10 0
1902 ...	18,270,245	15 2 8	18,210,523	15 1 8
1903 ...	17,859,171	14 15 6	19,707,068	16 6 0
1904 ...	20,096,442	16 12 10	24,404,917	20 4 2
1905 ...	22,337,886	18 8 5	22,758,828	18 15 5
1906 ...	25,234,402	20 11 4	28,917,992	23 11 4
1907 ...	28,198,257	22 12 4	28,735,004	23 0 11
1908 ...	27,197,696	21 10 2	27,196,201	21 10 2
1909 ...	28,150,198	21 18 6	29,896,275	23 5 8

The import and export trade of 1909 (£58,046,473) exceeded that of all previous years, and the same remark applies to exports if taken separately. Compared with 1908, there was an increase in imports equivalent to 8s. 4d. per head of the population, and in exports equivalent to £1 15s. 6d. per head; compared with 1900 there was an increase in imports of £6 11s. 9d., and in exports of £8 13s. 8d. per head. Imports exceeded exports in 1900 by 14s. 9d., in 1901 by 4s. 8d., and in 1902 by 1s. per head, but since 1902 exports have exceeded imports (except in 1908) by amounts ranging from 7s. per head in 1905 to £3 11s. 4d. per head in 1904. In 1908 the imports and exports per head were equal in value. The exports for the respective years 1900 to 1909 comprise:—

	Gold.	Merchandise.
	£	£
1900 ...	4,132,061	13,290,491
1901 ...	4,298,528	14,347,569
1902 ...	4,305,697	13,904,826
1903 ...	5,420,974	14,286,094
1904 ...	4,444,011	19,960,906
1905 ...	1,999,297	20,759,531
1906 ...	4,910,177	24,007,815
1907 ...	2,660,544	26,074,460
1908 ...	4,363,078	22,833,123
1909 ...	2,846,981	27,049,294

Trade with the other Australian States, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, other British possessions, and foreign countries in each of the last five years was as follows:—

Imports
from and
exports to
principal
countries.

IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES,
1905 TO 1909.

Countries.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
Imports.					
From—	£	£	£	£	£
Other Australian States	9,380,031	10,379,239	11,097,235	10,764,314	11,618,217
New Zealand ...	843,264	942,339	852,470	802,847	861,313
United Kingdom ...	7,472,489	8,617,057	10,294,691	9,345,736	9,946,089
India and Ceylon ...	848,727	903,893	972,123	862,126	980,719
South Africa ...	5,581	6,163	11,609	121,284	16,663
Other British Possessions	347,307	378,151	352,408	482,761	452,736
Belgium ...	205,772	274,845	342,572	370,293	338,908
France ...	118,168	110,659	174,106	178,631	152,441
Germany ...	925,040	1,143,920	1,310,917	1,305,602	1,205,359
United States of America	1,480,809	1,604,916	1,954,102	2,081,594	1,556,997
Other Foreign Countries	710,698	873,220	836,024	882,508	1,020,756
Total ...	22,337,886	25,234,402	28,198,257	27,197,696	28,150,198
Exports.					
To—	£	£	£	£	£
Other Australian States	8,730,187	10,807,972	11,622,706	12,031,170	12,053,399
New Zealand ...	552,820	1,006,466	962,932	773,557	1,117,807
United Kingdom ...	7,472,462	8,926,300	8,514,274	7,528,932	8,871,161
India and Ceylon ...	849,450	1,546,890	1,038,339	559,027	548,070
South Africa ...	917,238	807,458	608,544	444,644	643,870
Other British Possessions	246,839	291,142	329,512	215,471	243,136
Belgium ...	697,885	793,649	871,997	500,007	747,510
France ...	1,529,438	1,640,182	2,318,227	1,589,428	1,954,548
Germany ...	534,121	739,052	626,572	2,015,536	872,461
United States of America	423,979	1,056,642	936,982	575,863	1,169,762
Other Foreign Countries	804,409	1,302,239	904,919	962,566	1,674,551
Total ...	22,758,828	28,917,992	28,735,004	27,196,201	29,896,275

The proportion of imports coming from Australian States formed 42 per cent. of the total in 1905, 41 per cent. in 1906, 39 per cent. in 1907, 39½ per cent. in 1908, and 41 per cent. in 1909, or an average of 41 per cent. over the five years. The proportion from the United Kingdom was 33 per cent. in 1905, 34 per cent. in 1906, 37 per cent. in 1907, 34 per cent. in 1908, and 35 per cent. in 1909, or an average of 35 per cent. for the period. The average contributions to Victorian imports by other countries for the five years were—New Zealand 3 per cent., India and Ceylon 3½ per cent., Belgium 1 per cent., Germany 4½ per cent., the United States of America 6½ per cent., and all other countries 5½ per cent. Of the total exports the proportion sent to Australian States was 38 per cent. in 1905, 37 per cent. in 1906, 40 per cent. in 1907, 44 per cent. in 1908, and 40 per cent. in 1909, or an average of 40 per cent. for the five years. The proportion sent to the United Kingdom was 33 per cent. in 1905, 31 per cent. in 1906, 30 per cent. in 1907, 27½ per cent. in 1908, and 30 per cent. in 1909, the exports for the five years averaging 30 per cent. of the total. Of other countries on the average of the five years New Zealand took 3 per cent. of Victorian exports, India and Ceylon 3 per cent., South Africa nearly 2½ per cent., Belgium 3 per cent., France 7 per cent., Germany 3½ per cent., the United States of America 3 per cent., and all other countries 5 per cent. British countries contributed 85 per cent. of the total imports in 1905, 84 per cent. in 1906 and in 1907, 82 per cent. in 1908, and 85 per cent. in 1909; and took 83 per cent. of the total exports in 1905, 81 per cent. in 1906, 80 per cent. in 1907, 79 per cent. in 1908, and 78½ per cent. in 1909. In each of the last five years exports were of greater value than imports in the trade with South Africa, Belgium, and France; but with the United States, the value of imports was greater than that of exports. There was an excess of exports in trade with the United Kingdom in 1906, with New Zealand in 1906, 1907, and 1909, with India and Ceylon in 1905, 1906, and 1907, and with Germany in 1908; but in other years there was an excess of imports from those countries. In interchange with the other Australian States there was an excess of imports in 1905, but of exports in each of the other four years.

Trade with
United
Kingdom.

Since 1905, Victorian trade with the United Kingdom has increased from £14,944,951 to £18,817,250. This trade consisted equally of imports and exports in 1905; but in 1909 there was an excess of £1,074,928 in favour of imports. The principal articles

imported from and exported to the United Kingdom in the last three years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO
THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1907 TO 1909.

ARTICLES.	Value.		
	1907.	1908.	1909.
Imported into Victoria from United Kingdom.			
	£	£	£
Piece Goods—Cotton and Linen	1,133,056	1,064,356	1,248,104
" " Woollen	804,829	665,632	643,852
" " Velvets, &c.	300,342	358,984	448,431
" " Silk	362,008	295,572	293,066
Iron and Steel	639,285	524,988	606,430
Machines, Tools, and Implements	487,366	451,195	550,399
Apparel and Attire	571,376	464,917	494,324
Vessels (Ships)	260,000	460,000	264,000
Paper	220,133	240,761	258,270
Books	186,661	174,746	205,041
All other articles	5,329,635	4,644,585	4,934,192
Total	10,294,691	9,345,736	9,946,089
Exported from Victoria to United Kingdom.			
Wool	3,472,248	3,269,901	2,905,230
Wheat and Flour	1,203,062	533,332	2,547,669
Butter	1,323,673	868,068	936,675
Hides and Skins	481,598	407,405	553,529
Meat, Frozen—			
Beef, Mutton and Lamb	467,131	407,078	414,443
Rabbits and Hares	153,421	82,335	80,729
Copper	7,297	189,991	250,882
Tin Ingots	370,524	294,358	238,184
Gold	177,412	811,160	213,020
Tallow	176,271	104,555	174,096
Leather	135,457	147,111	130,566
All other articles	544,180	413,638	426,138
Total	8,514,274	7,528,932	8,871,161

Imports from the United Kingdom are chiefly made up of manufactures, while exports thereto from Victoria consist almost entirely of agricultural, pastoral, and mineral products. It will be observed in the figures for 1909 that, of the imports, piece goods and apparel and attire represent more than 31 per cent. of the total, also that, of the exports, wool is responsible for nearly 33 per cent., and if to its value be added that of wheat and flour 61 per cent. of the total is accounted for.

Trade with
New
Zealand.

During the last five years the value of imports from New Zealand has been fairly uniform, and in 1909 it was only 2 per cent. greater than in 1905, but exports thereto have shown considerable growth, and in 1909 were worth 102 per cent. more than in 1905. The principal articles imported and exported during the last three years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO
NEW ZEALAND, 1907 TO 1909.

ARTICLES.	Value.		
	1907.	1908.	1909.
Imported into Victoria from New Zealand.			
	£	£	£
Gold-Bullion	397,873	342,659	407,215
Timber	122,250	160,142	134,093
Skins and Hides	122,651	105,080	110,146
Flax and Hemp	53,305	53,992	59,750
Animals (horses, cattle, sheep and pigs)	24,979	14,527	30,522
Fish	23,288	13,646	16,705
Wool	23,900	7,195	13,995
Seeds	9,287	16,425	13,952
Machines, Tools and Implements	14,008	7,224	7,083
Twine (reaper and binder) ...	...	7,516	5,254
All other Articles	60,929	74,441	62,598
Total	852,470	802,847	861,313
Exported from Victoria to New Zealand.			
Gold-Specie	352,000	50,000	600,000
Tobacco, manufactured	54,320	65,699	69,435
Rubber manufactures	36,999	40,833	38,396
Machinery	46,433	34,097	35,692
Wheat and Flour	34,423	107,197	31,614
Books	19,632	22,802	24,396
Leather	21,699	25,429	22,900
Tea	17,953	22,194	18,745
Manures	10,609	22,687	14,915
Wine	16,689	15,347	15,610
All other Articles	352,175	367,272	246,104
Total	962,932	773,557	1,117,807

In 1909 the exports to New Zealand were 30 per cent. in excess of the imports therefrom. Leaving gold out of consideration, it will be observed that the articles imported are not very numerous, as the nine leading items account for 86 per cent. of the total, whilst the varied character of the exports is evidenced by the fact that the nine leading items make up only 52 per cent. of the total.

Trade with India and Ceylon, which was less than 3 per cent. of the Victorian total in 1909, has declined by £169,388 since 1905, the value of the exports being less by £301,380 (principally gold), but that of the imports more by £131,992. The principal articles interchanged during the last three years were as follows:—

Trade with
India and
Ceylon.

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO
INDIA AND CEYLON, 1907 TO 1909.

ARTICLES.	Value.		
	1907.	1908.	1909.
Imported into Victoria from India and Ceylon.			
	£	£	£
Bags, Sacks, &c.	300,540	336,739	414,848
Tea	416,697	313,122	363,165
Hessian	65,101	53,370	46,159
Skins	19,025	39,996	25,619
Coffee	9,101	10,677	16,886
Bonedust	15,369	11,855	8,866
Cotton (raw)	20,375	8,458	8,425
Oils in Bulk	12,203	8,639	8,397
Nuts	9,257	3,428	6,801
Rice	16,527	8,501	5,423
All other Articles	87,928	67,338	76,130
Total	972,123	862,126	980,719
Exported from Victoria to India and Ceylon.			
Gold	822,265	372,889	399,602
Horses	129,121	62,796	59,116
Wheat and Flour	11,582	52,480	16,215
Wool	13,773	21,600	15,915
Soap	8,855	7,562	6,890
Hay and Chaff	9,185	4,614	4,522
Butter	5,105	4,503	4,473
Oats	3,960	2,595	4,227
Biscuits	3,467	2,754	3,862
Tallow	7,919	3,384	2,897
All other Articles	23,107	23,850	30,351
Total	1,038,339	559,027	548,070

The import trade from India and Ceylon is largely made up of tea and jute goods, whose value in 1909 formed 84 per cent. of the total. In return gold was the leading item of exchange, outside of

which the export trade in horses, wheat, and wool was the only business of importance, all other exports in 1909 being responsible for only 10 per cent. of the total.

Trade with
Belgium.

Imports from Belgium have increased by 65 per cent. in the last five years, but exports thereto have increased by only 7 per cent. in the same period. Belgium's contribution accounted for about 2 per cent. of Victoria's imports and exports in 1905, and in 1909 its proportion was 1.87 per cent. The principal articles of trade with Belgium in the last three years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO
BELGIUM, 1907 TO 1909.

ARTICLES.	Value.		
	1907.	1908.	1909.
Imported into Victoria from Belgium.			
	£	£	£
Iron and Steel	68,719	78,287	73,758
Glass and Glassware	41,857	31,845	40,531
Cameos and Precious Stones	28,712	43,105	35,567
Wire	6,364	15,958	18,106
Wine	12,528	15,472	14,819
Paper	12,429	21,545	14,499
Vehicles, and parts of	9,536	8,660	14,452
Rails, Fishplates, &c.	15,336	6,140	12,314
Copper	6,237	15,699	11,714
Piece Goods	11,195	9,296	9,815
All other articles	129,659	124,286	93,333
Total	342,572	370,293	338,908
Exported from Victoria to Belgium.			
Wool	612,551	335,589	458,475
Hides and Skins	153,338	96,999	204,490
Ores—Silver Lead, &c.	32,278	35,689	34,936
Leather	31,283	23,755	22,700
Wheat	6,415	...	9,896
Tallow	6,702	1,502	9,040
Cameos and Precious Stones	6,753	3,087	1,626
All other articles	22,677	3,386	6,347
Total	871,997	500,007	747,510

The trade with Belgium is largely in the form of exports, of which the principal articles in 1909 were wool and hides and skins, together representing 89 per cent. of the total; if to these be added the other five articles specified in the above table, less than 1 per cent. is unaccounted for.

With France, the principal trade is in exports, which in 1909 Trade with France. amounted to £1,954,548, as against imports of £152,441; the increase in the total trade in the last five years was £459,383, viz., exports £425,110, and imports £34,273. The principal articles imported from and exported to France in 1907, 1908, and 1909 were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO FRANCE, 1907 TO 1909.

ARTICLES.	Value.		
	1907.	1908.	1909.
Imported into Victoria from France.			
	£	£	£
Cream of Tartar	43,104	48,668	41,778
Cameos and Precious Stones	28,610	3,953	17,707
Piece Goods	7,730	10,218	11,443
Acids	11,435	14,437	6,162
Corks, Cork Mats, &c.	8,973	7,639	6,090
Seeds	1,033	4,173	5,999
Pipes (Smoking)	3,178	4,763	3,427
Wine	6,002	6,660	2,957
Brandy	980	17,835	2,222
All other articles	63,061	60,285	54,656
Total	174,106	178,631	152,441
Exported from Victoria to France.			
Wool	1,973,829	1,330,715	1,683,732
Hides and Skins	334,653	246,898	243,352
Tallow ... ..	...	4,366	10,385
Ore-Tin ... ..	...	...	5,848
Wheat ... ..	...	4,103	5,040
Horns	448	827	1,093
All other articles	9,297	2,519	5,098
Total	2,318,227	1,589,428	1,954,548

Imports direct from France, of which more than one-fourth consisted of cream of tartar, did not in 1909 indicate the extent to which articles produced in France were received in Victoria, as it is shown on page 476 that goods of French origin to the extent of £744,311 were imported in that year. The value of exports was practically covered by that of wool and hides and skins, as all other items accounted for only 1 per cent. of the total.

Trade with
Germany.

The trade with Germany amounted to £1,459,161 in 1905, and to £2,077,820 in 1909, or about 3½ per cent. of the whole in each of these years. The exports for 1909 were worth £245,889 more, but the imports were worth £105,558 less, than in 1907. The principal articles interchanged with Germany during the last three years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO GERMANY, 1907 TO 1909.

ARTICLES.	Value.		
	1907.	1908.	1909.
Imported into Victoria from Germany.			
	£	£	£
Rubber Manufactures	32,459	57,777	95,373
Wire	112,742	119,388	88,843
Machines, Tools, and Implements	96,931	89,810	70,191
Pianos	96,812	78,784	69,753
Apparel and Attire	63,420	46,009	62,059
Piece Goods	55,753	68,819	53,956
Paper	107,104	108,233	53,306
Iron and Steel	38,653	24,213	31,662
Leather	23,802	37,233	30,129
Glass and Glassware	30,810	34,673	26,758
All other Articles	652,431	640,663	623,329
Total	1,310,917	1,305,602	1,205,359
Exported from Victoria to Germany.			
Gold-Specie ... ..	...	1,410,000	...
Wool	549,669	533,050	792,840
Hides and Skins	365	31,961	17,733
Apples—Fresh	10,971	9,630	17,405
Sausage Casings	27,206	11,698	10,596
Wheat ... ..	...	...	9,003
Rubber Manufactures	324	1,504	5,686
Eucalyptus Oil	6,379	1,415	2,155
Cameos and Precious Stones ...	4,184	1,685	2,052
All other Articles	27,474	14,593	14,991
Total	626,572	2,015,536	872,461

The articles imported from Germany are very varied in character, as may be seen from the fact that only half their total value is accounted for in the ten leading items shown above. In exchange for the imports, nearly three-fourths of their value was returned in merchandise in 1909. Of the exports for that year 91 per cent. consisted of wool, but in recent years Germany has also supplied a good market for Victorian hides and skins, sausage casings, and apples.

Trade with the United States amounted in 1909 to £2,726,759, of which £1,556,997 represented imports. As compared with the year 1905, this trade had increased by £821,971, of which the exports accounted for £745,783. The exports in 1909 were worth 103 per cent. more than in 1908, and 25 per cent. more than in 1907, the increase since 1908 having been entirely due to an expansion in exports of wool. The principal articles included in the trade with the United States in the last three years were as follows:—

Trade with
United
States.

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO
THE UNITED STATES, 1907 TO 1909.

ARTICLES.	Value.		
	1907.	1908.	1909.
Imported into Victoria from the United States.			
	£	£	£
Machines, Tools, and Implements	353,878	316,072	275,114
Kerosene	143,451	150,610	172,817
Timber	201,524	292,139	141,269
Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes	183,908	190,792	140,945
Leather	38,757	50,045	54,319
Rails, Fishplates, &c.	165	109,368	53,203
Wire	84,822	78,440	51,883
Iron and Steel	51,469	58,801	51,422
Paper	77,690	95,444	50,397
Oil (lubricating)	46,823	33,411	37,873
Fish	20,501	36,666	29,409
All other Articles	751,114	669,806	498,346
Total	1,954,102	2,081,594	1,556,997
Exported from Victoria to the United States.			
Wool	501,578	496,739	1,103,807
Hides and Skins	35,204	41,025	57,867
Copper in matte	315,459	21,264	...
Gold in matte	36,487	4,138	...
Silver in matte	39,134	3,895	...
Eucalyptus Oil	1,311	1,102	1,747
All other Articles	7,809	7,700	6,341
Total	936,982	575,863	1,169,762

The imports from the United States cover a wide range of articles, as after the four leading items which account for 47 per cent., the next largest seven are responsible for only 21 per cent. of the total,

and nearly one-third of the whole is made up of articles of much smaller value. The exports thereto in 1909 were equivalent to about three-fourths of the imports, and consisted principally of wool, which accounted for 94 per cent. of the total.

Origin of
Imports.

The value of the imports from different countries is not a true indication of the produce of such countries received by Victoria; the actual value of the production of each country imported in 1908 and 1909 was as follows:—

VALUE OF IMPORTS THE PRODUCE OF DIFFERENT COUNTRIES, 1908
AND 1909.

Countries which produced the Imports into Victoria.	Value of Imports the produce of each country.		Percentage of Total.	
	1908.	1909.	1908.	1909.
	£	£		
Australian States ...	9,937,236	10,653,517	36·54	37·85
New Zealand ...	794,399	847,008	2·92	3·01
United Kingdom ...	7,971,902	8,312,417	29·31	29·53
India and Ceylon ...	909,185	1,025,721	3·34	3·64
Canada ...	197,587	180,423	·73	·64
Other British Countries...	410,432	343,693	1·62	1·22
Belgium ...	251,047	280,207	·92	1·00
France ...	698,906	744,311	2·57	2·64
Germany ...	1,722,343	1,701,024	6·33	6·04
Japan ...	210,041	223,834	·77	·80
Norway ...	192,296	254,523	·71	·80
Switzerland ...	318,259	344,698	1·17	1·22
United States ...	2,377,037	2,040,057	8·74	7·25
Other Foreign Countries	1,177,026	1,198,965	4·33	4·26
Total ...	27,197,696	28,150,198	100·00	100·00

Of the imports in 1909 it was previously shown that 41 per cent. came from Australian States and 35 per cent. from the United Kingdom; but the figures in the above table show that a much smaller proportion of the total is the produce of those places. On the other hand, while the imports from foreign countries in the year mentioned amounted to £4,274,461, or 15 per cent. of the total, the produce of foreign countries received was £6,787,619, or 24 per cent. of such total.

Trade with each of the other States of the Commonwealth in each of the last five years was as follows:—

IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO OTHER STATES, 1905 TO 1909.

Trade with
Australian
States.

State.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
	Imports.				
From—	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales...	5,477,163	6,640,333	6,668,888	6,155,738	7,109,071
Queensland ...	1,172,771	904,678	1,271,163	1,422,682	1,326,140
South Australia ...	770,778	812,454	941,725	1,169,819	917,251
Western Australia	207,623	212,000	337,981	260,603	780,822
Tasmania ..	1,751,696	1,809,774	1,877,478	1,755,472	1,484,933
Total ...	9,380,031	10,379,239	11,097,235	10,764,314	11,618,217
	Exports.				
To—	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales...	3,932,531	5,265,169	5,561,294	5,631,562	5,486,994
Queensland ...	717,399	844,291	977,711	1,180,233	1,300,275
South Australia ...	1,392,222	1,380,820	1,701,781	1,788,959	1,863,692
Western Australia	1,331,877	1,569,340	1,530,445	1,524,138	1,575,136
Tasmania ...	1,356,158	1,748,352	1,851,475	1,906,278	1,827,302
Total ...	8,730,187	10,807,972	11,622,706	12,031,170	12,053,399

This statement includes for 1909, under the head of exports, £3,892,395 worth of goods other than those of Victorian origin, which serves to illustrate the growing importance of Melbourne as a distributing and manufacturing centre for the neighbouring States. This is more apparent on scrutinizing the classes of articles imported and exported. The imports chiefly comprise raw materials for manufacture, or for transfer to oversea markets, and in 1909 the nine articles of highest value accounted for 75 per cent. of the total as follows:—Wool, £3,391,225; live stock (horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs), £1,723,021; gold and silver, £1,193,510; sugar, £686,967; coal, £535,760; hides and skins, £473,333; tin ingots, £297,244; copper in matte, £250,882; and butter, £147,024. On the other hand, the exports are mainly in a manufactured form, and are for consumption in the States. They are also more varied than in the case of imports; the nine leading items accounted for 44 per cent. of the total, and are as follows:—Live stock, £1,079,216; apparel and attire, £983,071; machines, tools, and implements, £732,344; piece goods, £596,253; boots and shoes, £571,640; gold, £449,000; tobacco, £376,671; butter, £264,690; and jewellery, £261,852. During the last five years the exports have shown an annual increase, and have exceeded the imports in each year excepting 1905. The average yearly figures for the five years show an excess of about £401,300 in exports, made up of an excess in exports to South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania, amounting to £1,851,500, less an excess of imports from New South

Wales and Queensland, amounting to about £1,450,200. In 1909, as compared with 1905, imports from New South Wales increased by £1,631,908, from Queensland by £153,369, from South Australia by £146,473, and from Western Australia by £573,199; while those from Tasmania decreased by £266,763. Comparing the same years, viz. :—1909 with 1905, exports to New South Wales increased by £1,554,463, or 40 per cent.; to Queensland by £582,876, or 81 per cent.; to South Australia by £471,470, or 34 per cent.; to Western Australia by £243,259, or 18 per cent.; and to Tasmania by £471,144, or 35 per cent.

Since the abolition of Inter-State duties towards the end of 1901, trade with the other States has increased considerably. In 1901, this trade was valued at £11,811,298, of which the imports formed 53, and the exports 47 per cent. In 1909 it had increased to £23,671,616, or by 100 per cent., the imports representing 49, and the exports 51, per cent. of the total. Particulars of the Inter-State imports and exports of articles of Australian and oversea production during these two years are shown hereunder:—

VALUE OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF ARTICLES THE PRODUCE OF AUSTRALIA AND OF OVERSEA COUNTRIES FROM AND TO THE OTHER STATES, 1901 AND 1909.

State from which Imported or to which Exported.	1901.			1909.		
	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of— Exports (+) Imports (—)	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of— Exports (+) Imports (—)
PRODUCE OF AUSTRALIA.						
	£	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	4,076,009	2,210,815	-1,865,194	6,393,200	4,381,393	-2,011,807
Queensland ...	511,164	255,537	-255,627	1,302,234	1,045,074	-257,160
South Australia ...	403,497	320,998	-82,499	812,325	1,291,998	+479,673
Western Australia	265,642	781,277	+515,635	695,859	1,341,720	+645,861
Tasmania ...	335,499	317,241	-18,258	1,442,753	1,007,597	-435,156
Total ...	5,591,811	3,885,868	-1,705,943	10,646,371	9,067,782	-1,578,589
PRODUCE OF OVERSEA COUNTRIES.						
	£	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	521,852	781,527	+259,675	715,871	1,105,601	+389,730
Queensland ...	6,532	111,246	+104,714	23,906	255,201	+231,295
South Australia ...	89,157	202,980	+113,823	104,926	571,694	+466,768
Western Australia ...	11,190	207,204	+196,014	84,963	233,416	+148,453
Tasmania ...	19,918	382,013	+362,095	42,180	819,705	+777,525
Total ...	648,649	1,684,970	+1,036,321	971,846	2,985,617	+2,013,771

In the interchange of Australian produce great expansion has taken place in imports from and exports to the other States during the last nine years, and of the two the exports show the more substantial improvement, especially in the case of trade with South Australia and Western Australia. In the trade in oversea produce, Victoria shows a great advance in its position as a distributing centre for Australia since 1901, having increased the value of exports by 77 per cent., whilst importing an excess of only 50 per cent. The State whose share of these exports has shown the greatest increase is Tasmania, followed by South Australia and New South Wales.

The following is a statement of the values of some of the principal articles imported from the States of Australia in 1909, compared with the values of similar imports in 1901:—

IMPORTS OF SOME PRINCIPAL ARTICLES FROM AUSTRALIAN STATES,
1901 AND 1909.

Articles	Year.	Value of Imports from—					
		New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian States.
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Wool	1901	1,540,161	158,310	116,443	2,490	21,906	1,839,310
	1909	2,495,105	287,339	322,288	93,336	193,157	3,391,225
Animals(horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs)	1901	969,255	..	85,579	..	27,568	1,082,424
	1909	1,612,576	6,650	72,662	1,275	29,858	1,723,021
Gold and Silver	1901	305,717	263	125,039	254,434	148,888	833,841
	1909	452,852	..	27,442	542,468	170,748	1,193,510
Sugar	1901	11,344	229,044	8,502	..	..	248,890
	1909	45,664	638,364	2,932	..	7	636,967
Coal	1901	446,053	..	..	3	..	446,053
	1909	535,077	..	427	29	227	535,760
Hides and Skins	1901	143,652	52,703	2,388	3	30,113	228,859
	1909	212,537	98,385	18,841	20,499	123,071	473,333
Tin Ingots ..	1901	..	..	..	194	33,183	33,377
	1909	..	..	7,850	..	289,394	297,244
Copper in matte	1901	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1909	..	..	..	..	250,882	250,882
Butter	1901	24,006	2,957	25	..	337	27,325
	1909	91,057	33,177	3,274	..	19,516	147,024
Fruits—Fresh	1901	60,060	18,581	2,203	278	6,368	87,490
	1909	44,107	64,678	9,682	55	6,970	124,892
Leather	1901	22,777	1,448	606	..	760	25,591
	1909	85,053	5,608	20,596	4,320	6,009	121,586
All other Articles	1901	1,074,836	54,390	151,869	19,408	86,792	1,387,295
	1909	1,535,043	191,939	431,857	118,840	395,094	2,672,773
Total	1901	4,597,861	517,696	492,654	276,832	355,417	6,240,460
	1909	7,109,071	1,326,140	917,251	780,822	1,484,933	11,613,217

Since 1901 the increase in Inter-State imports, though substantial, has not been so great as that in exports. It has been due chiefly to larger importations from New South Wales and Tasmania, the principal articles contributing to the increase having been wool and animals received from the former and minerals from the latter State. There has also been a growth in the imports from Queensland and South Australia, the increase in the former case having been derived mainly

from wool and sugar, and in the latter from wool. The importations from Western Australia are unimportant if gold be left out of account.

In the next table the values of the principal articles exported to the other States in 1909 are compared with the values of similar exports in 1901:—

EXPORTS OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES TO AUSTRALIAN STATES,
1901 AND 1909.

Articles.	Year.	Value of Exports to—					
		New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian States.
Animals (horses, cattle, sheep, pigs) ..	1901	£ 316,363	£ 5,492	£ 52,506	£ 86,783	£ 31,611	£ 492,755
	1909	842,395	10,617	123,396	46,251	56,557	1,079,216
Apparel and Attire ..	1901	136,210	5,430	18,838	50,833	51,065	262,426
	1909	378,051	92,661	188,435	150,413	173,511	983,071
Machines, Tools, and Implements ..	1901	181,722	25,220	27,316	49,068	35,573	318,899
	1909	326,027	95,221	131,336	90,803	88,957	732,344
Piece Goods ..	1901	85,263	6,307	27,363	9,003	24,850	152,736
	1909	254,248	66,154	126,124	46,609	103,028	596,253
Boots and Shoes ..	1901	39,154	499	3,198	15,076	11,208	69,135
	1909	234,253	55,035	106,093	105,605	70,654	571,640
Gold ..	1901	893,686	..	50,000	..	17,000	960,686
	1909	443,720	..	..	..	5,280	449,000
Tobacco, &c. ..	1901	29,890	8,194	11,185	15,801	27,716	92,736
	1909	107,896	78,335	51,716	81,273	57,451	376,671
Butter ..	1901	7,886	194	31,763	176,408	10,054	226,305
	1909	14,771	2	58,607	133,236	58,074	204,690
Jewellery ..	1901	18,559	6,368	8,595	2,674	11,610	47,806
	1909	126,657	25,198	37,086	29,983	42,928	261,832
Hay and Chaff ..	1901	22,753	21,485	4	1,254	6	45,502
	1909	198,534	49,251	109	391	5,739	254,024
Leather ..	1901	35,317	7,256	8,343	10,316	6,911	68,143
	1909	96,269	26,168	58,108	17,068	26,952	224,555
Rubber Manufactures ..	1901	6,358	980	6,611	5,862	2,167	21,978
	1909	84,361	26,863	45,151	24,862	19,366	200,633
All other Articles ..	1901	1,219,181	279,358	278,256	565,353	469,483	2,811,631
	1909	2,379,812	774,770	937,531	848,532	1,118,805	6,059,450
Total ..	1901	2,992,342	366,783	523,978	988,481	699,254	5,570,838
	1909	5,486,994	1,300,275	1,863,692	1,575,136	1,827,302	12,053,399

Since 1901 the exports to other States have increased by 116 per cent. The greatest increase in amount has been to New South Wales, but the highest rate of increase has been to South Australia, followed by Queensland and Tasmania. The item which has shown the greatest expansion of trade during that period has been apparel and attire, followed by live stock and boots and shoes. The leading items exported to New South Wales are animals, gold, apparel and attire, machines, &c., and piece goods, which, in 1909, made up more than two-fifths of the total export, and accounted for 25 per cent. of the increase since 1901; to Queensland, machines, &c., apparel and attire, tobacco, piece goods, and boots and shoes, which represented 30 per cent. of the total, and 37 per cent. of the increase; to South Australia, apparel and attire, machines, &c., piece

goods, animals, and boots and shoes, which represented 36 per cent. and 41 per cent. respectively of the total and increased export; to Western Australia, apparel and attire, butter, boots and shoes, machines, &c., and tobacco, which accounted for 36 per cent. of the whole and 43 per cent. of the increase; and to Tasmania, apparel and attire, piece goods, machines, &c., boots and shoes, and butter, which represented 27 per cent. of the exports and 32 per cent. of the increase.

The following statement illustrates the great development which has taken place in the Inter-State trade of Victoria, as compared with that of each of the other States, since the inauguration of Federation and the introduction of free-trade between the States:—

Trade
between
Australian
States.

TRADE BETWEEN AUSTRALIAN STATES, 1900 AND 1909.

State.	Value of Trade with Other States.					
	1900.			1909.		
	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of Imports (+) Exports (-)	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of Imports (+) Exports (-)
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Victoria	6,364,167	5,257,188	+1,106,979	11,618,217	12,053,399	-435,182
New South Wales ..	10,164,080	9,979,214	+184,866	17,146,943	15,792,608	+1,354,335
Queensland	3,067,278	5,412,881	-2,345,603	5,594,309	8,982,846	-3,388,537
South Australia ..	4,225,870	4,018,678	+207,192	6,239,257	4,177,986	+2,061,271
Western Australia ..	2,675,156	1,125,031	+1,550,125	3,084,178	2,060,537	+1,024,041
Tasmania	1,372,552	1,071,829	+300,723	2,387,854	3,003,782	-615,928

It will be observed that the Victorian export trade increased from £5,257,188 in 1900 to £12,053,399 in 1909, or by 129 per cent. in the intervening period. In New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania, exports showed increases of 58 per cent., 66 per cent., 4 per cent., 83 per cent., and 180 per cent. respectively. The import trade of Victoria increased during the same period by 83 per cent., as compared with increases of 69 per cent. in New South Wales, 82 per cent. in Queensland, 48 per cent. in South Australia, 15 per cent. in Western Australia, and 74 per cent. in Tasmania. The growth of exports exceeded that of imports by £1,542,161 in Victoria, by £1,042,934 in Queensland, by £526,084 in Western Australia, and by £916,651

in Tasmania; whereas the growth of imports exceeded that of exports by £1,169,469 in New South Wales, and by £1,854,079 in South Australia.

Victorian
produce
exported.

Since 1903 no records of Victorian produce exported to other States have been kept by the Customs Department, but information has been supplied by means of which a reliable estimate has been arrived at. The values of the principal articles of export the produce or manufactures of Victoria during each of the last five years were as follows:—

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF VICTORIAN PRODUCE EXPORTED,
1905 TO 1909.

Principal Articles.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
	£	£	£	£	£
Animals—Cattle ...	293,241	512,569	248,776	364,356	331,053
Horses ...	278,033	275,445	336,942	347,272	314,825
Sheep ...	326,526	429,775	480,343	585,737	405,345
Apparel and Attire	437,672	468,960	593,579	659,513	744,706
Boots and Shoes ...	294,913	337,056	415,031	430,839	512,586
Butter and Cheese	1,576,189	2,038,900	1,895,910	1,313,254	1,345,965
Fruit—Dried ...	56,808	56,776	141,935	108,347	108,329
Fresh ...	68,522	73,620	139,783	89,651	147,213
Jams and Jellies ...	73,233	75,254	76,536	87,891	97,208
Grain—Oats ...	165,585	111,859	112,058	31,971	140,063
Wheat ...	1,835,204	2,277,533	1,787,325	627,484	2,828,275
Other ...	68,553	35,239	41,935	76,616	62,304
Grain prepared—					
Flour ...	590,297	582,494	582,285	554,887	733,916
Hay and Chaff ...	97,471	127,722	129,296	149,483	235,215
Fodder ...	63,260	41,065	48,655	27,725	35,008
Meat—Bacon and					
Ham ...	89,943	125,338	140,317	104,387	96,046
Frozen Beef	22,697	16,882	15,333	19,878	19,319
" Mutton	275,195	373,737	456,245	402,699	402,985
" Rabbits					
& Hares	220,940	221,516	154,829	85,820	82,733
Potatoes ...	102,184	189,224	55,198	96,054	111,743
Skins and Hides ...	535,086	682,783	873,884	814,228	1,019,505
Leather ...	252,569	300,106	317,235	325,559	335,966
Tallow ...	135,489	203,471	196,120	119,652	171,409
Wool ...	2,501,990	2,602,088	4,261,526	3,928,558	3,748,193
Other Articles ...	2,836,801	3,730,521	4,163,409	4,913,981	5,447,967
Total Merchandise	13,198,401	15,889,953	17,664,485	16,265,842	19,477,877
Gold (Bullion and Specie) ...	1,078,560	3,991,280	1,820,959	3,443,003	1,300,011
Total ...	14,276,961	19,881,233	19,485,444	19,708,845	20,777,888
Per head of Population ...	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Percentage of Total Exports ...	11 15 6	16 4 1	15 12 7	15 11 9	16 3 8
	62·731	68·750	67·811	72·469	69·500

The exports of Victorian produce were greater in 1909 than in any other year, exceeding in value those for 1906, the next highest year, by £896,655, although representing 5d. less *per capita*. Compared with 1908 these exports show an increase of £1,069,043, merchandise being £3,212,035 in excess of the amount for that year, but gold £2,142,992 less. The item chiefly responsible for the increase in merchandise is wheat, the value of which in 1909 exceeded that for the previous year by £2,200,791.

The following table shows the destination of Victorian produce under four principal heads for the past five years:—

Distribution
of Victorian
produce.

EXPORTS OF VICTORIAN PRODUCE, 1905 TO 1909.

Destination.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
	£	£	£	£	£
Australian States ...	5,901,347	7,568,442	7,799,183	8,208,969	8,161,004
United Kingdom ...	4,454,510	6,800,243	6,140,305	5,496,630	6,848,205
Other British Possessions	1,551,420	2,884,042	2,129,754	1,576,504	1,659,920
Foreign Countries ...	2,369,684	2,628,506	3,416,202	4,426,742	4,108,759
Total ...	14,276,961	19,881,233	19,485,444	19,708,845	20,777,888

Of the Victorian produce exported, 41 per cent. was sent to the sister States in 1905, 38 per cent. in 1906, 40 per cent. in 1907, 41½ per cent. in 1908, and 39 per cent. in 1909. Thirty-one per cent. was sent to the United Kingdom in 1905, 34 per cent. in 1906, 31½ per cent. in 1907, 28 per cent. in 1908, and 33 per cent. in 1909. Eleven per cent. was sent to "Other British Possessions" in 1905, 14½ per cent. in 1906, 11 per cent. in 1907, and 8 per cent. in 1908 and 1909. Seventeen per cent. was sent to foreign countries in 1905, 13½ per cent. in 1906, 17½ per cent. in 1907, 22½ per cent. in 1908, and 20 per cent. in 1909. Compared with 1908 the total value of domestic produce exported in 1909 shows an increase of £1,069,043, or 5½ per cent.

The exports to the United Kingdom and "Other British Possessions" display considerable fluctuations in the period covered by the table, whereas the exports to Australian States and foreign countries show substantial increases year by year until 1909, when there is a decline.

The value and proportion of Victorian produce sent to countries beyond Australia in 1900 and in each of the last four years are more fully detailed in the following return:—

EXPORTS TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES OF VICTORIAN PRODUCE,
1900, AND 1906 TO 1909.

Countries.	Value of Victorian Produce Exported in—				
	1900.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	5,559,669	6,800,243	6,140,305	5,496,630	6,848,205
Cape Colony ...	1,118,986	488,610	264,154	170,762	382,578
Ceylon ...	574,149	312,533	275,971	95,488	109,396
Hong Kong ...	76,255	145,460	174,575	96,393	102,994
India ...	664,298	864,579	441,442	427,588	349,531
Natal ...	698,316	277,245	267,393	247,225	162,219
New Zealand ...	257,781	681,646	602,178	445,987	428,092
Other British ...	40,401	113,969	104,041	93,061	125,110
Total British ...	8,989,855	9,684,285	8,270,059	7,073,134	8,508,125
Belgium ...	173,071	279,202	498,961	316,172	539,764
France ...	546,832	647,236	1,390,836	942,255	1,055,288
Germany ...	208,844	288,094	376,519	1,916,077	271,860
Japan ...	3,282	380,177	101,192	467,631	988,223
Peru ...	...	124,063	184,020	17,586	70,987
Philippines ...	27,348	73,220	115,143	106,053	127,086
Portuguese East Africa ...	...	68,853	145,306	87,594	98,973
United States of America ...	94,554	261,983	321,914	332,905	631,717
Other Foreign ...	441,423	505,678	282,311	240,469	324,861
Total Foreign ...	1,495,354	2,628,506	3,416,202	4,426,742	4,108,759
Total ...	10,485,209	12,312,791	11,686,261	11,499,876	12,616,884
	Percentage of Victorian Produce Exported—				
United Kingdom ...	53·02	55·23	52·54	47·80	54·28
Cape Colony ...	10·67	3·97	2·26	1·48	3·03
Ceylon ...	5·48	2·54	2·36	·83	·87
Hong Kong ...	·73	1·18	1·50	·84	·82
India ...	6·33	7·02	3·78	3·72	2·77
Natal ...	6·66	2·25	2·29	2·15	1·28
New Zealand ...	2·46	5·54	5·15	3·88	3·39
Other British ...	·39	·92	·89	·81	·99
Total British ...	85·74	78·65	70·77	61·51	67·43

EXPORTS TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES OF VICTORIAN PRODUCE, 1900,
AND 1906 TO 1909—*continued.*

Countries.	Percentage of Victorian Produce Exported.				
	1900.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
Belgium	1·65	2·27	4·27	2·75	4·28
France	5·22	5·25	11·90	8·19	8·36
Germany	1·99	2·34	3·22	16·66	2·16
Japan	·03	3·09	·87	4·07	7·83
Peru ... ..	...	1·01	1·58	·15	·56
Philippines	·26	·59	·98	·92	1·01
Portuguese East Africa ... ..	...	·56	1·24	·76	·78
United States of America	·90	2·13	2·75	2·90	5·01
Other Foreign	4·21	4·11	2·42	2·09	2·58
Total Foreign	14·26	21·35	29·23	38·49	32·57
Total	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

The most noticeable feature of the above table is the arrest of the decline, and revival of the trade in Victorian produce with British countries in 1909, which trade, in the years 1906, 1907, and 1908, had steadily receded from the proportion existing in 1900.

Victoria imports a considerable amount of timber, including large quantities of American oregon, Baltic deals, New Zealand pine, and Western Australian jarrah. The following is a statement of the imports and exports during the five years 1905 to 1909 :—

Imports and exports of timber.

VALUE OF TIMBER IMPORTED AND EXPORTED, 1905 TO 1909.

	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
	£	£	£	£	£
Total Imports	598,486	681,075	759,433	910,019	782,320
Imports from Australian States and New Zealand	195,217	238,897	252,797	334,808	300,065
Imports of Australasian Timber	193,116	237,185	251,440	332,798	297,933
Total Exports	42,724	46,776	64,654	62,988	60,044
Exports to Australian States and New Zealand	41,611	45,504	58,830	59,085	52,990
Exports of Victorian Timber	11,788	13,046	18,198	22,114	21,529
Victorian Timber exported to Australian States and New Zealand	11,456	12,903	17,243	20,796	19,754

By deducting from the total imports the value of timber which was imported and then exported, the value of other than Victorian timber required for use within the State is obtained. Such net imports were valued at £567,550 in 1905, £647,345 in 1906, £712,977 in 1907, £869,145 in 1908, and £743,805 in 1909.

Of the Australasian timber (*i.e.*, timber produced or treated in Australasia) imported into Victoria in 1909, the contribution from New Zealand was worth £135,021. The Australasian timber imported in that year was valued at £297,933, whilst the Victorian timber exported to Australasia was only valued at £19,754. The export trade in Victorian timber has been done almost wholly with the adjoining States, very little going to oversea markets.

Net revenue
of Customs
Depart-
ment.

The following are the net amounts of Customs and Excise duty collected in each of the last five years, the principal items being shown separately:—

REVENUE OF CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT, 1904-5 TO 1908-9.

Hheads of Revenue.	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.	1907-8	1908-9.
Import Duty—	£	£	£	£	£
Alcoholic Liquors ...	525,932	541,462	567,743	559,842	552,780
Narcotics ...	241,047	251,402	260,550	320,122	253,229
Sugar... ..	112,217	76,353	86,933	16,343	36,886
All other Articles ...	1,016,490	1,070,452	1,207,402	1,602,510	1,353,676
Total ...	1,895,686	1,939,669	2,122,628	2,498,817	2,196,571
Excise Duty—					
Spirits	88,926	94,186	94,624	114,362	68,486
Beer	169,115	170,919	173,928	187,468	181,303
Tobacco	149,187	160,091	169,862	163,938	169,842
Sugar... ..	163,247	149,119	138,982	226,638	229,409
Starch	8,662	9,447	9,943	9,237	5,748
Agricultural machinery ... ..	...	...	...	41	<i>Dr.</i> 41
Total ...	579,137	583,762	587,339	701,684	654,747
Miscellaneous	14,019	13,639	9,464	11,637	10,650
Grand Total ...	2,488,842	2,537,070	2,719,431	3,212,138	2,861,968

The net revenue collected by the Department of Trade and Customs in Victoria from all sources, after deduction of drawbacks and repayments, and after making Inter-State adjustments, amounted to £2,861,968 in 1908-9, being £350,170 less than that of the previous year, but £373,126 above that of 1904-5. The revenue from Customs duties in 1908-9 was more by £300,885 than that of 1904-5, and the revenue from Excise duties was in excess of the amount for that year by £75,610.

Imported goods, other than stimulants and narcotics, on which duty has been paid are allowed drawback, or refund of the duty paid, if subsequently exported. Drawback is allowed not only on goods exported in the same condition as when imported, but also upon imported goods which have been subjected to some process of manufacture in Victoria. Drawbacks are included in the general exports. The following are the figures for the last nine years:—

REFUND OF DUTY ON EXPORTS (DRAWBACK), 1901 TO 1909.

Year.	Amount Paid as Drawback.
	£
1901	115,283
1902	45,022
1903	34,096
1904	18,840
1905	20,275
1906	15,962
1907	15,104
1908	26,022
1909	21,966

From 1872, when the system of allowing drawback was first introduced, to the end of 1909, the total amount of duty repaid as drawback was £3,002,963. The withdrawals were heavy in 1901, but have been light during the last six years.

Victorian shipping is dealt with in the succeeding tables which refer to vessels trading with other States and oversea countries. Local shipping, *i.e.*, vessels trading exclusively on the Victorian coast, have not been taken into consideration, but a reference to the total shipping of the port of Melbourne will be found on page 493 *post*. The number of vessels entered and cleared, their total tonnage, and the number of men forming their crews in the last five years were as follows:—

SHIPPING INWARD AND OUTWARD, 1905 TO 1909.

	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
Vessels Entered—					
Number	2,376	2,332	2,392	2,454	2,309
Tons	3,989,903	4,066,442	4,234,109	4,514,854	4,524,551
Average tonnage	1,679	1,744	1,770	1,840	1,960
Crews	121,415	126,218	129,193	138,910	138,339
Vessels Cleared—					
Number	2,274	2,343	2,408	2,425	2,286
Tons	3,859,098	4,070,549	4,225,942	4,493,565	4,532,216
Average tonnage	1,697	1,737	1,755	1,853	1,983
Crews	118,458	125,298	128,761	138,467	137,986

Vessels entered and cleared.

The vessels entered at Victorian ports during 1909 were fewer in number than in any year since 1903. It is in the tonnage of the vessels, however, that the best guide will be found as to the increase or decrease in the volume of shipping. Thus, the net tonnage of 1909 exceeded that of 1908 by 9,697, and that of 1905 by 534,648. The departures in 1909 represented a decrease of 139 vessels, but an increase of 38,651 in the aggregate net tonnage over the previous year, whilst in comparison with 1905 there was an increase of 12 in the number of vessels, and of 673,118 in the net tonnage.

In 1909 steamers numbered 2,104 of the vessels entered, and 2,082 of the vessels cleared, their tonnage aggregating 4,378,007 and 4,379,411 respectively.

Shipping in ballast.

The inward shipping of 1909 included 78 vessels in ballast, of an aggregate tonnage of 118,356, whilst the outward shipping included 240 vessels in ballast, having an aggregate tonnage of 291,525.

Shipping with principal countries.

The more important of the countries having shipping communication with Victoria in 1909 are set out in the following statement:—

SHIPPING WITH PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES, 1909.

Countries.	ENTERED.		CLEARED.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
Australian States	1,686	2,690,427	1,774	2,938,444
United Kingdom	197	809,061	229	869,219
New Zealand	105	188,746	93	218,962
Other British	83	177,225	76	156,943
Total British	2,071	3,865,459	2,172	4,183,568
France	14	41,787	20	64,493
Germany	67	225,075	39	147,835
United States	60	169,894	2	5,087
Other Foreign	97	222,336	53	131,233
Total Foreign	238	659,092	114	348,648
Total	2,309	4,524,551	2,286	4,532,216

The nationality of vessels entered and cleared at Victorian ports in each of the years 1905 to 1909 was as shown hereunder:—

Nationality
of vessels.

NATIONALITY OF VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED, 1905 TO 1909.

Year.	NUMBER OF VESSELS.				TONNAGE OF VESSELS.			
	Australian.	Other British.	Foreign.	Total.	Australian.	Other British.	Foreign.	Total.
Entered.								
1905...	1,518	659	199	2,376	1,641,555	1,851,868	496,480	3,989,903
1906...	1,492	640	200	2,332	1,684,442	1,839,013	542,987	4,066,442
1907...	1,524	648	220	2,392	1,676,899	1,946,055	611,155	4,234,109
1908...	1,555	693	206	2,454	1,851,992	2,056,934	605,928	4,514,854
1909...	1,384	682	243	2,309	1,697,516	2,156,974	670,061	4,524,551
Cleared.								
1905...	1,469	619	186	2,274	1,626,601	1,753,274	479,223	3,859,098
1906...	1,492	645	206	2,343	1,663,025	1,853,334	554,190	4,070,549
1907..	1,543	655	210	2,408	1,669,113	1,971,706	585,123	4,225,942
1908...	1,528	690	207	2,425	1,850,033	2,032,916	610,616	4,493,565
1909...	1,374	673	239	2,286	1,713,443	2,152,599	666,174	4,532,216

The proportions of the shipping of each nationality as tabulated, to the total entered and cleared for the respective years in their proper sequence from 1905 to 1909 are, Australian vessels, 64, 64, 64, 63, 60 per cent., Australian tonnage, 42, 41, 40, 41, 37½ per cent.; other British vessels, 28, 27, 27, 28, 29½ per cent.; other British tonnage, 46, 45, 46, 45½, 47½ per cent.; foreign vessels 8, 9, 9, 9, 10½ per cent.; and foreign tonnage, 12, 14, 14, 13½, 15 per cent. The foreign country showing the largest increase in shipping is Germany, the percentage of German ships to the total having risen from 3.6 in 1905 to 5.0 in 1909, and the percentage of tonnage to the total having increased from 7.0 to 8.8 in the same period.

In the next table further detail of the nationality of the shipping for the year 1909 is given:—

NATIONALITY OF SHIPPING, 1909.

Nationality.	ENTERED.		CLEARED.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels	Tonnage.
British—				
Australian ...	1,384	1,697,516	1,374	1,713,443
United Kingdom ...	512	1,952,146	509	1,950,822
New Zealand... ..	170	204,828	164	201,777
Total British ...	2,066	3,854,490	2,047	3,866,042
Foreign—				
Dutch	14	26,248	13	25,685
French	35	95,585	34	97,325
German	115	398,415	116	400,228
Italian	4	6,709	3	5,171
Japanese	13	39,242	13	39,242
Norwegian	44	65,778	41	59,364
Russian	3	4,659	2	2,794
Swedish	13	31,987	14	34,775
American (United States)	2	1,438	3	1,590
Total Foreign ...	243	670,061	239	666,174
Total	2,309	4,524,551	2,286	4,532,216

Vessels on
Victorian
register.

The vessels on the Victorian register on 31st December, 1909, were as follows, the ports of registration and net tonnage being distinguished:—

VESSELS ON THE VICTORIAN REGISTER, 1909.

Port of Registration.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	Number.	Net Tonnage.	Number.	Net Tonnage.	Number.	Net Tonnage.
Melbourne	183	110,298	200	33,672	383	143,970
Geelong	3	430	5	383	8	813
Total	186	110,728	205	34,055	391	144,783

During 1909 there were added to the register 12 steamers with a total net tonnage of 12,034, and 8 sailing vessels, with a total net tonnage of 1,774; whilst 5 steamers having an aggregate net tonnage of 214, and 1 sailing vessel having a net tonnage of 80, were taken off the register.

The following is a statement, compiled from figures supplied by the Marine Underwriters' Association of Victoria, of the number and net tonnage of vessels on the registers of all the Australian States and New Zealand on 30th June, 1909.

Vessels on
Austral-
asian
registers.

VESSELS OWNED IN AUSTRALASIA, 1909.

States, &c.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Victoria	173	103,719	214	33,630	387	137,349
New South Wales	539	74,880	563	54,522	1,102	129,402
Queensland	102	16,814	205	9,100	307	25,914
South Australia	116	45,043	148	20,216	264	65,289
Western Australia	42	13,821	344	9,318	386	23,139
Tasmania	58	9,015	161	8,332	219	17,347
Total Australia	1,030	263,292	1,635	135,148	2,665	398,440
New Guinea ... ..	...	...	1	8	1	8
New Zealand	261	103,717	330	42,146	591	145,863
Total	1,291	367,009	1,966	177,302	3,257	544,311

Compared with 1908, steamers owned in Australia and New Zealand have increased by 5 in number and 11,511 in tonnage, while sailing vessels, although 137 less in number have increased by 230 in tonnage.

The following return contains particulars of the lighthouses and lights on the Victorian coast:—

LIGHTHOUSES AND LIGHTS, 1909.

Where situated.	Description.	Nature.	Power in Lighthouse. (Units of 1,000 Candles.)			Colour.	Distance Visible.	Persons employed.	Ordinary Expenditure during the Financial Year 1908-9.	Capital Cost.
			White.	Red.	Green.				£	£
Cape Nelson	Dioptric ..	Fixed	4½	3½	..	White* ..	19	} 3	493	16,178
" Auxiliary .. ..	" " .. ..	" " .. ..	..	..	..	Red	3			
Portland	Dioptric ..	" " .. ..	..	..	..	Green	12			
Port Fairy	" "	Fixed and Flashing	..	..	..	Red	9	} 2	325	2,573
" " .. ..	" " .. ..	" " .. ..	..	..	..	" " .. ..	..	315	3,857	
Warrnambool (upper light)	" "	Fixed	½	..	..	White	14	} 2	318	7,917
" " (lower light)	" " .. ..	" " .. ..	..	..	..	Red	5			
Cape Otway	" "	Triple Flashing	24	..	..	White	24	} 3	544	10,367
" " Auxiliary	" "	Fixed .. ..	..	..	..	Red	4 to 8			
Split Point	Dioptric ..	" "	7½	5½	..	Red†	18				} 3	495	11,838
" " Auxiliary .. ..	" " .. ..	" " .. ..	..	..	..	White	3			
Port Phillip—										
Point Lonsdale	Dioptric ..	Occulting ..	22	13	..	White and Red	17	} 3	636	4,113
Queenscliff (high)	Catadioptric	Fixed	2½	..	..	White	17			
" " (low)	Dioptric ..	" "	2	½	..	Red and White	10 & 14	} 8	1 335	19,071
West Channel Pile Light	" "	" "	2	1	..	" "	11			
South Channel (Eastern Light)	" "	" "	2½	2½	..	" "	13			
" " (pile)	" "	" "	½	1½	..	" "	10	} 4	629	9,456
Schnapper Point	" "	" "	½	1½	..	White	10			
Gellibrand Point (Pile Light)	Dioptric ..	Occulting ..	2½	1½	..	Red and White	12	} 3	571	5,005
Cape Schanck	Catadioptric	Fixed and Flashing	4½	..	..	White	23			
" " Auxiliary	" "	Fixed	48½	..	..	Red	3	} 3	589	10,278
Wilson's Promontory	Catoptric ..	" "	2½	..	..	White	24			
Cliffy Island	Dioptric ..	Flashing ..	4½	..	..	" " .. ..	15			
Cape Everard	Holophotal	Double Flashing	30	12	..	White* ..	21	} 3	514	21,785
" " Auxiliary	" "	Fixed .. ..	..	..	..	Red	2			
Gabo Island	Catadioptric	" "	4½	..	..	White	20			
" " Auxiliary .. ..	" " .. ..	" " .. ..	..	..	..	Red	3	} 3	863	22,631
						Total			8,978	191,727

* Red sectors between the limits of white light and shore at either side.
 † White sectors between the limits of red light and shore at either side.

The port of Melbourne is under the control of the Melbourne Harbor Trust, which has 8.33 miles of wharfs, piers, and jetties in the River Yarra, Victoria Dock, and Hobson's Bay. The area of these wharfs is 46 acres 33 perches, of which 13 acres 6½ perches are under sheds. According to a return prepared by the Harbor Master the total number of vessels berthed within the port of Melbourne in 1909 comprised 3,935 steamers, 24 ships, 111 barques, 4 brigs, 66 schooners, 535 ketches, and 277 lighters, their registered tonnage aggregating 5,178,068; the tonnage of imports being 2,177,460, and that of exports 1,197,725. The floating plant of the Trust in commission includes 4 dredges, 1 steam tug, 6 steam hopper barges, 10 iron towing hopper barges, 2 steam launches, 1 Lobnitz rock breaker, &c., &c. The material dredged and disposed of during 1909 amounted to 1,280,719 cubic yards, viz., 619,433 cubic yards from Hobson's Bay and 661,286 cubic yards from the River Yarra and Victoria Dock. Since the establishment of the Trust, the river dredgings have amounted to 24,539,033, and the bay dredgings to 14,956,393 cubic yards, making a total of 39,495,426 cubic yards. Of the dredgings, 27,035,232 cubic yards were deposited in deep water, and 12,460,194 were landed and deposited for reclamation work. The average cost of dredging, towing, and depositing in 1909 was 7.29d. per cubic yard.

The rock-breaking plant imported for the purpose of removing the various reefs in the river has rapidly improved the upper section of the river above Spencer Dock. The reef in that locality has been lowered 3 feet, and the work is still in progress. The work of widening Coode Canal, which was commenced in 1906, is being pushed on towards completion. The Victoria Dock has been dredged to a depth of at least 26 feet throughout, and is now free from all obstructions to navigation.

The post-offices in the State on 31st December, 1909, numbered 1,642, and in addition there were 728 receiving offices (principally loose-bags), 15 travelling offices, and 1,333 letter boxes. The postal and telegraphic staff numbered 3,345 persons, and there were in addition 3,744 non-official postmasters, mail contractors, and casual employés. The postal routes in 1909 totalled 14,307 miles, of which 3,300 were by railway, the distance traversed being 8,033,190 miles, including 4,290,404 railway miles. In the following table is shown the business done by the Postal Department in each of the last five years:—

POSTAL RETURNS, 1905 TO 1909.

	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
Posted and Received—					
Letters and Post-cards ...	111,180,179	116,459,106	122,508,040	128,985,872	133,601,053
Newspapers	} 44,527,821	} 45,877,460	{ 27,959,631	} 49,435,511	{ 32,294,427
Packets ...					
Parcels ...						469,496	510,822	556,017	562,822	620,536
Total ...	156,177,496	162,847,388	165,406,966	178,984,205	184,084,835

Registered letters are included in this statement, and numbered 1,097,337 in 1909. The total number of letters, newspapers, packets, and parcels passing through the post-office in 1909 exceeded the number for 1905 by 18 per cent. A clear idea will be obtained of the magnitude of the postal matter dealt with when it is stated that in 1909 the letters posted and received represented 104, and the newspapers, packets, and parcels 39 per head of the population.

The next table gives the destination in three groups of letters, newspapers, packets and parcels posted, whether for delivery inland, in other States, or in countries outside the Commonwealth, and shows whence those received came, whether from other States or from outside countries.

POSTAL SERVICE—INLAND, INTER-STATE AND INTERNATIONAL :
1905 TO 1909.

Service.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
LETTERS AND POSTCARDS.					
Posted for delivery inland	93,065,704	95,757,186	98,997,371	104,678,946	107,177,515
" " in other States	5,906,712	6,789,347	8,422,098	8,491,992	9,679,546
" " outside the States	2,602,122	3,100,550	3,111,604	3,156,174	3,160,464
Total	101,574,538	105,647,083	110,531,673	116,327,112	120,017,525
Received from other States	6,970,591	7,901,784	8,552,938	8,851,163	9,467,320
" " outside the States	2,635,050	2,910,239	3,423,429	3,807,597	4,116,208
Total	9,605,641	10,812,023	11,976,367	12,658,760	13,583,528
NEWSPAPERS.					
Posted for delivery inland	12,948,945	12,634,907	9,896,754	13,266,159	10,868,160
" " in other States	9,224,864	9,572,498	9,616,010	9,804,772	12,135,234
" " outside the States	2,096,196	2,063,868	2,352,126	2,238,737	2,333,076
Total	24,270,005	24,271,273	21,864,890	25,309,668	25,336,470
Received from other States	2,532,944	2,731,986	2,780,677	3,091,799	3,430,794
" " outside the States	4,140,329*	3,911,370*	3,314,064	4,185,915*	3,527,163
PACKETS.					
Posted for delivery inland	9,524,237	10,459,960	8,482,761	11,502,345	11,111,471
" " in other States	1,786,938	1,893,365	2,099,072	2,174,076	2,565,516
" " outside the States	919,218	837,204	880,050	882,984	980,376
Total	12,230,393	13,190,529	11,462,783	14,559,405	14,657,363
Received from other States	1,354,150	1,772,302	1,815,808	1,688,724	1,735,735
" " outside the States	†	†	1,104,687	†	1,175,721
PARCELS.					
Posted for delivery inland	291,271	312,084	335,788	332,164	365,228
" " in other States	93,756	104,827	118,946	125,844	142,648
" " outside the States	15,571	17,400	17,786	18,555	19,245
Total	400,598	434,311	472,520	476,563	527,121
Received from other States	42,395	47,664	53,514	56,810	63,033
" " outside the States	26,503	28,847	29,983	29,449	30,382
Total	68,898	76,511	83,497	86,259	93,415

* Other articles, no distinction being made in the post-office between newspapers and packets from outside the Commonwealth for these years. † Included with newspapers.

Letters and post-cards posted within the State have increased by 18,442,987 since 1905, those for delivery inland showing an increase of 14,111,811, those for other States of 3,772,834, and those for countries outside the Commonwealth of 558,342. In the same period letters and post-cards received from other States have increased by 2,496,729, and those from outside countries by 1,481,158. Compared with 1905, newspapers posted for delivery inland have diminished to the extent of 2,080,785, but those posted for other States show an increase of 2,910,370, and those for outside countries an increase of 236,880, whilst those received from other States show an increase of 897,850. Packets and parcels posted for inland delivery increased by 1,661,191 in the five years shown above, those for delivery in other States by 827,470, and those for delivery outside the Commonwealth by 64,832, whilst packets and parcels received from other States increased by 402,223 in the same period. "Other articles," including newspapers, packets, and parcels received from outside the Commonwealth have increased by 566,434 since 1905.

Dead letters, &c.
Dead letters in 1909 numbered 356,831, of which 25,778 were irregularly posted. These letters contained money amounting to £12,905, as well as other articles of value, and were disposed of as follows:—Returned to writers, 243,526; destroyed, 69,702; returned to other States or countries as unclaimed, 43,603. There were also 330,670 undelivered packets and newspapers, of which 35,673 were returned to the senders, 249,470 were destroyed, and 45,527 were returned to other States and countries.

Money orders and postal notes.
There are 506 money order offices in the State, which, in 1909, issued 245,911 orders for £1,031,215. Of these 166,494 for £755,311 were inland, 37,126 for £174,983 inter-state, and 42,291 for £100,921 international orders. The orders paid in the same year numbered 324,240 for £1,363,064, the inland being 166,469 for £754,976, the inter-state 109,972 for £467,167, and the international 47,799 for £140,921. Inland postal notes paid numbered 1,887,728 for £702,642, Victorian notes paid in other States 358,511 for £124,354, and notes of other States paid in Victoria 339,019 for £147,515. The following is a comparative statement of the business done since 1904:—

MONEY ORDERS AND POSTAL NOTES, 1905 TO 1909.

	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
Money Orders Issued—					
Number ...	221,732	230,253	236,954	236,520	245,911
Amount ... £	759,763	814,564	938,198	975,441	1,031,215
Money Orders Paid—					
Number ...	312,244	310,382	320,107	318,365	324,240
Amount ... £	1,102,652	1,122,551	1,266,235	1,311,557	1,363,064
Postal Notes—					
Victorian—Paid in Victoria £	585,548	619,523	645,831	659,208	702,642
Victorian—Paid in Other States £	67,156	70,615	90,102	104,409	124,354
Of Other States—					
Paid in Victoria £	110,027	121,159	133,960	138,696	147,515

The value of money orders issued has increased year by year, the issues of 1909 exceeding those of 1905 by £271,452, and those of 1908 by £55,774. Of orders paid those of 1909 exceeded those of 1905 by £260,412, and those of 1908 by £51,507.

The business in postal notes has increased considerably, the amount of Victorian notes paid within the State having been £117,094 more in 1909 than in 1905. The business with the other States exhibited great improvement during the period embraced in the table, Victorian notes paid in other States during 1909 showing an increase of £57,198 over 1905, and notes of other States paid in Victoria an increase of £37,488 for the same period.

Telegraphs
and tele-
grams.

There are 1,258 telegraph offices in the State, 464 of which are attached to the railway service. Of the mileage of line and wire, 1,093 miles of line carrying 11,530 miles of wire are controlled by the Postal Department, and 3,068 miles of line carrying 4,856 miles of wire by the Railway Department. The length of lines and wire open, and the number of telegrams sent from Victorian stations, and of those received from outside the State in each of the last five years were as follows:—

TELEGRAPHS AND TELEGRAMS, 1905 TO 1909.

—	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
Number of Stations ...	969	1,055	1,115	1,212	1,258
Miles open—					
Line (poles) ...	6,338	6,954	7,008	7,037	7,161
Wire ...	16,082	14,950	15,326	15,516	16,386
Telegrams despatched—					
Inland ...	1,689,145	1,785,046	1,812,253	1,829,807	1,795,539
Inter-State ...	508,058	633,358	679,518	674,960	685,412
International ...	59,279	70,315	75,518	75,351	75,649
Total ...	2,256,482	2,488,719	2,567,289	2,580,118	2,556,600
Telegrams received—					
Inter-State ...	*	681,364	733,504	764,258	779,603
International ...	55,749	67,194	72,200	74,857	73,645
Total ...	...	748,558	805,704	839,115	853,248

* No record.

The seeming inconsistency between the figures relating to the mileage of telegraph lines and telegraph wire arises from the fact that since 1905 telephone lines used by the Railway Department for transmitting telegrams have been classed as telegraph lines, and that

signalling wire on the railways has been classed as telephone wire. The total telegrams despatched in 1909 were less than those for the previous year by 23,518, inland telegrams having decreased to the extent of 34,268, while inter-state and international telegrams had increased by 10,452 and 298 respectively. Compared with 1905 the telegrams despatched in 1909 show an increase of 300,118, including an inter-state addition of 177,354. Telegrams received from outside the State have increased by 104,690 since 1906. In 1909 the value of inland telegrams was £75,501, of inter-state despatched £54,859, of inter-state received £60,144, of international despatched £84,124, and of international received £68,625.

The telephone exchanges were worked by a private company until September, 1887, in which month the business, buildings, and plant were purchased by the Government. The following statement shows for the past five years the length of lines and wire open and the number of exchanges, subscribers, bureaux, and private lines:—

TELEPHONES, 1905 TO 1909.

—	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
Miles Open—					
Lines (Poles and under-ground					
Cables	1,659	1,121	1,228	1,372	1,553
Wire	29,312	32,956	41,391	50,687	56,967
Exchanges—					
Number	24	31	40	51	56
Subscribers	9,259	10,424	12,935	14,868	16,673
Telephones	14,134	15,460	18,412	20,623	23,928
Bureaux	135	128	131	147	158
Private Lines	416	417	443	470	462

The reduction in the mileage of lines since 1905 is accounted for by the fact that telephone lines belonging to the Railway Department, which are used for transmitting telegrams, have since that year been classified as telegraph lines.

The length of wire has increased by 94 per cent., and the number of subscribers by 80 per cent., since 1905.

The subscribers given in the table are direct connexions, the actual number of telephones in use having been 23,928 in 1909. This number represented an increase of 69 per cent. as compared with 1905, and of 16 per cent. as compared with 1908.

The revenue of the Post and Telegraph Department amounted to £883,682 in 1909, the items being postage £557,232, commission on money orders and postal notes £25,791, telegrams, cablegrams, &c., £135,523, telephones, &c., £141,782, and various £23,354. In addition, unpaid services rendered to other Departments were valued at £5,761. It is estimated that the number of stamps and

Revenue and expenditure, Post and Telegraph Department.

pre-payment forms sold for postal and telegraphic purposes in 1909 was 120,267,137, and the value thereof £694,310. The ordinary expenditure of the Department amounted to £766,267 in 1909, whilst capital expenditure on buildings, furniture, &c., telegraph lines, and telephone exchanges amounted to £167,031. The items of ordinary expenditure were:—Salaries, &c., £491,056; inland mail services, £113,360; British and foreign mail services, £53,567; cable subsidies, &c., £11,903; maintenance of buildings, &c., £37,702; and miscellaneous, £58,679. In the following table the revenue and expenditure of the Department are summarized for the last five years:—

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT,
1905 TO 1909.

	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue	702,608	783,402	813,662	848,934	883,682
Value of unpaid Services ...	5,761	5,761	5,761	5,761	5,761
Revenue Earned	708,369	789,163	819,423	854,695	889,443
Expenditure (ordinary) ...	627,735	630,648	687,015	730,802	766,267
Surplus	80,634	158,515	132,408	123,893	123,176

Victorian
Railways,
length and
cost.

All railways in Victoria with one exception, referred to on page 504, are the property of the State, and are under the management of three Commissioners appointed by the Government.

The succeeding tables relate to these State railways, and include particulars of the St. Kilda to Brighton Electric Street Railway. The gauge of the lines is 5 ft. 3 in., with the exception of 81.6 miles of single lines, of which the gauge is 2 ft. 6 in. The following table shows the length of double and single lines, the cost of construction, and the average cost per mile at the close of each of the last five years:—

RAILWAYS, LENGTH AND COST OF CONSTRUCTION, 30TH JUNE, 1905,
TO 30TH JUNE, 1909.

	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
Length of Lines on 30th June—					
Double Lines (miles)	312·01	311·82	311·46	307·51	307·51
Single Lines (miles)	3,129·72	3,134·03	3,135·61	3,139·56	3,155·36
Total	3,441·73	3,445·85	3,447·07	3,447·07	3,462·87
Cost of Construction	£ 32,231,083	£ 32,338,352	£ 32,448,468	£ 32,618,177	£ 32,887,611
Average Cost per mile	9,365	9,385	9,413	9,463	9,497

In addition to the lines embraced in this table, there were, on 30th June, 1909, the following lines in course of construction:—

5-ft. 3-in. Gauge.				Mileage.
Mildura to White Cliffs	...	...	...	6.92
Ultima to Chillingollah	...	...	...	20.14
Alexandra Road to Alexandra	...	...	...	4.33
Ouyen to Kow Plains	...	...	...	57.00
Nyora to Woolamai	...	...	...	16.75
				105.14
2-ft. 6-in. Gauge.				Mileage.
Moe to Walhalla	...	...	...	26.20
Beech Forest to Crowe's	...	...	...	14.28
				40.48

and the following lines had been authorized, but the construction of them had not been commenced.

5-ft. 3-in. Gauge.				Mileage.
Beeac to Newtown	...	...	...	35.75
2-ft. 6-in. Gauge				Mileage.
Whitfield to Tolmie District	...	...	...	20.0

The capital cost of lines opened, works, rolling-stock, and equipment at 30th June in each of the last five years was as follows:—

CAPITAL COST OF RAILWAYS AND EQUIPMENT, 1905 TO 1909.

30th June.	£
1905	41,259,387
1906	41,404,947
1907	41,547,223
1908	41,919,376
1909	42,392,007

The cost given is the actual cost of construction, exclusive of expenses of floating loans, &c. Of the capital expended to 30th June, 1909, £3,875,132 was derived from the general revenue, and the balance (£38,516,875) from loans. The latter liability is represented by debentures and stock outstanding to the nominal amount of £39,794,362, on which the annual interest payable is £1,432,597, or at the average rate of 3.60 per cent. The nominal amount of

Cost of
railways
and
equipment.

loans, however, was reduced by £1,277,487—the cost of flotation, together with the discount at time of flotation. It has been computed that, whilst the nominal rate of interest on loans outstanding on 30th June, 1909, was 3.60 per cent., the real interest on the net proceeds available for railway construction was 3.71 per cent.

Railway
traffic.

The mileage and the traffic of the railways since 30th June, 1904, are given in the following table:—

RAILWAYS—MILEAGE AND TRAFFIC, 1904-5 TO 1908-9.

	Year ended 30th June.				
	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
Miles Constructed ...	3,441.73	3,445.85	3,447.07	3,447.07	3,462.87
„ Dismantled ...	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	18.03
„ Closed to Traffic	31.81	31.81	29.93	29.93	29.93
„ Open for Traffic	3,393.85	3,397.97	3,401.07	3,401.07	3,414.91
Train Mileage ...	9,023,365	9,392,069	10,339,691	10,718,415	11,628,792
Passengers carried ...	59,702,050	65,244,392	71,200,331	76,053,909	82,286,112
Goods and Live Stock Carried (Tons) ...	3,628,237	3,676,017	3,965,792	3,754,861	4,166,786

The mileage given in the above tables relates to lines of railway, irrespective of the number of tracks, the actual length of which open for traffic on 30th June, 1909, was 3,741.69 miles of main track, and 595.99 miles of sidings.

The passenger traffic of 1908-9 was the heaviest experienced by the Railway Department, passenger journeys exceeding those of the second heaviest year—1907-8—by 6,232,203, and those of 1906-7, the next in volume, by 11,085,781. Of the passenger journeys in 1908-9, 75,806,743 were made by metropolitan-suburban passengers, an increase of 5,860,579 on the previous year, and 6,479,369 by country passengers, an increase of 371,624 on that year. The tonnage of goods and live stock carried in 1908-9 exceeded that for 1907-8 by 411,925, and that for 1906-7, which comes next to it in importance, by 200,994. Wheat carried in 1908-9 was in excess of the quantity for 1907-8 by 356,210 tons, and of that for 1906-7 by 74,774 tons. Comparing 1908-9 with 1904-5, the passenger traffic had increased by 22,584,062 passengers, or 38 per cent., and the goods and live stock carried by 538,549 tons, or 15 per cent.; whilst the number of train miles run had been increased by 2,605,427 miles, or by 29 per cent.

The receipts and working expenses of the Railway Department during the last five financial years were as follows:—

Railway receipts and expenditure.

RAILWAY RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1904-5 TO 1908-9.

	Year ended 30th June.				
	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
Receipts—	£	£	£	£	£
Passenger Fares ...	1,382,308	1,503,024	1,644,247	1,712,420	1,797,000
Freight on Goods and Live Stock	1,932,381	2,015,121	2,096,167	1,883,689	2,083,378
Sundries ...	267,577	270,923	281,817	287,633	308,687
Total ...	3,582,266	3,789,068	4,022,231	3,883,742	4,189,065
Working Expenses—	£	£	£	£	£
Maintenance ...	571,149	587,914	599,948	658,425	626,532
Rolling-stock ...	942,529	891,391	1,011,441	973,762	998,028
Transportation ...	562,370	588,123	596,309	616,132	644,660
General Charges*	146,231	149,915	162,997	201,999	254,709
Total ...	2,222,279	2,217,343	2,370,695	2,450,318	2,523,929
Net Receipts ...	1,359,987	1,571,725	1,651,536	1,433,424	1,665,136
Percentage of Expenses to Receipts	62·04	58·52	58·94	63·09	60·25

* Including pensions and gratuities.

The receipts for 1908-9 were larger than those for any previous year, exceeding the receipts for 1907-8 by £305,323, or 8 per cent. The passenger fares paid in 1908-9 exceeded those paid in 1907-8 by £23,235 in the case of country passengers, and by £61,345 in the case of metropolitan-suburban passengers. The most notable items in the receipts from goods for 1908-9, as compared with the previous year, were an increase of £187,330 for the carriage of wheat, and a decrease of £17,497 for the carriage of live stock. Working expenses exceeded the expenditure of 1907-8 by £73,611, or 3 per cent., and that of 1904-5 by £301,650, or 14 per cent., as against an increase of 17 per cent. in the receipts in the same interval. The net receipts of 1908-9 were greater than those of the previous year by £231,712, or 16 per cent.

Railway interest charges compared with net revenue.

The amount of interest on current loans allocated to railways, and expenditure incurred by the Treasury in connexion with the payment of such interest is compared with the net revenue of the Department for the last five years in the following statement:—

RAILWAY INTEREST CHARGES AND EXPENSES AND NET REVENUE
1904-5 TO 1908-9.

Year.				Interest, &c.	Net Revenue.
				£	£
1904-5	...	...	...	1,461,994	1,359,987
1905-6	...	...	...	1,472,397	1,571,725
1906-7	...	...	...	1,483,284	1,651,536
1907-8	...	...	...	1,483,807	1,433,424
1908-9	...	...	...	1,430,693	1,665,136

The excellent position of the railways in recent years is exhibited by this table, the figures showing that in three out of the last four years there were considerable surpluses after payment of working expenses, pensions, and gratuities, special expenditure and charges on account of previous years, and interest charges and expenses. These surpluses were £99,328 in 1905-6, £168,252 in 1906-7, and £235,043 in 1908-9.

The earnings, expenses, and net profits per mile of railway open for the years ended 30th June, 1905 to 1909, were as follows:—

RAILWAY RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE PER TRAIN MILE,
1904-5 TO 1908-9.

—	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
Average Number of Miles Open for Traffic	3,384	3,394	3,400	3,401	3,402
Gross Earnings per Mile	£ 1,059	£ 1,116	£ 1,183	£ 1,142	£ 1,231
Expenses per Mile ..	657	653	697	720	742
Net Profits per Mile	402	463	486	422	489

The receipts per mile of open railway for the year 1908-9 were in excess of those for the preceding year by £89, and of those for the year 1904-5 by £172, whilst the expenses per mile showed increases of £22 and £85 over the amounts for those respective years. Net profits per mile exceeded those of 1907-8 by £67, and those of 1904-5 by £87. This table excludes all consideration of interest payable on railway loans and expenses of paying same, given in the preceding table. The inventory of rolling-stock at 30th June, 1909, showed that there were at that time 503 locomotives, 1,272 carriages, 11,009 trucks, and 522 vans and sundry stock, of which 8 locomotives, 17 carriages, and 106 trucks were

Rolling-stock.

narrow-gauge stock. The electric railway stock comprised 21 combined cars and trailers. During the year 1908-9, the following new stock built at the Newport workshops was put into service:— 19 locomotives, 24 carriages, 3 dining cars, 12 vans and sundries, and 328 trucks. The capital cost of the broad-gauge stock was £6,363,801, of the narrow-gauge £46,053, and of the electric railway stock £15,468.

Some particulars with respect to the erection of the new Central Railway Station, at the corner of Swanston and Flinders streets, were given in the last issue of this work. Since then, the station building, platforms, subways, ramps, lines of way, &c., have been practically completed, and the re-construction of the old Prince's-bridge Station building, on the opposite side of Swanston-street, has been put in hand, as well as the provision of a ramp and a stairway to connect the two stations under Swanston-street, thus practically converting them into one combined station.

Central
Railway
Station,
Melbourne.

Offices, shops, refreshment rooms, and book and tobacco stalls in the new Flinders-street Station buildings have now been leased for rentals aggregating £6,997 per annum, and there is still space available for lease, which it is anticipated will shortly increase the annual income from rentals to £7,882. This sum is more than equal to the annual interest on the whole cost of the building, which is about £210,000, and it may therefore be stated that the accommodation in this building, used for traffic purposes, such as booking halls, waiting rooms, lavatories, luggage, parcels and cloak rooms, as well as the offices of the Metropolitan District officers and their staff, and a large part of the fourth storey occupied by the Railways Institute, have been provided without any increase in the interest account.

The combined Flinders-street—Prince's-bridge Station is the terminal for practically the whole of the Melbourne suburban passenger traffic, and also for the passenger traffic of the country lines to Sale and Bairnsdale; Korumburra, Leongatha, and Port Albert; Lilydale, Healesville, and Warburton; Ferntree Gully and Gembrook, and Whittlesea; and it is estimated that the number of passengers arriving at and leaving this terminal annually exceeds 55,000,000.

All fines collected from the staff for disciplinary purposes have, since 1st July, 1904, been credited to a fund for the establishment and maintenance of an Institute for the use and benefit of the officers and employes, and a corresponding amount has also been credited to the fund and charged to the working expenses of the Railways. The sum which thus became available for the purposes of the Railways Institute was on 23rd November, 1909, handed over to representatives of a council of twenty-four, of whom seventeen had been elected by the members of the Institute and seven appointed by the Railways Commissioners, to establish and manage the proposed Institute in accordance with the provisions of a constitution adopted by the members and approved by the Railways Commissioners. The objects of the Institute are to promote the intellectual, social, and physical well-being of its members, and to keep the officers and employes of

Railway
Institute.

the Victorian Railways in touch with railway practice and development throughout the world. Commodious, suitable, and convenient premises, situated in the fourth storey of the new Flinders-street Station building, were set aside for the purposes of the Institute, and these premises were formally opened and the Institute inaugurated on the 22nd January, 1910.

Victorian
coal carried
on rail-
ways.

Victorian coal has been largely used by the Railway Department for steaming purposes. In 1905, 76,289 tons were consumed; in 1906, 63,694 tons; in 1907, 41,713 tons; in 1908, 33,799 tons; and in 1909, 39,487 tons. The quantity carried for the general public was 67,239 tons in 1905, 87,144 tons in 1906, 87,913 tons in 1907, 69,935 tons in 1908, and 88,100 tons in 1909. The rate of carriage from the mines to Melbourne is $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per ton per mile, of which $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per ton per mile is paid by the Government; beyond Melbourne the charge is 1d. or less per ton per mile, according to the distance.

Municipal
railway.

The one railway in Victoria not belonging to the State system is that from Kerang to Koondrook, which is owned and worked by the municipality of the Shire of Kerang. This railway is 13 miles 73 chains in length, and up to the end of 1909 cost £31,446 for construction and equipment. For the year 1909 the gross receipts were £3,555, the working expenses were £1,766, and the interest paid was £1,157. The train mileage for the same year was 18,200.

MELBOURNE TRAMWAYS TRUST.

Tramways.

By the "Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company's Act 1883" (47 Vict. No. 765), passed on 12th October, 1883, the company was authorized to construct tramways in the streets of Melbourne and suburbs, unless the municipalities interested, who had the prior right, elected to do so. All the municipalities, however, decided to exercise the powers conferred upon them, and the necessary notice to the company having been given, a Tramways Trust was formed, as provided by the Act. This body, which consists of delegates from municipalities concerned, received full power to construct tramways, and to borrow money for that purpose, secured on the municipal properties and revenues and on the tramways themselves. The Trust was required by the above-mentioned Act, as modified by the amending Acts (51 Vict. No. 952 and 56 Vict. No. 1278), to complete the tramways by 31st December, 1893, and to grant a 32 years' lease of same to the company, dating from 1st July, 1884 (when the liability for interest commenced), and expiring on 1st July, 1916. The company, on its part, is required to find all the rolling-stock, to keep the tramways and adjoining road, a total width of 17 feet, in complete repair, to hand back the lines in good working condition to the Trust at the expiration of the lease, and to pay to the Trust the annual interest on the moneys borrowed; also to contribute annually a certain varying percentage on the sums borrowed, so as to form a sinking fund towards the ultimate extinction of the loans. The expenses of the Trust to 31st December, 1893, were defrayed out of money borrowed; after that period they were met by the company

to an amount not exceeding £1,000 per annum, and to the extent of the remainder by the municipalities. The liability on account of loans is by Act 48 Vict. No. 788 made a joint and several charge on the properties and revenues of the several municipalities. The total amount the Trust is empowered to borrow is £1,650,000, the whole of which has been raised in London by means of debentures bearing interest at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The premiums received amounted to £55,794, making the total income from loans £1,705,794. The whole of this was expended by 31st December, 1893, when all outlay from loan moneys ceased in accordance with Act No. 1278. The sinking fund on 4th January, 1910, amounted to £1,177,238. The following particulars have been furnished by the secretary to the Tramway Trust:—

“The cable lines form one of the largest systems of this description of tramway in the world, and the method of construction adopted combined all the best features and latest improvements of lines constructed both in America and Europe.”

“A uniform fare of 3d. is authorized to be charged on the tramway lines, except on the section between the Spencer-street and Prince's-bridge Railway Stations, *via* Flinders-street, on which the fare is 1d. But the company is required to run, upon all lines open for traffic, every morning between the hours of 6 and 7, and every evening between the hours of 5.30 and 6.30 (Sundays and public holidays excepted), two or more carriages for workmen at a fare of $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. per journey. All fares are, by Act No. 765, section 26, subject to revision by Parliament after the lapse of ten years from the date of the first 20 miles of tramway being opened for traffic, *viz.*, after 31st December, 1897.”

The length of the several lines and the dates on which they were opened for traffic have been given in previous issues of this work.

The following table has been compiled from information furnished by the secretary of the Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company:—

Melbourne
tramways.

TRAMWAYS OF THE MELBOURNE TRAMWAY AND OMNIBUS COMPANY,
1900-1 TO 1908-9.

Year ended 30th June.	Length of Lines Open.	Tram Mileage.	Passengers Carried.	Traffic Receipts.
				£
1901	48	8,964,734	47,195,647	465,427
1902	48	9,226,883	47,261,572	454,683
1903	48	9,044,282	46,832,910	432,505
1904	48	8,968,928	49,183,742	444,495
1905	48	8,932,073	50,297,357	448,740
1906	48	9,032,523	52,925,654	469,079
1907	48	9,536,397	59,069,280	506,635
1908	48	9,810,808	63,954,512	545,269
1909	48	9,856,345	66,522,463	565,601

The length of lines open on 30th June, 1909, comprised 43.67 miles of double track cable tramway, and 4.47 miles of double track horse tramway. The traffic of each of the last six years has successively eclipsed that of any former year, 1908-9 exceeding 1907-8 by

2,567,951 passengers, and 1906-7 by 7,453,183 passengers. The number of tram miles run shows an increase of 45,537 over 1907-8, and of 319,948 over 1906-7.

In addition to the lines of the Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company, there are within or on the fringe of the metropolitan area 12½ miles of electric tramways (6.5 miles being double track and 5.9 miles single track), 2½ miles of cable tramways (double track), and 8½ miles of horse tramways (single track). Of these, the most recently constructed is the Prahran-Malvern electric tramway, which is controlled by a Trust representing the municipalities of Prahran and Malvern, and was opened on 30th May, 1910. It is 4½ miles in length, and cost £90,000 to construct and equip. The remaining metropolitan electric lines, 8 miles, the Northcote-Preston cable line, 2½ miles, the Sandringham-Beaumaris horse line, 7 miles, and the Coburg horse line, 1½ miles. They are controlled by public or private companies, and their operations during the year 1909 were represented by 760,000 tram miles run and 4,755,000 passengers carried.

Country
tramways.

In country towns there are 20½ miles of electric tramways, 1½ miles of horse tramway, and 1 mile of steam tramway, which during 1909 had a tram mileage of 1,166,000 and carried 4,700,000 passengers. The construction of electric tramways in the town of Geelong has been authorized, and the work is now in hand.

Licensed
vehicles in
Melbourne.

The number of vehicles licensed for the conveyance of passengers in Melbourne, and for a distance of 8 miles beyond the corporate limits, in 1909, was 1,611, of which 785 were cabs. The number of drivers licensed for the conveyance of goods was 1,826. The following are the particulars for the last five years:—

LICENSED VEHICLES IN MELBOURNE, 1905 TO 1909.

	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
<i>For Passenger Traffic.</i>					
Cabs (4 wheel)	591	582	581	562	547
" (Hansoms)	215	219	225	239	238
Omnibuses	33	40	48	48	51
Tram Cars	382	426	393	401	422
" Dummies	336	329	352	401	353
Total	1,557	1,596	1,599	1,651	1,611
<i>For Conveyance of Goods.</i>					
Drivers licensed	1,638	1,119	1,770	1,884	1,826

The
Customs
Tariff
1908.

The *Customs Tariff* 1908 Act relating to duties of Customs was assented to on 3rd June, 1908, the time of imposition of duties imposed being 8th August, 1907, and the Act is deemed to have come into operation as at that time. There has not been any alteration in the rates of duty since the previous issue of this work. For these rates, see page 465 of the *Year-Book* for 1908-9.