

PART IX.

SOCIAL CONDITION.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE.

The University of Melbourne.

The University of Melbourne was incorporated and endowed by an Act of the Governor and the Legislative Council of Victoria, the Royal assent having been given on 22nd January, 1853. The University consists of and is governed by a Council of 32 members and a Convocation consisting of all graduates. The University buildings, together with those of the affiliated residential colleges, are situated on 106 acres of land in the southern part of Carlton.

Payment to the University of an annual endowment of £45,000 from 1st July, 1923, was provided for in the *University Act* 1923. In addition, a supplementary grant of £49,200 was received for the year 1945-46. Other annual statutory grants and grants for special purposes are £6,500 for a School of Agriculture, £7,900 for a Veterinary School, £2,500 for a Chair of Obstetrics, £2,000 for the teaching of Psychology, £2,100 for research, £5,900 for University Extension work, £7,000 for the Department of Bacteriology, and £1,500 for the teaching of nutrition, bringing the total Government grant to £129,600. In addition to grants from the Government, the Council derives income from fees paid by students for lectures, examinations, certificates, and diplomas. Further income is derived from endowments of various kinds.

The University maintains Chairs, either out of general revenue or from endowments, as follows: Classical Philology, Mathematics Pure and Applied, Geology and Mineralogy, History, Physiology, English Language and Literature, Pathology, Physics (Chamber of Manufactures Professor), Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Chemistry, Philosophy, Zoology, Music (Ormond Professor), Jurisprudence, Anatomy, Botany and Plant Physiology, Veterinary Pathology, Agriculture, Education, Metallurgy, Dental Science, Commerce (Sidney Myer Professor), Obstetrics, Public Law, Bacteriology, French, Biochemistry, Economics (Truby Williams Professor), Oriental Studies (The *Argus* Chair), Semitic Studies (L. and A. Sicree Chair), Psychology, Fine Arts (The *Herald* Professor), Architecture (The *Age* Chair). Research Chairs have been established in Economics (The Ritchie Professor), Experimental Medicine and Metallurgy.

In addition, other departments, under the charge of an Associate-Professor, senior lecturer-in-charge or other officer are: Germanic Languages, Political Science, General Science, and Social Studies.

The annual fees payable by students to the University in any year do not, in general, exceed £40. There are schemes in operation for financial assistance to students, based partly on academic merit and partly on a means test, by both State and Federal Governments, the latter including also the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme for ex-servicemen. In addition, the University makes loans in approved cases out of a Students' Loan Fund of £20,000, established in 1923.

Fees include a small Union fee, payable by all students, who are thereby entitled to share in the corporate and social activities centred round the University Union. The student body, through its Students' Representative Council, has a large measure of self-government in all matters concerning the University Union.

Scholarships, exhibitions, and prizes are provided in all the principal subjects, the cost being defrayed partly out of University funds and partly by private bequests. Investments (the result of private benefactions) amounted to £1,235,632 at 31st December, 1946. The total amount received by way of private benefaction in 1946 was £123,944.

The University, through a Schools' Board (on which **Public Examinations.** the Education Department, the registered secondary schools, the University teaching staff, and the business community are represented), conducts examinations each year for the School Intermediate and the School Leaving Certificates. The appended tables give the results of the examinations held 1945-46 and 1946-47, when the entrants numbered 14,646 and 16,182 respectively.

VICTORIA—PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS 1945-46 AND 1946-47.

Examination.	Number who Attempted to Pass Fully.	Number who Passed Fully.	
		Total.	Percentage.
School Intermediate—			%
1945-46	9,013	5,165	57·31
1946-47	8,538	4,891	57·29
School Leaving—			
1945-46	5,378	3,375	62·76
1946-47	5,331	2,895	54·31

NOTE.—Examinations are held in December of each year and Supplementary Examinations in February of the succeeding year.

Of the successful candidates 3,015 in 1945-46 and 2,583 in 1946-47 satisfied the requirements of the School Intermediate examination by submitting a Headmaster's certificate from an approved school. Corresponding figures for the School Leaving examination were 1,174 and 1,281 respectively.

Until 1944, the University's matriculation qualification had been gained by the passing of the School Leaving Examination in a prescribed manner. Then, a new Matriculation Examination, to which the obtaining of the School Leaving Certificate is pre-requisite, was introduced, and the matriculation qualification is now gained primarily at this Examination. Statistics of the Matriculation Examination 1945 and 1946 are as follows:—

CANDIDATES.	1945.	1946.
Total Entries	2,357	3,199
Number who attempted to pass fully ..	1,560	1,992
Number who passed fully	842	1,189
Percentage who passed fully	53·97	59·69

Candidates for degrees must matriculate as prescribed by the regulations before being admitted as undergraduates. The number of undergraduates admitted during each of the six years 1941-46 was as follows:—1941, 929; 1942, 742; 1943, 804; 1944, 953; 1945, 1,238; and 1946, 2,332. The number of degrees taken during those years was 496, 484, 397, 454, 494, and 574 respectively. Of the total of 17,735 degrees granted since the establishment of the University, 3,990 have been conferred on women.

There were 4,656 students enrolled in 1945 (2,419 being full time, 1,741 part time, and 496 external students). In 1946, 7,283 were enrolled (4,348 full time, 2,441 part time and 494 external students). Courses taken were as follows (those during 1945 shown in parentheses):—Agriculture, 122 (79); architecture, 110 (53); arts, 1844 (1280); commerce, 1,335 (439); dental science, 216 (174); education, 156 (123); engineering, 530 (313); journalism, 41 (33); law, 346 (195); medicine, 748 (619); music, 573 (344); physical education, 57 (49); public administration, 47 (21); research, 67 (76); science, 1,018 (752); social studies, 69 (53); veterinary science, 13 (9).

The number of women students included in these figures was 1,735 (1,641).

**University
Finance.**

A statement of receipts and expenditure for the years ended 31st December, 1945, and 1946, are given below :—

**RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MELBOURNE
UNIVERSITY, 1945 AND 1946.**

	Year Ended 31st December.	
	1945.	1946.
<i>Receipts.</i>		
	£	£
State Government Grants—		
General Account	94,200	101,450
Other	32,100	45,630
Commonwealth Grants (Research, Reconstruction Training Subsidy, &c.	20,599	94,113
Bequests and Donations	72,613	153,367
Fees—		
Lecture	84,698	146,618
Examination, &c.	53,304	69,850
Interest and Dividends	43,642	53,065
Other receipts	21,604	20,607
Total Receipts	422,760	684,700
<i>Expenditure.</i>		
Salaries	245,678	331,028
Examiners' fees	13,090	14,868
Examination expenses	7,920	8,016
Fellowships, Scholarships, &c.	10,282	14,177
Apparatus	27,533	52,717
Books and periodicals	5,297	9,074
Printing and stationery	7,386	12,828
Buildings and grounds	25,464	69,079
Other	50,155	123,494
Total Expenditure	392,805	635,281

**Affiliated
Colleges.**

There are five residential colleges affiliated with the University. Trinity, Ormond, Queen's, and Newman Colleges were established by the Church of England, the Presbyterian, the Methodist, and the Roman Catholic Churches respectively; the University Women's College (not a Church foundation) was affiliated during 1937. Information relating to the foundation and progress of the colleges is given in previous issues of the *Year-Book*.

**College of
Dentistry.**

In 1906, the Australian College of Dentistry was formally affiliated with the University, which obtained certain rights of supervision and control and, in return, undertook to recognize the professional teaching of the College in connection with

the Degree of Bachelor of Dental Science. Particulars relating to the establishment of this College were published in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 516 and 517

**Canberra
University
College.**

The Canberra University College was established under an Ordinance of the Australian Capital Territory in 1929. While its administration is quite separate from that of the University, a temporary arrangement exists whereby students of the College may in certain Faculties become external students of the University, take University examinations, and proceed to Melbourne degrees. Teaching appointments in the College are required to be approved by the University.

**University
Extension.**

With the proposed formation of the Council of Adult Education by Act of Parliament, the University's responsibility for adult education will correspondingly diminish and will continue as such only in the activities of an Extension Committee. The University does provide, however, for the matriculation, under special conditions, of adult persons over the age of 23 years who have shown aptitude for higher education as determined by psychological tests.

**Mildura
Branch.**

During 1946, an extensive survey was undertaken of country centres with a view to providing teaching and laboratory accommodation in certain science subjects for the growing number of discharged servicemen wishing to begin or continue degree courses in Architecture, Engineering, Dental Science and Medicine. The site of the Royal Australian Air Force station at Mildura was chosen, and preparations were made for the accommodation of all students in the first years of the fore-mentioned courses at this Branch in 1947.

**Rehabilitation
of
Ex-Servicemen.**

The total number of students attending the University, who were assisted, either as full-time or part-time students, under the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme was 2,612 in 1946. Special facilities such as refresher courses, additional tutorials and supplementary examinations under certain conditions, are available to ex-service students who require them. In addition, a number of temporary post-war lecturers, tutors, and demonstrators, whose salaries are met in part by a special Commonwealth grant, have been engaged to cope with the increased numbers. Additional buildings, mostly of a temporary character, have been erected to provide additional student accommodation. The Commonwealth by annual subsidy assists the University in the additional cost involved by the presence of large numbers of C.R.T.S students.

VICTORIAN COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.

The Victorian College of Pharmacy, formerly known as the Melbourne College of Pharmacy, was established in 1880. It provides instruction in the subjects of the Apprenticeship Course of Studies set out in the Pharmacy Regulations, under Part III. of the Medical Act. The College is under the control of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria and is recognized by the Pharmacy Board of Victoria as a School of Pharmacy providing instruction in accordance with Part III. of the Medical Act for persons seeking to qualify as pharmaceutical chemists. It is the only institution providing such a course.

Information in regard to enrolment of students and subjects of the Pharmacy Course included in the curriculum were published in the *Year-Book* 1942-43, page 226.

Until 1921, an annual grant was made by the State Government for the purpose of carrying on the work of the College. Since then the institution has been self-supporting, revenue being from students' fees, examination fees, &c. Substantial amounts have been voluntarily contributed by members of the Pharmaceutical Society from time to time for the purpose of additions and alterations to the College building.

The numbers of students attending the College from 1943 to 1947 are shown hereunder:—

Course.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.
Pharmacy	243	272	369	421	497
Medical	93	101	95	145	155
Post Graduate (Pharmacy)	21	26	25	15	14
Total	357	399	489	581	666

Principal items of receipts and expenditure from 1943 to 1947 were:—

RECEIPTS.

	Year Ended 31st December—				
	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.
	£	£	£	£	£
Lecture Fees	5,242	5,729	7,716	9,990	11,756
Examination Fees	287	252	273	331	357

PAYMENTS.

	Year Ended 31st December—				
	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.
	£	£	£	£	£
Salaries and fees to lecturers ..	2,570	2,966	3,571	4,184	4,610
Drugs and Chemicals	455	537	574	708	874
Administration and other Ex- penses	2,574	2,892	3,454	4,130	4,367

THE STATE EDUCATION SYSTEM.

The
educational
system of
Victoria.

The present system of education came into operation on 1st January, 1873, the Act which introduced it having been passed in the previous year.

Under the *Education Act* 1872, education to all willing to accept it was made "free, compulsory and secular"—free, because fees were not to be charged; compulsory, in the sense that, whether the children attend or do not attend State Schools, evidence must be produced that they are educated up to a certain standard; and secular, for the reason that no teacher is allowed to give other than secular instruction in any State School building. Facilities are, however, afforded to persons other than State school teachers to give religious instruction, on one or two days each week, to the children of those parents who wish their children to receive such instruction. In each school four hours at least are set apart during each school day for secular instruction, two of which must be before, and two after, mid-day. In practice the actual hours of instruction in the smaller primary schools are from 9.15 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. with one hour for lunch, and in the larger primary schools from 9.15 a.m. to 4 p.m. with 1½ hours for lunch.

The *Education Act* 1910 marked a distinctive epoch in the history of education in Victoria, in that it laid the foundation of a complete national system from the infants' school to the highest educational institutions in the State.

Free
subjects.

The subjects in which instruction is free, are contained in a statement published in the *Year-Book* 1943-44, page 434. There was no amendment or addition thereto during 1945 and 1946.

Compulsory attendance. In accordance with the provisions of the *Education Act* 1928, parents or guardians of children of not less than six nor more than fourteen years of age are required to cause such children to attend school on every school half-day in each week, unless there is a reasonable excuse within the meaning of section 25 (3) of the Act for non-attendance. Failure to comply with these provisions renders a parent or guardian liable to a maximum fine of two pounds (£2) for a first offence and not less than two pounds (£2) nor more than five pounds (£5) for a second or subsequent offence, or, in default, imprisonment for a term of not more than fourteen days. Attendance officers are appointed for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the compulsory attendance provisions of the Education Act. The school leaving age is to be raised to fifteen years on a day to be proclaimed.

Conveyance allowance. An allowance for conveyance of sixpence per day for each day's attendance at a State or registered primary school is granted to children between the ages of six and fourteen years whose residence is more than three miles distant from the nearest existing State school. In special cases the allowance is granted for the conveyance of children over fourteen years of age.

Correspondence tuition. In May, 1914, the system of correspondence tuition for children in remote districts of Victoria was inaugurated. Sets of graded exercises are sent out fortnightly and subsequently returned to the Correspondence school for correction. The total number of children enrolled for correspondence tuition on 30th June, 1946, was 1,450 (Primary 940, Secondary 510).

School Committees. Under Act No. 2301, now incorporated in the *Education Act* 1928 (No. 3671), provision was made for the appointment of a School Committee for each school. A statement of the main duties of these committees was published in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, page 199.

Special schools. Special schools have been established for those children whose disabilities make the ordinary schools unsuitable or undesirable. Such special schools include the Talbot School for Epileptics, the school for the blind, the school for the deaf and dumb, five schools for the feeble-minded (three residential), a school for child inmates of the Austin Hospital for Cancer and Chronic Diseases, a school for the inmates of the Convalescent Home of the Children's Hospital, and the schools in connection with the institutions under the Children's Welfare Department. Two special schools for youthful prisoners have been provided (one in Pentridge Gaol and one in Castle-maine Reformatory). A school for young constables has also been established at the Police Depot.

**Woodwork
and Cookery
Centres.**

On 30th June, 1946, there were in operation 109 woodwork centres, having an attendance of 10,277 boys, and 76 cookery centres (apart from those at Girls' Schools) with an attendance of 4,797 girls.

**School Savings
Banks.**

At 30th June, 1946, there were 2,748 School Savings Banks and 222,814 depositors with £497,631 to their credit.

**War Relief
Fund.**

The Victorian State Schools' War Relief Depot began operations on the 18th June, 1940, and continued to despatch large quantities of wool and other material to schools to be made up into articles for the Australian Comforts Fund and the Australian Red Cross Society. To 30th June, 1946, the amount of money raised was £458,683, and the total number of articles supplied was 457,576.

**Kindergarten
Services**

At the 30th June, 1946, eighty-five Free Kindergartens, with an enrolment of 4,200 children of pre-school age, were in receipt of subsidies from the Department of Health. In addition to £20,655 paid to the individual Kindergartens, the Kindergarten Training College received £5,000 towards building extension and an amount of £2,500 per annum was granted as an annual maintenance grant.

The Department acts as a central co-ordinating and advisory authority in the pre-school field, and, where desired, provides regular medical examination of children attending subsidized Centres.

Of the 85 Free Kindergartens receiving subsidy, 43 were affiliated with the Free Kindergarten Union, 34 with various church authorities, and 8 were not affiliated with any organization.

**School
forestry and
horticulture.**

A scheme for the establishment of school endowment plantations was inaugurated in 1923 with the co-operation of the Lands and of the State Forests Departments. Areas in the vicinity of State schools have been reserved for the purpose. At 30th June, 1946, 353 of these plantations were established. During the past planting season approximately 31,000 trees were planted. To date, 56 schools have benefited to the extent of £6,342 from the sale of timber from these plantations. The Victorian State Schools Horticultural Society, founded in 1913, renders much assistance to pupils and teachers. The Society has established a nursery from which seedlings, shrubs, and many thousands of packets of seeds are distributed annually to the schools throughout the State.

**Young
Farmers'
Clubs.**

These have been established to interest pupils and young people generally in the agricultural life of the community. They are controlled by local committees of experts under the leadership of the head teacher of the school concerned. The

movement is controlled by the Young Farmers' Clubs Association, on which body the Education Department, the Department of Agriculture, the Railways Department, the Royal Agricultural Society, and the Rotary Club of Victoria are represented. Four full-time supervisors are employed. On the 30th June, 1946, 365 clubs in State schools were affiliated with the association.

**School Medical
and Dental
Services.**

From the 1st July, 1944, school medical and dental services which had previously functioned under the Education Department were transferred to the Maternal and Child Hygiene Branch of the Health Department. Details of these services will be found on page 474 of this issue.

**Teachers'
colleges.**

Student teachers are trained at the Melbourne, Ballarat, and Bendigo Teachers' Colleges. Those student teachers who have passed in five subjects, including English, of the School Leaving examination and in Arithmetic for the School Intermediate Certificate, or their equivalents, may be admitted to a college provided that they are at least eighteen years of age and that their teaching abilities have been satisfactorily reported on by their Inspectors. In special cases, student teachers without the School Leaving Certificate may be admitted, provided that they have suitable service and teaching ability.

In the first year at college, all students pursue a common course which leads to the Trained Primary Teacher's Certificate.

All extended courses are conducted at the Melbourne Teachers' College. Extended courses are available for students who wish to qualify as teacher of academic subjects, manual arts, or domestic arts in secondary schools or of infant departments or special schools. Other extended courses enable students to specialize in physical education, music, speech training, or agriculture, the last named course being taken at Dookie Agricultural College.

**Central
schools
(post-
primary).**

Fifteen central schools (post-primary) have been established in the metropolitan area and in larger provincial centres.

These schools have been provided for children who have completed the primary course and who have not gained admission to a secondary school or a junior technical school. The course of study is an extension of the primary school course and is arranged to assist pupils who desire to strengthen their claims for subsequent enrolment at a secondary or a junior technical school. However, the course specially aims at providing a general training for pupils who do not intend to enter secondary or junior technical schools.

**State Primary
Schools, teach-
ers and scholars
1880 to 1946.**

The following table shows the progress as regards State schools, teachers, and scholars since 1880.

VICTORIA—STATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, 1880 TO 1946.

Year.	Number of Schools at end of Year.	Number of Instructors.*	Number of Scholars.		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In Average Attendance.	Estimated Net Enrolment.
1880	1,810	4,215	229,723	119,520	195,736
1890	2,170	4,708	250,097	133,768	213,886
1900	1,948	4,977	243,667	147,020	218,240
1909-10	2,036	4,957	235,042	145,968	206,263
1920 (31st December) ..	2,333	6,637	247,337	158,554	213,738
1930	2,598	7,665	260,319	184,228	228,756
1931	2,590	7,613	261,673	187,443	232,286
1932	2,613	7,461	262,417	189,101	232,586
1933	2,609	7,371	264,697	190,977	234,174
1934	2,617	7,397	259,750	185,082	230,470
1935	2,606	7,353	256,564	182,442	226,728
1936	2,600	7,314	250,070	179,420	219,645
1937	2,589	7,394	234,228	153,381	209,043
1938	2,591	7,242	227,233	159,022	201,457
1939	2,585	7,316	221,219	155,441	194,725
1940	2,569	7,271	217,941	151,674	189,807
1941	2,542	7,222	211,434	150,517	183,987
1942	2,480	6,940	198,909	137,204	171,124
1943	2,458	6,953	191,138	139,037	173,054
1944	2,360	7,279	185,645	138,356	168,195
1945	2,318	6,212	179,438	136,496	162,900
1946	2,247	7,107	184,687	139,661	165,197

* Exclusive of teachers temporarily employed, the number of whom was 968 on 31st December, 1945, and 1,057 on 31st December, 1946.

VICTORIA—STATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, YEARS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1945, AND 1946.

Class of School.	Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils.		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In Average Attendance.	Estimated Net Enrolment.
Central Schools* and Classes ..	1945	41	7,927	6,591	7,787
	1946	40	7,466	6,278	7,158
Higher Elementary Schools* ..	1945	48	5,224	4,279	5,170
	1946	49	5,281	4,369	5,094
Girls' Schools	1945	14	4,785	3,768	4,745
	1946	14	4,841	3,899	4,660
Junior Technical Schools† ..	1945	28	10,857	9,030	10,789
	1946	29	10,623	8,783	10,376
District High Schools ..	1945	44	19,783	16,863	19,553
	1946	44	19,517	16,765	18,870
Total	1945	175	48,576	40,531	48,044
	1946	176	47,728	40,094	46,158

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

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

Tuition by correspondence. In addition to the foregoing, there were 1,159 pupils enrolled during 1945 for tuition by correspondence in primary and secondary courses, with a net enrolment of 951. Corresponding figures for 1946 were 1,248 and 1,073.

Ages of State school scholars. The following table shows the number of pupils attending State Schools (Senior Technical Schools excepted) below, at, and above the school age (from 6 to 14 years), during the years ended 31st December, 1945 and 1946:—

VICTORIA—AGES OF STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS,
1945 AND 1946.

Class of School.	Year.	Under Six Years.	From Six to Fourteen Years.	Over Fourteen Years.	Total
Primary	{ 1945	8,018	149,202	5,680	162,900
	{ 1946	11,879	149,118	4,200	165,197
Central Schools (Post-primary)*	{ 1945	..	1,460	853	2,313
	{ 1946	..	1,361	750	2,111
Central Schools (Secondary) ..	{ 1945	..	4,182	1,292	5,474
	{ 1946	..	3,947	1,100	5,047
Higher Elementary Schools ..	{ 1945	..	2,797	2,373	5,170
	{ 1946	..	2,533	2,561	5,094
Girls' Schools	{ 1945	..	2,371	2,374	4,745
	{ 1946	..	2,589	2,071	4,660
Junior Technical Schools ..	{ 1945	..	4,001	6,788	10,789
	{ 1946	..	4,466	5,910	10,376
District High Schools ..	{ 1945	..	7,129	12,424	19,553
	{ 1946	..	7,242	11,628	18,870
Pupils receiving tuition by correspondence	{ 1945	57	801	93	951
	{ 1946	79	906	88	1,073
Total	{ 1945	8,075	171,943	31,877	211,895
	{ 1946	11,958	172,162	28,308	212,428
Estimated number after making allowance for duplicate enrolments between the various types of schools	{ 1945	8,027	169,635	31,470	209,132
	{ 1946	11,864	170,805	28,086	210,755

* Previously included with Central Schools.

Council of Public Education. The Council of Public Education is appointed under Section 83 of the *Education Act* 1928. Its chief functions relate to the registration of teachers and schools under Part VI. of the Act, and to ensuring that schools under this part are registered and properly staffed, and that persons employed therein are registered as teachers or have been granted temporary permission to teach.

Part VI. of the Act relates to schools other than State schools. "School" is defined as "An assembly at appointed times of three or more persons between the ages of six years and eighteen years for the purpose of their being instructed by a teacher or teachers in all or any of the undermentioned subjects, namely:—

Reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, English or other language, mathematics, history, any natural or experimental or applied science, bookkeeping, shorthand, accountancy;

but 'school' does not include the University of Melbourne or any college affiliated therewith or any assembly of persons, all of whom are members of not more than two families, or any State school, or any school aided by the State, or any school in any part of Victoria declared by the Governor in Council to be a sparsely populated district for the purposes of this Act".

A person may not teach in a school any of the subjects named above unless he is registered or has obtained the express permission of the Council to teach temporarily.

Registered schools, teachers and pupils, 1945. Statistical information relating to registered schools is obtained from the annual return made by each school to the Council of Public Education. Particulars of the registered schools (excluding commercial colleges) are shown in the following tables:—

VICTORIA—REGISTERED SCHOOLS—ENROLMENT (IN AGE GROUPS) IN DENOMINATIONAL AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS, 1946.

	Number of Schools.	Number of Teachers.	Gross Enrolment.			Net Enrolment.		
			Under 6 Years.	Between 6 and 14 Years.	Over 14 Years.	Under 6 Years.	Between 6 and 14 Years.	Over 14 Years.
Denominational—								
Catholic ..	339	1,667	6,545	44,885	7,694	6,391	42,164	7,463
Church of England ..	34	509	1,067	5,297	3,483	1,034	5,020	3,446
Presbyterian ..	15	214	476	2,143	1,916	476	2,032	1,911
Methodist ..	4	127	93	1,524	1,102	93	1,499	1,101
Other ..	14	62	108	851	250	105	817	250
Undenominational	64	281	1,892	3,292	858	1,835	3,097	848
Total ..	470	2,860	10,181	57,992	15,303	9,934	54,629	15,019

**VICTORIA—REGISTERED SCHOOLS—GROSS ENROLMENT
AND SECONDARY EDUCATION, 1946.**

	Gross Enrolment.			Estimated Number of Pupils Receiving Secondary Education.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Denominational—						
Catholic	28,951	30,173	59,124	5,204	5,140	10,344
Church of England	4,786	5,061	9,847	2,882	2,643	5,525
Presbyterian	2,751	1,784	4,535	1,733	1,054	2,787
Methodist	842	1,877	2,719	663	1,349	2,012
Other	666	543	1,209	314	144	458
Undenominational	2,267	3,775	6,042	204	1,118	1,322
Total	40,263	43,213	83,476	11,000	11,448	22,448

**State and
registered
schools, 1946.**

The gross and net enrolments of State and registered schools (excluding commercial colleges) in sexes and age groups together with pupils receiving secondary education are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—STATE AND REGISTERED SCHOOLS, 1946.

	Gross Enrolment.			Net Enrolment.			Estimated Number of Pupils Receiving Secondary Educa- tion.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Under 6 Years.	Between 6 and 14 Years.	Over 14 Years.	
State Schools ..	123,163	110,500	233,663	11,985	172,162	28,308	48,067
Registered Schools	40,263	43,213	83,476	9,934	54,629	15,019	22,448
Total ..	163,426	153,713	317,139	21,919	226,791	43,327	70,515

NOTE.—In addition, State Senior Technical Schools, had a gross enrolment of 31,891 males and 10,051 females.

VICTORIA—COMMERCIAL COLLEGES, 1946.

In 1946 there were 23 commercial colleges with 138 teachers registered with the Council of Public Education. Particulars of these colleges are shown in the following statement:—

	Gross Enrolment.			Net Enrolment.			Estimated Number of Pupils Receiving Secondary Educa- tion.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Under 6 Years.	Between 6 and 14 Years.	Over 14 Years.	
Commercial Colleges	2,407	2,752	5,159	..	2	4,795	488

STATE SECONDARY EDUCATION.

The purpose of the higher elementary school and of the district high school is to provide the essentials of a good general education for pupils who have completed the work of the sixth grade in primary schools, and who are likely to profit by a further course of study, and to give them, in the third and fourth years at secondary schools, a specialized training which will help to prepare them for their chosen careers in life. A statement in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, page 204 and 205, shows the nature of these schools.

Higher elementary schools. There are 49 higher elementary schools in which a four-years' course up to School Intermediate Certificate is provided. During the term ended 31st December, 1945, there was an average attendance at these schools of 4,279 pupils, of whom 2,058 were boys and 2,221 were girls. During the corresponding term in 1946, the attendance was 4,369, consisting of 2,102 boys and 2,267 girls.

Central schools and classes (Secondary). In central schools in the metropolitan area and in schools with central classes in country centres a two-years' preparatory course of secondary education is available. This course was attended by 6,591 pupils in 1945 and by 6,278 in 1946. Pupils from these schools have priority of admission to district high schools.

Girls' schools. There are fourteen girls' schools, of which eleven are in the Metropolitan Area of Melbourne, and one each in Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong. During the term ended 31st December, 1946, there were 4,333 girls in attendance at these schools, compared with 3,768 during the corresponding term in 1945. A three-years' course is provided which leads to the certificate of proficiency in home arts and crafts at the age of fifteen years.

District high schools. There are 44 district high schools. in which a six-years' course is provided. At the end of the fifth year pupils may obtain the School Leaving Certificate, and at the end of the sixth year may qualify for matriculation. During the term ended 31st December, 1946, there were in attendance 16,765 pupils, of whom 8,360 were boys and 8,405 were girls. During the corresponding term in 1945, the attendance was 16,863, comprising 8,565 boys and 8,298 girls.

University High School. For the practical part of the work of training secondary teachers, the institution now known as the University High School was opened in 1910. This is the official practising school for the work of the first year of the course for Bachelor of Education of the University of Melbourne.

At the beginning of 1946 scholarships were awarded as under:—
SCHOLARSHIPS AND ALLOWANCES TO PUPILS.

Number and Kind.	Age Requirements of Candidates.	Period of Tenure.	Annual Value.
850 Junior Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Not over 14½ years on 1st January, 1946	4 years	Free tuition at a State secondary school and £4 p.a. for school requisites, or £19 p.a. towards tuition fees and school requisites at an approved registered secondary school; also in certain cases up to £39 p.a. for maintenance
650 Free Places at State secondary schools open to candidates attending State schools	Not over 14½ years on 1st January, 1946	4 years	Free tuition at a State secondary school and £4 p.a. for school requisites; also in certain cases up to £39 p.a. for maintenance
150 Teaching Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Between 14½ years and 16½ years on 1st January, 1946	3 years	As for Junior Scholarships
150 Intermediate Technical Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Not over 14½ years on 1st January, 1946	1 year	Free tuition at a junior technical school and £10 p.a.; also in certain cases up to £39 p.a. for maintenance
235 Senior Technical Scholarships open to candidates attending State, technical and registered schools	No age limit	Up to 5 years	Free tuition at senior technical schools; also £30 p.a. in case of day scholars and £10 p.a. or £5 p.a. in case of evening scholars; also in certain cases up to £143 p.a. for maintenance
64 Senior Scholarships open to candidates attending State, registered and technical schools	Not over 18½ years on 1st January, 1946	Up to 6 years	£40 p.a. towards expense of course at University; also in certain cases up to £143 p.a.
70 Free Places at University of Melbourne open to Student Teachers and candidates attending State, registered, and technical schools	No age limit	Up to 6 years	Exemption from payment of fees for lectures and examinations in an approved course at University; also in certain cases up to £143 p.a.
5 Free Places at University of Melbourne open to officers (other than teachers) of the Government of Victoria	Not over 25 years on 1st January, 1946	Up to 4 years	Exemption from payment of fees for lectures and examinations in an approved course at the University. Leave on full pay to attend lectures and examinations
15 Free Places at University of Melbourne open to teachers of Education Department	No age limit	Up to 4 years	Exemption from payment of fees for lectures and examinations in an approved course at the University

In addition to these scholarships, there is a scheme whereby free tuition and allowances for school requisites up to £2 per annum and for maintenance up to £26 per annum may be granted to enable pupils who show special aptitude and promise and whose parents are

in necessitous circumstances to attend State secondary and technical schools. Free tuition is granted to children of deceased or totally and permanently incapacitated sailors and soldiers, attending State secondary or technical schools.

School orchestras. East Camberwell Girls' School has a small string orchestra, and five high schools, MacRobertson Girls', Essendon, Northcote, Melbourne Boys', University, and Brunswick Technical School have full orchestras.

School bands. There are 11 brass bands, 21 drum and fife bands, and 4 recorder bands in schools.

Music and speech training. There are 24 members of the music and speech training staff. Two members are attached to the Melbourne Teachers' College; five are in the provincial centres—Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong. One is engaged mainly in speech training and one is in charge of the fife and recorder bands. Fifteen members work in various schools in the metropolitan area. Four of these are teaching part-time, having obtained nominated courses for the Bachelor of Music Degree at the University Conservatorium of Music.

Student teacher classes in music and speech training are held in eleven metropolitan centres and three in the provincial centres of Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong. Correspondence lessons in speech are provided for country student teachers, and an advanced class to enable teachers to qualify for Singing Teachers' Primary Certificate is held at a metropolitan centre.

There is a weekly broadcast in music for both junior and post-primary grades.

Visual education. A Visual Education Centre has been established to produce and distribute filmstrips and wall charts for use in schools and to maintain a motion picture film library. A comprehensive sound film library is now being built up. Mobile units operate 16 mm. sound projectors on four circuits in the Melbourne suburban area and one in the Bendigo district. State schools equipped with projectors number 617. A Visual Education Committee ensures that all films used by schools are of a suitable standard.

Physical education. School programmes normally provide a daily period for such activities as gymnastics, games, sports, swimming and life-saving and for folk dancing. A remedial centre has been established for children with physical defects: it caters for a limited number of children from a few surrounding schools and is conducted under medical observation by a qualified physical educationist.

The organization of physical education is in charge of an organizer with a staff of 20 male and 31 female assistants all of whom work in metropolitan districts and in large provincial centres. The training of teachers for physical education is carried on by members of the staff at the teachers' colleges in Melbourne, Ballarat and Bendigo, in vacation schools, refresher classes, in country centres and special classes of instruction for student teachers.

**Conveyance
of post-
primary
pupils.**

The Education Department is firmly convinced that the system of conveyance of groups of children from outlying districts to large educational centres is preferable to the establishment of small State secondary and Technical schools. For this reason, at the beginning of 1944, it was decided to provide a number of bus services and to defray the full cost of the transport of the pupils conveyed.

During the year 1945-46 there were 250 school buses in operation and 8,300 pupils were conveyed to State and registered secondary schools. The cost of these services was £214,000.

The Department is also meeting the cost of the fares of students who are taking secondary school courses at State secondary and registered secondary schools and who are unable to travel on the school bus services established by the Department. Fares are paid only when the school attended is outside a radius of three miles from the student's home and is the nearest one providing the required standard of education.

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS:

The technical schools in the State were originally under the control of local school councils. In 1910, however, legislation was enacted which provided for all schools established after that year to be under the control of the Minister of Public Instruction. The number of technical schools receiving aid from the State on 30th June, 1946, was 32, of which eighteen have been established since the passing of the *Education Act* 1910. The gross enrolment for the year 1946 comprised 10,623 junior and 41,942 senior students.

Victorian technical schools provide practical laboratory and workshop training, together with instruction in the principles of science and art, as applied to industries. They also give instruction in subjects connected with or preparatory to industrial, commercial, agricultural, mining, and domestic pursuits.

Full-time day and evening professional courses are provided in the various branches of engineering, mining, metallurgy, architecture, applied chemistry, applied physics, agriculture, textiles, art and applied art, commercial work, foremanship work, and institutional management. Full-time and part-time day and evening trade

courses are also available in trades connected with electrical and mechanical engineering, motor, building, furniture, printing, bootmaking, food trades, and women's industries.

Associated with every technical school, with the exception of the Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy, the Melbourne Technical College, and the William Angliss Food Trades School, is a full-time day junior technical or preparatory section, which provides for a three years' course of study.

Pupils who have completed either the sixth or seventh grade course in a primary school are eligible for admission to Form I. in a Junior Technical School. Entrance is by recommendation from the primary school. Where there is a shortage of accommodation, an entrance examination, which is open to all schools, both State and private, may be held.

Those who fail to attain entry may do so after further study in a primary school or in special post-primary classes. Primary school pupils who complete the eighth grade course may be admitted to Form II.

The junior school course is of four years' duration. After the satisfactory completion of Form III., pupils are eligible for the award of the Junior Technical Certificate and, after an additional year's satisfactory work, the Intermediate Technical Certificate.

The Junior Technical Certificate is the recognized pre-requisite for apprenticeship to most trades. Apprentices in proclaimed trades under the Apprenticeship Commission attend Senior Technical Schools for part-time day and evening instruction throughout their training which is, in general, of four years' duration.

The Intermediate Technical Certificate provides the entrance standard for admission to professional part-time and full-time courses.

There are two private technical schools in Melbourne and these are approved for instruction to the junior technical certificate stage and are open to inspection by departmental officers.

Senior technical schools, such as the Melbourne Technical College (formerly Working Men's College), the Swinburne Technical College (Glenferrie), the Gordon Institute of Technology (Geelong), the Ballarat School of Mines, the Bendigo School of Mines, and the Footscray Technical School, are general purpose technical schools providing generally full day and evening professional courses and full-time and part-time day and evening trade and commercial courses. Specialized instruction is given at provincial centres, such as at Geelong, in wool-classing and sorting and architecture, and at Ballarat and Bendigo in chemistry and mining. The smaller country schools have

full-time or part-time farm utility courses specially adapted to the needs of the local district, in addition to the junior preparatory and certain full-time and part-time senior courses associated with engineering, building, commerce, and art and applied art.

The technical schools for women's industries are the Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy, the Box Hill Technical School, and women's sections at Ballarat, Brighton, Castlemaine, Maryborough, Prahran, Sale, Sunshine, Warrnambool, and Wonthaggi technical schools, the Swinburne Technical College (Glenferrie), and the Gordon Institute of Technology (Geelong).

The fees per term range from 10s. per subject to £8 per course of subjects.

Government expenditure on each technical school during each of the five years ended 1945-46 is shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, 1941-42 TO 1945-46.

School.	Year ended 30th June—				
	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
	£	£	£	£	£
Bairnsdale	4,202	4,735	5,677	6,590	7,716
Ballarat	18,279	18,194	21,185	22,262	31,987
Bendigo	14,380	14,708	16,664	19,240	30,065
Box Hill	27,405	37,253	18,757	16,507	13,604
Box Hill (Girls)	17,871	7,109	8,207	8,561	7,733
Brighton	20,618	17,970	19,491	35,496	26,988
Brunswick	10,365	18,229	18,636	16,430	19,388
Castlemaine	15,851	9,149	9,076	9,141	9,493
Caulfield	23,602	16,073	20,275	19,789	29,976
Coburg	3,678	3,481	3,672	4,361	4,915
Collingwood	6,191	6,597	12,445	8,364	57,768
Daylesford	14,437	14,654	15,839	15,485	5,967
Echuca	37,047	46,797	43,248	37,391	10,997
Essendon	25,112	22,087	34,803	59,957	16,158
Footscray	9,252	10,055	10,294	11,712	52,222
Geelong (Gordon Institute of Technology)	11,532	12,162	14,163	15,068	72,367
Maryborough	31,717	32,995	34,742	34,175	11,973
Melbourne—	66,968	67,168	67,152	54,020	79,442
Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy	5,632	4,184	4,473	5,974	5,804
Swinburne Technical College	15,276	14,557	14,773	22,955	23,059
Technical College	13,676	13,546	15,210	15,456	15,828
William Angliss Food Trades	13,223	14,510	18,909	17,000	18,243
Oakleigh	6,742	7,120	13,392	16,683	17,477
Prahran	13,594	12,931	16,177	14,561	10,578
Preston	4,737	4,977	5,567	7,269	7,269
Richmond	10,334	11,293	13,109	15,500	17,011
Sale	6,120	7,003	8,144	8,202	6,356
Sandringham	7,649	10,360	9,173	15,550	22,978
South Melbourne	7,446	7,196	7,792	8,202	8,936
Stawell	13,846	10,064	9,680	11,623	10,907
Sunshine	16,989	18,774	26,682	8,010	7,739
Wangaratta	4,019	3,715	3,912	10,363	12,184
Warrnambool				40,888	61,817
Wonthaggi				4,445	6,504
Yallourn					
Other Votes for Technical Schools					
Miscellaneous					
Total	497,790	523,262	568,773	652,917	798,757

STATE EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION.

During 1945-46, expenditure by and on behalf of the Education Department of Victoria, as published in the Report of the Minister of Public Instruction, together with the payment by the Treasury to the University (less that for Bacteriological Laboratory Services) totalled £4,697,093. This amount includes expenditure from loan moneys and the cost of pensions and gratuities, but excludes the interest paid by the State on loans for educational purposes (particulars of which are not available), payroll tax, and superannuation paid on behalf of officers in the Defence Forces. Comparative figures for each of the years 1941-42 to 1945-46 were as follows:—

VICTORIA—STATE EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION,
1941-42 TO 1945-46.

Expenditure on—	Year ended 30th June—				
	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
	£	£	£	£	£
Education, Primary, Intermediate, and Secondary—					
Primary (including Special Subjects)	1,966,892	2,001,879	2,131,489	2,199,494	2,365,271
Intermediate	130,520	141,924	165,108	189,982	206,312
Secondary	321,301	323,607	374,227	475,786	547,976
Buildings and Land	185,779	177,167	150,058	205,750	284,198
Technical Education—					
Junior and Senior Schools	423,732	442,825	496,394	535,820	616,336
Buildings and Land	69,743	74,821	66,318	117,077	174,726
Training of Teachers	33,329	36,767	46,423	76,239	92,682
Administration	82,012	94,281	98,096	104,342	102,941
Pensions	170,600	171,116	170,523	165,910	167,328
Miscellaneous	94	198	2,042	2,656	2,395
University—					
Special Appropriations, &c.*	98,500	108,500	120,000	122,000	128,100
Scholarships	7,962	7,088	7,484	6,259	7,122
Other (Subsidies) .. .. .	..	..	..	2,961	1,706
Total*	3,490,464†	3,585,173†	3,823,162†	4,204,276†	4,697,093†
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Per head of Population	1 15 9	1 16 4	1 18 4	2 1 9	2 5 8

* Excluding expenditure on Bacteriological Laboratory Services, viz.:—£4,000 during each year 1941-42 to 1944-45 and £1,500 in 1945-46.

† Excluding (a) pay-roll tax, £63,767 in 1942-43, £69,318 in 1943-44, £76,872 in 1944-45; and £78,107 in 1945-46; and (b) superannuation paid on behalf of officers in Defence Forces, £19,110 in 1942-43, £20,477 in 1943-44, £21,878 in 1944-45 and £12,303 in 1945-46.

In addition to the expenditure shown in the preceding table, fees, donations, &c., amounting to £91,520 in 1941-42, £80,619 in 1942-43, £101,682 in 1943-44, £114,915 in 1944-45 and £131,490 in 1945-46 were retained and expended by the various technical school councils.

In the following statement the expenditure shown has been confined to that relating to primary, intermediate, and secondary education in State schools, i.e., excluding amount expended on

technical education. No attempt has been made to apportion general expenditure items such as "Training of Teachers, Administration, &c."

VICTORIA—EXPENDITURE ON PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION—STATE SCHOOLS (EXCLUDING TECHNICAL SCHOOLS), 1941-42 TO 1945-46.

Expenditure—	Year ended 30th June—				
	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
Primary Education—	£	£	£	£	£
Day Schools, including Central Schools	1,892,209	1,917,587	2,042,698	2,135,883	2,296,606
Schools for Deaf Mutes and Blind and Feeble-minded Children ..	29,203	30,857	35,518	37,677	40,265
Subsidized Schools	64	12	..	..	..
Free Kindergarten Union	4,500	6,000	..	..	..
Special Subjects—					
Physical Training	9,946	9,524	12,076	12,671	13,393
Dressmaking and Needlework ..	5,574	5,779	6,386	7,044	7,522
School Gardening and Plantations	2,618	2,695	2,905	2,731	3,065
Music	4,652	3,720	4,554	3,488	4,420
Medical Inspection	18,126	25,705	27,352	(a)	(a)
Total Primary	1,966,892	2,001,879	2,131,489	2,199,494	2,365,271
Intermediate Education—					
Higher Elementary Schools	70,567	77,358	95,705	118,877	129,089
Evening Continuation Classes ..	..	..	..	..	..
Girls' Schools (Schools of Domestic Arts)	59,953	64,566	69,403	71,106	77,223
Total Intermediate	130,520	141,924	165,108	189,983	206,312
Secondary Education—					
High Schools	296,517	314,272	354,218	446,347	513,745
Scholarships (Registered Schools) ..	24,783	14,335	18,513	24,502	28,108
Other .. .. .	..	..	1,496	4,937	6,122
Total Secondary	321,300	328,607	374,227	475,786	547,975
Training of Teachers	33,329	36,767	46,423	70,239	92,682
Administration	82,012	94,281	98,097	104,342	102,941
Miscellaneous	94	198	2,042	2,656	2,395
Buildings—					
Primary Schools	137,992	136,107	119,387	167,781	216,876
Rents	3,758	3,145	3,204	6,769	4,689
Higher Elementary Schools	2,145	11,273	4,667	4,828	4,376
Girls' Schools (Domestic Arts Schools, &c.)	3,380	3,534	2,489	1,946	7,203
High Schools	13,335	10,187	11,692	9,469	34,259
Teachers' College	25,170	12,921	8,619	14,957	16,795
Total Buildings	185,780	177,167	150,058	205,750	284,198
Pensions	170,600	171,116	170,523	165,910	167,328
Grand Total	2,890,527	2,951,939	3,137,967	3,420,160	3,769,102

(a) From 1st July, 1944, administration of school medical and dental services was taken over by the Health department. Details will be found on page 474 of this issue.

Melbourne Technical College.

The Melbourne Technical College, as the Working Men's College, was founded in 1887 by the late Hon. Francis Ormond. It is open to both sexes, and supplies higher technical instruction. Its revenue is obtained from students' fees, supplemented by a Government grant. There are both day and evening courses.

Scholarships and Prizes.

The College Council awards scholarships annually to students of Junior Technical Schools. Various other scholarships which have been donated by manufacturers, commercial associations, and other bodies are available to senior students of the College. Several valuable prizes are also given annually by employers and others interested in technical education.

Day Courses and Fees.

All fees are payable in advance. The year is divided into three terms. The day courses and the scale of fees per term for the year 1947 are shown in the following table:—

MELBOURNE TECHNICAL COLLEGE—COURSES AND FEES.

Diploma Courses.	Fee per Term.	Other Day Courses.	Fee per Term.
			£ s. d.
Applied Chemistry	£5 10s. for the first, second, and third years and £6 10s. thereafter	Commercial—	
Chemical Engineering		Full Day ..	5 0 0
Metallurgy		Five Half-days ..	3 0 0
Metallurgical Engineering		Engineering Machine Shop—	
Mining Engineering		Special Full Day..	3 0 0
Applied Science		Electrical Trades—	
Mechanical Engineering		Special Full Day..	3 0 0
Electrical Engineering		Art Course—	
Civil Engineering		Full Time ..	4 0 0
Municipal Engineering		Five Half-days ..	3 0 0
Communication Engineering	Wool-sorting—		
Automotive Engineering	Full Courses ..	8 0 0	
Aeronautical Engineering	Special Course ..	1 15 0	
	£ s. d.		
Architecture	5 10 0	Photography—	
Advertising Art	4 0 0	Full Day ..	6 0 0
Painting		Motor Mechanics—	
Industrial Design		Trade Course ..	5 0 0
Modelling and Sculpture		Farm Mechanics ..	5 0 0

Evening Courses and Classes.

In the evening school, the following courses for certificates are in operation:—Assayers; geologists; aero, civil, electrical, mechanical, and structural engineers; radio technicians; communication and production engineering; land surveyors; mechanical draughtsmen; public analysts; art; architects; industrial chemists; heat treatment; mine managers; mine surveying; primary and

secondary metallurgy; building and printing trades. Evening courses for the diplomas of chemistry, applied science, mechanical, electrical, aeronautical, production, radio and civil engineering, metallurgy and accountancy are also in operation. The fees for evening tuition range from £1 10s. per term to £4 10s. per term according to the course taken.

The evening classes are also open to students who, instead of undertaking a full course, receive instruction in any one or more subjects of any course. Tuition is also given by correspondence.

During 1946 the College accommodated 490 Reconstruction Trainees, for full-time courses, which are not included in the following figures.

Details relating to the College during the years 1942 to 1946 are shown in the following table:—

MELBOURNE TECHNICAL COLLEGE, 1942 TO 1946.

	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
Individual students enrolled ..	8,386	9,599	11,294	12,332	16,470
Males	7,007	7,776	9,334	10,420	14,879
Females	1,379	1,823	1,960	1,912	1,591
Number of classes	399	399	401	552	687
Number of Instructors	359	413	488	626	693
Salaries paid to Instructors £	52,235	58,952	58,152	73,190	131,762
Government grant £	52,800	52,800	45,600	48,000	75,320
Fees received during the year* £	33,743	42,480	50,544	58,779	73,248
Average fee per student per year	80s. 6d.	88s. 6d.	89s. 6d.	95s. 4d.	88s. 11d.

* Not including fees for correspondence courses, which amounted to £4,373 in 1942, £9,344 in 1943, £8,605 in 1944, £6,444 in 1945, and £29,938 in 1946. The subjects taught by correspondence are those included in the college curriculum.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Public Library of Victoria. The Library consists of three distinct sections, viz., the Reference Library, the Lending Library, and the Country Lending and Travelling Library.

Statistics for the period of eighteen months ended 30th June, 1946, appeared in the *Year Book* for 1944-45. Owing to the re-organization of the Lending Library and other difficulties information for the year ended 30th June, 1947, is not available.

The "Free" Libraries in country townships are, as a rule, very small and the quality of the books of little value from an educational or cultural point of view. Statistics for the year ended 31st December, 1946, were collected from 90 of the more important libraries throughout the State, 26 of which are situated in the metropolitan area and 64 in the cities and chief towns. There were 1,279,878 volumes in these libraries on the 31st December, 1946. The total receipts amounted to £94,339 of which the Government contributed about £41,333 and municipal councils £22,467. The total expenditure was £92,892, of which £25,367 represented the cost of new books, magazines, &c.

The following table shows the principal libraries in the State and the number of volumes as at 31st December, 1946. Libraries controlled by municipalities are shown with an asterisk (*).

VICTORIA—PUBLIC LIBRARIES, 1946.

Municipality.	Volumes at 31st December, 1946 in—				
	Reference Branch.	Ordinary Lending Branch.	Country Lending Branch.	Children's Branch.	Total.
METROPOLITAN.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Brighton*	140	7,500	..	920	8,560
Brunswick Free Library	2,963	7,577	..	1,247	11,787
Canterbury Public Library	740	13,300	..	1,700	15,740
Collingwood*	2,400	3,500	..	..	5,900
Fitzroy*	3,400	3,250	..	..	6,650
Footscray Free Library	200	17,000	..	1,000	18,200
Hawthorn*	147	9,500	..	3,000	12,647
Heidelberg Public Library	..	4,500	..	..	4,500
Heidelberg Children's Library	..	..	..	5,125	5,125
Kew*	..	8,451	..	4,702	13,153
Melbourne—					
Kensington .. .. .	..	4,000	..	2,700	6,700
North Melbourne	1,250	8,745	..	13,000	22,995 (a)
The Public Library of Victoria ..	551,242	70,263	13,739	..	635,244 (c)
Moorabbin—					
Cheltenham Free Library	50	750	..	..	800
Moorabbin Public Library .. .. .	..	1,300	..	..	1,300
Mordialloc-Mentone Public Library	..	4,500	..	420	4,920
Northcote* ("Carnegie")	150	10,870	..	1,780	12,800
Oakleigh*	575	2,797	..	..	3,372
Port Melbourne*	2,000	12,000	..	..	14,000
Prahran*	15,450	21,500	..	8,700	45,650
" Free Library	10,500	..	..	..	10,500
Preston* .. .. .	..	5,700	..	2,000	7,700 (b)
Richmond*	2,476	4,903	..	..	7,379
Richmond South*	4,000	1,800	..	..	5,800
South Melbourne*	309	10,758	..	4,021	15,088
Williamstown Free Library	800	7,700	..	1,000	9,500
Total	598,792	242,164	13,739	51,315	906,010

(a) At 30th June, 1947. (b) At 30th September, 1946. (c) At 30th June, 1946.

VICTORIA—PUBLIC LIBRARIES, 1946—*continued.*

Municipality.	Volumes at 31st December, 1946 in—				
	Reference Branch.	Ordinary Lending Branch.	Country Lending Branch.	Children's Branch.	Total.
PROVINCIAL.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Ballaarat (4)	900	56,309	..	2,150	59,359
Bendigo (e) (5)	730	25,182	..	..	25,912
Geelong (f) (5)	449	24,841	..	8,915	34,205
Mildura* ("Carnegie") (1)	727	13,989	..	3,047	17,763
Warrnambool	4,614	7,049	..	907	12,570
Hamilton	100	11,000	..	700	11,800
Castlemaine	100	10,000	..	700	10,800
Beechworth	2,000	8,000	..	..	10,000
Shepparton	108	8,461	..	1,219	9,788
Total	9,728	164,831	..	17,638	192,197

(e) Includes library at School of Mines which was closed on 20th May, 1946. (f) There were 16,154 volumes in the Geelong City municipal library and 5,900 in the Chilwell municipal library.

National Gallery. The National Gallery at the 30th June, 1947, contained 30,131 works of art, viz., 1,077 oil paintings, 7,726 objects of art, statuary, &c., and 21,604 watercolours, drawings, etchings, engravings, &c. During the year ended 30th June, 1947, £39,486 was expended on works of art, the Trustees of the Felton Bequest providing £35,751 of that amount.

The National Gallery Art School was attended during the year 1946-47 by a daily average of 101 students including 42 students under the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme.

National Museum. The National Museum of Victoria is housed in the eastern section of the Public Library block. Its collections, which amount to several million specimens, comprise natural history, geology, and ethnology. Included among the collections are the famous Baldwin Spencer collection of central and northern Australian ethnology, the Lyell collection of Australian Butterflies and Moths, the H. L. White collection of Australian birds' skins and eggs, the Bassett Hull collection of Chitons, and the Gatliff collection of Australian Marine Mollusca.

On exhibition are to be seen several dioramas illustrating Australian aborigines and Australian natural history studies.

Museum of Applied Science. The Museum of Applied Science of Victoria is housed in the Queen's Hall of the Public Library block.

The exhibits, which comprised 22,600 separate items on the 30th June, 1947, cover applied and economic aspects of all branches of science.

Worthy of special mention are the Askew Bequest of clocks, the ship and aircraft models, the arms collection, the sectionized engines (many of which may be operated by visitors), the timber specimens, the biological wax model collection, and numerous industrial displays.

In the museum workshops and laboratories the preparation of up-to-date exhibits on physics, chemistry and biology receives special attention.

THE MELBOURNE BOTANIC GARDEN.

The Melbourne Botanic Garden, which was established in 1846, is situated on the south side of the River Yarra. The area of the garden proper is 102 acres, and includes lakes, lawns, groups, plantations, conservatories, &c. Adjoining the Botanic Garden are the grounds of Government House, the Shrine, the Domain, the Observatory, the Alexandra Park and Gardens, and the Queen Victoria Gardens. The whole reservation, probably the most valuable asset of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere, embraces an area of approximately 320 acres.

ZOOLOGICAL BOARD OF VICTORIA.

The gardens of the Zoological Board of Victoria are situated in Royal Park, on the northern side of the city of Melbourne. The ground enclosed contains 50 acres, rather more than half of which is laid out as a zoological garden, and the rest in deer paddocks and spacious lawns for the convenience of visitors. Most of the large animals of the world are represented there, as well as many native animals.

PUBLIC RESERVES IN GREATER MELBOURNE.

Statistics relating to Public Reserves are compiled from information furnished triennially by municipalities in Greater Melbourne.

On 1st October, 1946, the total area of such reserves was 9,875 acres of which 3,456 acres were acquired by the municipalities at a total cost of £1,000,573.

The particulars for each municipality comprising Greater Melbourne were published in the *Year Book* for 1944-45, page 402.

HOUSING COMMISSION.

The history of events leading up to the appointment of the Housing Commission, together with an epitome of the provisions of the *Housing Act 1937* and the *Slum Reclamation and Housing Act 1938*, will be found in the *Year-Book* for 1937-38, pages 224 and 225. The initial operations of the Commission are summarized in the *Year-Book* for 1938-39.

The Commission's activities are spread over both metropolitan and country centres. The present policy of the Commission is that one-third of all houses erected shall be built in country centres and that particular attention shall be paid to the needs of centres in which industry has been established under the Government's decentralization plans.

Country municipalities in which housing estates are being developed include—

<i>Cities</i>	..	Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, Geelong West, Mildura, Warrnambool.
<i>Towns</i>	..	Ararat, Hamilton, Horsham, Newtown and Chilwell, Sale.
<i>Boroughs</i>	..	Castlemaine, Colac, Eaglehawk, Echuca, Inglewood, Maryborough, Port Fairy, Portland, St. Arnaud, Shepparton, Stawell, Swan Hill, Wangaratta, Wonthaggi.
<i>Shires</i>	..	Alberton, Bacchus Marsh, Bairnsdale, Beechworth, Benalla, Broadford, Buln Buln, Cohuna, Cranbourne, Dimboola, Euroa, Frankston and Hastings, Glenelg, Hampden, Heytesbury, Kerang, Korumburra, Kyneton, Maffra, Mildura, Mirboo, Morwell, Narracan, Orbost, Rochester, Rodney, Rutherglen, Seymour, Strathfieldsaye, Swan Hill, Traralgon, Tungamah, Warragul, Wodonga, Warracknabeal, Woorayl.

Since its inception 90 districts, including 67 in the country, have been developed by the Commission and 4,560 houses provided thereon. In addition 3,390 houses are in various stages of construction.

In accordance with the agreement made between the Commonwealth and State Governments projects have been determined for the Government sponsored construction of 7,716 houses for Victoria to 30th June, 1947, allocated as follows:—

Houses.	Metropolitan.		Country.	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Completed	2,177	871		
Under construction	2,324	1,066		
Plans in preparation	815	463		
Total	5,316	2,400		

In its normal housing programme to 30th June, 1947, the Commission has expended £7,577,180.

Gross revenue for rents for the year ended 30th June, 1947, amounted to £271,088, against which £9,537 was allowed for rental rebates.

During the year a further 665 sub-standard houses were dealt with. Repairs were ordered in respect of 373 houses. The balance of 292 houses were considered beyond repair and were ordered to be demolished, but, because of house shortage, the majority will be deferred until a more appropriate time.

Apart from the direct improvement to houses occasioned by the Commission's orders for repairs, the regulations have effected indirect improvement in the general condition of rented houses.

CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING SOCIETIES.

The law relating to co-operative housing societies is contained in the *Co-operative Housing Societies Act* 1944, which is the first Victorian legislation dealing with the financing of home building on a purely co-operative basis. The Act, which was brought into operation on 5th September, 1945, authorizes such societies to raise loans and to make advances to members for the purchase of land and the erection of homes thereon or for the erection of homes on land already owned by them. An amending Act (No. 5118 of 1946) makes provision for the registration of equitable mortgages given as security for moneys raised on loan by societies.

A co-operative housing society is a corporate body with limited liability formed and registered under the Act. It is a terminating society, i.e., one formed by a group of persons each having the specific purpose of obtaining an advance to build a home; when all members have obtained an advance and the society has discharged its external liabilities, it is wound up.

Provision is made to safeguard the funds and financial interests of societies; the issue of shares and the disposition of the funds are regulated; the power to raise loans is limited and the accounts of societies are subject to inspection and audit.

Societies secure financial accommodation from outside sources such as banks, friendly societies or other approved bodies. The Government assists societies to obtain the requisite funds by guaranteeing the repayment of loans made to them by such bodies. The Government also affords assistance to societies in the making of advances to members by undertaking, in certain circumstances, to indemnify societies against loss directly attributable to the fact that the amount advanced exceeded 80 per cent. but did not exceed

90 per cent. of the value of the security. The indemnity expires when the amount owing to the society by the member, reduced by the value of his share capital, is not more than $66\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. of the value of his security.

Model rules for societies have been prescribed under the Act; these embody tables of payments appropriate to societies operating for terms of $14\frac{3}{4}$, $22\frac{2}{3}$, or $30\frac{2}{3}$ years, with notional interest at 4 per cent. On joining a society, the member takes up shares of nominal value equivalent to the advance required and pays subscriptions thereon at a certain rate until he receives an advance, when the rate of his contributions is increased. The rates of payments are as follows:—

Notional Term of Society.	Advance per Share.	Amounts Payable per Share.	
		Before Advance.	After Advance.
	£	s. d.	s. d.
$14\frac{3}{4}$ years ..	52	2 0 per fortnight ..	3 8 per fortnight
$22\frac{2}{3}$ years ..	55	2 6 per calendar month..	6 2 per calendar month
$30\frac{2}{3}$ years ...	54	1 6 per calendar month..	5 2 per calendar month

In addition, the member pays a small charge to meet management costs.

All "before advance" payments accrue from the commencement of the society, so that a member who joins a society at any time after the first "pay" has been fixed must make up the back payments. In the event of sickness, unemployment, or other misfortune, payments may be wholly or partially deferred. Deferred payments may be overtaken without hardship to the member concerned and without loss to other members. All payments are calculated actuarially and are inter-dependent. The essence of the payments is that the burden and the benefit are the same to all members, irrespective of when they take up their shares or their advances and whether they withdraw before or after taking up their advances.

Powers of supervision are vested in the Registrar of Co-operative Housing Societies who, with the approval of the Treasurer of Victoria, registers societies and their rules and issues certificates of incorporation under the Act and who may inspect the books and accounts of societies.

An Advisory Committee of three members, comprising the Registrar (ex officio, Chairman), an officer of the Treasury nominated by the Treasurer, and a person appointed by the Governor in

Council, has been constituted under the Act to submit recommendations to the Treasurer with respect to regulations and model rules and other action for promoting the formation and improving the operations of societies.

The first registration of a society after the proclamation of the Act was on 15th October, 1945. At 30th June, 1947, there were 93 societies on the register of which 69 had adopted the 22 $\frac{2}{3}$ years term, 23 the 30 $\frac{2}{3}$ years term, and 1 a term of 24 years.

The regional distribution of societies, based on situation of registered office, was as follows: Metropolitan and Outer Metropolitan 74, Urban 6, and Country 13.

The following statement shows various particulars relating to membership and operations of societies at 30th June, 1946, and 1947.

	1946.	1947.
Number of Societies Registered	63	93
Number of Members	6,174	8,893
Number of Shares Subscribed for	117,459	177,604
Nominal Share Capital Subscribed for	£6,438,800	£9,645,728
Number of Advances Approved	397*	1,865
Amount of Advances Approved	£437,381*	£2,113,708
Number of Indemnities Given and Subsisting	32	392
Amount of Indemnities Subsisting	£1,873	£28,405
Number of Government Guarantees Executed	39	83
Amount of Government Guarantees Executed	£4,800,000	£9,070,000
Number of Equitable Mortgages Registered (Act 5118, 1946)	49	88
Number of Dwelling Houses Completed	14	390
Number in Course of Erection	170	1,204

* Revised figures for 1946.

VICTORIA—RELIGIONS OF THE PEOPLE.

A statement showing the number of adherents to the various religious denominations and sects, as ascertained at the Census of 4th April, 1921, and of 30th June, 1933, was published in the *Year-Book* for 1937-38, page 226.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

The principal legislative provisions relating to friendly societies are contained in the *Friendly Societies Act* 1928, a summary of which was published in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29 (pages 383-387). Amending Acts were passed in 1934, 1938, 1939, and 1946. The main provisions of the first of these amending Acts were published in the *Year-Book* for 1934-35, page 213, and those of the remaining two amending Acts in the *Year-Book* for 1938-39, page 237.

Legislation
1928-1946.

The *Friendly Societies Act* 1928 as amended by Section 2 of the *Friendly Societies Act* 1938 provided that no society registered under those Acts should contract with any member to make payments of sums of money on the deaths of members, their husbands, wives, widows, children or kindred to an amount exceeding in the aggregate £300. The amending Act of 1946 made provision for the payment as above to be made on the attainment of a specified age as well as at death and increased, from £300 to £500, the sum in the aggregate which may be paid at death or on the attainment of a specified age. It also allowed a society, which has contracted with a person to make any payment exceeding £30 on the attainment of a certain age or at death, to lend any money to such person on the security of his interest in the said contract, and upon such terms as to repayment with interest as are agreed upon, but so that in the case of a contract for a payment on death an amount of at least £30 out of the amount payable under the contract shall not be made security for the loan.

Other amendments provided in the 1946 amending Act were:—

- (1) It provided that payments in respect of periods of accommodation and maintenance in hospital could be made to members, their husbands, wives, children or kindred. Under the 1934 amending Act such payments could be made only to the hospitals.
- (2) It enabled friendly societies to acquire land, and to erect thereon and equip hospitals for the accommodation and treatment of members, their husbands, wives, children or kindred.
- (3) It enabled the trustees of the central bodies of Societies to lend moneys on freehold property up to three-quarters of the value of the property, provided that the mortgage deed makes provision for the repayment in every year of not less than £5 per centum of the amount invested.
- (4) It raised, from £5 to £10, payments which may be made on the death of a child under the age of ten years.

The legislative supervision exercised over friendly societies has had a very beneficial effect. There are 30 friendly societies in Victoria which are required by the statute to have made a quinquennial valuation of their assets and liabilities by an actuary. The latest valuation reports show that there were only five societies with a ratio of assets to liabilities of less than 20s. in the £1; three of these were societies of small membership.

Since the year 1908, all the actuarial valuations of the assets and liabilities of societies have been made by the Government Statist, who is required by statute to be a fully qualified actuary.

**Progress of
Friendly
Societies.**

The following table shows the number and classification of members of Victorian Friendly Societies at 30th June, 1946 :—

Members Contributing for—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Sick and funeral benefits	185,040	19,473	204,513
Medical benefits only (including widows) ..	15,568	18,959	34,527
No benefits (honorary)	2,589	2,124	4,713
Grand Total	203,197	40,556	243,753

During the five years ended June, 1946, there was a net increase of 8,611 in the number of members contributing for sick and funeral benefits; this increase was about 4·4 per cent. of the number of such members at the beginning of the period.

The total funds, exclusive of those of dispensaries, increased during the period of five years ended June, 1946, by £942,326, or slightly more than 14 per cent. The funds at the end of the period amounted to £7,568,888. The funds are well invested, the average rate of interest obtained on the sick and funeral funds during 1945-46 being 3·91 per cent. Since 1940-41 there has been a fall of 0·53 per cent. in the rate of interest; this is due mainly to a decrease in mortgage investments and a corresponding increase in investments in Stock and Debentures.

The total assets of the dispensaries at the end of 1945-46 amounted to £301,413.

Separate funds to provide for payments to hospitals for treatment received by members and their dependants have been established by all societies with the exception of a few small societies, dividing societies and societies of a special nature. The benefit payments made from these funds in 1945-46 amounted to £20,634.

The statement which follows contains information (exclusive of that relating to dispensaries) in regard to Friendly Societies in Victoria for the five years 1941-42 to 1945-46.

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

VICTORIAN FRIENDLY SOCIETIES—MEMBERSHIP, RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURE, AND FUNDS, 1941-42 TO 1945-46.

	Year ended 30th June—				
	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
Number of societies	84	89	92	102	109
Number of branches	1,457	1,462	1,458	1,459	1,463
Number of members contributing at end of year for sick and funeral benefits	200,179	202,643	205,003	206,527	204,513
Number of members (including widows) contributing at end of year for medical benefits only	29,836	31,248	32,039	32,734	34,527
Number of members who received sick pay	48,288	48,746	49,228	46,658	47,711
Weeks for which sick pay was allowed	493,657	477,751	479,632	478,971	482,535
Death of members contributing for sick and funeral benefits	2,358	2,466	2,490	2,375	2,759
Deaths of wives entitled to funeral benefits	683	659	672	674	681
Receipts—	£	£	£	£	£
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds	508,556	505,021	512,766	515,855	529,391
Medical and Management Funds	474,646	470,286	484,060	502,851	539,145
Other Funds	170,100	202,143	234,228	241,781	215,961
Less inter-fund transfers	— 55,431	— 71,443	— 81,336	— 68,379	— 47,945
Total receipts	1,097,871	1,106,007	1,149,718	1,192,108	1,236,552
Expenditure—					
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds	364,143	373,537	376,473	364,511	351,601
Medical and Management Funds	460,155	451,745	458,311	478,507	529,375
Other Funds	162,812	176,913	194,592	209,563	212,226
Less inter-fund transfers	— 55,431	— 71,443	— 81,336	— 68,379	— 47,945
Total Expenditure	931,679	930,752	948,040	984,202	1,045,257
Excess of Receipts over Expenditure	166,192	175,255	201,678	207,906	191,295
Amount of Funds—					
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds	5,481,830	5,613,314	5,749,607	5,900,951	6,078,741
Medical and Management Funds	279,398	297,939	323,688	348,032	357,802
Other Funds	1,031,526	1,056,756	1,096,392	1,128,610	1,132,345
Total Funds	6,792,754	6,968,009	7,169,687	7,377,593	7,568,888
Disposal of Funds—					
Amounts Invested—					
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds	5,465,491	5,595,424	5,738,267	5,886,638	6,062,292
Medical and Management Funds	270,868	287,700	312,198	335,708	346,545
Other Funds	1,008,473	1,033,683	1,075,497	1,102,166	1,104,114
Amounts uninvested—					
All Funds	47,922	51,202	43,725	53,081	55,937

NOTE.—The figures given above for "Other Funds" include all monetary transactions of societies other than ordinary friendly societies.

During the twelve months ended June, 1946, the societies lost by secession 12,879 sick and funeral benefit members; this was equal to about 6·2 per cent. of the membership at the beginning of that period. The corresponding rates of secession in 1941-42, 1942-43, 1943-44, and 1944-45, were 4·7, 4·2, 3·7, and 4·2, respectively. As a rule, most of the secessions were those of new members who allowed their membership to lapse before they had time to appreciate its value. The cost of management per member in the year 1945-46 was 15s. Od. This was 5d. more than the cost in the year 1944-45.

The following statement shows in regard to members of societies (other than dividing societies and societies of a special nature) the average number of effective members, and the number of weeks of sickness in respect of which claims for sick-pay were granted for the years 1926-27, 1931-32, 1936-37, and for each year of the last five years. The statement also shows the number of weeks of sickness per effective member, the number of deaths of members, and the number of deaths per 1,000 effective members.

VICTORIAN FRIENDLY SOCIETIES—SICKNESS AND MORTALITY EXPERIENCE.

Year.	Average Number of Effective Members.*	Weeks of Sickness.		Deaths.	
		Number.	Per Average Effective Member.*	Number.	Per 1,000 Average Effective Members.*
		Weeks.	Weeks. Days.		
<i>Male Societies.†</i>					
1926-27	126,637	272,000	2 1	1,443	11·39
1931-32	126,228	393,315	3 1	1,615	12·79
1936-37	139,413	434,234	3 1	1,794	12·87
1941-42	153,154	443,433	2 5	2,106	13·75
1942-43	155,818	425,761	2 4	2,215	14·22
1943-44	157,676	423,158	2 4	2,218	14·07
1944-45	158,563	421,570	2 4	2,128	13·42
1945-46	158,132	426,218	2 4	2,492	15·76
<i>Female Sections and a Female Society.</i>					
1926-27	9,744	15,977	1 4	36	3·69
1931-32	10,935	25,103	2 2	47	4·30
1936-37	13,166	30,441	2 2	64	4·86
1941-42	15,527	35,119	2 2	90	5·80
1942-43	15,717	34,436	2 1	101	6·43
1943-44	16,217	34,928	2 1	87	5·36
1944-45	16,454	35,476	2 1	87	5·29
1945-46	15,885	34,779	2 1	91	5·73

* Effective members are those entitled to claim sick and funeral benefits.

† Under this sub-heading are included particulars relating to female members of societies which have not separate sick funds for female members.

The average period of sickness per effective male member increased from two weeks one day in 1926-27 to three weeks one day in 1931-32. During the ten years 1932-33 to 1941-42 the average period varied from two weeks five days to three weeks two days. In 1942-43 there was a fall to two weeks four days, and this average has been maintained during the succeeding three years 1943-44 to 1945-46.

The trend of sickness per average effective female member followed closely that of male members during the corresponding period.

At the end of 1945-46 there were 33 United Friendly Societies' Dispensaries registered, under the Friendly Societies Acts of Victoria, as separate friendly societies. There was also one society consisting of these registered friendly societies' dispensaries. The chief object for which the dispensaries are established is to provide the societies with a means of supplying medicine and medical and surgical appliances to their members and to persons claiming through members. The number of members connected with the dispensaries at the end of 1945-46 was 149,656. As the greater portion of the receipts and expenditure of the dispensaries are interwoven with those of the medical and management funds of the ordinary friendly societies, they are not given here.

The assets and liabilities of the dispensaries at the end of 1945-46 amounted to £301,413 and £12,731 respectively. The assets consisted of freehold property, £135,275; stock, fittings, and sundry debtors, £91,876; cash, £46,384; and securities, £27,878. The liabilities consisted of sundry creditors, £12,034; bank overdrafts, £237; and mortgages, £460.

CONDITIONS OF LABOUR IN FACTORIES AND SHOPS.

The earliest attempt at regulating the conditions of labour in Victoria was made by the passing of an Act dated 11th November, 1873, forbidding the employment of any female in a factory for more than eight hours in any day. This Act defined "factory" to be a place where not fewer than ten persons were working. Since 1873 the definition of "factory" has been broadened until now it includes any place in which mechanical power exceeding one-half horse power is in use or in which four or more persons are engaged in any handicraft or in preparing articles for trade or sale. In some circumstances, notably where bread or

pastry is baked for trade or sale, or where a process involving the use of a compound of lead is employed, one or more persons constitutes a factory even where no mechanical power is used. The general recognition of the necessity of securing the health, comfort, and safety of the workers has been expressed in many further legislative enactments.

**Number of
Factories.** At December, 1945, there were 12,371 factories registered, in which 231,984 persons were employed and, in 1946, 12,914 factories employing 241,705 persons.

The industrial legislation included in the Factories and Shops Acts has been revised and amended from time to time and the most important of the amendments have been noted in earlier editions of the *Year-Book*.

A new measure of far-reaching effect, dealing with annual leave, was enacted early in 1946 and operated from the 9th April of that year. The *Factories and Shops (Annual Holidays) Act 1946* provides for a fortnight's holiday, with pay, each year for all workers throughout the State, whether in Government, industrial, commercial, agricultural or domestic service.

Where a worker is entitled in any other way (whether under any other Act, a Determination or by a contract of employment) to a fortnight's holiday or less, the provisions of the new Act supersede the other provisions. Where, however, the worker is entitled under some other authority to a longer period of holidays than provided in the Act, the more favourable provision continues to operate.

Should a worker's employment terminate before the completion of any twelve-months period, the employer is required to pay forthwith to the worker as proportionate holiday pay, a sum equal to one twenty-fifth part of the ordinary pay received during such uncompleted period.

The *Factories and Shops (Early Closing) Act 1946* made provision for the permanent abolition of the late-trading night for shops, which, in fact, had been almost completely suspended during the war under the National Security Regulations. The new Act operated from the 1st July, 1946, so that when the National Security Regulations ceased to have effect on the 31st December, 1946, the provisions which had operated over the war period were, in general, continued.

The hours for closing of shops fixed under the Factories and Shops Acts in both metropolitan and country districts, as defined in the said Acts, are as set out hereafter.

VICTORIA—CLOSING HOURS FOR ALL SHOPS SITUATED WITHIN THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT.

Class of Shop.	Hours of Closing.						Effect of Closing Shop for the whole of a Public Holiday which falls on any Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday or Saturday.
	Mon.	Tu.	Wed.	Th.	Fri.	Sat.	
	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	
1. Booksellers and Newsagents*	8	8	8	8	9.30	1 Can re-open 4 p.m. to 10 p.m.	May remain open on half-holiday
2. Butchers	5	5	5	5	5	12 noon.	No effect
3. Bread, Confectionery, and Pastry	Closing hours not fixed by law. The shopkeeper may therefore decide for himself when his shop shall close						No effect
4. Cooked Meat (other than tinned meat)*	6	6	6	6	9	1	Same as No. 1
5. Fish and Oyster*	7	7	7	..	..	..	No effect
6. Flower	Same as No. 3						No effect
7. Fruit and Vegetable* †	7	7	7	7	..	1	No effect
{ During May, June, July, August, Sep- and October Other months ..							7
8. Hairdressers and Tobacconists	7	7	7	7	7	1	No effect
9. Motor oil, motor spirit and accessories	6	6	6	6	6	1	No effect
10. All shops of any kind not mentioned above	6	6	6	6	6	1	No effect

* These hours were fixed by Regulation under section 84.

† Regulation not applicable to central portion of City of Melbourne.

VICTORIA—CLOSING HOURS FOR ALL SHOPS OUTSIDE THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT.

Class of Shop.	Hours of Closing.						Effect of Closing Shop for the whole of a Public Holiday which falls on any Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, or Saturday.	
	Mon.	Tu.	Wed.	Th.	Fri.	Sat.		
1. Booksellers and Newsagents	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	Closing hours not fixed by law. The shopkeeper may therefore decide for himself when his shop shall close	No effect
2. Butchers	6	6	6	6	6	1		No effect
3. Bread, Confectionery, and Pastry	Same as No. 1						No effect	
4. Cooked Meat (other than tinned meat)	Same as No. 1						No effect	
5. Fish and Oyster	Same as No. 1						No effect	
6. Flower	Same as No. 1						No effect	
7. Fruit and Vegetable ..	Same as No. 1						No effect	
8. Hairdressers or Tobacconists at Ballarat, Bendigo, Warrnambool, Geelong District, Castlemaine, Eaglehawk, Sebastopol, and Kyneton	7	7	7	7	7	1	No effect	
9. Hairdressers } or Tobacconists in } other } parts of } Victoria } If Wednesday chosen for half-holiday If Saturday chosen for half-holiday	7	7	1	7	7	7	} No effect	
	7	7	7	7	7	1		
10. Motor oil, motor spirit and accessories	6	6	6	6	6	1	..	
(Sale also allowed 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Sunday.)								
11. All shops of any kind not mentioned above	6	6	6	6	6	1	No effect	

NOTE—The hours given in this table are the shop closing hours as fixed by law. The Factories Acts, however, provide for their alteration and variation by regulation wherever a majority of shopkeepers sign a petition. There are so many regulations in force throughout the country districts of Victoria applying to different localities that it would be impracticable to print them here. The hours given above must therefore be taken to be varied wherever such a regulation is in force.

Registration of shops became compulsory as from 1st March, 1915. At the end of that year there were 26,401 registered shops with 25,632 employees. The annual registration fee, which is based on the number of persons employed in the shop, varies from 2s. 6d. to £10.

Registered shops are divided into 25 classes. During the year 1946, there was an increase compared with 1945 of 2,488 shops, and an increase of 13,938 workers. Particulars of the shops registered and numbers of workers therein are given below:—

VICTORIA—SHOPS REGISTERED AND NUMBERS OF PERSONS WORKING THEREIN, 1946 (INCLUDING SHOPKEEPERS AND MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES).

Class of Shop.	Port Phillip Region.		Other Regions.		Whole State.	
	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.
Bread, Confectionery, and Pastry ..	4,270	8,285	1,698	3,804	5,968	12,089
Booksellers, Newsagents ..	891	2,063	342	845	1,233	2,908
Boot Dealers ..	278	989	215	509	493	1,498
Boot Repairers ..	763	916	392	504	1,155	1,420
Butchers ..	1,187	3,708	701	1,913	1,888	5,621
Chemists ..	611	1,912	289	805	900	2,717
Crockery ..	43	144	3	4	46	148
Cycle and Motor, and Motor Requisites	1,057	2,805	1,110	2,591	2,167	5,396
Dairy Produce and Cooked Meat ..	683	1,782	101	289	784	2,071
Drapery and Men's Clothing ..	2,497	15,677	881	3,347	3,378	19,024
Electrical and Radio ..	442	1,168	276	520	718	1,688
Fancy Goods Dealers ..	313	647	147	226	460	873
Fish ..	334	658	89	196	423	854
Florists ..	442	851	90	181	532	1,032
Fruit and Vegetable ..	1,489	2,966	666	1,444	2,155	4,410
Fuel and Fodder ..	817	1,566	215	488	1,032	2,054
Furniture ..	474	1,644	155	481	629	2,125
Grocers ..	2,683	5,855	1,050	2,667	3,733	8,522
Hairdressers ..	1,661	3,756	752	1,378	2,413	5,134
Hardware ..	574	2,402	352	1,168	926	3,570
Jewellery ..	262	655	159	301	421	956
Leather Goods ..	167	339	131	202	298	541
Musical Instruments ..	32	266	20	44	52	310
Tobacconists ..	1,020	1,113	182	251	1,202	1,364
Mixed Trades and Shops not classified	1,983	6,429	1,838	6,857	3,821	13,286
Total 1946* ..	24,973	68,596	11,854	31,015	36,827	99,611

	Metropolitan.		Provincial Cities and Country.		Whole State.	
	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.
Total 1945 ..	21,284	54,252	13,055	31,421	34,339	85,673
Total 1944 ..	20,531	49,610	12,407	28,490	32,938	78,100
Total 1943 ..	19,901	48,980	12,284	27,896	32,185	76,876
Total 1942 ..	20,125	54,911	12,512	28,347	32,637	83,258

* The figures for 1946 have been compiled for the first time in relation to the thirteen regions adopted by the Central Planning Authority. It is not practicable now to publish figures for the Metropolitan District alone as the Port Phillip Region includes the whole of such Metropolitan District and several adjoining Municipalities in addition.

**Wages
Boards.**

The Wages Board method of fixing wages and of settling the conditions of employment had its origin in Victoria and was incorporated in an Act of Parliament introduced in the year 1896. A Board may be appointed for any trade or branch thereof. Each Board shall consist of not less than four nor more than six members and, in addition, a chairman. Originally, each Board was composed of equal numbers of employers and employees, with a qualification that each representative should be actively engaged in the trade concerned. However, under the provisions of the *Factories and Shops Act* 1934, this qualification was modified to permit of a paid officer of any corporation, public body, or association of employers being nominated as one of the members to represent employers and, if such officer is appointed, then one of the representatives of the employees on that Board shall likewise be an officer of the trade union concerned.

The Act of 1934 empowers a Board to determine that the wages rates and piecework prices fixed in any determination made by it shall be automatically adjusted, at prescribed periods, to accord as nearly as practicable with the variation in the cost of living, as indicated by such retail price index-numbers published by the Commonwealth Statistician as the Board considers appropriate. This Act, as amended by the *Factories and Shops Act* 1936, also provides that where, under any Commonwealth Act, the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration or a Conciliation Commissioner makes or has made an award with respect to employers and employees in any industry, the Wages Board for every trade concerned, as soon as may be, shall incorporate in any of its determinations those provisions of such award which the Board is, under the *Factories and Shops Acts*, empowered to include.

The *Factories and Shops Act* 1936 gives Wages Boards the same powers relating to wages and conditions of labour as those incorporated in the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. These powers enable Wages Boards to make determinations that are not inconsistent with awards of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court. Any Wages Board has now the power to determine any industrial matter whatsoever in relation to any trade or branch of trade for which such board has been appointed and, in particular, to determine all matters relating to—

- (a) work and days and hours of work ;
- (b) pay, wages and reward ;
- (c) privileges, rights and duties of employers and employees ;
- (d) the mode, terms and conditions of employment or non-employment ;
- (e) the relations of employers and employees ;
- (f) the employment or non-employment of persons of any sex or age ;

- (g) the demarcation of functions of any employees or class of employees ; and
- (h) all questions of what is fair and right in relation to any industrial matter having regard to the interests of the persons immediately concerned and of society as a whole.

The Act also empowered the Governor in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Labour, to appoint a Wages Board known as the "General Board" to determine the wages, &c., of persons in any trade specified by the Governor in Council in which no Wages Board Determination was operative. This provision had for its object the protection of persons engaged in industries which previously were unregulated by any Determination. Forty-two separate trades have been so specified.

Wages Boards are not empowered to determine any matter relating to the preferential employment or dismissal of persons as being or as not being members of any organization, association, or body.

Enforcement of determinations. A statement of the procedure with regard to the application and enforcement of determinations of Wages Boards was published in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29 on page 395.

New Boards and Alterations of Powers. Six new Boards were appointed during 1946, four of them dealing with workers not previously subject to Wages Board control. Each of the Boards consists of six members and a Chairman and its Determination will operate throughout the State.

New Boards for callings not previously subject to a Wages Board :—

The Cork Trade Board was appointed to determine the lowest prices or rates which may be paid to persons employed in the process, trade, or business of preparing for sale, corks or cork products.

The Filemakers Board deals with persons, excluding smiths (iron, brass, or copper), electrical fitters, electrical mechanics, machinists (1st or 2nd class), toolmakers, tradesmen, engineers, welders (1st and 2nd class) and patternmakers employed in the process, trade, or business of manufacturing or preparing files or rasps of any description for use as tools of trade.

The Newsvendors Board provides for persons employed in the delivery, distribution, or sale of newspapers, periodicals, sports programmes, or other printed matter.

The Teachers (Girls' Schools) Board applies to teachers in fee-charging sub-primary and secondary girls' schools (that is to say schools in which the whole or the majority of the pupils are girls) but not including persons employed in—

- (a) business colleges ;
- (b) schools conducted by the Department of Public Instruction.

New Boards whose powers previously were exercised by other Boards :—

The Roofing Tiles Board was appointed to deal with persons employed in the process, trade, or business of making roofing tiles, other than roofing tiles made of cement. By the same Order in Council which authorized the new Board, the Pottery Trade Board was deprived of the power to deal with such persons.

The Hospital Pharmacists Board deals with persons employed in dispensing, compounding, or selling medicines, drugs, or medicinal preparations in hospital dispensaries. These powers were taken from the Dispensaries Board which previously exercised them.

Altered Powers.

Some time after its original appointment the Roofing Tiles Board, referred to above, was vested with additional powers so that it now is authorized to deal with persons employed in—

- (a) the process, trade, or business of making roofing tiles (other than roofing tiles made of cement) and all accessories for such roofing tiles ; air vents, chimney pots, agricultural pipes, terra cotta lumber, and flower pots ;
- (b) the digging of clay incidental to the manufacture of the above-mentioned articles ;

The Pottery Trade Board was deprived of the additional powers involved.

Wages Boards, when fixing weekly wages, also determine, almost invariably, the maximum number of hours for which such weekly wages shall be payable and provide overtime rates for time worked in excess of the number of hours fixed. The Canteen Workers Board, the Commercial Travellers Board, the Entertainment Employees (Performers) Board, and the Teachers (Girls' Schools) Board, however, have departed from this practice and have not fixed any weekly hours.

During the year 1946 determinations were in force in respect of 193 Boards, in 174 of which a uniform set of hours for all employees was prescribed. In 15 determinations, however, varying sets of hours according to the class of work or to the sex of the worker were fixed by the Boards. The particulars are summarized in the following table :—

Fixation of weekly hours by Boards.

VICTORIA—WAGES BOARDS—DETERMINATIONS OF HOURS.

Boards which Determined Fixed Hours for all Employees.			Boards which Determined Differential Hours for Employees.		
Number of Boards.		Weekly Hours Adopted.	Number of Boards.		Weekly Hours Adopted.
5	.. ..	Less than 44	5	.. ..	44 and less than 44
149	.. ..	44	1	.. ..	46 and 44
5	.. ..	46	1	.. ..	47 " 44
2	.. ..	47	1	.. ..	47 " 43 $\frac{1}{2}$
13	.. ..	48	4	.. ..	48 " 44
			1	.. ..	48 " 47
			1	.. ..	49 " 46
			1	.. ..	48, and 50

On 31st December, 1946, there were 202 Wages Boards existent or authorized, affecting about 308,400 employees.

THE BASIC WAGE.

The first basic wage, as such, was declared in 1907 by Mr. Justice Higgins, President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration. The rate of wage declared was 7s. per day or £2 2s. per week for Melbourne, and by virtue of the fact that it had been determined in connexion with H. V. McKay's Sunshine Harvester Works it became popularly known as the "Harvester Wage."

In 1913 the Court took cognizance of the Retail Price Index-Numbers compiled by the Commonwealth Statistician covering food, groceries, and the rent of all houses ("A" series), and thereafter the basic wage was adjusted in accordance with variations disclosed by that index.

An amount known as the "Powers three shillings" was added in 1922 to the weekly rate of wage for the purpose of securing to the worker, during a period of rising prices, the full equivalent of the "Harvester" standard. The system of making regular quarterly adjustments of the basic wage was also instituted in that year.

In 1931, in view of the depressed financial conditions prevailing, the Court reduced all wages under its jurisdiction by 10 per cent.

In consequence of continued applications from organizations of employees for the cancellation of the order providing for the 10 per cent. reduction, the Court, in its judgement of 5th May, 1933, transferred the basis of fixation and adjustment of wages to a new set of Index Numbers—Harvester—All Items Index ("D" Series). This award was made applicable only to workers who had suffered the full 10 per cent. reduction.

The judgement of the Arbitration Court relative to the Basic Wage Inquiry of 1934 ordered a vital change in the method of calculating the basic wage. The "Harvester" standard supplemented by the "Powers three shillings" was superseded by the "All Items" Index Numbers ("C" Series) as the measure for assessment and adjustment of the basic wage and the 10 per cent. reduction of wages—mentioned above—was removed.

As a result of the Basic Wage Inquiry of 1937, the Arbitration Court prepared and issued its own series of retail price index numbers. This is based upon and corresponds with the Commonwealth Statistician's "All Items" series, but it is specially numbered for convenience in the adjustment of the basic wage. Provision was also made for the addition of a "fixed loading" of six shillings to the existing wage, payable in two instalments.

Applications by organizations of employees for an increase in the basic wage prescribed by awards of the Arbitration Court were considered at the Basic Wage Inquiry of 1940-41. The Court was of the opinion that the application should not be dismissed but should stand over for further consideration.

Pending the hearing and final determination of the claims which had already been lodged and of such claims as may in the near future be lodged by unions in respect of their several awards for a full review of the basic wage, the Arbitration Court, in its Basic Wage (Interim) Inquiry of 13th December, 1946, decided that, by way of interim award or interim order for variation as may be appropriate in each case, there shall be an immediate increase of 7s. per week in the present "needs" portion (93s.) of the Court's basic wage for the Weighted Average index number of the Six Capital Cities for the September quarter 1946.

The increase was obtained by the equation of a "Court" series index number of 87·0 to be the base index number of the series, thus making the weekly wage of the base of the index 87s., in place of the present "needs" base of 81s. per week. The increased wage was payable as from 1st December, 1946.

Basic weekly rates of wage and the date on which they became payable are shown for the years 1929-1947, in the following table:—

MELBOURNE—BASIC WEEKLY WAGE.

Year—	Basic Weekly Wage Payable in Melbourne on—			
	1st February.	1st May.	1st August.	1st November.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1929	4 6 0	4 9 6	4 10 0	4 10 0
1930	4 10 0	4 6 0	4 5 6	4 3 0
1931	3 10 2*	3 8 5	3 5 8	3 3 5
1932	3 3 5	3 3 11	3 3 0	3 1 8
1933	3 0 4	3 3 4†	3 2 5	3 2 10
1934	3 3 4	..	..	..
	1st March.	1st June.	1st September.	1st December.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1934 .. ..	..	3 4 0‡	3 4 0	3 4 0
1935	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 6 0
1936	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 9 0
1937	3 9 0	3 9 0	3 13 0§	3 17 0
1938	3 17 0	3 17 0	3 18 0	3 19 0
1939	3 19 0	4 1 0	4 1 0	4 0 0
	1st February.	1st May.	1st August.	1st November.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1940	4 1 0	4 2 0	4 4 0	4 4 0
1941	4 6 0	4 7 0	4 7 0	4 8 0
1942	4 9 0	4 12 0	4 14 0	4 17 0
1943	4 18 0	4 18 0	4 19 0	4 18 0
1944	4 17 0	4 17 0	4 18 0	4 18 0
1945	4 18 0	4 18 0	4 18 0	4 18 0
1946	4 18 0	4 18 0	4 19 0	4 19 0
	1st December, 1946			5 6 0||
	1st February.	1st May.	1st August.	1st November.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1947	5 7 0	5 7 0	5 8 0	5 9 0

* 10 per cent. reduction became operative and continued to operate until 31st May, 1934.

† "D" Series Index Numbers—Commonwealth Arbitration Court's Award of 5th May, 1934 (less 10 per cent. reduction)—operative until 31st May, 1934.

‡ "C" Series Index Numbers—Commonwealth Arbitration Court's Award of 17th April, 1934—operative until 31st August, 1937.

§ Commonwealth Arbitration Court Series Index Numbers.—Award of 23rd June, 1937 (operative from 1st September onwards). The Court ordered a "fixed loading" addition of six shillings to the existing wage—three shillings to be added as from the commencement of the first pay period in July, 1937, and October, 1937, respectively.

|| Increased as a result of the Arbitration Court's Basic Wage (Interim) Inquiry of 13th December, 1946.

**Basic Wage—
Outside
Metropolitan
Area.**

Prior to 1934, the basic wage for Victoria differed only slightly from that for Melbourne. In its judgment in that year, the Court made special reference to the basic wage payable in industries outside the metropolitan area, and it ruled that, except in certain specified districts where the cost of living appeared to be correctly indicated by the local "All Items" Index Numbers, or where known circumstances indicated that the general rule should not apply, the basic wage for provincial places should be a constant three shillings per week less than that for the metropolitan district in the same State. Special provision was made also for assessing or adjusting the wage in certain places.

RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS.

**Retail Price
Index-
Numbers—
"C" Series.**

The "C" Series (all items) of retail price index-numbers for Melbourne is prepared by the Commonwealth Statistician. This series comprises the costs of food, groceries, rents of four and five-roomed houses, clothing, and miscellaneous expenditure, and is applied to the majority of awards of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in accordance with its judgment of 17th April, 1934. It was superseded by an index number of the Court's own construction as described in the Report of the "Basic Wage Inquiry, 1937". The weighted average for the six Capital Cities during the five-yearly period, 1923-27, expressed as 1,000, is the basis of comparison in the following table:—

MELBOURNE—RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS, "C" SERIES, "ALL ITEMS," 1914-1947.

Period.	Retail Price Index-Numbers Household Expenditure, "All Items."	Year.	Retail Price Index-Numbers Household Expenditure, "All Items."
November, 1914 ..	671	1937	868
November, 1921 ..	1003	1938	896
Years 1923-1927 ..	990	1939	924
1929 ..	1017	1940	984
1930 ..	956	1941	1008
1931 ..	846	1942	1100
1932 ..	813	1943	1139
1933 ..	789	1944	1135
1934 ..	801	1945	1135
1935 ..	824	1946	1149
1936 ..	844	1947	1188

APPRENTICESHIP COMMISSION.

Under the *Apprenticeship Act* 1928 (No. 3636), which was proclaimed on 8th May, 1928, an Apprenticeship Commission was appointed to administer the Act and to supervise apprenticeship in trades proclaimed as apprenticeship trades thereunder.

The proclaimed apprenticeship trades, and the number of probationers and apprentices employed under the Act on 30th June in each of the years 1943 to 1947 are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—PROCLAIMED APPRENTICESHIP TRADES
1943 TO 1947.

Trade.	Number of Probationers and Apprentices Employed under Act on 30th June—				
	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.
Plumbing and Gasfitting ..	646	668	816	927	885
Carpentry and Joinery ..	492	599	823	1,013	1,037
Painting, Decorating, and Sign-writing	117	134	186	241	235
Plastering	34	35	39	42	31
Printing	987	1,035	1,181	1,322	1,063
Electrical	910	988	1,055	1,189	1,188
Motor Mechanics	460	521	628	712	713
Bootmaking	601	620	652	696	448
Moulding	289	285	265	215	178
Engineering	3,279	3,395	3,225	2,908	2,368
Fibrous Plastering	142	133	140	160	122
Boilermaking and/or Steel Construction	242	226	248	200	162
Sheet Metal	156	171	185	184	169
Bread Making and Baking ..	136	142	145	154	106
Pastrycooking	61	68	89	104	106
Butchering and/or Small Goods Making	270	316	453	506	438
Cooking	3	5	4	8	8
Hairdressing	232	444	685	860	983
Aircraft Mechanics .. ..	..	..	..	..	2
Bricklaying .. ..	..	..	..	..	10
Electroplating .. ..	..	..	..	..	1
Total	9,057	9,785	10,819	11,441	10,253

Since the inception of the Commission, 8,604 apprentices have completed their term of apprenticeship.

NOTE.—Figures from 1943 to 1946 inclusive include apprentices who had enlisted in the Armed Forces and who had not yet applied for revival of indentures. The 1947 figures exclude such apprentices although a number of these is still outstanding.

GOVERNMENT LABOUR EXCHANGE.

Following on war-time control of manpower the work of the State Government Labour Exchange was taken over in March, 1942, by the Department of Labour and National Service.

A statement showing the work carried on by the Labour Exchange until it ceased to function, is published in the *Year-Book* for 1940-41, pages 280-282.

Sustenance. Every male person who receives sustenance is required on demand, and in return for such sustenance, to perform work of such class as is prescribed on the recommendation of the Employment Council of Victoria for the municipality within whose municipal district sustenance is received.

War-time conditions and the consequent absorption of the able-bodied into essential work or the Services caused a virtual disappearance of unemployment and a consequent reduction in the amount spent on relief and sustenance works. At June, 1947, sustenance was confined to benevolent cases, and to those who, on account of age, infirmity, or other disability, could not find suitable employment. The amount expended on relief for the year ended 30th June, 1947, was £3,267 and the number of persons in receipt of sustenance at that date was 47. Other unemployed obtained benefit under the Commonwealth Unemployment and Sickness Benefit scheme, which commenced operation on the 1st July, 1945, see page 492.

HOSPITALS AND CHARITIES ACT 1928.

An Act to consolidate the law relating to the management of Hospitals and Charities in the State of Victoria was passed in the year 1928 and proclaimed on 18th December, 1929; important amendments were passed in 1936, 1939, and 1945.

The Charities Board of Victoria, which was constituted under the *Hospitals and Charities Act* 1922, commenced to function in 1923. A summary of the constitution and principal duties of the Charities Board was published in the *Year-Book* for 1939-40, page 263.

The Hospitals and Charities Fund is established at the Treasury and into it are paid:—

- (1) Monies appropriated by Parliament (now fixed under the *Hospitals and Charities (Fund) Act* 1939 at £440,000).
- (2) Special Appropriations by Parliament.
- (3) Seven per cent. of the money invested in the Totalizator in respect of each race or division of a race where the races are held on courses within the radius of 20 miles of Melbourne and 2½ per cent. in respect of races held on courses situated elsewhere in Victoria. (*Totalizator Act* 1930 as amended by the *Totalizator Acts* 1934 and 1945.)

Since the date of the operation of the 1930 Act the sum of £3,652,270 has been paid. The total amount available for distribution from the Hospitals and Charities Fund (including Totalizator Receipts) for the year ended 30th June, 1947, was £1,444,840. Grants to institutions from all Government funds for building purposes during the same period amounted to £149,842.

In making recommendations to the Minister as to what sums of money from Hospitals and Charities Fund should be paid to each subsidized institution or benevolent society in any financial year, the following matters are taken into consideration:—

- (a) The financial position of such institution or benevolent society and the amount likely to be contributed to it during the financial year other than that from the Fund.
- (b) The probable net receipts and expenditure for the financial year.
- (c) The actual number of persons relieved during the preceding financial year.
- (d) The average number of beds (if any) occupied during the preceding financial year and the average cost per bed.
- (e) The average length of stay of each in-patient during the preceding financial year.
- (f) The general conditions and management.
- (g) Any exceptional circumstances with regard to the geographical position.
- (h) Such other matters as are prescribed or as the Board thinks fit.

**Hospital
Decentraliza-
tion.**

The Charities Board has defined and recommended a policy which, in the metropolitan area, proposes the establishment of large hospitals in the suburbs and, in country districts, wherever concentrations of population or other circumstances indicate such hospitals are necessary. In many centres, committees have already been set up for these purposes.

PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC.

Information relating to receipts, expenditure, accommodation and inmates of public hospitals and charitable institutions in Victoria during the year ended 30th June, 1946, is contained in the following tables. The numbers, in respect of indoor and outdoor patients, refer to the "cases" treated and not to persons. It is considered probable that some persons obtained relief or became inmates at more than one establishment, but there is no information upon which an estimate of the number of these duplications can be based.

Statistical information relating to public hospitals (including the intermediate and private sections thereof) and charitable institutions is obtained from the annual report of the Charities Board of Victoria. Institutions directly controlled by Governmental or semi-Governmental

authorities, such as Sanatoria (Greenville, Gresswell, Heatherton) and the Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital, furnish separate information. Statistics of mental hospitals are supplied by the Department of Mental Hygiene.

A summary of the particulars in respect of public hospitals and charitable institutions is given in the following table. A detailed statement of the Receipts and Expenditure of institutions appearing under the heading of "Hospitals" below will be found on pages 456 and 457 of this issue:—

VICTORIA—PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC.—RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1946.

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Receipts.					Expenditure (inc. cost of Out-patients).
		From Government.	Contributions from—		Other.†	Total Receipts.	
			In-patients or Inmates.	Out-patients.			
		£	£	£	£	£	£
HOSPITALS.							
Specialt	8	358,129	47,642	46,446	253,251	705,468	630,874
General Hospitals ..							
Metropolitan	7	771,024	76,334	59,267	256,651	1,163,276	933,099
Provincial	52	534,522	66,695	20,893	494,703	1,116,813	927,385
Auxiliary Hospitals ..	2	33,407	13,250	2,672	15,503	64,832	66,657
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	1	108,389	..	..	56,318	164,707	151,446
Convalescent Hospitals	2	1,202	1,506	..	1,984	4,692	6,395
Sanatoria	3	148,973	..	..	..	148,973	148,973
Mental Hospitals	9	580,439	86,754	..	12,653	679,846	679,846
Total	84	2,536,085	292,181	129,278	1,091,063	4,048,607	3,544,675
OTHER INSTITUTIONS AND SOCIETIES.							
Infants' Homes	5	13,520	4,616	..	23,142	41,278	50,759
Children's Homes	31	115,439	25,830	..	136,432	277,701	219,094
Maternity Homes	4	42,614	6,491	..	4,569	53,674	15,423
Rescue Homes	6	5,109	5,670	..	30,463	41,242	46,076
Benevolent Homes	9	120,388	70,344	..	47,521	238,253	227,831
Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Institutions	2	14,116	2,946	..	83,307	100,369	52,643
Benevolent Societies ..	84	3,450	..	..	12,195	15,645	14,821
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	64,546	..	..	564,879	629,425	583,126
Total .. .. .	..	379,182	115,897	..	902,508	1,397,587	1,209,773
Grand Total .. .. .	..	2,915,267	408,078	129,278	1,993,571	5,446,194	4,754,448

* Inclusive of branches.

† Special Hospitals are those that have accommodation for specific cases only or for women and/or children exclusively. They comprise:—The Austin (for Cancer and Chronic diseases), Children's, Eye and Ear, Dental, Queen Victoria, Women's, Caritas Christi Hospice (for the Dying), and the Talbot Colony for Epileptics.

‡ Includes receipts from the Intermediate and private sections of Public Hospitals.

NOTE.—Information relating to the Children's Welfare Department and the Gaols and Penal establishments will be found on pages 468 and 278 respectively of the *Year-Book*.

VICTORIA—RECEIPTS OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS AND
SANATORIA DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH
JUNE, 1946.

Institution.	Receipts.						Total Receipts.
	Maintenance Receipts.				Capital Receipts.		
	Government.	Contributions from In-patients and Out-patients.	Intermediate and Private Patients Section.	Other.	Government.	Other.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
METROPOLITAN.							
Special Hospitals—							
Austin	74,703	3,910	16,448	22,275	18,500	29,167	165,003
Caritas Christi	2,596	3,860	..	1,915	..	..	8,371
Children's	53,215	17,377	..	67,762	14,000	..	152,354
Dental	6,998	16,898	..	1,436	..	274	25,606
Queen Victoria	44,155	19,183	20,063	16,336	15,215	6,828	121,780
Talbot Colony	4,632	2,623	..	3,179	..	..	10,434
Eye and Ear	18,282	13,188	..	11,025	23,556	13,082	79,133
Women's	51,277	17,049	..	38,584	31,000	4,877	142,787
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases	66,266	..	..	56,318	42,123	..	164,707
General Hospitals—							
Royal Melbourne	131,405	48,420	2,034	48,089	18,568	20,772	269,288
Alfred	112,392	39,015	23,247	41,828	93,170	250	309,002
Prince Henry's	49,625	17,115	..	17,011	160,000	17,831	261,582
St. Vincent's	70,031	27,495	6,233	28,035	4,000	12,810	148,604
Central	53,398	..	..	807	38,040	..	92,245
Williamstown	6,117	2,870	4,162	3,844	5,500	..	22,493
Dandenong	4,216	686	5,627	2,271	8,562	469	21,831
Rox Hill† .. .. .	..	..	..	..	10,000	7,240	17,240
Brighton† .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1,217	1,217
Preston and Northcote† .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	8,700	8,700
Mordialloc† .. .. .	..	..	..	..	6,000	1,152	7,152
Sandringham† .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	3,022	3,022
Auxiliary Hospitals—							
After Care	11,916	6,606	..	8,981	2,000	..	29,503
Caulfield Convalescent	19,491	9,316	..	6,522	..	..	35,329
PROVINCIAL.							
Base Hospitals (10)	187,521	52,739	116,208	88,597	105,436	37,312	587,813
General Hospitals (42)	147,975	34,849	124,371	71,078	93,590	57,137	529,000
Total	1,116,211	333,199	318,393	535,893	689,260	222,140	3,215,096
Convalescent Hospitals	1,202	1,506	..	1,984	..	..	4,692
Sanatoria (Tuberculosis)	75,676	..	..	..	73,297	..	148,973
Mental Hospitals	527,189	86,754	..	12,653	53,250	..	679,846
Grand Total	1,720,278	421,459	318,393	550,530	815,807	222,140	4,048,607

† Grants and contributions during 1945-46 towards the establishment of hospitals in these localities.

VICTORIA—EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS AND
SANATORIA DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE,
1946.

Institution.	Expenditure.						
	In-patients, Expenditure on—			Out-patients, Total Aggregate Cost.	Total Cost of all patients.	Capital Expenditure.	Total Expenditure.
	Salaries and Wages.	Other Inc. Extraordinary Exp.	Total.				
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
METROPOLITAN.							
Special Hospitals—							
Austin	78,997	56,916	135,913	..	135,913	11,237	147,150
Caritas Christi ..	5,762	4,451	10,213	..	10,213	..	10,213
Children's	65,178	43,096	108,274	32,658	140,932	8,090	149,022
Dental* .. ..	..	..	..	23,319	23,319	258	23,577
Queen Victoria ..	60,592	39,740	100,332	15,722	116,054	3,707	119,761
Talbot Colony ..	6,064	3,678	9,742	..	9,742	..	9,742
Eye and Ear ..	20,828	14,820	35,648	11,228	46,876	..	46,876
Women's	56,703	50,064	106,767	13,539	120,306	4,227	124,533
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases	73,900	35,423	109,323	..	109,323	42,123	151,446
General Hospitals—							
Royal Melbourne ..	127,779	104,992	232,771	68,276	301,047	45,053	346,100
Alfred	97,693	83,530	181,123	36,353	217,476	4,656	222,132
Prince Henry's ..	37,227	31,915	69,142	17,505	86,647	6,680	93,327
St. Vincent's ..	59,760	52,179	111,939	30,651	142,590	5,940	148,530
Central	29,855	8,128	37,983	2,006	39,989	44,788	84,777
Williamstown ..	7,720	7,264	14,984	825	15,809	..	15,809
Dandenong	6,574	6,671	13,245	150	13,395	509	13,904
Box Hill .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	525	525
Brighton .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	39	39
Preston and Northcote .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	7,508	7,508
Mordialloc .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	435	435
Sandringham ..	..	..	..	..	..	13	13
Auxiliary Hospitals—							
After Care	11,539	8,350	19,889	10,547	30,436	..	30,436
Caulfield Convalescent	19,460	15,458	34,918	..	34,918	1,303	36,221
PROVINCIAL.							
Base Hospitals (10) ..	266,685	204,806	471,491	19,569	491,060	23,151	514,211
General Hospitals (42)	217,928	176,592	394,520	3,418	397,938	15,236	413,174
Total	1,250,144	948,073	2,198,217	285,766	2,483,983	225,478	2,709,461
Convalescent Hospitals	2,728	2,364	5,092	..	5,092	1,303	6,395
Sanatoria (Tuberculosis) ..	43,142	32,534	75,676	..	75,676	73,297	148,973
Mental Hospitals ..	335,429	291,167	626,596	..	626,596	53,250	679,846
Grand Total	1,631,443	1,274,138	2,905,581	285,766	3,191,347	353,328	3,544,675

* The dental hospital caters for out-patients only. The total aggregate cost shown includes salaries, £15,925; other, £7,394.

The receipts of hospitals, and charitable institutions (excluding reformatory, gaols and penal establishments) in the State under various headings for the year ended 30th June, 1946, are shown hereunder:—

VICTORIA—SOURCES OF INCOME OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC., 1945-46.

Receipts.	Hospitals.							Total.
	Public.	Convalescent Mental and Sanatoria.	Infants' Homes.	Children's Homes.	Maternity and Rescue Homes.	Benevolent Homes.	Other Institutions.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Government Aid ..	1,583,655	725,299	5,786	65,785	45,744	99,887	82,112	2,608,268
Hospital Benefits Fund ..	221,816	5,315	..	..	..	20,501	..	247,632
Child Endowment ..	..	..	7,734	49,654	1,979	..	..	59,367
Municipal Grants and Contributions ..	93,937	199	243	685	71	1,114	56,363	152,612
Annual Subscriptions ..	56,702	290	525	11,043	651	2,913	57,909	130,033
Proceeds of Entertainments ..	65,589	..	2,930	5,401	77	3,545	17,055	94,597
Other Collections, Donations, Legacies, and Bequests ..	383,657	601	13,629	88,219	8,431	25,583	34,340	554,460
Hospital Sunday and Church Donations ..	49,218	310	1,231	3,540	770	4,773	509	60,351
Contributions of In-patients or Inmates ..	203,921	88,260	4,616	25,830	12,161	70,344	2,946	408,078
Contributions from Out-patients ..	129,278	..	..	..	..	..	..	129,278
Proceeds of Inmates' Labour ..	..	..	..	17,856	23,752	..	18,925	60,533
Income from Investments	50,018	208	3,950	6,849	600	5,586	6,203	73,414
Fees from Intermediate patients ..	318,393	..	..	..	..	..	..	318,393
Other Sources ..	58,912	13,029	634	2,839	680	4,007	469,077	549,178
Total ..	3,215,096	833,511	41,278	277,701	94,916	238,253	745,439	5,446,194

NOTE.—Excludes Children's Welfare Department and Gaols and Penal Establishments.

Information relating to the receipts and expenditure of charitable institutions (excluding reformatory, gaols and penal establishments) during each year of the period of five years ended on 30th June, 1946, is given in the following table. For the year 1945-46, Government aid was equivalent to 53·53 per cent. of the total receipts; municipal grants and payments to 2·80

Charitable Institutions—receipts and expenditure.

per cent.; contributions of in-patients, inmates, and out-patients to 9·87 per cent.; collections, donations, legacies and bequests to 11·29 per cent.; and receipts from all other sources to 22·51 per cent.

VICTORIA—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC., 1941-42 TO 1945-46.

Heading.	Year ended 30th June—				
	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
<i>Receipts.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Government Aid	1,360,713	1,561,827	2,135,836	1,919,648	2,608,268
Hospital Benefits Fund* .. ..	..	..	..	..	247,632
Child Endowment†	28,200	42,735	40,081	41,524	59,367
Municipal Grants and Contributions	126,421	134,378	150,438	148,280	152,612
Patients' and Inmates' Contributions	540,208	604,968	649,732	666,569	537,356
Annual Subscriptions	150,486	99,308	106,368	135,664	130,033
Entertainments, &c.	58,209	89,393	109,237	131,067	94,597
Other Collections, Donations, Legacies, and Bequests	777,811	404,692	383,456	459,366	554,460
Lord Mayor's Fund, Hospital Sunday, and Church Donations	37,618	57,001	73,561	75,499	60,351
Income from Investments	51,642	63,023	63,275	66,594	73,414
Proceeds of Inmates' Labour	86,678	76,927	48,618	65,844	60,533
Loan Receipts	76,750	60,834	..	..	..
Intermediate and Private Section of Public Hospitals	131,251	244,288	293,095	329,280	318,393
Other Sources	376,341	485,147	576,215	1,144,720‡	549,178
Total Receipts	3,802,328	3,924,521	4,629,912	5,184,055	5,446,194
<i>Expenditure.</i>					
Maintenance (In-patients or Inmates)	2,557,993	3,022,439	3,314,304	3,530,560	3,995,408
Out-patients (Public Hospitals)	172,895	205,540	224,605	263,764	286,274
Extraordinary	74,926	81,757	55,012	83,014	58,261
Building	605,219	285,886	196,853	224,494	414,505
Total Expenditure	3,411,033	3,595,622	3,790,774	4,101,832	4,754,448

* Payments under Commonwealth *Hospital Benefits Act* 1945 commenced 28th December, 1945.

† Payments under Commonwealth *Child Endowment Act* 1941 commenced 1st July, 1941.

‡ Includes £549,000 received as purchase price of old Royal Melbourne Hospital premises.

NOTE.—Children's Welfare Department is excluded from above table.

Accommodation and Inmates.

The next table shows the normal bed provision and the actual number of inmates maintained in the named institutions during the year ended 30th June, 1946:—

VICTORIA—PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC., ACCOMMODATION AND INMATES, 1945-46.

Institution.	Number of Beds in—		Daily Average of occupied Beds in Public Section.	Total Treated in—		Out-patients (including Casualties) Persons Treated.
	Public Section.	Intermediate and Private Section.		Public Section.	Intermediate and Private Section.	
	No.	No.		No.	No.	No.
Special Hospitals—						
Austin	464	73	249·3	746	1,281	..
Caritas Christi Hos- pice	48	..	40·0	162	..	..
Children's	448	..	346·3	5,820	..	21,880
Dental .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	17,476
Queen Victoria	124	115	165·8	5,142	1,741	13,497
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	138	..	93·9	118	..	..
Eye and Ear	126	..	73·7	2,895	..	38,028
Women's	310	..	247·5	9,552	..	10,980
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases	720	..	227·0	3,717	..	..
General Hospitals—						
Royal Melbourne	474	6	446·4	8,527	85	45,711
Alfred	405	91	386·6	6,336	1,866	30,267
Prince Henry's	215	..	191·4	3,736	..	18,160
St. Vincent's	292	22	283·2	4,358	432	37,508
Central	74	..	45·2	274	..	625
Williamstown	38	22	28·5	555	499	1,298
Dandenong	10	24	10·5	211	632	284
Auxiliary Hospitals	348	..	312·7	6,898	..	4,068
Provincial Hospitals	2,892	1,258	1591·2	32,757	29,502	41,364
Convalescent Hospitals	66	..	41·2	585	..	..
Sanatoria	401	..	327·7	682	..	..
Mental Hospitals and Receiving Houses	6,875	..	6,289·0	8,328*	..	..
Total Hospitals	14,468	1,611	..	101,399	36,038	281,146
Number of Beds.						
				Daily Average.	Accommodated during Year.	
		For Children.	For Adults.		Children.	Adults.
		No.	No.		No.	No.
Infants' Homes	461	61	451·7	908	166	..
Children's Homes	3,102	..	2,793·2	4,486	..	..
Maternity Homes	159	181	215·2	801	855	..
Rescue Homes .. .. .	..	677†	472·3	..	802†	..
Benevolent Homes .. .. .	..	2,645	2,224·5	..	..	3,954
Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Institutions .. .. .	..	168†	156·0	..	206†	..

* Represents total cases under care during year ended 31st December, 1946.

† Details not available.

HOSPITAL BENEFITS SCHEME.

Public Hospitals. The genesis of the Hospital Benefits Scheme and the main heads of agreement between the Commonwealth and the States Governments as embodied in the Commonwealth *Hospital Benefits Act* 1945 (No. 47 of 1945) and (so far as Victoria is concerned) the *Victorian Hospitals Benefits Act* (No. 5101) are set out in pages 481 and 482 of the *Victorian Year-Book* 1943-44.

For the year ended 30th June, 1947 total payments by the Commonwealth to the State amounted to £845,882 of which £654,396 was on account of public wards. Of this amount £391,437 was paid to public hospitals and the balance £262,959 into a Trust Fund. No payments can be made from this Trust Fund except for the purpose of capital expenditure on public hospitals as approved by the Commonwealth.

Private Hospitals. The agreement above-mentioned related wholly to public hospitals but the Commonwealth Act (Section 4) also provided that "the regulations may make provision for and in relation to payments by the Commonwealth of hospital benefits, at such rates and subject to such conditions as are prescribed, in respect of patients in private hospitals as defined by the regulations".

Such regulations, which are administered in Victoria by the State Department of Health, provide for hospital benefit at the rate of 6s. per day to be allowed as a deduction from the hospital accounts of qualified patients in approved hospitals.

A qualified patient is one receiving hospital treatment in an approved hospital. Such treatment must be under the supervision of a doctor and may be for medical, surgical, or obstetric cases.

An approved hospital is one which has been approved under the Regulations. Most private hospitals which cater for medical, surgical, or obstetric cases are approved but a number of hospitals which take only chronic patients requiring little or no medical attention are excluded. Private mental homes or rest homes are also excluded.

Benefit is not payable in respect of any patient for any period exceeding eight weeks, unless the claim is accompanied by a medical certificate stating nature of illness and the reason for further hospital treatment. This certificate must be approved by the Department of Health.

Patients whose fees are payable under any law of the Commonwealth or of a State do not receive hospital benefit. Examples of this class would be Workers' Compensation, Repatriation or Motor Car Accident cases.

Except in special cases, all benefits are allowed to the patient at the hospital. A form has to be completed and signed by the patient setting out the full hospital charges and the benefit allowed. The hospitals in turn are reimbursed monthly by the Department of Health the amount of benefit.

An important provision in the Regulations is the control of fees and charges by the hospitals. Approval had to be obtained for fees existing at 1st September, 1945, and all subsequent applications for increases or variations have to be submitted for approval to the Prices Branch before confirmation under the Hospital Benefit Regulations.

Payments made to private hospitals in Victoria under the scheme for the year ended 30th June, 1947, amounted to £292,627.

GENERAL HOSPITALS.

The principal general hospitals in the State are the Royal Melbourne, the Alfred, St. Vincent's, and Prince Henry's Hospitals. Descriptive details of the Alfred, St. Vincent's, and Prince Henry's Hospitals will be found on pages 277-279 of the *Year-Book* 1942-43 and of the Royal Melbourne Hospital on page 482 of the *Year-Book* 1943-44. Statistical information for the year ended 30th June, 1946, is contained in a table on pages 456, 457, and 460 of this issue.

Central Hospital. This hospital ceased to function as a unit of the Health Department on 16th December, 1946.

On account of the shortage of midwifery beds, the Government decided to hand the hospital over to the Committee of Management of the Queen Victoria Hospital for use in lieu of its existing hospital. This arrangement increased the number of available beds for midwifery cases in the metropolitan area by 55.

The Queen Victoria Hospital will carry on all its usual functions, plus the increased midwifery section, at these premises.

Provision has been made for both the male and female venereal diseases clinics and the prophylactic centre to continue to operate in the hospital grounds. The ward set apart for fifteen female bed patients will not be put into operation.

Queen Victoria Hospital. In exchange for the Central Hospital, the Queen Victoria Hospital will be handed over to the Government. A Bill to ratify the transfer will be presented to Parliament.

It is proposed that the whole building will eventually be used as a Cancer Institute. In the meantime the Jessie McPherson Wing is being used by the Queen Victoria Hospital for intermediate patients; 40 cases of tuberculosis are accommodated in the Lady Forster Wing.

**Queen's
Memorial
Infectious
Diseases
Hospital.**

This institution dates from 1904 when the first patient was admitted. Its early history and later development is recorded in the *Year-Book* 1937-38, page 259.

The patients treated during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1947, numbered 3,220 (3,717), and the maximum number of occupied beds in any one day 283 (310). Figures in parentheses relate to the year ended 30th June, 1946.

For the same period receipts amounted to £103,449 (£122,584), and expenditure to £112,444 (£109,323).

The greatest number of patients in hospital on any one day was 745, during the epidemic of diphtheria in 1936.

The number of patients (2,964) admitted during the year ended 30th June, 1947, was lower by 515 than for the previous year, and was the lowest since 1925-26. The number of deaths was 36, as against 65, 45, and 151 for the three preceding similar periods and was the lowest for forty-years.

The hospital is an approved training school for nurses in association with other major hospitals, and has a fully-equipped preliminary training school, through which all probationer nurses pass before taking up ward duty.

TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIA AND BUREAUX.

With the definite object of obtaining improved results in the prevention and cure of tuberculosis, a State Director of Tuberculosis was appointed in 1927. Since this appointment, a new feature in the control and cure of the disease has been the establishment of tuberculosis bureaux in the metropolis and in the provincial centres of the State. With the co-operation of the Bureaux, a larger proportion of cases in the early stages of the disease has been admitted to the Sanatoria.

The following table shows the accommodation of, the number of admissions to, discharges from, and deaths of males and females in Sanatoria during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1947 :—

VICTORIA—TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIA—ACCOMMODATION,
ETC., 1946-47.

Sanatorium.	Accommodation.		Admissions.		Discharges.		Deaths.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Central Hospital..	22	22	15	31	15	30	10	6
Greenvale ..	..	96	..	120	..	88	..	18
Austin ..	90	50	85	92	76	79	10	6
Heatherton ..	..	124	..	129	..	101	..	24
Royal Park—								
Dunstan Chalet	19	..	15	..	7	..	9	..
Eleanor Shaw Chalet ..	..	12	..	7	..	6	..	1
Gresswell ..	192	..	181	..	142	..	17	..
Bendigo Chalet ..	14	10	12	9	7	5	3	4
Ballarat Chalet ..	6	6	4	8	2	9	1	..
Hamilton Chalet	7	7	2	5	..	..	..	..
Total ..	350	327	314	401	249	318	50	59

State sanatorium beds available in Victoria at June, 1947, numbered 677. In addition, 675 Commonwealth Repatriation beds and 25 private sanatorium beds were available. The construction of a new 144-bed block at Greenvale and two 72-bed blocks at Heatherton is nearing completion. Chalets of approximately 14 beds each, attached to the Base Hospitals are being built at Horsham, Mildura, Sale, and Wangaratta. It is intended to provide accommodation also at Geelong, Mooropna, and Warrnambool. A new sanatorium for males with accommodation for 400 beds is planned to be erected at Watsonia.

A full time supervisor of mass X-rays has been appointed. Miniature Radiography is being used on an extensive scale and units have been established at the Central Tuberculosis Bureau, Prahran, South Melbourne, Williamstown, Newtown (Geelong), and Brunswick.

The branch bureaux at Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, and Prahran have done useful work. Work at the Central Tuberculosis Bureau has further increased during the year. Attendances at this Bureau were 24,225 in 1943-44, 25,232 in 1944-45, 25,400 in 1945-46, and 27,389 in 1946-47. In recent years doctors in private practice have sent to the Bureaux an increasing number of patients for examination and report. During the year ended 30th June, 1947, 5,640 domiciliary visits to tuberculosis patients were made by the ten nurses attached to the various Bureaux. A visiting nurse has been appointed to the Western Health Area and has made 1,293 domiciliary visits. Appointments are to be made to the other three Health Areas in the near future.

The following table illustrates some of the work at the Central and Branch Tuberculosis Bureaux during the year ended 30th June, 1947 :—

VICTORIA—TUBERCULOSIS BUREAUX ACTIVITIES, 1946-47.

Type of Service.	Metropolitan—				Country—	
	Central.		Prahran.		Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
New cases applying ..	3,184	3,950	315	589	320	347
Re-attendances	8,044	12,211	208	359	1,275	1,570
Cases passed for entry to Sanatoria and other Institutions ..	252	403	10	8	81	131
Contacts—						
New—Examined	1,340	1,721	67	109	163	201
Old—Re-examined	1,577	2,367	47	91	362	515
Found Tuberculous	23	49	1	3	7	12
Infecting cases	887		195		124	
Visits to Patients' Homes—						
By Nurses (Central Bureau)	3,614		151			
By Nurses (Bendigo-Ballarat)					1367	
By Nurses (Geelong)					508	
X-ray Screen Examinations—						
Films—Large	4,168	6,135	139	214	733	922
Films—Micro	3,322	5,036	..	..	..	..
Screens	971	2,325	..	..	73	46
Pneumothorax Refills	691	920	..	..	280	193

The number of attendances of patients at the Central and Branch Bureaux during the period of twelve months ended 30th June in each of the years, 1927 to 1947, was as follows :—

VICTORIA—ATTENDANCES OF PATIENTS AT TUBERCULOSIS BUREAUX, 1927 TO 1947.

Year Ended 30th June—	Bureau.					Total.
	Central.	Prahran.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Ballarat.	
1927	596	..	..	..	..	596
1928	1,115	..	..	..	..	1,115
1929	3,309	..	..	..	..	3,309
1930	6,088	177	..	..	..	6,265
1931	8,212	316	512	..	..	9,040
1932	9,235	285	543	164	..	10,227
1933	9,527	370	838	944	..	11,679
1934	10,370	365	939	1,028	..	12,702
1935	10,836	474	1,204	926	439	13,879
1936	12,319	431	1,184	731	654	15,319
1937	13,765	501	1,064	959	735	17,024
1938	13,565	571	1,147	1,312	714	17,309
1939	15,581	748	904	1,576	759	19,568
1940	17,203	737	1,029	1,415	693	21,077
1941	17,478	418	1,431	1,332	626	21,285
1942	21,550	600	1,417	1,236	583	25,386
1943	22,434	622	1,454	1,474	665	26,649
1944	24,225	722	968	1,648	603	28,166
1945	25,232	588	950	1,874	694	29,338
1946	25,400	783	1,220	1,765	775	29,953
1947	27,389	1,694	1,495	1,613	836	33,027

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE.

The subjoined table sets forth the numbers under the care of the Department for the years 1945 and 1946 :—

VICTORIA—PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE, 31ST DECEMBER, 1945 AND 1946.

Location.	On 31st December—		Increase (+). Decrease (-).
	1945.	1946.	
In State Hospitals	6,307	6,209	- 98
On Trial Leave from State Hospitals	677	563	-114
Boarded Out	278	265	-13
In licensed Private Mental Homes	40	36	- 4
On Trial Leave from licensed Private Mental Homes	6	6	..
Total Number of Certified Insane	7,308	7,079	- 229
In Receiving Institutions	114	136	+ 22
Total	7,422	7,215	- 207
Voluntary Boarders	332	290	- 42
Military mental cases, Bundoora (not included in other statistics)	109	269	+160

There was a decrease of 98 in the number of patients resident at the end of 1946 compared with 1945, made up of 42 Voluntary Boarders less, and 56 less certified insane.

During the year 1946 military mental cases previously shown as on trial leave from Mental Hospitals to Bundoora were transferred to the books of the Repatriation Mental Hospital, Bundoora, and discharged from the books of the Mental Hospital, Mont Park. This transfer shows the main reason for the decrease in numbers "on trial leave from State Hospitals" and the increase in numbers in "Military mental cases, Bundoora" and the unusually high number of "male discharges".

The number of certified insane in the State at the end of 1946 proportionately to the population was 1 in 289.

The number of admissions to mental hospitals for each of the years 1942 to 1946 was as follows:—

VICTORIA—MENTAL HOSPITALS—ADMISSIONS, 1942 TO 1946.

Year.	First Admissions.			Re-admissions.			Total Admissions.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
1942	393	383	776	32	34	66	842
1943	367	427	794	31	42	73	867
1944	370	411	781	38	60	98	879
1945	397	407	804	51	63	114	918
1946	354	386	740	63	48	111	851

The number of discharges from, and the deaths in, Mental Hospitals of the Department for each of the years 1942 to 1946 are given below:—

VICTORIA—MENTAL HOSPITALS—DISCHARGES AND DEATHS, 1942 TO 1946.

Year.	Discharges.			Deaths.			Total of Discharges and Deaths.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
1942	180	207	387	263	262	525	912
1943	156	158	314	266	288	554	868
1944	158	198	356	234	293	527	883
1945	172	199	371	222	304	526	897
1946	361	203	564	233	267	500	1,064

CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

Wards of
Children's
Welfare
Department
and
Department for
Reformatory
Schools.

This Department is responsible for the supervision of (a) children committed as wards of the Children's Welfare Department pursuant to the provisions of the Children's Welfare Act, and (b) those committed as wards of the Department for Reformatory Schools under the provisions of Part II., Division 2, Crimes Act (Juvenile Offenders).

Wards of the
Children's
Welfare
Department.

In the main these represent children who have been committed through the Children's Courts under one or other of the several definitions of a "neglected child" (section 18), children committed to the Department on the application of relatives, &c., on the grounds that they are without means of support (section 24), and children who *ipso facto* become wards on default in payment by their parents under the Infant Life Protection provisions of the Act (section 103).

According to the circumstances existing at the time of committal, the children are boarded out for payment in private foster homes or with relatives, or are placed in institutions. Only one institution is governmentally controlled, viz., the Department's Receiving Depot at Royal Park, which is used as a clearing house. The remaining institutions are conducted by the various religious denominations or private charitable committees, and a capitation fee is paid for wards maintained therein.

With children in private foster homes or with relatives, boarding out payments do not continue beyond school leaving age (14 years). The children are then placed "on probation" i.e., without cost with their foster parents or relatives, or are placed in employment in service situations. Children in institutions are in due course either returned to their relatives or friends "on probation," transferred to private foster homes, or placed in service situations or other employment.

In the past there has been a dearth of hostels to which ex-institutional children, whose parents or relatives are unable to resume custody, could, on reaching school-leaving age, be transferred to follow the careers or employment for which they are best fitted. In 1945 the Government approved of a scheme under which substantial financial assistance towards establishment costs and annual maintenance is made available to institutions prepared to extend their operations in this manner. Several hostels have already been established under the scheme.

The following table shows the number and location of wards of the Children's Welfare Department at the end of each of the five years, 1942-1946.

VICTORIA—CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT—
LOCATION OF WARDS.

Year.	Boarded Out in Foster Homes.	On Probation with Friends or Relatives.	With Employers on Service Conditions.	At Royal Park Depot.	In Government Subsidized Hostels.	In Other Institutions.	Total.
1942 ..	1,149	1,974	258	251	..	2,002	5,634
1943 ..	971	2,063	279	237	..	1,736	5,286
1944 ..	834	1,597	265	223	..	1,841	4,760
1945 ..	691	1,538	278	206	..	1,675	4,388
1946 ..	664	1,264	262	121	86	1,622	4,019

Boys committed as wards of the Department for Reformatory Schools are transferred for training as early as possible to the private reformatory school appropriate to their religion. They then come under the legal guardianship of the superintendent of the school who, in due course, may return them to their friends or relatives (who are required to enter into a good behaviour bond) or place them at service or in other employment. The following table shows the number and location of wards of the Department for Reformatory Schools at the end of each of the five years 1942-46 :—

VICTORIA—DEPARTMENT OF REFORMATORY SCHOOLS—
LOCATION OF WARDS.

Year.	At Royal Park Reformatory School.	In Other Reformatory Schools.	On Probation with Friends or Relatives.	With Employers on Service Conditions.	In Government Subsidized Hostels.	Total.
1942 ..	..	70	10	3	..	83
1943 ..	3	93	11	6	..	113
1944 ..	3	65	43	9	..	120
1945 ..	1	78	38	14	..	131
1946 ..	..	101	27	2	12	142

Part II. of the Children's Welfare Act (Infant Life Protection) provides that no person shall, for payment or reward, retain or receive into her care or charge in any home any infant under the age of five years for the purpose of nursing or maintaining such infant apart from its parents for more than three consecutive days, or for the purpose of adopting such infant, unless such person and such home are registered by the Department (section 95). Exemptions from the operation of this section in the case of a relative or for other special reasons may be granted by the Minister (section 107). Payments are to be made through the Secretary and in no other way (section 103). If payments fall into arrears for four weeks the child *ipso facto* becomes a ward of the Children's Welfare Department (section 103). The following is a statement of the operations of this part for the year ended 31st December, 1946.

	1946.
Children already placed at 1st January	203
Children placed during year	459
Total	662
Discharged from operations of Part II. during year—	
Custody resumed by parent	261
Made wards through arrears	85
Deaths	1
Attained five years of age	22
Adopted	45
Under supervision at 31st December	248
Total	662

Part III. of the *Maintenance Act* 1928 enables a mother whose child is without sufficient means of support, and who is unable to provide or to obtain by any available legal proceedings sufficient means of support for such child, to apply in the prescribed form to the Secretary of the Children's Welfare Department for assistance for or towards the maintenance thereof. "Child" means any person under the maximum age provided under the Education Acts at which attendance at school ceases to be compulsory.

The number of children in respect of whom assistance under the Maintenance Act was being afforded at the 31st December in the years 1942 to 1946, and the total amount of such assistance paid in each year, together with the average payments per child per week are shown in the following table :—

VICTORIA—MOTHERS RECEIVING ASSISTANCE UNDER THE MAINTENANCE ACT, 1942-1946.

Year.	Number of Children Assisted.	Total Amount of Assistance Payments.	Average Payment per Child per Week.
		£	s. d.
1942	4,313	130,144	8 10
1943	3,545	93,792	9 3
1944	3,138	82,717	9 7
1945	2,881	76,598	9 6
1946	2,887	75,066	10 1

The financial operations of the Children's Welfare Department for the year ended 31st December, 1946, are shown hereunder :—

VICTORIA—CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT—FINANCIAL OPERATIONS, YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1946.

EXPENDITURE.		£
Children's Welfare Department—		
Boarded-out children		65,048
Royal Park Depot		28,779
Subsidies to Hostels		2,005
Service Outfits		1,321
Department for Reformatory Schools		2,374
Maintenance Act—		
Children		75,066
Widows		39
General Maintenance Items— (Medical attention, School requisites, &c.)		2,555
Administration		24,741
Gross Expenditure		201,928
RECEIPTS.		
Maintenance Collections		17,513
Child Endowment		3,671
Miscellaneous Receipts		175
		21,359
Net Expenditure		180,569

The following statement shows the Net Expenditure of the Children's Welfare Department during the ten years 1937-1946 :—

VICTORIA—CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT—NET EXPENDITURE 1937-1946.

Year.	Net Expenditure.	Year.	Net Expenditure.
	£		£
1937	272,788	1942	256,309
1938	297,011	1943	200,910
1939	310,048	1944	193,234
1940	302,424	1945	183,376
1941	279,476	1946	180,569

MATERNAL AND INFANT WELFARE.

The Maternal and Infant Welfare Movement commenced in Victoria with the establishment of Infant Welfare Centres in 1917. These Centres are maintained by Municipalities and subsidized by the Government, being staffed by specially qualified Sisters, of whom there are 179 (167) employed in Infant Welfare Centre work.

In the following details figures in parentheses relate to the year ended 30th June, 1946. On 30th June, 1947, there were 175 (170) Municipalities maintaining 340 (316) Centres. Of these Municipalities 36 (35) in the metropolitan area were supporting 115 (106) Centres and 112 (106) in the country were supporting 211 (192) Centres. During the year ended 30th June, 1947, the number of individual children attending Centres was 94,459 compared with 82,588 in 1946. Their attendances numbered 949,753, in 1947, and 833,248 in 1946, and the Sisters made 88,904 and 82,460 home visits respectively. Also at the end of June, 1947, there were five mobile Infant Welfare Services operated by car or caravan.

Ante-Natal Ante-Natal Medical Supervision Centres, subsidized by the Government, were established in 1945 and now operate in nine Municipalities. During the year ended 30th June, 1947, 1,569 (496) individual expectant mothers paid 7,351 (2,165) visits to these Centres.

Pre-School At the end of 1947 there were 89 Free Nursery Kindergartens subsidized through the Department of Health. Most of

the Kindergartens are receiving a full subsidy of £6 per child ; i.e., they function under a trained Director on a full time basis meeting approved standards. Further information regarding kindergartens appears on page 413 of this issue.

Play Centres are not subsidized by the Government but function under the supervision of the Department of Health. Twenty-five of these Centres had been established by 30th June, 1947.

Particulars of Infant Welfare centres for the year 1917-18 (the first year in operation) and for the five years 1942-43 to 1946-47 are given in the following table :—

VICTORIA—INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

	1917-18.	Year Ended 30th June—				
		1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.
Number of centres ..	3	244	272	296	316	340
Nurses in centres ..	1	130	144	159	167	179
Home visits ..	1,407	74,950	76,593	78,547	82,460	88,904
Total individual children	913	67,061	73,919	78,202	82,588	94,459
Total attendances ..	4,116	658,000	758,440	838,733	833,248	949,753

As shown hereunder there are eight Infant Welfare and Mothercraft training schools for nurses. Of these schools which are supported by voluntary organizations and church bodies, four train Mothercraft nurses only.

VICTORIA—INFANT WELFARE AND MOTHERCRAFT TRAINING SCHOOLS.

School.	Number who Completed Training During the Year Ended 30th June—			
	1946.		1947.	
	Infant Welfare Nurses.	Mothercraft Nurses.	Infant Welfare Nurses.	Mothercraft Nurses.
Presbyterian Babies' Home ..	11	15	13	15
Victorian Baby Health Centres Association Training School ..	27	..	29	..
Tweddle Baby Hospital ..	11	10	18	10
St. Joseph's Foundling Hospital ..	..	20	..	12
Methodist Babies' Home ..	..	13	..	17
Bethany Babies' Home ..	..	10	..	12
St. Gabriel's Church of England Babies' Home ..	..	14	..	13
Foundling Hospital, Berry-street, East Melbourne ..	..	10	10	13

Since the inauguration of the Department of Health Mothercraft Nurses' examinations in 1930, 1,216 trainees had satisfactorily passed to the end of June, 1947. The number of Mothercraft nurses who passed the examination during the year ended 30th June, 1947, was 91 (78).

During the year 1946-47 nine (five) Mothercraft nurses received Department of Health certificates for pre-school Mothercraft nursing. Sixty-two nurses have received certificates since the course was inaugurated in 1942.

There were 1,085 (1,004) Infant Welfare nurses registered with the Nurses' Board in Victoria at 30th June, 1947, and 1,216 (1,125) Mothercraft nurses eligible to obtain the Health Department certificate of competency.

There are eleven creches or day nurseries supported by Government grant, voluntary effort and money derived from Trust funds. The children are admitted as a rule from the age of six weeks to six years. There is a charge of 3d. to 4d. per day, varying with different creches but, in cases where the father and mother are earning good wages, a higher charge is made. The daily payment includes provision of three meals and a bath. The total attendances for the year ended 30th June, 1947, were 90,500 (89,562).

SCHOOL MEDICAL AND DENTAL SERVICES.

School Medical Services.—School medical inspection was established in 1909 and, as staff is not sufficient to cover all children in the State, attention is given to selected schools and so arranged as to cover the whole of the metropolitan area in three years. The work of the School Medical Officers may be summarized as follows:—

1. (a) Routine examination of children in schools.
 - (b) Examination of special cases referred by the Education Department.
 - (c) Supervision of admission of children to special schools and classes—i.e.,—
 - Open Air School for children with poor nutrition;
 - Special class for partially sighted children;
 - Special day schools for the mentally retarded and opportunity grades for dull children;
 - Remedial gymnasium for selected cases.
2. *Examination of Teachers*—
 - Entrance to Training College.
 - Superannuation cases, including review.
 - Sick Leave cases (over three months' leave).
 - Special cases referred by the Education Department.

The school nurses who accompany medical officers in examinations at schools attend to clerical work in connection with such examinations and follow-up the notifications, persuading parents to have their children treated &c. They also visit schools regularly to examine for pediculosis, skin complaints, &c., and undertake home visiting of special cases, including truants.

School Dental Services were commenced in 1921 when two school dentists were appointed. This was later increased to nine but, since January, 1945, unfilled vacancies resulted in a reduction to six dentists with consequent curtailment of activities.

Dental services are provided by:—

- (a) School Dental Centre, South Melbourne, where children from the inner suburbs are treated.
- (b) Three mobile vans for selected country circuits.
- (c) When possible, visits to main country areas by dental staff.

As personnel is not available to serve all children in the State, initial treatment is restricted to younger children and, as far as practicable, these continue to receive dental attention throughout their school career.

The number of children and teachers medically examined and given dental treatment and the cost thereof are shown in the following table:—

SCHOOL MEDICAL AND DENTAL SERVICES.

—	1945-46.	1946-47.
Number of children examined by medical officers ..	19,203	16,800
Number of children examined by school nurses ..	75,152	86,614
Number of teachers examined by medical officers ..	1,696	2,091
Number of children given dental treatment	14,837	13,741
Expenditure on medical and dental services	£17,957	£20,089

BUSH NURSING CENTRES.

Bush Nursing. Bush nursing centres are distributed throughout the State in the rural areas. At 30th June, 1946, there were 75 centres (including 59 hospitals) employing 150 bush nurses on the permanent staff and 30 on the relieving staff. At 30th June, 1947,

the centres numbered 78, inclusive of 61 bush nursing hospitals. According to the annual reports of centres there were approximately 210 nurses employed, of which number about 45 were only partly trained.

Details of the receipts and expenditure of bush nursing centres whose financial statements were published in the annual reports of the Victorian Bush Nursing Association for the years ended 30th June, 1946 and 1947 are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—BUSH NURSING CENTRES.

	Year ended 30th June—	
	1946.	1947.
RECEIPTS.		
Grants—	£	£
Government	18,930	40,416*
Municipalities	1,277	1,109
Donations	6,235	19,908
Proceeds from entertainments	7,417	5,401
Nursing fees	86,318	83,822
Members' fees	21,259	21,847
Interest and rent	627	1,623
Proceeds from sale of medicine	1,633	2,178
Loans—		
From Central Council .. .. .	..	..
From other sources .. .. .	..	..
Miscellaneous	3,205	1,542
Total receipts	146,901	177,846
EXPENDITURE.		
Salaries—		
Nurses (paid to Central Council)	41,298	55,482
Other	27,741	37,308
Provisions, fuel, lighting	30,295	35,824
Surgery and medicine	3,194	5,270
Repairs and maintenance	8,757	5,965
Furniture	†	4,775
Printing, stationery, &c.	2,474	2,961
Insurance, rent, bank charges	3,265	3,937
Auditors Fees, Legal Expenses etc.	†	1,053
Miscellaneous	4,365	2,474
Loans and interest repayments	1,749	1,725
Land and buildings	6,462	3,567
Alterations and Additions	†	2,612
Equipment	3,248	2,928
Total expenditure	133,448	165,881

* Includes £35,640 received under the Hospital Benefits Scheme.

† Details not available for 1946.

MISCELLANEOUS FUNDS AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS.

The Lord Mayor's Fund was inaugurated on 4th April, 1923, for the purpose of assisting in the maintenance of the Metropolitan Hospitals and Charities, and was incorporated by Act of Parliament on 24th December, 1930. The Hospital Saturday and Sunday Fund was formed in 1873 and remained in operation until the year 1923, when the Hospital Saturday section was merged with the Lord Mayor's Fund, the Hospital Sunday section remaining a separate fund, but being carried on in close co-operation with the Lord Mayor's Fund. Since the date of the inauguration of the latter fund, subscriptions and donations amounting to £1,907,523 have been received, and the collections for the Hospital Sunday Fund have amounted to £327,204.

The total annual receipts of the two funds during the period 1936-37 to 1946-47 were as follows:—

Year ended 30th June—	Lord Mayor's Fund.	Hospital Sunday Fund.	Total.
	£	£	£
1937 ..	105,714	8,843	114,557
1938	78,886	9,123	88,009
1939	72,509	8,986	81,495
1940	62,240	9,205	71,445
1941	65,413	12,867	78,280
1942	71,461	14,398	85,859
1943	97,561	20,320	117,881
1944	120,933	25,634	146,567
1945	141,340	26,725	168,065
1946	112,716	22,910	135,626
1947	112,181	22,605	134,786

The Lord Mayor's Food for Britain Appeal was launched on 21st September, 1945, at a meeting convened by the Lord Mayor of Melbourne (Councillor F. R. Connolly). In March, 1947, the Australian Red Cross Society launched a British Relief Appeal and the Victorian Division of the Society

conducted its appeal conjointly with the Lord Mayor's Food for Britain Appeal, and undertook the shipment of goods on behalf of both appeals. Hereunder is a summary of shipments from September, 1945, to 31st January, 1948.

	Value of Foodstuffs Shipped.		
	Purchased.	Donated.	Total.
	£	£	£
Lord Mayor's Food for Britain Appeal ..	369,472	97,142	466,614
Australian Red Cross Society (Victorian Division) British Relief Appeal.. ..	92,266	33,274	125,540
Victorian State Government (in addition to grant of £20,000 to the Lord Mayor's Appeal)	50,000	..	50,000
	511,738	130,416	642,154
	Value of Clothing Shipped.		
	Purchased.	Donated.	Total.
	£	£	£
Australian Red Cross Society (Victorian Division) British Relief Appeal	32,521	34,830	67,351
Grand Totals	544,259	165,246	709,505

Following serious losses of human life and property caused by bush fires in Victoria, the Victorian Government on 18th January, 1944, appointed the Victorian Bush Fires Relief Committee to deal with the rehabilitation of victims of the bush fires and other incidental problems.

An account of the operations of the committee appeared in the *Year-Book* for 1944-45, page 447.

The work carried on by this Association is described in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 582. Its objects are to instruct all classes of people in the preliminary treatment of the sick and of the injured. During the year ended 30th September, 1947, 2,014 students were instructed in first aid and

**Victorian Bush
Fires Relief
Committee.**

**St. John
Ambulance
Association.**

nursing, and of these 1,433 received certificates. Since the formation of the Victorian Centre of the Association in 1883, 145,897 persons have been awarded certificates. The Association medallion has been awarded to 13,934 students.

During the year ended 30th June, 1947, this service attended to 32,977 calls, of which 6,834 were connected with accidents; the mileage travelled was 362,557. In 8,260 cases no fee was paid. The fleet of twenty-one ambulances has been fitted with single-way wireless equipment. This has greatly increased the efficiency of the service and has been the means of saving valuable time and mileage as direct contact can be made with the drivers at any time when they are out on the road.

In addition 33 Country Ambulance Stations have been successfully opened and operated since March, 1923, under the Country Division of the Service, and 68 stretchers and first-aid outfits have been supplied to police stations in smaller centres.

The locations of the Country Ambulance Stations are as follow:—

Ballarat (2 cars)	Horsham	Rushworth
Beechworth	Kerang	Sale
Benalla	Korumburra	Shepparton (2 cars)
Bendigo	Kyabram	Stawell
Castlemaine	Lakes Entrance	Swan Hill
Cobram	Lorne	Terang
Echuca	Maffra	Wangaratta
Erica	Mildura	Warracknabeal
Flinders	Mornington	Warragul
Goroke	Noojee	Warrnambool
Heyfield	Orbost	Yarram

Royal
Humane
Society.

The objects of the Royal Humane Society of Australasia were published in the *Year-Book* for 1942-43, page 295.

During the year ended 30th June, 1946, 124 applications for awards were investigated, with the result that 39 certificates of merit, 28 bronze medals, 30 silver medals, and 1 gold medal were granted. Out of 87 applications for awards during the year ended 30th June, 1947, 77 were granted and comprised 40 certificates of merit, 25 bronze medals, and 12 silver medals.

Royal Life
Saving
Society.

With the object of minimizing the great loss of life from drowning, a branch of the Royal Life Saving Society was established in Melbourne in 1904. A statement of the aims of the society was published in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30 on page 237.

During the year ended 30th June, 1947, the number of awards granted by the Victorian Head Centre was 5,419; the total income was £2,255, and the expenditure £2,212.

The objects of this society are given in the *Year-Book Society for the Protection of Animals.* for 1916-17, page 589. During the year ended 30th

June, 1947, 2,009 cases were dealt with, of which 395 were connected with cruelty to horses, and 676 to dogs. There were 16 prosecutions in cases of deliberate cruelty, and fines were imposed in 12 instances. The receipts for the year ended 30th June, 1947, amounted to £4,006 and the expenditure to £7,176.

Cost of Social Services. Expenditure on social services by the Government of Victoria during each of the last five years is shown hereunder.

Amounts shown include expenditure from Revenue, Loan Funds and Surplus Revenue. Interest charges and the cost of pensions have been excluded.

EXPENDITURE BY THE STATE OF VICTORIA ON SOCIAL SERVICES, 1941-42 TO 1945-46.

Social Service.	Year Ended 30th June—				
	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
	£	£	£	£	£
Law, Order, and Public Safety ..	1,651,231	1,967,127	1,830,716	1,831,483	1,811,710
Regulation of Trade and Industry	133,692	150,061	208,925	206,253	140,603
Education*	3,369,433	3,483,277	3,749,014	4,155,657	4,678,817
Promotion of Public Health and Recreation	1,773,144	2,107,828	2,270,101	2,978,688	2,644,550
Social Amelioration (excluding Unemployment Relief and Bush Fire Relief)	371,518	295,093	301,738	300,402	316,083
Unemployment Relief†	897,467	576,618	536,775	526,903	480,083
Bush Fire Relief .. .. .	..	2,042	88,235	1,094	26
Total	8,196,485	8,582,046	8,985,504	10,000,480	10,071,872

* Includes Agricultural Education, Experimental Farms, Libraries, Museums, &c.

† Excludes Commonwealth Grants as follows:—1941-42, £30,095; 1942-43, 1943-44, 1944-45, £27,400 and 1945-46, nil.

Further information in regard to the above items appears in part *Finance* of this *Year-Book*.

COMMONWEALTH SOCIAL SERVICES.

The Social Services Consolidation Act (No. 26 of 1947) which came into operation on 1st July, 1947, repealed the various legislative enactments relating to Age (previously Old-age) and Invalid Pensions, Maternity Allowances, Child Endowment, and Unemployment and Sickness Benefits and, while following in general the Acts repealed, considerably liberalized many of their provisions.

The history and details of the legislation relating to the pensions and allowances covered by the Consolidation Act will be found in previous issues of the *Year-Book*.

All benefits are paid out of the National Welfare Fund to which, in each financial year, is appropriated the amount of the social service contribution which is payable under the Social Services Contribution Act together with a sum equivalent to the collections of tax under the Pay-roll Tax Assessment Act. These appropriations from Consolidated Revenue were made statutory by the *National Welfare Fund Act 1945*. Total expenditure on payment of benefits provided under the Social Services Consolidation Act for the year ended 30th June, 1947, was £57,531,827.

AGE PENSIONS.

Eligibility and rate of Pension. *Persons Eligible.*—Men, 65 years of age and over, and women, 60 years of age and over, who have resided in Australia for a continuous period of twenty years. Any periods of absence during which a person's home remained in Australia, and absences in certain other circumstances, are counted as residence. Absence in a Territory of the Commonwealth does not break continuity of residence.

Persons Disqualified.—

- (a) Aliens (except women who, prior to marriage, were British subjects).
- (b) Any person who has deprived himself of property or income in order to qualify for a pension.
- (c) Any person in receipt of income of £2 17s. 6d. per week or more (blind persons £7 5s. per week), or £5 15s. per week for a married couple (£9 2s. 6d. per week where both husband and wife are blind. See notes below as to income disregarded).
- (d) Any person who owns property (including cash or money in bank) to the value of more than £650 (£1,300 for married persons). The value of a home, furniture and personal effects is disregarded, also surrender values of life assurance policies up to £200, certain interests in the estates of deceased persons, and the amount of any Commonwealth war gratuity.

- (e) Any person who is not of good character or who has deserted his wife (or her husband) or children for six months or upwards immediately preceding the date of the claim.

Aboriginal Natives.—Pensions may be granted only to those aboriginal natives of Australia who have been granted exemption from State control laws or who, in any State where exemption is not provided for, are considered suitable persons to receive pensions by virtue of character, standard of intelligence, and social development.

Maximum Rate of Pension.—£97 10s. per annum (£1 17s. 6d. per week).

Effect of Income. Permissible income is £52 per annum (£1 per week). Any income in excess of this amount is deducted from the pension. The income of a married person is deemed to be half the total income of husband and wife. Permissible income for blind persons, whether single or married, is £279 10s. per annum (£5 7s. 6d. per week). Any excess income is deducted from the pension. Where both husband and wife are blind, half the amount of any income in excess of £279 10s. per annum is deducted from each pension.

“Income” does not include gifts or allowances from children or parents, benefits from friendly societies, payments in respect of illness, infirmity or old-age from any trade union, the value of State food relief, child endowment or other payments for or in respect of children, benefits under the Hospital Benefits, Pharmaceutical Benefits and Tuberculosis Acts and interest on Commonwealth war gratuities.

For each dependent child under 16 years of age there is deducted from income an amount of £26 per annum, less the amount of any payment received for or in respect of the child.

Effect of Property. The annual rate of pension is reduced by £1 for every complete £10 of that portion of the value of property (excluding the home, &c.) which exceeds £50 but does not exceed £400, and by £2 for every complete £10 of the remainder (if any) of the value of the property. The value of property of a married person is deemed to be half the total value of property of husband and wife.

INVALID PENSIONS.

Eligibility and rate of Pension. *Persons Eligible.*—Persons 16 years of age and over, who have resided in Australia for a continuous period of five years, and who are permanently incapacitated for work or permanently blind. For the purposes of the residential qualification, the position in regard to absences is the same as for age pensions.

A person is deemed to be permanently incapacitated for work if the degree of his permanent incapacity is not less than 85 per cent. The claimant must have become permanently incapacitated or permanently blind while in Australia or during a temporary absence from Australia, but this condition is waived if he was brought into Australia before attaining the age of three years or if he has resided in Australia continuously for not less than twenty years.

Persons Disqualified.—

- (a) The same as for age pensions, except paragraph (e).
- (b) Any person under 21 years of age who is adequately maintained by his parents.

Aboriginal Natives.—The same as for age pensions.

Maximum Rate of Pension.—The same as for age pensions.

Effect of Income and Property.—The same as for age pensions.

Wife's Allowance. An allowance, not exceeding £52 per annum (£1 per week), may be granted to the wife of an invalid pensioner (or age pensioner who is permanently incapacitated for work or permanently blind) if she is living with her husband and is not receiving an invalid or age pension or a service pension. The rate of the allowance is affected by income and property on the same basis as an age or invalid pension.

Child's Allowance. An allowance of £13 per annum (5s. per week) in respect of an unendowed child under the age of sixteen years may be granted to the wife of an invalid pensioner, if she is living with her husband and has the custody, care and control of the child and is not receiving a service pension.

A child's allowance may also be granted to any invalid pensioner who has the custody, care, and control of a child under the age of sixteen years, but where both husband and wife are invalid pensioners (living together) the child's allowance is payable only to the wife.

The number of wives' allowances in operation in Victoria at 30th June, 1946 and 1947, was as follows:—

	1946.	1947.
Class A—allowance for wife and child ..	906	939
Class B—allowance for wife only ..	1,042	1,217
Class C—allowance for child only ..	135	146
	2,083	2,302
	} Annual liability £83,928	} Annual liability £92,508

Vocational Training.

Invalid pensioners are eligible for vocational training at the Commonwealth's expense and eligible invalids are given the opportunity of improving their lot by learning some craft or occupation which may be the means of rendering them self-supporting.

The pensions of such invalids are continued while they are undergoing training, notwithstanding that their incapacity might have diminished to such an extent that the invalid pension would not otherwise have remained payable. This concession is made to ensure that an invalid pensioner, having commenced a course of training, will not have to terminate it because of lack of means of support.

Reciprocity with New Zealand.

A reciprocal scheme exists between the Commonwealth and New Zealand with regard to age and invalid pensions. The following are the main provisions:—

Residence in New Zealand is treated as residence in Australia (and vice versa).

Permanent incapacity or blindness occurring in New Zealand is treated as if it had occurred in Australia (and vice versa).

The more restrictive conditions of the pension laws of the two countries apply in respect of the grant of a "reciprocal pension".

The rate of "reciprocal pension" cannot exceed the maximum rate payable in the country which has the lower maximum rate.

Funeral Benefits.

A funeral benefit of £10, or the actual cost of the funeral if less than £10, is payable to the person who has paid, or is liable to pay, the cost of the funeral of an age or invalid pensioner or a claimant who, but for his death, would have been granted an age or invalid pension.

Where the cost of the funeral has been partly met by a payment from the contributory funeral benefit fund (other than a contributory funeral benefit fund of a friendly society), funeral benefit is payable to the extent of the amount by which the cost of the funeral exceeded the amount paid from the fund, but not exceeding £10. Funeral benefit is not payable to a person administering a contributory funeral benefit fund.

The number of funeral benefits paid during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1947, was 6,321, the total cost being £58,952.

Pensioners, 1937-38 to 1946-47.

The number of age and invalid pensioners in Victoria on 30th June, 1947, was as follows:—Age pensioners—men, 25,160; women, 49,610; total, 74,770. Invalid pensioners—men, 7,277; women, 7,396; total, 14,673.

The numbers of age and invalid pensioners and the amount expended as at 30th June, for each year during the ten years ended 30th June, 1947, are shown in the following statement:—

VICTORIA—AGE AND INVALID PENSIONERS,
1937-38 TO 1946-47.

Year Ended 30th June—	Number of Pensioners at End of Period.			Actual Amount Paid in Pensions.*
	Age.	Invalid.	Total.	
				£
1938	65,203	18,817	84,020	4,218,918
1939	67,896	19,471	87,367	4,307,432
1940	76,081	12,739	88,820	4,413,702
1941	76,371	12,447	88,818	4,588,266
1942	75,240	12,550	87,790	5,037,118
1943	72,102	11,938	84,040	5,715,268
1944	69,156	12,446	81,602	5,787,445†
1945	67,240	12,598	79,838	5,604,739†
1946	69,308	13,599	82,907	6,822,535†
1947	74,770	14,673	89,443	7,350,132†

* Includes payment of pensions to eligible inmates of institutions. On 30th June, 1947, there were 1,519 such pensions in force. The weekly rate of pension paid was 4s. from 8th October, 1925; 5s. 6d. from 4th October, 1928; 5s. from 23rd July, 1931; 3s. 9d. from 13th October, 1932; 5s. from 26th October, 1933; 5s. 6d. from 24th September, 1936; 6s. from 9th September, 1937; 6s. 6d. from 26th December, 1940; 6s. 9d. from 3rd April, 1941; 7s. 9d. from 11th December, 1941; 8s. from 2nd April, 1942; 8s. 6d. from 9th July, 1942; 8s. 9d. from 1st October, 1942; 9s. from 7th January, 1943; 9s. 3d. from 1st April, 1943; 9s. 6d. from 19th August, 1943; 11s. 6d. from 5th July, 1945; and 13s. from 8th July, 1947.

† Includes payments in respect of allowances to wives of invalid pensioners.

WIDOWS' PENSIONS.

Eligibility and rates of pension.

Persons Eligible—A widow's pension is payable to women according to the following qualifications:—

Class A.—A Widow who has the custody, care and control of one or more children under the age of 16 years.

Class B.—A Widow, not less than 50 years of age, who has not the custody, care, and control of a child under the age of 16 years.

Class C.—A Widow, under 50 years of age, who has not the custody, care and control of a child under 16 years, but is in necessitous circumstances within 26 weeks after the death of her husband.

Class D.—A Woman whose husband has been serving a term of imprisonment for at least six months, and who has the custody, care and control of one or more children under the age of 16 years, or is not less than 50 years of age.

The term "widow" includes :—

- (a) a deserted wife, i.e., a wife who has been deserted by her husband for not less than six months ;
- (b) a woman whose marriage has been dissolved and who has not remarried ;
- (c) a "dependent female", i.e., a woman, who, for not less than three years immediately prior to the death of a man, was wholly or mainly maintained by him, and, although not legally married to him, lived with him as his wife on a permanent and bona fide domestic basis ; and
- (d) a woman whose husband is an inmate of a hospital for the insane.

The residential qualification is five years' continuous residence in Australia immediately prior to the date of lodgment of the claim. Concessions in respect of absences are the same as for age pensions.

Persons Disqualified.—The following persons are disqualified from receiving widows' pensions.

- (a) Aliens (except women who, prior to marriage, were British subjects).
- (b) Any claimant who has deprived herself of property or income in order to qualify for a pension.
- (c) A deserted wife or a divorcee who has not taken reasonable action to obtain maintenance from her husband or former husband.
- (d) A woman who is in receipt of an age or invalid pension or a war widow's pension.
- (e) A woman who is not of good character.
- (f) A woman in receipt of income of at least the amount shown in the second column of the following table, or who owns property to the value of more than the amount shown in the third column (excluding the value of a home, furniture, personal effects, &c.) :—

Class.					Income per Week.			*Property.
					£	s.	d.	£
A	..	..	..	..	3	2	6	1,000
B	..	..	..	..	2	12	0	650
D	..	..	..	..	2	12	0	650

* Surrender values of life assurance policies up to £200, certain interests in the estates of deceased persons, and the amount of any Commonwealth war gratuity are also disregarded.

Aboriginal Natives.—The conditions of eligibility are the same as for age pensions.

The *Maximum Rates of Pension* are as follows:—

Class A.—£110 10s per annum (£2 2s. 6d. per week).

Class B.—£83 4s. per annum (£1 12s. per week).

Class C.—£1 17s. 6d. per week for not longer than 26 weeks immediately following death of husband.

Class D.—£83 4s. per annum (£1 12s. per week).

Effect of Income.

Permissible income is £52 per annum (£1 per week).

Income in excess of this amount is deducted from the pension.

“Income” has the same meaning as for age pensions and the items of income disregarded are the same.

For each dependent child under sixteen years of age a deduction is made from the claimant's income. The amount of the deduction is £13 per annum (5s. per week) in respect of the first child and £26 per annum (10s. per week) in respect of each additional child, less the amount of any payment received for or in respect of the child.

Any amount in excess of £39 per annum (15s. per week) received by a deserted wife or a divorcee from her husband or former husband in respect of the maintenance of a child is included in her income for pension purposes.

Effect of Property.

The annual rate of pension for women in Classes B and D is reduced by £1 for every complete £10 of that portion of the value of property (excluding the home, &c.), which exceeds £50 but does not exceed £400, and by £1 for every complete £7 of the remainder (if any) of the value of the property.

The number, and cost, of widows' pensions in Victoria is shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—WIDOWS' PENSIONS.

	Number in Force at 30th June—		
	1945.	1946.	1947.
Class "A" (widow maintaining a child) ..	3,575	3,565	3,732
Class "B" (widow not maintaining a child) ..	9,034	9,172	8,571
Class "C" (widow in indigent circumstances not maintaining a child)	5	11	8
Total	12,614	12,748	12,311
Amount paid in pensions	£799,652	£899,747	£941,734
Total amount paid since passing of Act ..	£2,189,643	£3,089,390	£4,031,124

MATERNITY ALLOWANCES.

**Persons
Eligible.**

A maternity allowance is payable to a woman who, at the date of giving birth to a child, is a resident of Australia and satisfies the Director-General of Social Services that she intends to remain permanently in Australia.

The allowance is payable in respect of a birth which occurred on board a ship proceeding from a port in Australia or a Territory of the Commonwealth to another port in Australia or a Territory of the Commonwealth. The allowance is also payable in respect of a birth which occurred on board a ship proceeding to Australia, provided the mother receives no maternity benefit in respect of the birth from the country from which she has come.

Payment may be made in respect of the birth of a stillborn child, or a child which lives for less than twelve hours, if the period of intra-uterine life of the child was at least five and a half calendar months.

(Payment may be made to qualified Australians temporarily abroad who fulfil particular requirements.)

Alien Mothers.—Payment may be made to an alien mother if—

- (a) she was a British subject prior to her marriage, or
- (b) she or her husband resided in Australia for at least twelve months immediately prior to the birth of the child. Payment in respect of a birth which occurs within twelve months after the mother's arrival in Australia may be made on the expiration of twelve months from the date of her arrival.

Aboriginal Natives.—Payment may be made only to those aboriginal natives of Australia who have been granted exemption from State control laws or who, in any State where exemption is not provided for, are considered suitable persons to receive the allowance by virtue of character, standard of intelligence, and social development.

There is no means test.

Amount of Allowances.

Allowances which may be paid are as follows :—

- (a) Where there are no other children—£15.
- (b) Where there are one or two other children—£16.
- (c) Where there are three or more other children—£17 10s.

“Other children” means children born prior to the birth which is the subject of the claim, who, on the date of that birth, are under the age of sixteen years and of whom the claimant has the custody, care and control.

Where more than one child is born at a birth, the amount payable is increased by £5 in respect of each additional child born at that birth.

Payment of £5 on account of a maternity allowance may be made available, upon application, within a period of four weeks prior to the expected date of the birth. The balance will be paid immediately after the birth.

Details of the claims granted are shown in the following table :—

VICTORIA—MATERNITY ALLOWANCES GRANTED.

Year Ended 30th June—	Number Granted During Year.	Amount Paid in Allowances During Year.	Total Claims Granted. *	Total Amount Paid in Allowances.*
		£		£
1942	16,120	86,392	869,214	4,278,122
1943	11,874	63,635	881,088	4,341,757
1944	38,653†	590,648	919,741	4,932,405
1945	40,582	647,970	960,323	5,580,375
1946	40,991	649,648	1,001,314	6,230,023
1947	50,730	787,843	1,052,044	7,017,866

* Maternity allowances became payable from 10th October, 1912. A Survey of the legislative enactments affecting maternity allowances during the period 1912-1944 appeared in the Year Book for 1944-1945, page 456.

† Means test abolished and allowance increased from 1st. July, 1943.

CHILD ENDOWMENT.

Persons Eligible.

Any person who is resident in Australia and has the custody, care, and control of more than one child under the age of sixteen years may claim endowment.

There is a twelve months' residential requirement in respect of a claimant and a child who were not born in Australia, but this requirement is waived if the Director-General of Social Services is satisfied that the claimant and the child are likely to remain permanently in Australia. A child born during the mother's temporary absence from Australia is deemed to have been born in Australia.

Payment may be made to qualified Australians temporarily abroad who fulfil particular requirements.

Payment may be made in respect of a child of an alien father if—

- (a) the child was born in Australia, or
- (b) the mother is a British subject, or has made a declaration under section 18A of the *Nationality Act 1920-1946*, or
- (c) the Director-General is satisfied that the child is likely to remain permanently in Australia.

Aboriginal Natives:—Endowment may be paid to aboriginal natives of Australia unless they are nomadic or unless the children concerned are wholly or mainly maintained by the Commonwealth or a State.

There is no means test.

Rate of Payment.

The following rates are payable:—

- (a) To any qualified person (other than an institution) 7/6 per week in respect of each child (under sixteen years of age) in excess of one.
- (b) To an approved institution (not including a hospital for the insane maintained wholly or mainly by the Commonwealth or a State)—7/6 per week in respect of each child inmate under sixteen years of age.

Child in Hospital for Insane.

Where the parents are making a reasonable contribution towards the maintenance of a child in a mental hospital, the mother is deemed to have the custody, care, and control of the child for the purposes of determining her eligibility for endowment.

Divided Families.

There is special provision to meet cases of families divided by reason of divorce, separation, unemployment, death of a parent, or other special circumstances. In these cases endowment may be paid in respect of such children in excess of one, and to such persons as the Director-General considers just.

VICTORIA—CHILD ENDOWMENT — CLAIMS CURRENT,
 ENDOWABLE CHILDREN AND TOTAL AMOUNT PAID.

YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1947.

Rate per Endowment Period (Four Weeks).	Number of Claims.
£1 10s. (two child family)	82,706
£3 (three child family)	35,406
£4 10s. (four child family)	14,199
£6 (five child family)	5,565
£7 10s. (six child family)	2,296
£9 (seven child family)	995
£10 10s. (eight child family)	406
£12 (nine child family)	161
£13 10s. (ten child family)	71
£15 (eleven child family)	18
£16 10s. (twelve child family)	1
£18 (thirteen child family)	1
£19 10s (fourteen child family)	1
Total claims current	141,826
Number of endowable children	240,810
Average number of endowable children per claim	1.698
	£ s. d.
Average four-weekly rate	2 10 11
Number of children maintained in institutions for whom endowment is paid	4,670
Number of approved institutions at end of year	76
Total amount paid in endowment	£4,908,921

UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS.

**Persons
Eligible.**

Males, over 16 and under 65 years of age, and females, over 16 and under 60 years of age, who have been resident in Australia for the twelve months immediately preceding a claim for benefit or satisfy the Director-General of Social Services that they intend to remain permanently in Australia, are eligible to receive benefits. A person in receipt of an age, invalid, or widow's pension or a service pension (as distinct from a war pension) under the Australian Soldier's Repatriation Act, is ineligible for benefit.

Unemployment Benefit.—In order to qualify for an unemployment benefit a person must establish that he—

- (a) is unemployed and that his unemployment is not due to his being a direct participant in a strike ;
- (b) is capable and willing to undertake suitable work ;
and
- (c) has taken reasonable steps to obtain such work (registration with the local Commonwealth District Employment Officer is necessary).

Sickness Benefit.—In order to qualify for a sickness benefit a person must establish that he—

- (a) is temporarily incapacitated for work by reason of sickness or accident ; and
- (b) has thereby suffered a loss of salary, wages, or other income.

Married Women.—A married woman is not qualified to receive a sickness benefit if it is reasonably possible for her husband to maintain her. Where her husband is able to maintain her only partially, benefit may be paid at such rate as the Director-General considers reasonable in the circumstances.

Aboriginal Natives.—Benefit may be paid only to those aboriginal natives of Australia who are considered suitable by reason of character, standard of intelligence and social development.

**Rates of
Benefit.**

The weekly rates of benefit and limits of other permissible income are shown in the following table :—

AUSTRALIA—UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS.

Age and Conjugal Condition.	Maximum Weekly Benefit.				Permissible Weekly Income.
	Claimant.	Dependent Spouse.	One Child.	Total.	
Unmarried—	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
16 years and under 17 years	} 15 0	..	..	} 15 0	5 0
17 years and under 18 years					10 0
18 years and under 21 years	20 0	..	..	20 0	15 0
21 years and over ..	25 0	..	..	25 0	20 0
Married	25 0	20 0	5 6	50 0	20 0

NOTE.—When an unmarried or widowed person has the custody, care and control of, or maintains a child under the age of sixteen years, the total benefit may be increased by 5s. per week.

Additional benefit (not exceeding 20/- per week) may be paid in respect of a claimant's housekeeper where no such benefit is payable in respect of his wife, provided there are one or more children under sixteen years of age in the home and the woman is substantially dependant on the claimant but is not employed by him.

Effect of Income. Any income in excess of the permissible income shown in the above table is deducted from the rate of benefit. For unemployment benefit purposes, the incomes of the claimant and his spouse and the unearned income of any children under the age of sixteen years living with them are taken into account, but where the claimant and his spouse are permanently separated any income received by the spouse may be disregarded.

“Income” does not include child endowment or other payments for or in respect of children, or benefits under the Hospital Benefits, Pharmaceutical Benefits, and Tuberculosis Acts.

For sickness benefit purposes, there is disregarded £1 per week of any payment received from an approved friendly society or other similar approved body in respect of the incapacity for which sickness benefit is payable.

Compensation. For sickness benefit purposes, any amount received, or which a claimant is entitled to receive, in respect of the incapacity for which sickness benefit is payable, by way of compensation (including Workers' Compensation), damages, or payments under any law (except those for which a claimant has made contributions) is not taken into account as income but is deducted from the rate of sickness benefit otherwise payable. Pending the determination of a claim for

compensation, damages, &c., sickness benefit may be paid subject to the condition that the whole or any part of the benefit shall be repaid to the Commonwealth out of any compensation, damages, &c., recovered.

Payment of Benefit. Unemployment benefit is payable from and including the seventh day after the day on which the claimant became unemployed or lodged his claim, whichever is the later, and continues only so long as he is able and willing to undertake suitable work and is otherwise qualified.

Sickness benefit is payable from and including the seventh day after the day on which the claimant became incapacitated, provided a claim is lodged within six weeks after that day. If the claim is not lodged within six weeks, payment commences from the date of lodgment of the claim except where the Director-General determines otherwise.

Vocational Training. A claimant for unemployment or sickness benefit or a person receiving benefit may be required to undergo a course of vocational training as a condition to the grant of benefit or continuance of payment.

Special Benefit. A special benefit may, at the discretion of the Director-General, be granted to a person not qualified for unemployment or sickness benefit and who is not in receipt of any age, invalid, or widow's pension, or a service pension, if by reason of age, physical or mental disability, or domestic circumstances, or for any other reason, he is unable to earn a sufficient livelihood for himself and his dependants, if any.

The following table shows the numbers of persons in Victoria under the various headings during the year ended 30th June, 1947. Dependants of such beneficiaries are not included.

VICTORIA—UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS
DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1947.

		Unemploy- ment.	Sickness	Special.	Total.
Claims granted	{ Males .. Females	15,645 542	10,967 3,242	388 105	27,000 3,889
Claims rejected	.. ..	5,875	2,802	107	8,784
Benefits paid—Total amounts	£	159,061	181,684	6,839	347,584
Number on benefit at 30th June, 1947	{ Males .. Females	641 26	1,819 649	41 59	2,501 734

VICTORIA—UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS
FOR YEAR 1946-47.

	Unemployment Benefits.				Sickness Benefits.			
	Entrances During Month.		On Benefit at End of Month.		Entrances During Month.		On Benefit at End of Month.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
1946.								
July ..	376	11	634	14	821	190	1,483	429
August ..	462	8	663	17	1,025	294	1,615	480
September ..	264	16	557	21	863	234	1,630	506
October ..	233	15	472	28	904	284	1,664	566
November ..	6,233	181	5,049	155	1,115	301	1,674	559
December ..	3,184	121	6,106	196	723	223	1,717	565
1947.								
January ..	1,223	54	1,336	46	753	206	1,704	553
February ..	352	14	890	39	788	283	1,659	599
March ..	694	23	973	34	1,100	368	1,745	638
April ..	1,326	36	1,659	52	780	226	1,795	621
May ..	1,099	59	731	38	1,210	374	1,839	648
June ..	199	4	641	26	885	259	1,819	649

The totals of the claims admitted in the following classifications are, for various reasons, slightly overstated as compared with the actual numbers of admissions for the year shown in the preceding tables. The variation, however, does not invalidate their use.

VICTORIA—UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS—CAUSE OF UN-
EMPLOYMENT: CLAIMS ADMITTED, ETC., DURING
THE YEAR ENDED, 30TH JUNE, 1947.

Cause of Unemployment.	Claims admitted during the Year.			On benefit at 30th June, 1947.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
Discharged due to—						
Disciplinary reasons ..	66	2	68	5	..	5
Inefficiency, including med- ical unfitness	345	11	356	46	1	47
Retrenchment, including closing of establishment ..	584	16	600	52	..	52
Replacement by reinstated ex-service personnel, &c., relieving worker only ..	373	36	409	45	..	45
Other discharges, including inadequately defined ..	71	1	72	9	..	9
Laid off owing to—						
Power rationing	140	18	158	3	1	4
Shortage of materials ..	891	9	900	43	..	43
Strikes, lock-outs, within the same establishment ..	10,557	332	10,889	131	7	138
Seasonal work	296	1	297	47	..	47
Casual work	882	8	890	87	1	88
Other reasons, including inadequately defined ..	90	2	92	6	1	7
Inadequately defined ..	6	..	6	14	..	14
Quitted due to—						
Medical unfitness, work too heavy	761	74	835	81	6	87
Other reasons, including inadequately defined ..	467	24	491	53	8	61
Not previously employed—						
Employers, workers on own account	85	1	86	14	1	5
Ex-service personnel not yet returned to work ..	108	2	110	5	..	5
Other	6	7	13	..	..	..
Total	15,728	544	16,272	641	26	667

VICTORIA—UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS—INDUSTRIAL
GROUPS: CLAIMS ADMITTED, ETC., DURING THE
YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1947.

Industrial Group.	Claims Admitted during the Year.			On Benefit at 30th June, 1947.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
Agricultural, Pastoral and Dairying	479	1	480	56	..	56
Other Primary Production ..	82	..	82	8	..	8
Coal Mining	6	..	6	1	..	1
Other Mining and Quarrying ..	83	..	83	17	..	17
Factories and Industrial—						
Founding, engineering, metal working including ship- building	9,029	235	9,264	133	1	134
Vehicles, including aircraft..	779	19	798	25	..	25
Textiles and articles of dress	240	47	287	21	3	24
Food, drink, and tobacco ..	741	20	761	62	3	65
Furniture, woodwork, &c. ..	117	1	118	7	..	7
Other factories, including heat, light, and power ..	1,017	59	1,076	58	2	60
Building and construction ..	721	..	721	61	..	61
Transport and communication	1,169	58	1,227	77	6	83
Commerce and Finance—						
Wholesale and retail trade ..	582	30	612	47	3	50
Finance and property ..	46	..	46	8	..	8
Public Administration and Professional	228	25	253	19	3	22
Personal and Domestic Service	300	40	340	35	5	40
Other	109	9	118	6	..	6
Total	15,728	544	16,272	641	26	667

VICTORIA—SICKNESS BENEFITS—NATURE OF SICKNESS:
CLAIMS ADMITTED, ETC., DURING THE YEAR ENDED
30TH JUNE, 1947.

Nature of Sickness.	Claims Admitted during the Year.			On Benefit at 30th June, 1947.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
Infective and Parasitic Diseases	684	215	899	113	53	166
Cancer	76	12	88	17	4	21
Other Tumours	98	86	184	19	24	43
Rheumatism, Diseases of Nutrition and Vitamin-Deficiency Diseases ..	689	189	878	130	48	178
Diseases of—						
Blood and Blood-forming Organs	54	71	125	12	14	26
Nervous System and Sense Organs	928	386	1,314	157	70	227
Circulatory System	996	171	1,167	214	56	270
Respiratory System	1,348	277	1,625	191	49	240
Digestive System	2,416	643	3,059	313	94	407
Genito-Urinary System	409	193	602	81	52	133
Pregnancy, Childbirth, &c. .. .. .	..	439	439	..	79	79
Skin and Cellular Tissue	580	135	715	65	18	83
Bones and Organs of Movement	285	70	355	51	16	67
Other Diseases (including ill-defined conditions) ..	169	111	280	27	22	49
Injuries and Acute Poisoning—						
Fractures	1,255	116	1,371	302	18	320
Other Injuries, &c.	1,110	118	1,228	109	20	129
Operations (original disability not stated)	75	77	152	13	11	24
Other (including not stated)	54	15	69	5	1	6
Total	11,226	3,324	14,550	1,819	649	2,468

REPATRIATION.

On 8th April, 1918, Repatriation became an Australian national undertaking for the provision of benefits for Australian soldiers, sailors, and nurses who served in the war of 1914-18. Its objects are to find employment for the fit, to re-establish the disabled, to provide for the dependants of those who have died and of those who are no longer able, in consequence of war disabilities, to support themselves, and to supply medical and surgical treatment, also artificial limbs and appliances, in respect of disabilities due to or aggravated by war service.

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

On pages 407 and 408 of the *Year-Book* for 1928-29 appears a statement of the activities of the Department.

The History of war pension legislation from 1914 to 1938 is recorded in the *Year-Book*, 1937-38, page 279 *et seq.*

To meet the position arising out of Australia's participation in the recent wars against Germany and Japan, further amending legislation was passed in 1940, 1941, 1942, and 1943. In broad principle the pension provisions are the same as those applying to the war of 1914. Of course, different time limits in respect of eligibility were necessary. For the purpose of the 1939 war a wife (or widow) is eligible if married to the member of the Forces before or during the member's service, or within fifteen years after his discharge from the Forces, and any child of such a marriage is eligible.

Service Pensions.

Eligibility for service pensions may be established on the following grounds—

- (a) Sixty years of age or more, provided the applicant served in a theatre of war, but eligibility on this ground limits payment of service pension to the ex-soldier; his wife or children are not eligible. A former nurse is eligible for consideration provided she embarked for service abroad and has reached the age of 55 years.
- (b) Permanently unemployable, provided the applicant served in a theatre of war. Under this class pensions may be paid to the ex-soldier, his wife and his children—up to four in number.
- (c) Pulmonary tuberculosis, whether the applicant served in a theatre of war or not. Under this class pensions are also payable to the wife and children—up to four in number.

Only those applicants who qualify under class (c) are entitled to receive both service pension and invalid pension at the same time.

The maximum rate of service pension for a member coincides with the maximum rate of invalid or age pension determined from time to time under the Social Services Consolidation Act. The rate at 30th June, 1947, was 65s. per fortnight.* The fortnightly rate for the wife of a member is 44s.; for children under sixteen years of age—one child, 10s.; two children, 15s.; three children, 20s.; four or more children, 25s.

The actual rate payable in any case is determined after taking into consideration all other income and property received or owned by the pensioner in question, and no service pension can be paid in any case where such other income and property has an assessable value of a certain amount, variable according to the cost of living. At 30th June, 1947, the amount was £136 10s. per annum† in the case of a single man, and £273 per annum† in the case of a member and his wife.

* Increased to 75s. per fortnight from 10th July, 1947.

† As from 10th July, 1947, amounts were increased to £149 10s., and £299 per annum respectively.

If the income from all other sources is less than the annual amounts above shown, then service pension becomes payable at such rate as will, with that other income, bring the total income of the pensioner (including service pension) up to the allowed maximum, provided, of course, that the pensions cannot exceed the maximum rate specified for the particular case.

The service pension scheme applies in respect of members engaged in the 1914 war, the South African war of 1899-1902, and the 1939 war.

Current Work of Department. The following statistics for the year 1946-47 show in some degree the type and extent of activity in the State of Victoria :—

VICTORIA—WAR PENSIONS, MEDICAL TREATMENT, ETC.

Details.	At 30th June, 1947.
War Pensions—Number in force—	
Members of the Forces	39,711
Dependants of deceased members of the Forces	13,167
Dependants of incapacitated members of the Forces	48,101
Expenditure for year (paid in pensions)	£4,081,324
Service Pensions—Number in force—	
Members of the Forces	2,589
Dependants of deceased member pensioners	383
Dependants of member pensioners	751
Expenditure for year (paid in service pensions)	£239,649
Medical Treatment—	
Number of In-patients in Repatriation Institutions—	
General Hospitals	1,610
Sanatoria	75
Anzac Hostels	17
Mental Hospitals	223
Patients being treated in non-departmental institutions and/or in their own homes	72

Details.	At 30th June, 1947.
Attendances of Out-patients (excluding treatments by Local Medical Officers, of whom there are 323 in rural areas) ..	83,594
Expenditure on treatment, &c.—	
Maintenance of Repatriation Institutions	£224,337
Maintenance of patients in other than Repatriation Institutions (including Country Hospitals)	£162,345
Sustenance during medical treatment	£178,940
Conducting Repatriation Artificial Limb Factory	£30,751
Other expenditure, including fees to Consultants, &c. ..	£101,308
Soldiers' Children Education Scheme—	
Number of children at school and in training	1,051
Expenditure for year	£31,985

Statistical details of the number and designation of Dependants' War and Service pensions in Victoria at 30th June, 1946 and 1947, are given in the following tables:—

VICTORIA—WAR PENSIONS—DEPENDANTS OF DECEASED MEMBERS.

Designation.	At 30th June, 1946.			At 30th June, 1947.		
	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.
Widows	3,588	2,552	6,140	3,713	2,504	6,217
Children	551	3,138	3,689	459	3,242	3,701
Widowed mothers of unmarried members	501	702	1,205	433	774	1,207
Other mothers ..	1,211	447	1,658	1,076	524	1,600
Fathers	231	130	361	189	150	339
Others	50	54	104	47	56	103
Total ..	6,135	7,022	13,157	5,917	7,250	13,167

VICTORIA—WAR PENSIONS—DEPENDANTS OF INCAPACITATED MEMBERS.

Designation.	At 30th June, 1946.			At 30th June, 1947.		
	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.
Wives	17,340	7,935	25,275	16,992	10,732	27,724
Wives (Widows)	1,500	6	1,506	1,526	12	1,538
Children	7,189	9,325	16,514	5,559	12,741	18,300
Mothers (Widows)	227	35	262	184	59	243
Other mothers	213	11	224	206	21	227
Fathers	30	1	31	29	2	31
Others	35	2	37	34	4	38
Total	26,534	17,315	43,849	24,530	23,571	48,101

VICTORIA—SERVICE PENSIONS—DEPENDANTS OF DECEASED MEMBERS.

Designation.	At 30th June, 1946.				At 30th June, 1947.			
	1899 War*.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.	1899 War*.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.
Widows	14	332	2	348	18	351	5	374
Children	1	38	6	45	..	3	6	9
Total	15	370	8	393	18	354	11	383

VICTORIA—SERVICE PENSIONS—DEPENDANTS OF INCAPACITATED MEMBERS.

Designation.	At 30th June, 1946.				At 30th June, 1947.			
	1899 War*.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.	1899 War*.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.
Wives	28	558	29	615	31	616	35	682
Children .. ..	..	52	46	98	..	11	58	69
Total	28	610	75	713	31	627	93	751

* South African War 1899-1902.

CREMATION.

There are two crematoria in Victoria—one at Springvale and the other at the new Melbourne General Cemetery, Fawkner. The history of the establishment of the crematoria is contained in an article published in the *Year-Book* 1942-43, page 307.

The figures in the following table have been supplied by the authorities of the two crematoria concerned:—

CREMATION IN VICTORIA.

Year.	Cremations at Fawkner.	Cremations at Springvale.	Total Cremations.	Total Deaths.	Percentage of Crema- tions to Deaths.
1927	32	..	32	16,773	·19
1928	84	..	84	17,708	·47
1929	151	..	151	16,717	·90
1930	162	..	162	15,959	1·02
1931	201	..	201	17,033	1·18
1932	199	..	199	16,805	1·18
1933	369	..	369	17,456	2·11
1934	499	..	499	18,648	2·68
1935	596	..	596	18,456	3·23
1936	358	400	758	18,778	4·04
1937	387	596	983	18,613	5·28
1938	415	752	1,167	18,955	6·16
1939	436	873	1,309	20,169	6·49
1940	571	1,053	1,624	20,293	8·00
1941	662	1,164	1,826	20,523	8·90
1942	753	1,246	1,999	21,973	9·09
1943	850	1,348	2,198	21,327	10·31
1944	892	1,502	2,394	20,502	11·68
1945	965	1,639	2,604	20,496	12·70
1946	1,030	1,920	2,950	21,534	13·69
1947	1,159	2,003	3,162	21,442	14·75