

PART XI.

SOCIAL CONDITION.

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 £309,700 was received for the year 1949-50. Other annual statutory grants and grants for special purposes are £9,500 for a School of Agriculture, £16,000 for a Veterinary School, £3,200 for a Chair of Obstetrics, £2,100 for Research, £5,000 for the Conservatorium of Music, £1,000 for University Extension work, £15,000 for the Public Health Laboratory and £1,500 for the teaching of nutrition, bringing the total Government grant to £408,000. 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: Agriculture, Anatomy, Architecture (The *Age* Professor) Bacteriology, Bio-chemistry, Botany and Plant Physiology, Chemistry, Civil Engineering, Classical Philology, Commerce (Sidney Myer Professor) Dental Science, Dental Prosthesis, Conservative Dental Surgery, Economics (Truby Williams Professor), Economic History, Education, Electrical Engineering, English Language and Literature, Fine Arts, (The *Herald* Professor), French, Geology and Mineralogy, History, Jurisprudence, Mathematics Pure and Applied, Mechanical Engineering, Metallurgy, Music (The Ormond Professor), Obstetrics, Pathology, Philosophy, Physics (Chamber of Manufactures Professor), Physiology, Political Science, Psychology, Public Law, Semitic Studies (L. and A. Sicree Professor), Zoology. 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 Forestry, General Science, Germanic Languages, Languages (Science Courses), Medicine, Meteorology, Mining, Physical Education, Russian, Social Studies, Statistics, Surgery, Surveying and Veterinary Science.

The annual fees payable by any student to the University in any year do not, in general, exceed £50. 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 1950, 1,762 students received State Government Financial Assistance, and 367 Commonwealth Financial Assistance, exclusive of ex-service students receiving allowances under the C.R.T.S. In addition, the University makes loans in approved cases out of a Students' Loan Fund, 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. There is, in addition, a voluntary organization of University graduates known as the Graduates' Section, Melbourne 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 £1,386,444 at 31st December, 1950. The total amount received by way of private benefaction in 1950 was £43,375.

Public Examinations. The University, through a Schools' Board (on which 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 for the years 1948, 1949, and 1950, when the total entrants (December and February examinations) numbered 15,638, 15,426 and 15,522 respectively.

VICTORIA—PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS 1948 TO 1950.

Examination.	Number who Attempted to Pass Fully.	Number who Passed Fully (Including Supplementary Examinations).	
		Total.	Percentage.
School Intermediate—			%
1948	8,320	5,166	62·09
1949	8,375	5,354	63·93
1950	8,608	5,572	64·73
School Leaving—			
1948	5,015	3,237	64·55
1949	4,763	3,205	67·29
1950	4,999	3,353	67·07

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

Of the number who passed fully, 3,025 in 1948, 3,341 in 1949, and 3,491 in 1950, 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 1,327, 1,331 and 1,476 respectively.

For many years prior to 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 Examinations 1948, 1949, and 1950, are as follows:—

Candidates.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Total Entries	3,833	3,553	3,703
Number who attempted to pass fully	2,043	2,041	2,278
Number who passed fully	1,249	1,181	1,346
Percentage who passed fully ..	61·14	57·86	59·09

Candidates for degrees must matriculate as prescribed by the regulations before being admitted as undergraduates. The number of undergraduates admitted during each of the three years 1948-50 was as follows:—1948, 1,507; 1949, 1,388, and 1950, 1,460. The number of degrees taken during those years was 916, 1,313, and 1,356, respectively. Of the total of 22,086 degrees granted since the establishment of the University, 4,740 have been conferred on women.

The following table shows the number of full-time, part-time, and external students who attended the University during the period 1948-50:—

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY—ENROLMENTS FOR 1948-50.

Year.	Full Course.	Part Course.	External.	Total.
1948	5,677	3,152	707	9,536
1949	5,212	3,285	731	9,228
1950	5,212	3,000	791	9,003

NOTE.—The number of women students included above is 2,038 in 1948, 1,970 in 1949, and 1,971 in 1950.

Enrolments by Faculties for the same three years are as follows :—

**MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY—ENROLMENTS BY FACULTIES
FOR 1948-50.**

Faculty.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Agriculture	143	154	136
Architecture	156	197	195
Arts	2,047	1,939	1,947
Commerce	1,405	1,171	994
Dental Science	316	313	324
Education	299	377	445
Engineering	635	632	640
Journalism	34	83	40
Law	619	636	597
Medicine	1,061	1,067	1,085
Music	284	275	249
Physical Education	49	51	59
Public Administration	108	64	62
Research (post graduate)	175	197	260
Science	1,126	1,023	895
Social Studies	74	75	78
Veterinary Science	19	21	17
Total	8,550	8,275	8,023

NOTE.—Totals for 1948, 1949, and 1950 do not include certain categories of miscellaneous students taking single subjects and not classifiable by the Faculty of enrolment. Of these there were 986 in 1948, 953 in 1949, and 980 in 1950.

**University
Finance.**

A statement of receipts and payments for the year ended
31st December, 1950, is given below :—

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS OF THE MELBOURNE
UNIVERSITY, 1950.**

GENERAL RECEIPTS.

	£
State Government Grants—	
General	308,697
Other—except for buildings	125,960
Commonwealth Government Grants and Re-imbursements—	
General	128,790*
Other—except for buildings	63,215
Students' Fees—	
Lectures	157,258
Other	70,249
Public, Public Music Examination and Certificate Fees	32,723
Bequests and Donations—other than for Capital purposes	20,136
Interest, Dividends and Rent	62,808
Other Receipts	33,000
Total General Receipts	1,002,836

GENERAL EXPENDITURE.

	£
Salaries and Provident Fund	687,537
Apparatus and Laboratory Materials	75,391
Books and Periodicals	19,180
Examiners' Fees	18,341
Exhibitions and Scholarships	6,643
Furniture and Fittings	8,958
Pay-Roll Tax	17,037
Payments of Students' Fees to Allied Institutions	39,969
Printing and Stationery	25,210
Repairs and Alterations	46,440
Service Charges—Electricity, Gas, Fuel, Water, Telephones	16,220
Other	71,218
Total General Expenditure	1,032,144

SPECIAL RECEIPTS.

	£
Donations and Bequests—for buildings or as endowments	23,239
Commonwealth Government Re-imbursement for Buildings	22,000
State Government Grant—for buildings	45,239
Total Special Receipts	45,239

SPECIAL EXPENDITURE.

	£
Buildings	48,536
Total Special Expenditure	48,536

* The amount shown against the Commonwealth Government General Grant is the actual amount received during the year. The amount which was allotted in respect of that year was £146,213.

There are four residential colleges for men affiliated with the University. Trinity, Ormond, Queen's, and Newman Colleges were established by the Church of England, the Presbyterian, the Methodist, and Roman Catholic Churches respectively. Janet Clarke Hall and St. Mary's Hall are colleges established for women students and attached to Trinity College and Newman College 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*.

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.

University Library. With the exception of a small amount from endowments Library expenditure is met from University general funds. The total annual expenditure is £30,000 (books, periodicals and binding £16,500 and the balance in salaries and services). The Library acquires, mainly by purchase, 2,500 periodicals, and adds to its shelves about 6,000 bound volumes per annum. Total book stocks are 166,000 volumes.

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. The University's responsibility for adult education has diminished with the formation of the Council of Adult Education, and continues 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 year of each of the fore-mentioned courses at this Branch in 1947. After the immediate post-war flow of new enrolments had subsided, numbers at Mildura fell from 529 in 1947 to 328 in 1949. Because the number of students enrolled in the first year of the courses concerned in 1950 fell sufficiently to enable the students to be accommodated in Melbourne, the Mildura Branch was closed at the end of 1949. During the three years of its existence, the branch had a total enrolment of 1,318 students, of whom 119 were women students.

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 2,296 in 1950. 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, many 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 was 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 1946 to 1950 are shown hereunder:—

Course.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Pharmacy	421	497	502	471	506
Medical	145	155	170	186	155
Post Graduate (Pharmacy) ..	15	14	17	19	20
Total ..	581	666	689	676	681

Principal items of receipts and expenditure from 1946 to 1950 were:—

RECEIPTS.

	Year Ended 31st December—				
	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Lecture Fees	£ 9,990	£ 11,756	£ 12,196	£ 12,932	£ 17,337
Examination Fees	331	357	464	510	716

PAYMENTS.

	Year Ended 31st December—				
	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
	£	£	£	£	£
Salaries and fees to lecturers ..	4,184	4,610	4,752	4,957	6,854
Drugs and Chemicals ..	708	874	859	1,139	1,559
Administration and other Ex- penses	4,130	4,367	7,438	9,073	11,054

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.

The elementary school subjects in which instruction is free are contained in a statement published in the *Year-Book* 1943-44, page 434.

Since the beginning of 1947 instruction is free also to approved students in secondary and technical schools. In secondary schools no fees are charged to full-time students who make satisfactory progress. Where single subjects are taken, or where the student has already failed in the work for the fourth, fifth, or sixth year as the case may be, moderate fees are charged.

Secondary school subjects include—English, French, German, Latin, Italian*, Dutch*, Japanese*, Russian*, Greek and Roman History, British History, History of British Empire, History of Australasia and the Pacific, Social Studies, Musical Appreciation, Agricultural Science, Domestic Science (including Cookery), General Science, Geography, Geology, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Accounting, Mathematics, (Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Pure Mathematics, Calculus and Applied Mathematics), Art, Craftwork, Home Management, Dressmaking, Needlework, Mechanical Drawing, Commercial Principles, Commercial Practice, Shorthand and Typewriting, and Physical Education.

No tuition fees are charged for the four years Junior Technical School course which leads to the Junior Technical School Certificate (third year) and the Intermediate Technical Certificate (fourth year). In senior technical schools free tuition may be granted to full-time students who possess the prescribed qualifications for entry to approved courses and maintain satisfactory progress. Senior courses available under these conditions include Agriculture, Applied Chemistry, Applied Science, Architecture, Engineering (Aeronautical, Automotive, Civil, Communication, Electrical, Mechanical, Mining, Metallurgical, Chemical), Metallurgy, Textiles, Commercial Subjects, Cookery and Institutional Management, Needlecrafts, Dressmaking, Art and Applied Art, Building and Pre-nursing.

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 for a first offence to a penalty of not more than Two pounds and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term of not more than seven days, and for a second or any subsequent offence in respect of the same or any other child to a penalty of not less than Two pounds nor more than Five pounds, and in default of payment to 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.

An allowance for conveyance of up to one shilling 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.

* Small classes held only at University High School each Saturday morning.

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, consisting of not more than seven persons. The members of school committees are nominated by the parents of children attending the school for which the committee is to be appointed. The main duties of such committees are:—

- (a) to exercise a general oversight of the buildings and grounds, and to report to the Minister on their condition when necessary;
- (b) to carry out any necessary work referred to the committee in connexion with maintenance or repair of or additions to buildings;
and
- (c) to use every endeavour to induce parents to send their children to school regularly and punctually.

Special schools.

For children who are prevented by disabilities from obtaining full benefit from the ordinary schools, special schools and classes are provided. These include hospital schools, schools for crippled children, a school for children suffering from cerebral palsy, the school for the blind, the school for the deaf, a sight-saving class for partially sighted children, a school for epileptics, an open-air school for undernourished children, and seven schools for mentally retarded children. Some of the schools referred to are residential. Corrective gymnastics, speech therapy and remedial teaching are provided at special centres. A health and recreation camp at which selected children attend for a fortnight is maintained at Queenscliff. The school medical officers are closely in touch with the work being done in special schools and classes.

School Savings Banks.

At 30th June, 1950, there were 2,733 School Savings Banks and 260,023 depositors with £822,698 to their credit.

School forestry and horticulture.

In 1923 the Education Department introduced a school endowment scheme for Victorian schools.

With the assistance of the Lands Department and the Department of State Forests, areas of land in the vicinity of State schools have been reserved for plantation purposes, and these are planted under commercial timber trees, principally *pinus radiata*.

At 30th June, 1950 established plantations numbered 363 with a total area of 3,169 acres. During the planting season 46,000 pines, 800 sugar gums, and 1,300 mahogany gums were planted.

From the 1st July, 1949 to 30th June, 1950 twenty-seven schools sold a total of 772,660 super feet of pine logs, and 65 cunits of pulpwood. The total net value of timber sold was £4,124, bringing the total net revenue since 1937 to £15,761.

The Victorian State Schools Horticultural Society, founded in 1913, renders much assistance to schools. The society has established a nursery from which seedlings, shrubs, and many thousands of packets of seeds are distributed annually to schools throughout the State.

Both the Victorian State Schools Horticultural Society and the School Forestry branch do much to encourage the practical teaching of horticulture and forestry by the preparation of films and film strips, and by the provision of vacation schools for teachers.

Young Farmers' Clubs. Reality in education has been a feature of the Young Farmers' Clubs of Victoria. Around the principal primary industries Clubs have developed a correlated program of cultural, social and agricultural activities in which the Club leader is assisted by an Advisory Council of adults.

Love of the countryside, community leadership, development of practical observational projects, field days, Education Week displays, and inter-club visits are features in the programs. Clubs function in primary and secondary schools, and in addition, Senior Sections, with 1,200 members in 50 centres, have been established for continued training to 25 years of age. Consolidated schools have increased the opportunity for further extension.

The movement is directed by the Young Farmers' Clubs Association, comprising representatives of the Departments of Education, Agriculture and Railways, the Royal Agricultural Society, the Chamber of Agriculture, District Young Farmers' Councils, the Rotary Club and all interested in youth of the countryside. Four full-time Supervisors are organizing the Clubs and assisting in project development.

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

School bands. There are 9 brass bands, 30 drum and fife bands and 20 recorder bands in schools.

Music and speech training. There are 28 members of the Music and Speech Training staff. Two members are attached to the Melbourne Teachers' College; eight are in the provincial centres—Ballarat, Bendigo and Geelong—one member being attached to each of the three teachers' colleges and one to the Gippsland Inspectorate; eighteen work in the various schools in the metropolitan area; eight of these are teaching part-time, five having obtained nominated courses for the Bachelor of Music Degree; one senior member is in charge of the fife and recorder bands.

Student teacher classes in music and speech training are held at the Music Centre, State School No. 2365, Queensberry-street, Carlton. Correspondence tuition in speech is provided for country student teachers, and an advanced class to enable teachers to qualify for the Singing Teacher's Primary Certificate is held at a metropolitan centre.

There are weekly broadcasts in music for both junior and post-primary grades.

Visual education. The Education Department's Visual Education Centre possesses 1,194 motion picture films. Several copies of each title are now included in the library.

Eleven Melbourne metropolitan film circuits, and ten country circuits—Geelong, Bendigo, Ballarat, Maryborough, South Gippsland, Western District, Beechworth, Dandenong, Peninsula and Warragul—serving 232 selected schools (primary, technical and high) are operated each day from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 25,000 pupils see films every week in Victorian schools. Films are lent to 154 approved borrowers (schools) and 10,000 reels of film go out each year.

Over 300 teachers have been trained as 16 mm. sound projectionists at the Visual Education Centre. Special screenings and guidance have been given to teachers at group meetings called by district inspectors, and lectures and screenings have been given to each of the four teachers' colleges.

There are 1,154 departmental schools with film strip projectors.

The film strip library includes 552 films prepared and produced in the laboratories of the Centre. Over 27,000 film strips were despatched to schools during the year. Thirty-eight educational wall charts have been produced. Over 200 specifications for school radio installations have been prepared during the last twelve months.

Numerous requests have been received for advice and guidance on the purchase of suitable projection equipment. Teachers' Film Group meetings have been held each month in Melbourne, Geelong, Ballarat, Bendigo and Maryborough.

Physical education. School programmes normally provide a daily period for such activities as gymnastics, games, sports, swimming and life-saving, and for folk dancing. Folk dance broadcasts are arranged and conducted by the staff. Three posture corrective centres have been established in the metropolitan area for children with physical defects: they cater for a limited number of children from surrounding schools and are conducted under medical observation by qualified physical educationists.

The organization of physical education is in charge of an organizer with a staff of 37 male and 32 female assistants all of whom work in metropolitan districts, post primary schools, and in large provincial centres. A training officer (male) and a supervisor of swimming (female) have been appointed to assist the organizer. The training of teachers for physical education is carried on by members of the staff at the Bendigo Teachers' College, at regular visits to schools in the metropolitan area, the provincial cities of Ballarat, Bendigo and Geelong, at Maryborough and in the Benalla Inspectorate, in vacation schools refresher classes in the country centres, and special classes of instruction for student teachers.

School Broadcasts. There has been a remarkable increase in the number of schools, both State and Registered, taking part in school broadcasts. The first regular school broadcasts commenced in 1931. In that year 30 schools were equipped with radio receiving sets. By December, 1950, this number had increased to 2,250.

The increase has been particularly rapid since 1946, the numbers having almost doubled. Following are comparative figures for the five years ended December, 1950, showing the numbers of radio equipped schools :—

Details.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Radio-equipped schools ..	1,179	1,480	1,884	2,141	2,250
Percentage of all schools ...	% 42	% 51	% 65	% 74	% 80

Teachers' colleges. Student teachers are trained at the Melbourne, Ballarat, Geelong, and Bendigo Teachers' Colleges. Those student teachers who have passed the Leaving Certificate examination in five subjects, including English, 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 teachers of academic subjects, arts and crafts, or domestic arts in post primary classes, 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.

Teachers of manual arts in secondary schools receive their training at technical schools during the first two years of their course; the third year is taken at the Melbourne Teachers' College. Teachers of domestic arts in secondary schools receive their training at a special hostel in Melbourne. They attend classes at the Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy and at the Melbourne Teachers' College.

Central schools (post-primary). Thirteen 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, teachers
and scholars
1946 to 1950.**

The following table shows the number of State schools, teachers, and scholars for the period 1946-1950:—

VICTORIA—STATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, 1946 TO 1950.

Year.	Number of Schools at end of Year.	Number of Teachers.*	Number of Scholars.†		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In Average Attendance.	Estimated Net Enrolment.
1946 (31st December) ..	2,247	7,107	186,910	141,429	167,308
1947 " ..	2,182	6,870	190,433	145,505	170,898
1948 " ..	2,115	7,139	194,800	148,561	175,265
1949 " ..	2,066	7,247	205,053	155,047	184,543
1950 " ..	2,016	7,336	221,102	164,096	194,906

* Exclusive of teachers temporarily employed, the number of whom was 1,258 on 31st December, 1950.

† Includes Post Primary classes. Excludes Correspondence School.

**State Secondary
Schools, enrol-
ment and
attendance
1949 and 1950.**

The following table gives the enrolment and attendance for the years 1949 and 1950.—

VICTORIA—STATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, YEARS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1949, AND 1950.

Class of School.	Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils.‡		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In Average Attendance.	Estimated Net Enrolment.
Central Schools* and Classes ..	{ 1949	26	4,705	4,009	4,419
	{ 1950	27	5,245	4,316	5,149
Higher Elementary Schools* ..	{ 1949	47	5,551	4,489	5,230
	{ 1950	46	5,490	4,367	5,042
Girls' Secondary Schools ..	{ 1949	14	5,393	4,231	5,241
	{ 1950	14	5,775	4,388	5,445
Junior Technical Schools† ..	{ 1949	30	11,688	9,749	11,462
	{ 1950	30	12,629	10,470	12,335
District High Schools ..	{ 1949	46	20,689	17,928	19,960
	{ 1950	48	22,674	19,107	21,746
Total ..	{ 1949	163	48,026	40,406	46,312
	{ 1950	165	51,813	42,648	49,717

* Central Schools (except one) 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.

‡ Excludes Correspondence School.

Tuition by correspondence. In addition to the foregoing, there were 1,719 pupils enrolled during 1949 for tuition by correspondence in primary and secondary courses, with a net enrolment of 1,193. Corresponding figures for 1950 were 1,713 and 1,365.

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, 1949 and 1950:—

VICTORIA—AGES OF STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS, 1949 AND 1950.

Class of School.	Year.	Under Six Years.	From Six to Fourteen Years.	Over Fourteen Years.	Total.
Primary	{ 1949	12,372	166,093	3,703	182,168
	{ 1950	13,840	175,015	3,542	192,397
Central Schools (Post Primary)	{ 1949	..	1,469	906	2,375
	{ 1950	..	1,703	806	2,509
Central Schools and Classes (Secondary)	{ 1949	..	3,420	999	4,419
	{ 1950	..	3,937	1,212	5,149
Higher Elementary Schools ..	{ 1949	..	2,855	2,375	5,230
	{ 1950	..	2,634	2,408	5,042
Girls' Secondary Schools ..	{ 1949	..	2,876	2,365	5,241
	{ 1950	..	3,219	2,226	5,445
Junior Technical Schools ..	{ 1949	..	5,138	6,324	11,462
	{ 1950	..	5,417	6,918	12,335
District High Schools ..	{ 1949	..	7,820	12,140	19,960
	{ 1950	..	8,928	12,818	21,746
Pupils receiving tuition by correspondence	{ 1949	56	863	274	1,193
	{ 1950	57	874	434	1,365
Total ..	{ 1949	12,428	190,534	29,086	232,048
	{ 1950	13,897	201,727	30,364	245,988

State secondary education. The purpose of the higher elementary schools and of the district high schools is to provide secondary education for pupils who have completed the work of the sixth grade in primary schools.

The former are established in the smaller country centres and provide four years of secondary education up to the School Intermediate Certificate; if the number of pupils is sufficient, the course is extended by one year to the School Leaving Certificate. The high schools provide a course of six years up to the Matriculation examination of the University of Melbourne, the School Leaving Certificate being taken at the end of the fifth year. In both types of school provision is made for the teaching of practical subjects and thus a variety of courses is available. No. tuition fees are charged except in the School Leaving Certificate and Matriculation forms and then a fee of £6 per annum is payable only when pupils have failed to make satisfactory progress and wish to repeat the year's work.

University High School. Established in 1910, this school continues as the official practising school for the work of the first year of the course for Bachelor of Education of the University of Melbourne. Here is undertaken much of the practical part of the work of training graduates for secondary teaching.

Higher elementary schools. There are 46 higher elementary schools in which a four-years' course up to School Intermediate Certificate is provided. During the term ended 31st December, 1949, there was an average attendance at these schools of 4,489 pupils, of whom 2,106 were boys and 2,383 were girls. During the corresponding term in 1950, the attendance was 4,367, consisting of 2,064 boys and 2,303 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. The average attendance at this course was 4,009 pupils in 1949 and 4,316 in 1950. Pupils from these schools have priority of admission to district high schools.

Girls' Secondary Schools. There are fourteen girls' secondary 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, 1950, there were 4,388 girls in attendance at these schools, compared with 4,231 during the corresponding term in 1949. Courses lead to the Proficiency Certificate at the end of the third year and the Education Department's Intermediate Certificate at the end of the fourth year.

District high schools. There are 48 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, 1950, there were in attendance 19,107 pupils, of whom 9,133 were boys and 9,974 were girls. During the corresponding term in 1949 the attendance was 17,928, comprising 8,680 boys and 9,248 girls.

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 1949-50 there were 465 school buses in operation and 14,470 pupils were conveyed to State and registered secondary schools. The cost of these services was £392,427.

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.

At the beginning of 1950 scholarships were awarded as under :—

SCHOLARSHIPS AND ALLOWANCES.

Number and Kind.	Age Requirements of Candidates.	Period of Tenure.	Annual Value.
1,050 Junior Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Not over 14½ years on 1st January, 1950	4 years	Free tuition at a State secondary school and £4 p.a. for school requisites, or £21 p.a. towards tuition fees and school requisites at an approved registered secondary school; also in certain cases up to £52 p.a. for maintenance
650 Free Places at State secondary schools open to candidates attending State Schools	Not over 14½ years on 1st January, 1950	4 years	Free tuition at a State secondary school and £4 p.a. for school requisites; also in certain cases up to £52 p.a. for maintenance
400 Leaving Certificate Bursaries open to candidates in attendance at State and registered schools who will become teachers	Not over 16½ years on 1st January, 1950	1 year	£50 p.a. towards cost of schooling; also in certain cases up to £52 p.a. for maintenance
100 Matriculation Bursaries open to candidates attending State and registered schools who will become teachers	Not over 17½ years on 1st January, 1950	1 year	£50 p.a. towards cost of schooling; also in certain cases up to £52 p.a. for maintenance
250 Intermediate Technical Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Not over 15½ years on 1st January, 1950	1 year	Free tuition at a junior technical school and £10 p.a.; also in certain cases up to £52 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 a senior technical school; 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 £169 p.a. for maintenance
44 Senior Scholarships open to candidates attending State, registered and technical schools	Not over 18½ years on 1st January, 1950	Up to 6 years	£40 p.a. towards expense of course at University; also in certain cases up to £169 p.a. for maintenance
70 Free Places at University of Melbourne open to 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 the University; also in certain cases up to £169 p.a. for maintenance
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, 1950	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
25 Free courses 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 £3 per annum and for maintenance up to £39 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 servicemen or ex-servicemen, attending State secondary or technical schools.

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, 1950, was 35, of which 21 have been established since the passing of the *Education Act* 1910. The gross enrolment for the year 1950 comprised 12,572 junior and 42,031 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, 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, the William Angliss Food Trades School, the Melbourne School of Printing and Graphic Arts, and the Melbourne Textile Trades School, is a full-time day junior technical or preparatory section, which provides for a three years' course of study. In eight country high schools there are junior technical sections, while five private schools (two metropolitan and three country) teach the junior technical school course. The private schools are open to inspection by Departmental officers.

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, the recognized pre-requisite for apprenticeship in most trades. The Intermediate Technical Certificate may be obtained after an additional year's satisfactory work. This certificate is issued either in an un-endorsed form or marked "Diploma Entrance Standard". The needs of the trades or artistic occupations may be served by the ordinary certificate (English being a compulsory requirement), while the "Diploma Entrance Standard" requires, *inter alia*, passes in English, Mathematics, and Science.

Certain senior technical schools—the Melbourne Technical College, the Swinburne Technical College (Hawthorn), the Gordon Institute of Technology (Geelong), the Bendigo and Ballarat Schools of Mines, and the Footscray and Caulfield Technical Schools, and ten schools in some of the larger country centres—are general purpose schools, providing full day and evening professional courses, and full-time and part-time day and evening trade apprenticeship and commercial courses. In the country centres specialized instruction is given, such as at Geelong in textile, wool classing and sorting and architecture, and at Ballarat and Bendigo, in mining, and at several schools in full-time or part-time form utility courses adapted to the needs of the local district.

In the metropolitan area there are also twelve senior schools giving a wide range of part-time training including that for apprentices in proclaimed trades under the apprenticeship commission. The latter training is in general of four years' duration and is conducted on a part-time basis by day with opportunities for further study in the evening classes. The William Angliss Food Trades School, the Melbourne School of Printing and Graphic Arts and the Melbourne Textile Trades School are mono-technical institutions for apprentices.

The technical courses for women's industries are the Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy and the Box Hill Girls' Technical School, and there are also women's classes at Ballarat, Brighton, Castlemaine, Daylesford, Echuca, Bairnsdale, Wangaratta, Maryborough, Prahran, Sale, Sunshine, Warrnambool and Wonthaggi Technical schools, the Swinburne Technical College (Glenferrie), and the Gordon Institute of Technology (Geelong). There are junior technical schools for girls associated with the schools at Ballarat, Box Hill, Brighton, Sunshine, Prahran, Swinburne (Hawthorn), Wonthaggi, Maryborough, Sale, and Warrnambool. The Mildura High School also has a girls' junior technical section.

Fees in technical schools range from 10s. per term per subject (Elementary grades) to £8 per term for Advanced courses.

No fees are charged in junior technical schools and, from the beginning of 1947, free tuition has been made available to all qualified students undertaking full time approved courses in senior technical schools, provided a satisfactory standard of attainment is maintained.

Living allowances up to £169 per annum are also available to senior technical scholarship holders under certain conditions subject to a means test, whilst non-scholarship holders doing full-time senior courses are eligible in the second and subsequent years of their courses for assistance from the Universities Commission.

Government expenditure on each technical school during each of the five years ended 1949-50 is shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, 1945-46 TO 1949-50.

School.	Year ended 30th June—				
	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
	£	£	£	£	£
Bairnsdale	7,716	9,503	10,676	2,532	7,284
Ballarat	31,987	29,823	40,102	31,377	36,764
Bendigo	30,065	27,122	30,001	23,451	36,856
Box Hill	13,604	16,587	21,816	6,474	9,855
Box Hill (Girls)	7,733	8,763	9,496	2,245	2,659
Brighton	26,988	28,727	32,061	10,165	12,442
Brunswick	19,388	22,387	26,490	8,431	7,495
Castlemaine	9,493	10,910	12,996	10,649	12,243
Caulfield	29,976	38,831	60,812	30,602	17,140
Coburg	4,915			35	
Collingwood	57,768	46,659	41,727	26,871	25,799
Daylesford	5,967	5,405	5,304	3,333	4,484
Echuca	10,997	12,706	18,557	13,562	15,465
Essendon	16,158	19,466	22,804	11,064	8,415
Footscray	52,222	72,090	68,768	25,878	56,647
Geelong (Gordon Institute of Technology)	72,367	59,129	62,631	54,241	60,196
Hawthorn (Swinburne Technical College)	41,552	54,574	63,862	61,622	71,441
Maryborough	11,973	13,864	15,735	3,877	3,743
Melbourne—					
Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy	15,755	35,931	40,246	11,723	22,017
School of Printing and Graphic Arts				1,664	12,456
Technical College	79,442	101,564	113,784	141,805	201,446
Textile Trades School				504	2,697
William Angliss Food Trades	5,804	8,287	11,232	2,063	3,644
Oakleigh	23,059	21,172	18,536	7,274	6,493
Prahran	15,828	18,590	23,814	10,485	17,911
Preston	18,243	43,183	26,680	8,249	20,010
Richmond	17,477	20,762	22,966	4,686	9,433
Sale	10,678	12,633	12,846	13,311	11,954
Sandringham	7,269	15,200	7,668	12,439	6,285
South Melbourne	17,011	18,391	23,746	7,096	7,547
Stawell	6,356	8,576	8,387	3,902	8,414
Sunshine	22,978	16,753	20,428	8,304	10,043
Wangaratta	8,936	11,994	17,149	14,640	14,391
Warrnambool	10,907	15,003	21,119	3,842	6,552
Wonthaggi	7,739	9,125	10,855	3,795	9,416
Yallourn	12,184	14,405	15,014	6,008	6,071
Other Votes for Technical Schools	61,817	72,251	74,821	97,481	104,771
Miscellaneous	6,505	9,200	9,131	14,782	17,338
Salaries (Departmental Teachers*)				494,647	597,676
Total	798,757	929,566	1,022,860	1,195,109	1,485,493

* Prior to 1949 salaries of departmental teachers were tabulated under respective schools. From 1949 this information is not available.

**Melbourne
Technical
College.**

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.**

Various 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.

**Free Tuition
Day Courses.**

Free tuition in approved full-time courses will be granted to students who are bona fide residents of Victoria and who, in the year prior to enrolment, attended full-time at a State or Registered Secondary, Technical, or Post-Primary School, provided that they possess the prescribed qualifications for entering such courses, and that they reach a satisfactory standard of attainment in each year of the course.

**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 1950 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	5 0 0
Applied Physics		Electrical Trades—	
Mechanical Engineering		Special Full Day	5 0 0
Electrical Engineering		Art Course—	
Civil Engineering		Full Time	5 0 0
Communication Engineering		Five Half-days	4 0 0
Automotive Engineering		Wool-sorting—	
Aeronautical Engineering		Full Courses	8 0 0
		Special Course	1 15 0
	£ s. d.		
Architecture	5 10 0	Photography—	
Advertising Art	5 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 £5 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 1950 the College accommodated 135 Reconstruction Trainees, for full-time courses, which are not included in the following figures.

Details relating to the College during the years 1946 to 1950 are shown in the following table:—

MELBOURNE TECHNICAL COLLEGE, 1946 TO 1950.

—	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Individual students enrolled—					
Males	14,879	14,737	14,782	13,957	12,719
Females	1,591	1,429	1,342	1,364	1,460
Total	16,470	16,166	16,124	15,321	14,179
Number of classes	687	740	818	807	813
Number of Instructors	693	716	792	797	820
Salaries paid to Instructors £	102,355	125,200	139,736	157,400	183,579
Government grant £	75,320	92,454	94,704	156,100	198,044
Fees received during the year* £	73,248	83,254	108,516	104,853	84,347
Average fee per student per year	88s. 11d.	103s.	134s. 7d.	136s. 10d.	119s. —

* Not including fees for correspondence courses, which amounted to £29,938 in 1946, £32,482 in 1947, £17,497 in 1948, £14,004 in 1949 and £12,421 in 1950. The subjects taught by correspondence are those included in the college curriculum.

STATE EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION.

During 1949-50, 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 £10,626,839. 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, superannuation paid on behalf of officers in the Defence Forces, and expenditure on School Medical and Dental services. Comparative figures for each of the years 1945-46 to 1949-50 were as follows:—

VICTORIA—STATE EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION,
1945-46 TO 1949-50.

Expenditure on—	Year ended 30th June—				
	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Primary, Intermediate, and Secondary Education—	£	£	£	£	£
Primary (including Special Subjects)	2,365,271	2,554,332	3,094,735	4,222,596	4,692,714
Intermediate	206,312	†	†	†	†
Secondary	547,976	1,018,751	1,056,181	1,284,187	1,439,293
Buildings and Land	284,198	405,862	571,574	505,261	1,503,016
Technical Education—					
Junior and Senior Schools	616,336	752,931	871,815	1,069,221	1,271,913
Buildings and Land	174,726	168,137	140,825	107,902	190,972
Training of Teachers	92,682	216,538	342,528	46,771	376,136
Administration	102,941	150,786	162,294	172,714	213,612
Pensions	167,328	167,706	191,784	228,804	237,971
General Expenditure§	2,395	34,377	47,798	165,209	231,379
University—					
Special Appropriations, &c.*	128,100	294,585	283,124	294,288	458,543
Scholarships and Bursaries	8,828	12,917	13,633	14,882	11,290
Total	4,697,093†	5,776,922†	6,776,291†	8,111,835†	10,626,839†
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Per head of Population	2 5 8	2 16 3	3 5 9	3 16 9	4 17 11

* Excluding expenditure on Bacteriological Laboratory Services, viz.:—£7,000 in 1945-46, £11,000 in 1946-47 and 1947-48, £15,500 in 1948-49, and £15,000 in 1949-50.

† Excluding (a) pay-roll tax, £78,107 in 1945-46, £87,761 in 1946-47, £101,793 in 1947-48, £117,649 in 1948-49, and £139,485 in 1949-50; (b) superannuation paid on behalf of officers in Defence Forces, £12,303 in 1945-46, £2,592 in 1946-47, £873 in 1947-48, and £427 in 1948-49; and (c) expenditure on School Medical and Dental Services £26,084 in 1948-49, and £36,025 in 1949-50.

‡ Intermediate education is now included under the heading of Secondary.

§ Prior to 1949 certain general expenditure was included under other headings.

In addition to the expenditure shown in the preceding table, fees, donations, &c., amounting to £131,490 in 1945-46, £177,626 in 1946-47, £181,217 in 1947-48, £224,764 in 1948-49, and £220,196 in 1949-50, 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 and secondary education in State schools, i.e., excluding the amount expended on technical education :—

VICTORIA—EXPENDITURE ON PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION—STATE SCHOOLS (EXCLUDING TECHNICAL SCHOOLS), 1949-50.

Classification.	General Expenditure.	Primary Education.	Secondary Education.	Correspondence School.	Teachers' Colleges.	Total Expenditure.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost of Administration ..	132,845	57,362	13,788	899	617	205,511
Cost of Co-ordinate Activities (Attendance Branch) ..		10,619				10,619
Cost of Instruction ..	108,614	3,757,680	1,048,432	36,195	62,080	5,013,001
Operation of School Plant (Cleaning, &c.) ..		208,816	48,616	290	1,368	259,090
Maintenance of School Plant (Repairs, &c.) ..		501,796	44,550	100	3,350	549,796
Auxiliary Costs (Transport Allowances, Scholarships, &c.) ..	122,765	213,804	261,109		309,338	907,016
Fixed Charges (Pensions, Rents, &c.) ..	237,971	7,483	322			245,776
Capital Expenditure (Purchase of Land and Buildings) ..		1,198,019	153,750		143,442	1,495,211
Total ..	602,195	5,955,579	1,570,567	37,484	520,195	8,686,020

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 time 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, 1950. 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 operating during 1950 (excluding commercial colleges) are shown in the following tables:—

VICTORIA—REGISTERED SCHOOLS—ENROLMENT (IN AGE GROUPS) IN DENOMINATIONAL AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS, 1950.

	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—								
Roman Catholic	349	1,778	5,865	54,189	8,094	5,628	50,201	7,666
Church of England ..	36	565	868	6,976	3,400	854	6,835	3,287
Presbyterian ..	18	272	651	3,220	1,778	648	3,172	1,776
Methodist ..	4	137	67	1,452	1,541	67	1,443	1,539
Other ..	18	97	290	1,436	263	288	1,403	262
Undenominational	51	298	1,465	3,341	1,732	1,452	3,207	1,719
Total ..	476	3,147	9,206	70,614	16,808	8,937	66,261	16,349

VICTORIA—REGISTERED SCHOOLS—GROSS ENROLMENT, 1950.

	Gross Enrolment.						
	Primary.		Secondary.		Total.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Denominational—							
Roman Catholic	27,525	28,564	6,336	5,723	33,861	34,287	68,148
Church of England	2,701	3,071	2,906	2,566	5,607	5,637	11,244
Presbyterian ..	1,439	1,301	1,782	1,127	3,221	2,428	5,649
Methodist ..	188	801	817	1,254	1,005	2,055	3,060
Other ..	761	743	274	211	1,035	954	1,989
Undenominational..	1,665	3,045	416	1,412	2,081	4,457	6,538
Total ..	34,279	37,525	12,531	12,293	46,810	49,818	96,628

State and
registered
schools, 1950.

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

VICTORIA—STATE AND REGISTERED SCHOOLS, 1950.

	Gross Enrolment.			Net Enrolment.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Under 6 Years.	Between 6 and 14 Years.	Over 14 Years.
State Schools	143,810	130,818	274,628	13,897	201,727	30,364
Registered Schools	46,810	49,818	96,628	8,937	66,261	16,349
Total	190,620	180,636	371,256	22,834	267,988	46,713

Note.—In addition, State Senior Technical Schools had a gross enrolment of 30,879 males and 11,152 females.

COUNCIL OF ADULT EDUCATION.

The Council of Adult Education, established by the Adult Education Act of 1946, is a body of not more than twenty members, four of whom are ex-officio.

The functions of the Council as set down in the Act are :—

- (a) to advise the Minister on matters of general policy relating to Adult Education ;
- (b) to report to the Minister on methods or developments in Adult Education which, in its opinion, should be introduced ;
- (c) to plan and supervise the administration and development of Adult Education and to assist other bodies engaged in such work ;
- (d) to exercise such powers and to carry out such duties as are conferred or imposed on the Council by the Act.

The Council receives an annual statutory grant of £25,000 per annum, which is supplemented by receipts from its own activities. The balance in the Adult Education Fund at 30th June, 1949, was £6,098 14s. 4d. and at 30th June, 1950, was £1,492 10s. 7d.

The Council's activities can be briefly summarised in the following tables:—

VICTORIA—ADULT EDUCATION—LECTURE CLASSES, 1949–1950.

Lecture Classes.	1949.		1950.	
	First Term.	Second Term.	First Term.	Second Term.
Courses Offered ..	87	79	75	63
Students Enrolled ..	4,114	2,521	3,624	2,115

VICTORIA—ADULT EDUCATION—DISCUSSION GROUPS, PERFORMANCES, ETC., GIVEN, RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS, 1948–49 AND 1949–50.

Details.	1948–49.	1949–50.
Discussion Groups—		
Number of Groups	142	165
Students Enrolled	1,660	1,600
Performances, &c., Given—		
Music	145	209
Drama	70	63
Ballet and Dance Recitals	31	88
Art Exhibitions	12	15
Residential Schools—		
City	2	1
Country	2	1

PUBLIC LIBRARIES, MUSEUMS, &c.

**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.

At the 30th June, 1950, the Reference Library contained 584,622 volumes and 91,626 pamphlets. The Lending branch, which is also free to the public, contained 96,232 volumes at the same date and issued 200,943 volumes to 15,226 borrowers during the year ended 30th June, 1950. The Country Lending and Travelling Library contained 26,091 volumes, and during the year despatched 35,787 books to almost every country town in Victoria.

**Free Library
Service Board.**

The Free Library Service Board was established by the Government in 1947, to assist in the promotion and establishment of libraries by municipalities throughout the State of Victoria.

Since 1947-48, the first year in which Government subsidy was paid to municipal libraries approved by the Board, the subsidy has increased from an annual amount of £16,000 to £49,400 in the year 1949-50, and the total amount expended by the Government in that period exceeds £100,000. The number of municipal libraries has increased from twelve to thirty-three and the total amount, including subsidy, expended by these Councils on their library services during 1949-50 was more than £82,000. The average expenditure per head of population of the thirty-three municipalities concerned was three shillings, including Government subsidy.

All of these libraries, of which nine are in the metropolitan area and twenty-four in the country, will soon be under the supervision of trained librarians. The book collections which are already in existence, and which, in the case of newer libraries, are now in the process of being built up, cover a range of subjects wide enough to meet the demands of any inquiry.

The metropolitan population which is serviced by this system numbers 340,000, of which 35,000 are active borrowers. A total book collection of 143,000 is available to these borrowers. In the country districts 24,000 borrowers out of a population of 213,000 have access to 136,000 books.

The following table shows statistics relating to municipal libraries subsidized by the Free Library Service Board for the year 1949-50 :—

MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES SUBSIDIZED BY FREE LIBRARY SERVICE BOARD, 1949-50.

Municipality.	Amount Contributed by Council.	Total Government Grants.	Total Amount Expended on Library.	Number of Books in Library.	Number of Registered Borrowers.	Number of Book Issues.
	£	£	£			
<i>Metropolitan—</i>						
Box Hill	1,265	1,265	2,530	8,930	5,259	*
Collingwood	2,200	2,200	4,400	7,696	1,890	20,462
Hawthorn	3,019	3,035	6,054	16,639	5,600	113,697
Kew	1,727	1,743	3,470	15,153	3,110	98,383
Northcote	2,300	2,316	4,616	13,032	3,015	73,060
Port Melbourne	786	786	1,572	11,850	710	42,400
Prahran	3,700	3,716	7,416	33,000	5,360	120,043
Preston	2,400	2,416	4,816	15,877	4,158	83,781
South Melbourne	3,300	3,316	6,616	20,880	6,500	106,332
Total Metropolitan ..	20,697	20,793	41,490	143,057	35,602	658,158
<i>Country—</i>						
Alexandra Shire	200	400	600	†	†	†
Bairnsdale Shire	425	966	1,391	3,382	*	7,856
Ballarat City	1,954	4,940	6,894	33,550	2,870	*
Bendigo City	1,340	1,606	2,946	8,272	4,105	42,249
Bright Shire	200	597	797	†	†	†
Castlemaine Town	290	770	1,060	*	*	*
Euroa Shire	530	530	1,060	2,875	841	10,864
Geelong City	1,300	1,766	3,066	13,230	2,920	64,777
Horsham City	325	525	850	6,200	1,235	3,580
Kerang Shire	845	845	1,690	3,925	682	*

**MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES SUBSIDIZED BY FREE LIBRARY
SERVICE BOARD, 1949-50—continued.**

Municipality.	Amount Contributed by Council.	Total Govern- ment Grants.	Total Amount Expended on Library.	Number of Books in Library.	Number of Re- gistered Borrow- ers.	Number of Book Issues.
<i>Country—continued—</i>	£	£	£			
Mildura City	750	966	1,716	13,098	3,207	68,702
Mildura Shire	1,600	1,600	3,200	1,100	†	†
Mirboo Shire	177	361	538	4,833	150	*
Morwell Shire	325	525	850	5,060	382	26,429
Newtown and Chilwell City	505	705	1,210	11,070	1,024	36,158
Phillip Island Shire ..	120	247	367	5,223	221	*
Stawell Borough	250	287	537	†	†	†
Upper Murray Shire ..	250	610	860	*	*	*
Violet Town Shire ..	245	600	845	†	†	†
Wangaratta Borough ..	350	827	1,177	†	†	†
Warragul Shire	350	532	882	2,642	769	2,096
Warrnambool City ..	1,100	2,316	3,416	14,763	1,605	64,404
Yallourn Authority ..	2,066	2,282	4,348	7,357	3,348	74,902
Yea Shire	200	510	710	†	†	†
Total Country	15,697	25,313	41,010	136,580	23,359	402,017
Grand Total, Victoria	36,394	46,106	82,500	279,637	58,961	1,060,175

* Not available.

† Not yet established.

**National
Gallery.**

The National Gallery at 30th June, 1950, contained the following works of art :—2,190 oil paintings, 7,792 objects of art, statuary, &c., and 22,033 water-colours, drawings, etchings, engravings, &c. During the year ended 30th June, 1950, £57,653 was expended on works of art, the Trustees of the Felton Bequest providing £52,960 of that amount.

The National Gallery Art School was attended during the year 1949-50 by a daily average of 72.5 students, including 14 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 fourteen dioramas illustrating Australian aborigines and Australian natural history studies.

**Museum of
Applied
Science.**

The Museum originally known as the Industrial and Technological Museum was founded in 1870. In 1944, the name was changed to the Museum of Applied Science of Victoria. It is housed in the Queen's Hall of the Public Library block.

The exhibits, which comprised 23,320 separate items on the 30th June, 1950, covered applied and economic aspects of all branches of science.

Worthy of special mention are sectioned steam, aero and car engines (many of which may be operated by visitors), electrical equipment, the atomic energy working display, operating electronic devices, the Askew bequest of time measurement instruments, the ship and aircraft models, the arms collection, the metallurgy and economic geology collection, agricultural implements, animal products, the biological wax model collection, the timber specimens and numerous industrial displays.

Among the many interesting historical exhibits may be seen a primitive model, said to have been made by the inventor, William Symington, of the "Charlotte Dundas," the first practical steamboat (1802). The first motor car imported into Australia (1897), the first Australian made aeroplane to fly (1910), and a replica of Leeuwenhoek's microscope with which germs were first seen in 1673, are also on display.

A recently established section deals with preventive medicine. Its community value continues to grow as new additions are made.

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

Regular demonstrations of the 8-inch refracting telescope are conducted in conjunction with the Astronomical Society of Victoria, enabling visitors to see the night sky through high-grade equipment.

THE MELBOURNE BOTANIC GARDEN.

The Melbourne Botanic Garden, which was established in 1846, is situated on the south side of the Yarra River. 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 former 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.

The total area of such reserves, as recorded in 1946, 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.

Up to 30th June, 1950, 114 areas, including 85 in the country, have been developed by the Commission and 11,596 houses provided thereon. In addition, 3,286 houses are in various stages of construction or contracts have been let. These figures include projects which have been determined for the Government-sponsored construction of

houses for Victoria in accordance with the agreement made between the Commonwealth and State Governments. At 30th June, 1950, these houses numbered 14,003, allocated as follows:—

Houses.	Metropolitan.	Country.
Completed	6,709	3,559
Under construction	1,418	868
Contracts let (work not started)	675	325
Plans in preparation .. .. .	..	44
Total	8,802	5,201

In its normal housing programme to 30th June, 1950, the Commission has expended £23,467,060.

Gross revenue for rents for the year ended 30th June, 1950, amounted to £938,894, against which £16,673 was allowed for rental rebates.

During the year a further 468 sub-standard houses were dealt with. Repairs were ordered in respect of 270 houses. The remaining 198 houses were considered beyond repair and were declared to be unfit for human habitation and in due course will be ordered to be demolished. The majority will be deferred, however, until the restrictions imposed by the Building Operations and Building Materials Control Act are lifted.

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 Acts, which constitute the first Victorian legislation dealing with the financing of home building and purchase on a purely co-operative basis. The Principal Act, No. 5055 of 1944, which was brought into operation on 5th September, 1945, authorizes societies to raise loans and to make advances to their members for the purchase of land and the erection of homes thereon or for the erection of homes on land already owned by them. By Act No. 5357, assented to on 21st December, 1948, the scope of operations of societies was extended to include the making of advances to members for the purchase of existing dwellings, meeting charges for street-making and sewerage installation, and effecting additional permanent improvements.

An outline of the method of operation of these societies appeared in the *Year-Book* for 1945-46, pages 433-435.

The first society to be incorporated under the Act was registered on 15th October, 1945. At 30th June, 1950, there were 144 (129) societies on the register, of which 65 (69) had adopted a notional term of 22½ years, 78 (59) a notional term of 30½ years, and 1 (1) a notional term of 24 years. Figures in parentheses relate to the year ended 30th June, 1949.

The regional distribution of societies, based on the situation of the registered office, was as follows: Metropolitan and Outer Metropolitan 107 (95), Urban 12 (10), and Country 25 (24).

The following statement gives particulars relating to membership and operations of societies as at 30th June of each of the five years 1946 to 1950:—

Details.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Number of Societies Registered ..	63	93	110	129	144
Number of Members ..	6,174	8,893	9,814	11,190	12,996
Number of Shares Subscribed ..	117,459	177,604	207,360	254,287	318,493
Nominal Share Capital Subscribed ..	£6,438,800	£9,645,728	£11,246,065	£13,776,070	£17,241,606
Number of Advances Approved ..	397	1,865	3,260	4,666	6,799
Amount of Advances Approved ..	£437,381	£2,113,708	£3,817,661	£5,796,443	£9,135,437
Number of Indemnities Given and Subsisting ..	32	392	576	772	1,369
Amount of Indemnities Subsisting ..	£1,873	£28,405	£41,671	£57,575	£113,240
Number of Government Guarantees Executed ..	39	83	99	117	138
Amount of Government Guarantees Executed ..	£4,800,000	£9,070,000	£10,945,000	£13,030,000	£17,110,000
Number of Dwelling-houses Completed ..	14	390	1,342	2,484	4,046
Number in Course of Erection ..	170	1,204	1,756	2,141	2,786

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, and 1946. The main provisions of the 1934 amending Act were published in the *Year-Book* for 1934-35, page 213, those of the 1938 Amending Act in the *Year-Book* for 1938-39, page 237, and of the 1946 Amending Act in the *Year-Book* for 1945-46, page 436.

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, 1945-46 TO 1949-50.

	Year ended 30th June—				
	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Number of societies	109	111	112	107	108
Number of branches	1,463	1,465	1,463	1,460	1,449
Number of sick and funeral benefit members at end of year ..	204,513	205,955	205,433	203,297	200,131
Number of medical benefit members (including widows) at end of year ..	34,527	37,463	45,478	58,154	61,389
Number of members who received sick pay	47,711	48,909	47,723	48,680	44,565
Weeks for which sick pay was allowed	482,535	503,698	503,159	503,005	493,140
Deaths of sick and funeral benefit members	2,759	2,421	2,342	2,455	2,506
Deaths of wives entitled to funeral benefits	681	708	721	653	647
Receipts—	£	£	£	£	£
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds	529,391	523,981	539,616	528,196	526,680
Medical and Management Funds	539,145	570,435	588,810	626,846	704,889
Other Funds	215,961	202,952	235,003	475,121	417,376
Less inter-fund transfers	— 47,945	— 60,497	— 92,348	— 143,152	— 143,796
Total receipts	1,236,552	1,236,871	1,271,081	1,487,011	1,505,149
Expenditure—					
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds	351,601	379,574	400,475	460,353	422,301
Medical and Management Funds	529,375	563,181	569,959	608,226	688,860
Other Funds	212,226	199,389	246,673	258,841	330,038
Less inter-fund transfers	— 47,945	— 60,497	— 92,348	— 143,152	— 143,796
Total Expenditure	1,045,257	1,081,647	1,124,759	1,184,268	1,297,403
Excess of Receipts over Expenditure	191,295	155,224	146,322	302,743	207,746
Amount of Funds—					
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds	6,078,741	6,223,148	6,362,289	6,430,132	6,534,511
Medical and Management Funds	357,802	365,056	383,907	402,527	418,556
Other Funds	1,132,345	1,135,908	1,124,238	1,340,518	1,427,856
Total Funds	7,568,888	7,724,112	7,870,434	8,173,177	8,380,923
Disposal of Funds—					
Amounts Invested—					
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds	6,062,292	6,196,752	6,341,716	6,413,035	6,514,295
Medical and Management Funds	346,545	353,126	377,042	395,860	412,822
Other Funds	1,104,114	1,108,206	1,116,208	1,321,718	1,406,209
Amounts uninvested—					
All Funds	55,937	66,028	35,468	42,564	47,597

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, 1950, the societies lost by secession 13,636 sick and funeral benefit members; this was equal to about 6·7 per cent. of the membership at the beginning of that period. The corresponding rates of secession in 1945-46, 1946-47, 1947-48, and 1948-49 were 6·2, 7·1, 5·8, and 6·5 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 1949-50 was 19s. 1d. This was 11d. more than the cost in the year 1948-49.

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 1930-31, 1935-36, 1940-41, and for each 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>						
1930-31	..	129,596	345,687	2 4	1,331	10·27
1935-36	..	134,336	432,467	3 1	1,671	12·44
1940-41	..	149,733	467,680	3 1	2,000	13·36
1945-46	..	158,132	426,218	2 4	2,492	15·76
1946-47	..	158,120	448,770	2 5	2,162	13·67
1947-48	..	159,170	449,090	2 5	2,045	12·85
1948-49	..	158,570	451,049	2 5	2,128	13·42
1949-50	..	155,821	440,838	2 5	2,225	14·28
<i>Female Sections and a Female Society.</i>						
1930-31	..	10,897	22,250	2 0	51	4·68
1935-36	..	12,761	30,553	2 2	56	4·39
1940-41	..	15,342	37,293	2 3	84	5·48
1945-46	..	15,885	34,779	2 1	91	5·73
1946-47	..	14,951	35,614	2 2	80	5·35
1947-48	..	14,123	35,785	2 3	106	7·51
1948-49	..	13,344	34,237	2 3	109	8·17
1949-50	..	12,580	33,790	2 4	87	6·92

* 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 four days in 1930-31 to three weeks two days in 1934-35. Then there was a gradual fall to two weeks four days in 1942-43. This average period was maintained until 1946-47 when there was an increase to two weeks five days. There has been no alteration in subsequent years.

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

**Friendly
Societies'
Dispensaries.**

At the end of 1949-50 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 1949-50 was 142,302. 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 1949-50 amounted to £339,971 and £29,335 respectively. The assets consisted of freehold property, £147,094; stock, fittings, and sundry debtors, £135,150; cash, £30,568; and securities, £27,159. The liabilities consisted of sundry creditors, £16,821; bank overdrafts, £4,514; and mortgages, £8,000.

FACTORIES AND SHOPS.

**Labour
legislation.**

The earliest attempt at regulating the conditions of labour in Victoria was made by the passing of an Act dated 11th November, 1873, forbidding the employment of any female 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.

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*.

**Number of
Factories.**

At December, 1950, there were 15,305 factories registered in which 305,066 persons were employed as compared with 14,976 factories employing 292,667 persons in 1949.

**Closing Hours
of Shops.**

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, were published in the *Year-Book* 1945-46. There were no alterations during 1950.

**Registration
of shops.**

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 1950, there was an increase compared with 1949 of 66 shops, and an increase of 1,149 workers. Particulars of the shops registered and numbers of workers therein are given below:—

**VICTORIA—SHOPS REGISTERED AND NUMBERS OF PERSONS
WORKING THEREIN, 1950 (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 ..	4,599	11,152	1,787	4,384	6,286	15,536
Booksellers, Newsagents ..	1,040	2,727	346	962	1,386	3,689
Boot Dealers ..	371	1,308	240	607	611	1,915
Boot Repairers ..	566	714	308	390	874	1,104
Butchers ..	1,299	4,140	684	2,263	1,983	6,403
Chemists ..	620	2,418	348	1,172	968	3,590
Crockery ..	77	241	4	6	81	247
Cycle and Motor, and Motor Requisites	1,164	3,964	1,308	3,653	2,472	7,617
Dairy Produce and Cooked Meat ..	732	1,889	168	456	900	2,345
Drapery and Men's Clothing ..	2,971	18,074	1,063	4,307	4,034	22,381
Electrical and Radio ..	469	1,449	329	744	798	2,193
Fancy Goods Dealers ..	434	2,711	130	886	564	3,597
Fish ..	372	791	77	162	449	953
Florists ..	412	882	96	209	508	1,091
Fruit and Vegetable ..	1,621	3,400	697	1,826	2,318	5,226
Fuel and Fodder ..	700	1,479	230	640	930	2,119
Furniture ..	491	2,484	197	752	688	3,236
Grocers ..	3,297	8,215	2,237	8,685	5,534	16,900
Hairdressers ..	1,717	4,132	836	1,641	2,553	5,773
Hardware ..	867	3,876	509	1,900	1,376	5,776
Jewellery ..	330	963	170	414	500	1,377
Leather Goods ..	164	390	117	173	281	563
Musical Instruments ..	35	351	24	62	59	413
Tobacconists ..	1,161	1,928	261	447	1,422	2,375
Mixed Trades and Shops not classified	1,475	3,276	714	1,686	2,189	4,962
Total 1950* ..	26,984	82,954	12,880	38,427	39,864	121,381
Total 1949* ..	27,007	82,010	12,791	38,222	39,798	120,232

* Since 1946 figures have been compiled 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.

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.

On 31st December, 1950 there were 210 Wages Boards existent or authorized, affecting about 380,000 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 Arbitration Court, as a result of the Basic Wage Inquiry of 1949-50, decided to increase the basic wage by 20s. per week. At the same time the "prosperity" loading was incorporated in the new wage at a uniform amount throughout Australia of 5s. As a result the basic wage payable in Melbourne was increased by 19s. per week as from the first full pay period after 1st December, 1950. The female basic wage was increased from 54 per cent. to 75 per cent. of the male rate.

Basic weekly rates of wage in Melbourne for the years 1929 to 1938 are shown on page 374 of the 1946-47 *Year-Book*. The following table outlines the changes since March, 1939.

MELBOURNE—BASIC WEEKLY WAGE. (Adult Males.)

Commencing Date.	Basic Wage.	Commencing Date.	Basic Wage.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
1939—		1948—	
March	3 19 0	February	5 13 0
June	4 1 0	May	5 15 0
December	4 0 0	August	5 17 0
1940—		November	6 0 0
February	4 1 0	1949—	
May	4 2 0	February	6 3 0
August	4 4 0	May	6 5 0
1941—		August	6 8 0
February	4 6 0	November	6 10 0
May	4 7 0	1950—	
November	4 8 0	February	6 14 0
1942—		May	6 17 0
February	4 9 0	August	7 0 0
May	4 12 0	November	7 3 0
August	4 14 0	December†	8 2 0
November	4 17 0	1951—	
1943—		February	8 10 0
February	4 18 0	May	8 17 0
August	4 19 0	August	9 9 0
November	4 18 0	November	9 19 0
1944—		1952—	
February	4 17 0	February	10 9 0
August	4 18 0	May	10 12 0
1946—		August	11 4 0
August	4 19 0	November	11 8 0
December*	5 6 0	1953—	
1947—		February	11 9 0
February	5 7 0		
August	5 8 0		
November	5 9 0		

* Increased by interim judgment.

† Increase due to Basic Wage Inquiry.

Basic Wage— Prior to 1934, the basic wage for Victoria differed only slightly from that for Melbourne. In its judgment in **Outside Metropolitan Area.** 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 compiled 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,” 1914–1951.

Period.	Retail Price Index-Numbers Household Expenditure. “All Items.”	Year.	Retail Price Index-Numbers Household Expenditure. “All Items.”
November, 1914 ..	671	1939	924
November, 1921 ..	1003	1940	964
Years 1923–1927 ..	990	1941	1008
1929 ..	1017	1942	1100
1930 ..	956	1943	1139
1931 ..	846	1944	1135
1932 ..	813	1945	1135
1933 ..	789	1946	1149
1934 ..	801	1947	1188
1935 ..	824	1948	1294
1936 ..	844	1949	1415
1937 ..	868	1950	1565
1938 ..	896	1951	1880

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 1947 to 1950 are shown in the following table :—

VICTORIA—PROCLAIMED APPRENTICESHIP TRADES
1947 TO 1950.

Trade.	Number of Probationers and Apprentices Employed under Act on 30th June—			
	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Plumbing and Gasfitting ..	885	957	927	992
Carpentry and Joinery ..	1,037	1,209	1,286	1,521
Painting, Decorating, and Sign- writing	235	274	220	223
Plastering	31	25	18	17
Printing	1,063	986	869	860
Electrical	1,188	1,259	1,264	1,284
Motor Mechanics	713	761	778	942
Bootmaking	448	456	367	329
Moulding	178	155	116	87
Engineering	2,368	2,255	2,137	1,980
Fibrous Plastering	122	149	131	121
Boilermaking and/or Steel Con- struction	162	138	93	67
Sheet Metal	169	156	138	116
Bread Making and Baking ..	106	108	85	78
Pastrycooking	106	129	102	91
Butchering and/or Small Goods Making	438	428	355	312
Cooking	8	9	12	14
Hairdressing	983	894	832	746
Aircraft Mechanics	2	41	43	49
Bricklaying	10	22	25	31
Electroplating	1	11	14	19
Dental Mechanics .. .. .	..	3	9	19
Watchmaking .. .. .	..	..	8	14
Total	10,253	10,425	9,829	9,912

Since the inception of the Commission, 14,904 apprentices have completed their terms of apprenticeship.

The following table shows the trades or groups of trades which have been proclaimed together with the date and area of proclamation in respect of each trade :—

VICTORIA—APPRENTICESHIP TRADES PROCLAIMED.

Trade.	Area.	Date of Proclamation.
<i>Building Trades.</i>		
Plumbing and Gasfitting	Metropolitan	10.10.28
	Ballarat and Geelong	23.3.38
	Remainder of State	27.7.49
Carpentry and Joinery	Metropolitan	28.11.28
	Remainder of State	9.7.47
Painting, Decorating, and Signwriting	Metropolitan	28.11.28
Plastering	Metropolitan	28.11.28
Fibrous Plastering	Metropolitan	17.2.37
Bricklaying	Metropolitan	18.12.46
<i>Metal Trades.</i>		
Engineering	Metropolitan	1.4.36
	Geelong	25.6.41
	Remainder of State	7.11.45
Electrical Mechanic	Metropolitan	17.7.29
	Remainder of State	1.11.44
Electrical Fitter and Armature Winder	Metropolitan	17.7.29
	Remainder of State	12.5.48
Motor Mechanics	Metropolitan	5.3.30
	Remainder of State	30.3.49
Moulding	Metropolitan	13.1.32
Boilermaking	Metropolitan	1.12.37
Sheet Metal	Metropolitan	25.5.38
Electroplating	Metropolitan	7.5.47
Aircraft Mechanic	Whole State	16.10.46
<i>Food Trades.</i>		
Bread	Metropolitan	14.12.38
Pastrycooking	Metropolitan	14.12.38
Butchering	Metropolitan	11.10.39
Cooking	Metropolitan	8.5.40
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>		
Bootmaking Trades	Metropolitan	13.1.32
Printing and Allied Trades	Metropolitan	27.2.29
	Remainder of State	25.6.41
Hairdressing	Metropolitan	3.12.41
Dental Mechanic	Metropolitan	10.12.47
Watchmaking	Metropolitan	3.11.48

NOTES.—1. "Metropolitan District" is as defined by Proclamation under the Apprenticeship Acts. 2. Some Proclamations have been varied from time to time.

THE COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE.

The Commonwealth Employment Service was established under Section 47 of the Commonwealth Re-Establishment and Employment Act of 1945, and commenced operations on 1st May, 1946.

The principal function of the Commonwealth Employment Service is to provide a central agency whereby labour supply and resources, and the demand for labour are brought together. With this is combined a counselling function primarily intended to assist juveniles in their choice of a career, but which is available to all seeking assistance in obtaining the work to which they are best suited. This approach involves the careful matching of the attributes and experience of people seeking work to the requirements of particular jobs, and so not only assures the worker of the best possible placement, but ensures that employers will have offered to them workers who are the most suited amongst those available for the particular positions to be filled.

The counselling service is also aimed to aid employers proposing to establish or expand their enterprises in different localities by providing advice on the prospects of obtaining suitable labour.

Another major function of the Service is to provide data for the planning of national policies for full employment. For the discharge of this "full employment" function and the counselling function the Employment Service compiles detailed information on all aspects of the labour market and analyses trends in industries, occupations and localities. Section 48 of the Act sets out the functions in more detail, and refers to special provision which is made for the employment of physically handicapped persons, the re-establishment of ex-servicemen and the like. The Service is available to both employers and employees free of charge.

The Employment Service also has the responsibility for co-operating with the Commonwealth Department of Social Services in the administration of Unemployment and Sickness Benefits under the Social Services Consolidation Act of 1947. The Employment Service applies a "work test" to applicants for Unemployment Benefit to ensure that benefit is paid only to persons for whom no work of a nature they could reasonably be expected to accept is available.

The placement in employment of British and other Migrants arriving in Australia under Government schemes and of Displaced Persons from Europe, brought to Australia under agreement between the Commonwealth Government and the International Refugee Organization, is also a responsibility of the Commonwealth Employment Service.

The Service functions on a decentralized basis within the Employment Division of the Department of labour and National Service and is under the control of a Director of Employment in Melbourne with Regional Head Offices in each of the capital cities. In Victoria

there are 20 District Employment Offices in the metropolitan area and fifteen districts and four branch Employment Offices in country areas. There are also over 100 agents in country centres. They work in conjunction with the District Office responsible for the area in which they are located. Special Offices for dealing with particular types of labour, a Vocational Guidance Section and a Planning and Research Section, are located in the Victorian Regional Director's Office in Melbourne.

Particulars relating to the major activities of the Service during each of the four years ended 30th June, 1950, are given in the following table:—

Details.	1946-47.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.
Applications for employment* ..	110,861	77,560	77,622	103,601
Number placed in employment ..	53,205	47,887	50,434	74,189
Number of vacancies notified ..	110,410	122,218	134,626	121,847
Vacancies at 30th June ..	29,775	42,531	48,140	47,611

* Includes unemployed persons and persons already in employment who are seeking improved positions.

HOSPITALS AND CHARITIES ACT, 1948.

Hospitals and Charities Commission.

Prior to 1864, Public Hospitals in Victoria were very few, unorganized as a State service, of extremely limited scope and capacity and dependent for finance almost entirely on charitable contributions.

Legislation of 1864 brought in a small measure of State control in that it required all charities to be registered and provided certain rules for the election of Committees, but made no demands for improvement or reform in the service. From 1881 until 1923, centralized control of public hospitals was limited to the activities of a Government-appointed Inspector assisted by an Advisory Council of four other members. The inadequacy of this was apparently realized in 1890, when a Royal Commission on Charitable Institutions recommended "the appointment of a Central Board of Charity to allocate the Government grants to the various districts and have general control of all charities within the colony". This recommendation was not implemented until 1923, when the *Hospitals and Charities Act, 1922*, brought into being the The Charities Board of Victoria. The Board, which commenced to function on 1st July, 1923, consisted of fourteen honorary Members (increased to sixteen in 1939), the Secretary and Chief Executive Officer being the Inspector of Charities. From its inception until 1st July, 1944 (when the "Ministry of Health" Act was proclaimed), the Charities

Board of Victoria came under the Department of the State Treasurer but from that date the Minister of Health became the Governmental authority.

The Board had extensive responsibilities and powers of control over the activities of charities supported by and seeking the voluntary contributions of the public. To increase the usefulness of the Public Hospitals and as an aid in determining the relative amounts of Governmental subsidy to be paid, the Board classified them as Metropolitan and Country, the latter being graded into Base Hospitals (A and B Grades), District Hospitals and Cottage Hospitals. By a system of zoning and the establishment of an adequately equipped Base Hospital in each zone, much was done to improve Hospital facilities.

With the proclamation of the *Hospitals and Charities Act*, 1948, the Charities Board of Victoria ceased to exist and the Hospitals and Charities Commission became its successor. Consisting of three full-time Commissioners (and staff), it assumed office on 15th November, 1948 with an important programme of future development.

**Functions of
Hospitals and
Charities
Commission.**

The Commission's powers and responsibilities include the following :—

1. To recommend payment of Maintenance and Capital subsidies to registered Institutions and Benevolent Societies ;
2. To investigate for the Minister any matters relating to administration under the Act ;
3. To inspect subsidized Institutions and their management ;
4. To temporarily control and administer a Hospital in which the Committee of Management ceased to exist ;
5. To appropriately control the location, accommodation and bed allocation in Hospitals and other institutional building works.
6. To advise upon and approve the erection of new buildings and the alteration of existing ones ;
7. To determine (after consultation with the Nurses' Board) what Hospitals should be used for nurse training and the standards of nursing staff for Hospitals ;
8. To establish preliminary schools for nursing trainees ;
9. To classify Medical Staffs of Hospitals ;
10. To establish and maintain a bureau to assist the admission of patients to Hospitals ;

11. To promote—

- (a) Collective Buying of standard equipment, furnishings and supplies ;
- (b) Administrative Training Scheme ;
- (c) Post-graduate Training of Nurses.

Building. When completed, the Commission's building programme, including new Hospitals and Benevolent Homes and extensions to existing ones, will provide approximately an additional 2,800 beds, boiler houses, nurses' homes and special departments. The programme includes the development of Hospitals on a regional basis, the establishment of group laundries and central training schools for nurses. In addition to this, works to the extent of £15,000,000 are in course of planning and will be commenced progressively as circumstances permit.

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

- (1) Moneys appropriated by Parliament (now fixed under the *Hospitals and Charities (Fund) Act 1948*, at £800,000) ;
- (2) Special Appropriations by Parliament.

In the year 1949-50 the Government paid £2,391,891 into the Fund for allocation to registered Institutions and Societies. In addition, £807,432 was available from the Commonwealth Hospital Benefits Fund for distribution to Institutions.

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, matters such as the following 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.

**Hospitals and
Accommo-
dation.**

The growth of Public Hospital services throughout Victoria is indicated by the following table:—

**VICTORIA—POPULATION, NUMBER OF HOSPITALS, AND
NUMBER OF BEDS, 1836 TO 1950.**

Year.	Population (Estimated at 31st December).	Number of Hospitals (functioning).	Number of Beds (Including Private and Intermediate Sections).
1836	224	..	..
1840	10,291	1	20
1850	76,162	1	20
1862	551,338	19	1,037
1870	723,925	26	1,574
1880	858,605	34	2,202
1890	1,133,728	34	2,094
1900	1,196,213	42	2,470
1910	1,301,408	44	2,896
1920	1,527,909	53	3,774
1930	1,792,605	63	4,678
1940	1,914,918	64	7,122
1950	2,231,256	91	8,930

**Number of
Institutions
and Societies.**

At 30th June, 1950, the Commission had on its register 575 institutions and societies as under:—

Hospitals	107
Benevolent Homes and Hostels	40
Children's Homes	47
Foundling and Rescue Homes	19
Organizations for Welfare of Boys and Girls	65
Creches and Kindergartens	76
Bush Nursing Centres	16
Ambulance organizations	46
Relief organizations	109
Miscellaneous organizations	50
	<hr/>
	575

**The Citizen
Welfare
Service of
Victoria.**

Incorporated under the Hospitals and Charities Act, controlled and managed by a Committee elected by contributors each year at the Annual Meeting, maintained entirely by voluntary gifts and inheriting the experience and traditions of the Charity Organization of Melbourne, the Citizens Welfare Service, with the aid of a skilled staff, offers advice and practical help to troubled citizens.

The functions fulfilled by the Citizen Welfare Service are—

- (1) *A Service Relief Agency*, providing appropriate help (other than material aid) to families and individuals finding themselves in any sort of trouble or difficulty which may be eased or removed through experienced advice and friendly service.
- (2) *A Material Relief Agency*, providing material aid (cash or kind) for citizens whose needs cannot be met by any other statutory or voluntary agency.
- (3) *A Casework Agency*, whose skilled investigation and advisory services are available to contributors, to other welfare organizations, and to the community generally.
- (4) *A Citizens Advice Bureau* carried on as a centre of advice or guidance to citizens generally, irrespective of economic position.
- (5) *Student Training*, providing facilities for practical training of students from the University Social Studies Department and from the Presbyterian Deaconess' Training College.

Every client seeking the assistance of the C.W.S. is assured of complete privacy and confidence in his relationship with the agency.

Some of the circumstances which give rise to a need for a skilled casework service are—domestic difficulties which threaten family unity; problems of unmarried or expectant mothers; difficulties created by desertion or death of the bread-winner; financial anxieties arising from money-lending, cash-order, hire purchase, or other debts; problems arising from sickness or injury as, for instance, the need of artificial limbs, invalid chairs and other expensive surgical appliances; circumstances involving the transfer of families or individuals to the country, to other States, or overseas.

The following table shows Receipts and Expenditure, and the number of cases dealt with, during the five years ended on 30th June, 1950 :—

Details.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts	4,598	5,492	5,618	4,999	5,524
Expenditure	3,278	4,782	6,987	4,970	5,697
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Cases dealt with	736	662	872	791	710

PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC.

Information relating to receipts, expenditure, accommodation and inmates of public hospitals and charitable institutions (subsidized) in Victoria during the year ended 31st March, 1950, 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.

A detailed statement of the Receipts and Expenditure of institutions appearing under the heading of "Hospitals" below will be found on pages 565 and 566 of this issue :—

VICTORIA—PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC.—RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1950.

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.		£	£	£	£	£	£
Special† ..	9	1,108,137	9,210	73,763	384,768	1,575,878	1,702,110
General Hospitals—							
Metropolitan ..	8	1,245,977	46,950	84,704	307,401	1,685,032	1,899,692
Country ..	71	1,365,861	39,342	47,460	646,529	2,099,192	2,182,672
Auxiliary* ..	3	150,203	5,723	2,770	19,240	177,936	189,342
Fairfield Hospital (Fever division) ..	1	53,590	..	..	48,327	101,917	105,905
Convalescent Homes ..	1	4,384	1,525	..	1,572	7,481	5,778
Sanatoria ..	3	371,904	..	..	..	371,904	371,904
Mental Hospitals and Receiving Houses ..	12	1,499,046	..	..	12,199	1,511,245	1,511,245
Total ..	108	5,799,102	102,750	208,697	1,420,036	7,530,585	7,968,648
OTHER INSTITUTIONS AND SOCIETIES.							
Infants' Homes ..	6	30,757	3,383	..	16,850	50,990	88,561
Children's Homes ..	31	113,446	31,827	..	163,350	308,623	330,921
Maternity Homes ..	3	3,399	8,629	..	2,664	14,692	16,189
Rescue Homes ..	4	3,785	9,352	..	36,339	49,476	53,494
Benevolent Homes ..	9	347,149	70,670	..	53,216	471,035	468,841
Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Institutions ..	2	6,484	5,714	..	129,571	141,769	127,137
Benevolent Societies ..	36	3,450	..	..	6,570	10,020	10,880
Miscellaneous ..	..	261,246	..	..	360,623	621,869	593,233
Total ..	..	769,716	129,575	..	769,183	1,668,474	1,689,256
Grand Total..	..	6,568,818	232,325	208,697	2,189,219	9,199,059	9,657,904

* Includes General Division of Fairfield Hospital

† 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), Talbot Colony for Epileptics and Airlie (Maternity).

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

§ Includes £79,507 for Mental Defectives' Branch.

NOTE.—Receipts and Expenditure of Fairfield Hospital (fever division), Sanatoria and Mental Hospitals and Receiving Houses are for year ended 30th June, 1950.

VICTORIA—RECEIPTS OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS AND SANATORIA DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1950.

Institution.	Receipts.						
	Maintenance Receipts.				Capital Receipts.		Total Receipts.
	Government.	Contributions from In-patients and Out-patients.	Intermediate and Private Patients Section.	Other.	Government.	Other.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
METROPOLITAN.							
Special Hospitals—							
Airlie	6,387	..	11,122	409	..	654	18,572
Austin	195,514	270	16,425	24,033	79,005	51,333	366,580
Caritas Christi	5,000	3,173	..	4,035	..	..	12,208
Children's	156,920	15,426	..	159,595	28,440	9,000	360,381
Dental	13,000	26,369	..	2,240	724	..	42,333
Queen Victoria	226,464	14,524	32,422	18,370	69,229	9,933	370,942
Talbot Colony	9,700	63	..	4,653	..	..	14,416
Eye and Ear	43,221	15,892	..	13,350	420	5,535	78,418
Women's	224,835	7,256	..	26,329	49,278	4,330	312,028
Fairfield (Fever Division)*	53,590	..	..	48,327	..	..	101,917
General Hospitals—							
Royal Melbourne	409,484	40,029	2,761	56,233	..	2,493	511,000
Alfred	328,395	40,542	32,250	48,156	53,779	75	503,197
Prince Henry's	128,753	21,410	..	18,039	70,618	2,531	241,351
St. Vincent's	188,311	24,015	6,957	32,674	..	28,177	280,134
Williamstown	12,965	5,277	7,184	3,199	..	1,421	30,046
Dandenong	7,734	304	9,901	2,432	239	1,745	22,355
Oakleigh	2,032	77	5,423	351	510	705	9,098
St. George's	13,594	..	27,422	936	4,521	19	46,492
Box Hill† .. .. .	..	..	..	..	25,042	6,546	31,588
Brighton† .. .. .	..	..	..	..	§	§	§
Preston and Northcote†	..	..	..	..	..	4,193	4,193
Mordiallo† .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2,398	2,398
Sandringham† .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	3,180	3,180
Auxiliary Hospitals—							
After Care	30,645	4,047	..	13,575	150	787	49,204
Canfield Convalescent	55,345	3,954	..	4,019	10,708	..	74,026
Fairfield (General Division)	53,355	492	..	859	..	..	54,706
COUNTRY.							
Base Hospitals (12)	657,799	61,252	161,024	92,676	193,789	17,752	1,184,292
General Hospitals (59)	417,244	25,550	196,233	114,353	97,029	64,491	914,900
Total Hospitals..	3,240,287	309,922	509,124	679,843	683,481	217,298	5,639,955
Convalescent Homes	4,384	1,525	..	1,572	..	..	7,481
Santorias (Tuberculosis)*	222,198	..	..	..	149,706	..	371,904
Mental Hospitals and Receiving Houses*	1,224,233	..	..	12,199	274,813	..	1,511,245‡
Grand Total	4,691,102	311,447	509,124	693,614	1,108,000	217,298	7,530,585

* Year ended 30th June, 1950.

† Grants and contributions during 1949-50 towards the establishment of hospitals in these localities.

‡ Includes £79,507 for Mental Defectives' Branch.

§ Not available.

VICTORIA—EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS AND SANATORIA DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1950.

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—							
Airlie	10,081	7,966	18,047	..	18,047	1,733	19,780
Austin	135,364	94,358	229,722	..	229,722	95,471	325,193
Caritas Christi	10,815	8,059	18,874	..	18,874	..	18,874
Children's	183,285	104,153	287,438	77,180	364,618	70,835	435,453
Dental† .. .. .	..	..	..	46,781	46,781	1,031	47,812
Queen Victoria	168,997	101,446	270,443	34,370	304,813	94,824	399,637
Talbot Colony	10,547	7,887	18,434	..	18,434	..	18,434
Eye and Ear	31,217	18,038	49,255	25,265	74,520	40,120	114,640
Women's.. .. .	136,468	93,667	230,135	27,351	257,486	64,801	322,287
Fairfield (Fever Division)*	65,803	40,102	105,905	..	105,905	..	105,905
General Hospitals—							
Royal Melbourne	254,001	166,146	420,147	105,456	525,603	99,225	624,828
Alfred	217,050	164,127	381,177	102,335	483,512	55,461	538,973
Prince Henry's	71,619	51,463	123,082	35,264	158,346	175,358	333,704
St. Vincent's	113,154	81,012	194,166	51,951	246,117	11,320	257,437
Williamstown	14,063	10,615	24,678	1,407	26,085	727	26,812
Dandenong	12,556	8,071	20,627	35	20,662	799	21,461
Oakleigh	4,472	2,487	6,959	..	6,959	1,426	8,385
St. George's	29,599	11,840	41,439	..	41,439	4,521	45,960
Box Hill .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	42,132	42,132
Brighton .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Preston and Northcote .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mordialloc .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sandringham .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Auxiliary Hospitals—							
After Care	25,488	14,731	40,219	11,714	51,933	300	52,233
Caulfield Convalescent	45,937	26,745	72,682	..	72,682	6,900	79,582
Fairfield (General Division)	34,584	22,943	57,527	..	57,527	..	57,527
COUNTRY.							
Base Hospitals (12)	550,914	362,656	913,570	52,483	966,053	300,269	1,266,322
General Hospitals (59)	440,994	295,435	736,429	4,470	740,899	175,451	916,350
Total Hospitals..	2,567,008	1,693,947	4,260,955	576,062	4,837,017	1,242,704	6,079,721
Convalescent Hospitals Sanatoria (Tuberculosis)*	3,597	2,181	5,778	..	5,778	..	5,778
Mental Hospitals and Receiving Houses*	116,103	106,095	222,198	..	222,198	149,706	371,904
.. .. .	663,421	573,011	1,236,432	..	1,236,432	274,813	1,511,245†
Grand Total ..	3,350,129	2,375,234	5,725,363	576,062	6,301,425	1,667,223	7,968,648

* Year ended 30th June, 1950. † The Dental Hospital caters for out-patients only.

‡ Includes £79,507 for Mental Defectives' Branch.

**Income of
Charitable
Institutions.**

The receipts of hospitals and charitable institutions in the State under various headings for the year ended 31st March, 1950, are shown hereunder :—

**VICTORIA—SOURCES OF INCOME OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS,
CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC., 1949–50.**

Receipts.	Hospitals.		Infants' Homes.	Children's Homes.	Maternity and Rescue Homes.	Benevolent Homes.	Other Institutions.	Total.
	Public.	Convalescent, Mental,* and Sanatoria.*						
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Government Grants including Hospital Benefits Fund ..	3,923,768	1,875,334	21,880	50,950	5,712	347,149	271,180	6,495,973
Child Endowment ..	..	..	8,877	62,496	1,472	..	..	72,845
Municipal Grants and Contributions. ..	75,635	116	266	611	85	1,095	92,277	170,085
Annual Subscriptions	69,154	201	898	8,249	..	4,448	80,745	163,695
Proceeds of Entertainments ..	94,665	..	2,233	6,113	..	4,103	20,987	128,101
Collections, Donations, Legacies, and Bequests ..	427,356	394	7,077	90,304	4,368	27,867	59,795	617,161
Hospital Sunday and Lord Mayor's Fund	47,560	295	1,800	3,410	539	4,929	431	58,964
Contributions of In-patients of Inmates	101,225	1,525	3,383	31,827	17,981	70,670	5,714	232,325
Contributions from Outpatients ..	208,697	..	..	..	..	..	..	208,697
Proceeds of Inmates' Labour ..	..	..	..	26,207	33,524	..	20,079	79,810
Income from Investments ..	55,673	202	2,958	18,483	458	4,655	17,799	100,228
Fees from Intermediate and Private Patients ..	509,124	..	..	..	..	..	..	509,124
Other Sources ..	127,098	12,563	1,618	9,973	29	6,119	204,651	362,051
Total ..	5,639,955	1,890,630	50,990	308,623	64,168	471,035	773,658	9,199,059

* Year ended 30th June.

NOTE—Children's Welfare Department is not included in above table.

**Charitable
Institutions—
receipts and
expenditure.**

Information relating to the receipts and expenditure of charitable institutions during each year of the period 1946–50, is given in the following table. For the year ended 31st March, 1950, Government Grants and Child Endowment represented 71.41 per cent. of the total receipts; municipal grants and payments 1.85 per cent; contributions of in-patients, inmates, and out-patients

4.79 per cent. ; charitable contributions (subscriptions, entertainments, collections, Lord Mayor's Fund &c.) 10.52 per cent. ; and receipts from all other sources 11.43 per cent.

VICTORIA—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC., 1945-46 TO 1949-50.

Heading.	Year ended 30th June—			Nine Months ended 31st March.	Year ended 31st March.
	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Receipts.</i>					
Government Grants	2,608,268	2,710,731	3,133,037	3,884,988	6,495,973
Hospital Benefits Fund	247,632	592,259	576,864	*	*
Child Endowment	59,367	58,153	58,402	43,439	72,845
Municipal Grants and Contributions	152,612	133,592	154,823	139,219	170,085
Patients' and Inmates' Contributions	537,356	403,027	484,856	455,280	441,022
Annual Subscriptions	130,033	151,256	163,038	126,624	163,695
Entertainments, &c.	94,597	107,223	123,507	75,583	128,101
Collections, Donations, Legacies, and Bequests	554,460	662,287	655,404	372,781	617,161
Hospital Sunday and Lord Mayor's Fund	60,351	58,097	56,763	57,138	58,964
Income from Investments	73,414	80,926	97,498	77,081	100,228
Proceeds of Inmates' Labour	60,533	61,601	75,742	55,937	79,810
Intermediate and Private Section of Public Hospitals	318,393	382,198	415,823	325,955	509,124
Other Sources	549,178	621,616	715,072	280,842	362,051
Total Receipts	5,446,194	6,022,966	6,710,829	5,894,867	9,199,059
<i>Expenditure.</i>					
Maintenance (In-patients or In-mates)	3,995,408	4,700,435	5,400,241	4,933,236	6,987,860
Out-patients (Public Hospitals)	286,274	330,981	412,381	369,243	576,519
Extraordinary	58,261	116,163	54,103	49,477	95,777
Capital (Building etc.)	414,505	550,710	767,929	1,007,473	1,997,748
Total Expenditure	4,754,448	5,698,289	6,634,654	6,359,429	9,657,904

* Included in Government Grants.

NOTE.—Children's Welfare Department is not included in above table.

Accommodation and Inmates.

The next table shows the normal bed provision and the actual number of inmates maintained in institutions during the year ended 31st March, 1950.

VICTORIA—PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC., ACCOMMODATION AND INMATES, 1949-50.

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.	
Special Hospitals—						
Airlie ..	1	27	0.2	7	1,011	..
Austin ..	432	72	256.4	1,361	1,659	..
Caritas Christi Hospital ..	50	..	44.3	212	..	..
Children's ..	468	..	412.7	8,149	..	32,301
Dental ..	246	65	283.0	7,137	1,928	18,063
Queen Victoria ..	138	..	101.3	128	..	20,466
Talbot Colony for Epileptics ..	113	..	74.0	3,091	22	..
Eye and Ear ..	354	..	218.1	12,070	..	58,882
Fairfield (Fever Division)† ..	472	..	72.0	2,077	..	18,760
General Hospitals—						
Royal Melbourne ..	541	10	477.5	10,293	119	53,437
Alfred ..	405	100	392.3	7,674	2,367	51,020
Prince Henry's ..	209	..	181.1	4,154	42	19,587
St. Vincent's ..	291	26	283.7	4,729	411	40,380
Williamstown ..	38	22	26.9	630	616	2,476
Dandenong ..	17	35	10.7	244	935	213
Oakleigh ..	1	16	0.1	1	528	91
St. George's ..	621	84	..	1,662	..	..
Auxiliary Hospitals ..	..	..	460.0	9,384	..	4,044
Country Hospitals ..	2,955	1,593	1,681.8	35,469	38,198	85,023
Convalescent Homes ..	45	..	31.1	510	..	..
Sanatoria† ..	404	..	381.6	774	..	..
Mental Hospitals and Receiving Houses ‡ ..	6,762	..	6,433.0	8,804	..	..
Total Hospitals ..	14,563	2,050	11,827.8	116,898	49,498	404,743
	Number of Beds.		Daily Average.	Accommodated during Year.		
	For Children.	For Adults.		Children.	Adults.	
Infants' Homes ..	458	76	408.1	992	223	
Children's Homes ..	3,144	..	2,608.7	3,080	..	
Maternity Homes ..	86	101	112.2	661	681	
Rescue Homes ..	..	477*	421.5	..	570*	
Benevolent Homes ..	..	2,593	2,297.4	..	..	4,012
Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Institutions ..	168*	..	267.7	..	302*	

* Details not available.

† Year ended 30th June, 1950.

‡ Year ended 31st December, 1949.

HOSPITAL BENEFITS SCHEME.

Public Hospitals.

The genesis of the Hospital Benefits Scheme and the main heads of the agreement between the Commonwealth and the State 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, 1950, total payments by the Commonwealth to the State amounted to £1,495,348 of which £807,433 was on account of public wards. Since 1st July, 1948, the Hospital Benefits Rate was increased from 6s. to 8s. per day, the whole of which is paid to the public hospitals towards maintenance.

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 8s. per day (as from 1st November, 1948) to be allowed as a deduction from the hospital accounts of qualified patients in approved hospitals.

Payments made to private hospitals in Victoria under the scheme for the year ended 30th June, 1950, amounted to £461,156.

Further information in regard to the scheme appeared on pages 385 and 386 of the *Year-Book* 1946-47.

The following table shows the Hospital Benefit payments by the Commonwealth Government to the State on account of Victorian Hospitals:—

VICTORIA—HOSPITAL BENEFIT PAYMENTS, 1946 TO 1950.

Payments on Account of	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
	£	£	£	£	£
Public Hospitals—					
Public Beds ..	309,027*	654,396	641,643	863,186	807,433
Intermediate Beds ..	89,660*	191,486	185,165	196,648	226,759
Total ..	398,687*	845,882	826,808	1,059,834	1,034,192
Private Hospitals ..	91,664†	292,627	309,455	382,430	461,156
Grand Total	490,351	1,138,509	1,136,263	1,442,264	1,495,348

* For the six months ended 30th June, 1946.

† From 18th February to 30th June, 1946.

GENERAL HOSPITALS.

The principal general hospitals in the State are the Royal Melbourne, 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 31st March, 1950, is contained in tables on pages 565, 566, and 569 of this issue.

Cancer Institute. On 13th December, 1948, the Government approved of the *Cancer Institute Act*, 1948 (No. 5341). That Act provided for the establishment of a Cancer Institute governed by a Board on which is represented the general hospitals, Anti-Cancer Council of Victoria, and the University of Melbourne. This Board was appointed by the Executive Council on the 29th March, 1949. The Act also authorizes the Government to provide finance for capital works and maintenance for the Institute.

Fairfield Hospital. This institution, formerly known as The Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital, dates from 1904 when the first patient was admitted. Its early history and later development are recorded in the *Year-Book* 1937-38, page 259.

During the year 1947-48 legislation was enacted enabling the Hospital to treat general medical and surgical patients. At 30th June, 1950, 180 beds were available for patients in the General Division.

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.

The following table outlines important details relative to the finance and inmates of the Fairfield Hospital during the five years ended 30th June, 1950.

Details.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Receipts	£164,707	£110,886	£124,321	£141,262	£162,061
Expenditure	£151,446	£119,881	£117,300	£147,311	£172,760
Total cases treated ..	3,717	3,220	3,048	4,948	4,071
Admissions	3,479	2,964	2,810	4,767	3,845
Daily average of occupied beds	227	207	182	230	202
Deaths	65	36	35	57	46

BUSH NURSING CENTRES.

Bush Nursing. Bush nursing centres are distributed throughout the State in the rural areas. At 31st March, 1950 there were 74 centres (including 60 hospitals) employing approximately 189 trained nurses and 49 partly trained nurses. Hospital accommodation was provided for 591 patients, the admissions being 8,889 and out-patients 5,792 during the nine months ended 31st March, 1950.

Details of the receipts and expenditure of bush nursing centres for the year ended 30th June, 1949 and the nine months ended 31st March, 1950 are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—BUSH. NURSING CENTRES.

					Year ended 30th June.	Nine months ended 31st March.
					1949.	1950.
RECEIPTS.					£	£
Grants—						
Government .. .. .	..	..	..	..	92,538*	79,819*
Municipalities .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1,003	1,269
Donations .. .. .	..	..	..	..	14,491	14,861
Proceeds from entertainments .. .. .	..	..	..	..	6,536	9,951
Nursing fees .. .. .	..	..	..	..	97,063	88,318
Members' fees .. .. .	..	..	..	..	21,830	19,386
Interest and rent .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1,861	937
Proceeds from sale of medicine .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3,593	2,906
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2,181	4,618
Total receipts .. .. .	..	..	..	..	241,096	222,065
EXPENDITURE.						
Salaries—						
Nurses (paid to Central Council) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	79,325	67,905
Other .. .. .	..	..	..	..	50,870	50,062
Provisions, fuel, lighting .. .. .	..	..	..	..	42,347	42,220
Surgery and medicine .. .. .	..	..	..	..	7,289	7,090
Repairs and maintenance .. .. .	..	..	..	..	11,936	9,368
Furniture .. .. .	..	..	..	..	593	2,004
Printing, stationery, &c. .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2,821	2,502
Insurance, rent, bank charges .. .. .	..	..	..	..	4,332	4,097
Auditors Fees, Legal Expenses &c. .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1,288	1,208
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	..	..	..	4,928	4,994
Loans and interest repayments .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2,066	962
Land and buildings .. .. .	..	..	..	..	4,719	6,919
Alterations and Additions .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3,372	..
Equipment .. .. .	..	..	..	..	10,346	9,181
Total expenditure .. .. .	..	..	..	..	226,232	208,512

* Includes £41,697 received under the Hospital Benefits Scheme for 1949 and £39,417 for 1950.

**Red Cross
Society,
Victorian
Division.**

The Victorian Division of the Australian Red Cross Society is responsible for all Red Cross service and activities throughout the State of Victoria.

Under the Royal Charter, the Society's objects (in addition to specific war-time activities) are: "the improvement of health, the mitigation of suffering, and the prevention of disease".

A voluntary organization, sustained by public subscription, the Division's primary function in war-time is to provide supplementary service to sick or wounded service personnel, Prisoners-of-War and their dependants. Such services range from hospital services, the provision of convalescent homes, and various welfare services to assist the restoration of health and fitness of those suffering from their war service.

In peace-time the organization's responsibilities continue in caring for the welfare of ex-service personnel discharged medically unfit, and their dependants. In addition, under the terms of its Charter, the Society undertakes many community services such as the Blood Transfusion Service, handicrafts, hospital visiting and library services in civilian hospitals, transport for ex-service patients and civilian out-patients, the maintenance of four convalescent homes—"Stonnington" and "Rockingham" for repatriation patients, "The Lady Dugan Red Cross Home" for the wives and children of ex-servicemen, and "Welfare House" for children and young women who have had poliomyelitis or who are spastics.

Particular attention is being given to the problems of the permanently disabled ex-serviceman or woman with a view to the utmost rehabilitation possible in each case.

The governing body of the Division is the Council, which is constituted as follows:—The President (the wife of the State Governor); the Deputy-President (the wife of the Lieutenant-Governor); the wife of the Premier; a person nominated by the State Government; the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of the City of Melbourne; the principal medical officer for Victoria, R.A.N.; the principal medical officer for Victoria, Australian Army; the principal medical officer for

Victoria, R.A.A.F.; the senior medical officer for Victoria, Repatriation Commission; a representative of the R.S.&S.I.L.A.; forty-five other members of the Division elected at the Annual Meeting, and fifteen elected by the Divisional Council.

The following figures give some indication of the continuing nature and scope of the work :—

VICTORIA—RED CROSS SOCIETY, 1945-46 TO 1949-50.

Details.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Receipts £	437,352	..	..	..	..
Payments £	845,410	..	..	..	..
Income £	..	251,084	177,831	164,518	177,609
Expenditure £	..	348,726	302,840	231,688	235,941
Gross Expenditure over Income	£ ..	97,642	125,009	67,170	58,332
Accumulation Account .. £	..	1,026,415	928,919	870,053	832,432
Expenditure on—					
Blood Transfusion Service .. £	21,207	22,434	24,044	30,406	41,787
Convalescent Homes and Hostels* £	48,241	43,807	42,357	54,203	58,980
Handcraft and Curative Training £	19,281	15,357	15,905	14,080	13,953
Social Service and Welfare† £	14,307	23,052	23,817	20,815	15,003
Service and Repatriation Hospitals including Recreation Centres £	30,479	51,853	33,010	30,621	22,583
Civilian Hospitals and Civilian Relief £	4,990	8,585	14,347	5,734	8,166
Red Cross Branches (active) .. No.	605	503	453	432	280
Junior Red Cross Circles .. No.	57	69	72	54	84
Blood Donations No.	17,018	19,815	23,191	24,737	27,962
Blood Distributed pints	6,555	10,691	14,174	15,115	17,288
Serum Distributed litres	1,923	1,630	2,174	2,340	2,288
Volumes in Red Cross Libraries No.	10,592	12,750	26,534	34,286	33,858
Transport Mileage	476,726	308,604	276,955	233,673	223,167
Admissions to Convalescent Homes ..	3,903	1,968	1,895	2,082	2,354

* Excluding buildings.

† In relation to ex-service personnel.

TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIA AND BUREAUX.

Tuberculosis bureaux are operating in the metropolis and in provincial centres under the control of a State Director of Tuberculosis. A recent innovation has been the appointment of country travelling Tuberculosis nurses.

The following table shows the accommodation of, the number of admissions to, discharges from, and deaths of males and females in Sanatoria during the year ended 31st December, 1950:—

VICTORIA—TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIA—ACCOMMODATION, ETC.—YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1950:—

Sanatorium.	Accommodation.		Admissions.		Discharges.		Deaths.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Metropolitan—								
Greenvale .. ..	..	236	..	87	..	71	..	11
Gresswell	192	..	168	..	153	..	11	..
Heatherton .. ..	..	268	..	166	..	136	..	7
Austin	90	50	149	166	163	153	20	4
Mint Place Annexe ..	12	67	19	103	10	110	2	7
Royal Park—								
Dunstan Chalet ..	19	..	14	..	16	..	2	..
Eleanor Shaw Chalet..	..	12	..	17	..	15	..	5
Country—								
Bendigo	14	10	18	14	15	16	3	..
Ballarat Chalet ..	10	10	17	12	12	11	1	4
Hamilton Chalet ..	7	7	19	13	13	9	..	2
Horsham Chalet ..	7	7	7	9	6	6	1	..
Wangaratta Chalet ..	7	7	16	11	9	8	..	..
Mildura Chalet ..	7	7	11	9	10	3	3	..
Sale Chalet	20	20	22	18	14	12	2	2
Warrnambool Chalet ..	7	11	18	17	17	16	..	2
Mooroopna Chalet ..	15	14	6	10	8	11	2	..
Geelong Chalet ..	15	15	12	11	7	4	..	1
Total	422	741	496	663	453	581	47	45

In addition to the above, 450 Commonwealth Repatriation beds and 25 private sanatorium beds were available. The construction of a new 144-bed block at Greenvale is completed, and the two 72-bed blocks at Heatherton are ready for occupation. In addition, accommodation was provided during the year at Geelong, Mooroopna, and Warrnambool,

after negotiation with the local Hospital authorities. Construction of a new sanatorium for males at Watsonia, with accommodation for 400 beds, has been deferred.

A full-time Supervisor of Mass X-rays has been appointed and out of a total of 750,000 x-rayed in the State to 31st December, 1950, 650,000 have been x-rayed by the Mass Survey Division.

In recent years doctors in private practice have sent an increasing number of patients to the Bureaux for examination and report.

The following table illustrates some of the work at the Central and Branch Tuberculosis Bureaux during the year ended 31st December, 1950 :—

VICTORIA—TUBERCULOSIS BUREAUX ACTIVITIES, 1950.

Type of Service.	Metropolitan—		Country—
	Central.	Prahran.	Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong.
New cases applying	7,279	4,836	1,179
Re-attendances	27,320	1,193	4,874
Cases passed for entry to Sanatoria and other Institutions	454	27	89
Contacts—			
New—Examined	2,385	267	405
Old—Re-examined	7,731	377	1,941
Found Tuberculous	106	3	14
Infecting cases	582	433	290
Visits to Patients' Home by Nurses	10,792	142	2,065
X-ray Screen Examination—Films—			
Large	18,820	1,203	2,738
Films—Micro	7,000	..	..
Screens	3,391	..	301
A.P. Refills (Attendances) ..	1,989	..	483

The number of attendances of patients at the Central and Branch Bureaux during each of the years 1941 to 1950 is given in the following Table :—

VICTORIA—ATTENDANCES OF PATIENTS AT TUBERCULOSIS BUREAUX.

Period.	Bureau.					Total.
	Central.	Prahran.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Ballarat.	
Year ended 30th June—						
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	1,230	1,765	775	29,953
1947.. ..	27,389	1,694	1,495	1,613	836	33,027
1948.. ..	29,187	4,398	1,911	1,159	870	37,525
1949.. ..	30,603	7,403	2,164	1,299	767	42,236
Year ended 31st December—						
1950.. ..	34,599	6,029	3,340	1,096	1,617	46,681

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE.

The subjoined table sets forth the numbers under the care of the Department for the years 1949 and 1950 :—

VICTORIA—PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE, 31ST DECEMBER, 1949 AND 1950.

Location.	On 31st December—		Increase(+). Decrease (-).
	1949.	1950.	
In State Hospitals	6,247	6,401	+ 154
On Trial Leave from State Hospitals	699	828	+ 129
Boarded Out	257	243	- 14
In licensed Private Mental Homes	21	19	- 2
On Trial Leave from licensed Private Mental Homes	6	8	+ 2
Total Number of Certified Insane	7,230	7,499	+ 269
In Receiving Institutions	116	145	+ 29
Total	7,346	7,644	+ 298
Voluntary Boarders	286	261	- 25
Military mental cases, Bundoora (not included in other statistics)	293	303	+ 10

There was a net increase of 283 in the number of patients on the registers at the end of 1950, compared with 1949, made up of 269 certified insane, 29 in Receiving Institutions, 10 military mental cases, with a decrease of 25 in the number of voluntary boarders.

The number of certified insane in the State at the end of 1950 proportionately to the population was 1 in 298.

The number of admissions to Mental Hospitals of the Department for each of the years 1946 to 1950 was as follows:—

VICTORIA—MENTAL HOSPITALS—ADMISSIONS, 1946 TO 1950.

Year.	First Admissions.			Re-admissions.			Total Admissions.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
1946	354	386	740	63	48	111	851
1947	357	442	799	26	31	57	856
1948	416	490	906	21	25	46	952
1949	428	509	937	21	55	76	1,013
1950	547	583	1,130	30	43	73	1,203

The number of discharges from, and the deaths in, Mental Hospitals of the Department for each of the years 1946 to 1950 are given below:—

VICTORIA—MENTAL HOSPITALS—DISCHARGES AND DEATHS, 1946 TO 1950.

Year.	Discharges.			Deaths.			Total of Discharges and Deaths.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
1946	361	203	564	233	267	500	1,064
1947	181	202	383	214	235	449	832
1948	153	236	389	237	247	484	873
1949	213	250	463	230	222	452	915
1950	217	220	437	235	251	486	923

CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

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).

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

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

Wards of the Children's Welfare Department.

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.

To provide ex-institutional inmates and wards of the Children's Welfare Department with suitable accommodation and guidance until they reach the self-supporting stage, several institutions are now conducting hostels for boys and girls under the Government subsidy scheme agreed on in 1945. Under this plan the Children's Welfare Department subsidises each hostel to the extent of the difference between an inmate's contributions for board (i.e., the balance of his earnings after liberal deduction therefrom for pocket money, clothing reserve, &c.) and the ascertained average weekly cost per head over all hostels of maintaining an inmate. An initial outfit allowance of £15 for boys and £12 10s. for girls is granted and fares to work, school fees, &c., are also met by the State. Expenditure on renovations and additions to premises is shared by the Government on the basis of a £2 for £1 grant.

The following hostels are at present operating under the plan.—

Name of Hostel.	Location.	Sex.	Management.
Lyndon Lodge	Auburn	Boys	Salvation Army
The Pawns	Hawthorn	Boys	Burwood Boys' Home
St. Vincent de Paul's	South Melbourne	Boys	St. Vincent de Paul's Boys' Orphanage
Ballarat Orphanage	Ballarat	Boys	Ballarat Orphanage
Y.C.W.	Albert Park	Boys	Young Christian Workers Association
Padua Hall	Kew	Boys	Franciscan Fathers
Church of England Girls'	Brighton	Girls	Church of England Girls' Home
McAuley House	South Melbourne	Girls	St. Vincent de Paul's Girls' Orphanage
St. Martin's House	Canterbury	Boys	St. John's Home for Boys
Homecrafts	East Melbourne	Girls	Mission of St. James and St. John

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, 1946-1950.

**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 Govern- ment Sub- sidized Hostels.	In Other Institu- tions.	Total.
1946 ..	664	1,264	262	121	86	1,622	4,019
1947 ..	570	1,199	261	163	68	1,379	3,640
1948 ..	506	1,115	257	192	86	1,392	3,548
1949 ..	465	1,102	208	162	82	1,429	3,448
1950 ..	457	788	210	131	95	1,565	3,246

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 1946-50.

**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.
1946 ..	..	101	27	2	12	142
1947 ..	..	62	61	3	11	137
1948 ..	..	76	36	2	10	124
1949 ..	4	70	47	1	10	132
1950 ..	2	71	60	4	5	142

Infant Life Protection. 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, 1950 :—

Children already placed at 1st January, 1950	..	..	323
Children placed during year	..	..	510
Total			833
Discharged from operations of Part II. during year—			
Custody resumed by parent	..	..	354
Made wards through arrears	..	..	51
Deaths	..	..	1
Attained five years of age	..	..	45
Adopted	..	..	59
Under supervision at 31st December, 1950			323

Assistance for Children. 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 child's maintenance. "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 1946 to 1950, 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, 1946-1950.

Year.			Number of Children Assisted.	Total Amount of Assistance Payments.	Average Payment per Child per Week.
				£	s. d.
1946	..	..	2,887	75,066	10 1
1947	..	..	2,858	80,376	10 5
1948	..	..	2,670	76,026	10 5
1949	..	..	2,403	68,394	10 10
1950	..	..	2,119	62,457	10 9

CHILD MIGRATION.

In implementation of the migration policy of the Commonwealth and State Governments, the Commonwealth Government in 1946 passed the Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Act which lays down the procedure to be adopted with respect to migrant children. The Act defines an immigrant child as any person under the age of 21 years who enters Australia unaccompanied by a relative and not for the purpose of living with a relative. Legal guardianship of such children is vested in the Minister for Immigration, who may delegate his powers under the Act to a State Authority. Insofar as concerns immigrant children received into Victoria, such delegation has been conferred on the Secretary of the Children's Welfare Department.

To further develop the flow of immigrant children to Australia, the Act referred to authorizes the Minister for Immigration to approve of organizations who are willing to act as custodians of such children. The intention is that organizations so approved will recruit suitable children in the United Kingdom and be responsible, under the supervision of the Minister and the State authority, for their accommodation, care, education and training. To avoid the utilization by migrant children of accommodation already established for Australian children, the State and Commonwealth Governments have each agreed to contribute to approved organizations one-third of the capital cost of the additional premises essential for United Kingdom children. In addition, an approved organization will receive the following *per capita* grants for the maintenance of migrant children :—

United Kingdom Government	5s. per week (sterling).
Commonwealth Government	10s. per week (Child Endowment).
State Government	.. 3s. 6d. per week.

The United Kingdom and State Government contributions are payable to age 14 years, or to any higher age not exceeding 16 years provided the children are still in the care of the organization and at school.

The following have applied to become approved organizations to receive child migrants :—

Northcote Training Farm, Bacchus Marsh.

Nazareth House, Camberwell.

Presbyterian Social Service Committee, "Durringhile", Tatura.

Methodist Homes for Children, Cheltenham.

St. John's Home for Boys, Canterbury.

All except Nazareth House, Camberwell, whose premises are not completed, are now in active operation.

The financial operations of the Children's Welfare Department for the years ended 31st December, 1949 and 1950, are shown hereunder :—

VICTORIA—CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT—					FINANCIAL OPERATIONS, YEARS ENDED 31st	
DECEMBER, 1949 AND 1950.						
EXPENDITURE.					1949.	1950.
					£	£
Children's Welfare Department—						
Boarded-out children	..	..	..	..	56,667	56,735
Royal Park Depot	..	..	..	..	52,201	64,932
Subsidies to Hostels	..	..	..	..	5,198	4,479
Service Outfits	..	..	..	..	3,452	3,338
Department for Reformatory Schools	..	..	..	..	*7,831	*4,200
Maintenance Act—						
Children	..	..	..	..	68,281	62,458
Widows	..	..	..	..	..	..
Migrant Children—						
Payments to Approved Organizations	..	..	..	..	324	644
General Maintenance Items						
(Medical attention, School requisites, &c.)	..	..	..	..	6,066	6,108
Administration	..	..	..	..	31,310	35,206
Gross Expenditure	..	..	..	..	231,330	238,100
RECEIPTS.						
Maintenance Collections	..	..	..	..	19,170	19,125
Child Endowment	..	..	..	..	4,207	4,330
Miscellaneous Receipts	..	..	..	..	433	747
Net Expenditure	..	..	..	..	207,520	213,898

* Includes special grants—£4,768—to Bayswater and Morning Star reformatory schools, in 1949, and £1,061 to Morning Star in 1950.

THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.

The Society, dating back to 1896, is the only welfare agency in Victoria which exists specifically for the purpose of befriending children who are suffering from ill-treatment or gross neglect of their parents or guardians.

The objects of the Society are—

- (1) to protect children from cruelty and neglect;
- (2) to assist in the enforcing of laws for the protection of neglected and ill-treated children;
- (3) to befriend any child who, for any reason, stands in need of friendly service.

The methods adopted by the S.P.C.C. are—

- (1) cases of suspected ill-treatment or neglect of children are promptly investigated by experienced and sympathetic officers;
- (2) subsequent action is designed to secure the welfare of the children concerned. Prosecution of parents is a last resort. Every effort is made to hold families together. Constant inspectorial visitation achieves splendid results in many homes;
- (3) All complaints are treated with strict confidence.

The Society brightens the homes of many children in ways such as these—(1) Improving home environment; (2) Rebuilding broken homes; (3) Securing maintenance from defaulting parents; (4) Removal of children where necessary to better homes; (5) Arranging adoptions, and (6) Preventing child exploitation.

Approximately 500 cases dealt with annually in each of the past ten years furnish the following classification:—Neglect alleged 60 per cent. (61); Cruelty alleged 9 per cent. (6); Behaviour problems 17 per cent. (12); Miscellaneous cases involving the welfare of children 14 per cent. (21). The corresponding percentages for the 590 cases dealt with in the year ended 30th June, 1950, appear in brackets.

The following table shows the Receipts, Expenditure, and number of cases dealt with during the five years ended 30th June, 1950:—

Details.				1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
				£	£	£	£	£
Receipts	..	..	..	1,386	1,267	6,396*	3,189	3,579
Expenditure	..	..	..	1,197	1,530	1,514	1,640	1,944
				No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Cases investigated	..	..		462	460	488	602	590

* Due to a large bequest.

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. They are staffed by specially qualified Sisters.

On the 31st December 1950, there were 187 municipalities maintaining 443 centres, 124 of which were in the metropolitan area. During the twelve months prior to that date, 102,254 individual infants attended the centres. A service is now being provided for Migrant Hostels and Camps in the Metropolitan and rural areas.

Eight new vans have been provided for mobile services so that with the Victorian Baby Health Centres Association Travelling Baby Health Centre in the Mallee, a mobile service is provided for nine sparsely populated areas. An additional service for mothers in the "outback" is provided by the Department's Correspondence Scheme with its enrolments during the past year of 95 expectant mothers and 1,617 new babies.

Ante Natal. Ante Natal medical supervision centres, subsidized by the Government, were established in 1945, and now operate in fourteen municipalities. During the year ended 31st December, 1950, 3,967 individual expectant mothers paid 16,964 visits to these centres. Advice on pre-natal hygiene is also available in all Infant Welfare Centres.

Pre-School. At the 31st December, 1950, 142 Free Kindergartens, with an enrolment of approximately 6,000 children of pre-school age, were in receipt of subsidies from the Department of Health. In addition to £52,011 paid to individual kindergartens, the Kindergartens Training College received a grant of £4,000. This College provides accommodation for 180 students.

Pre-School Play Centres are now subsidized by the Government and function under the supervision of the Department of Health. Thirty-one of these centres had been established by 31st December, 1950.

Creches. There are twelve creches and three 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. The total attendances for the year ended 31st December, 1950, were 90,642.

Emergency Housekeeper Service. An Emergency Housekeeper Service is subsidized through the Department of Health. Where a municipality sets up this service, four fifths of the net cost is met by the Government and an allowance of £50 per annum is given for the administrative costs.

Capital Grants. Capital grants are available for Infant Welfare and Pre-School buildings on a £2 for £1 basis with a maximum grant of £2,250. Where a combined centre is erected a separate grant is given for each service.

Particulars of Infant Welfare Centres for the five years 1946-1950, are given in the following table :—

VICTORIA—INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

	Year Ended 30th June—				Year Ended 31st December.
	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Municipalities	170	175	179	181	187
Centres	316	340	366	393	443
Nurses in centres ..	167	179	185	193	205
Home visits	82,460	88,904	87,446	93,093	91,969
Total individual children ..	82,588	94,459	93,773	97,116	102,254
Total attendances ..	833,248	949,753	989,490	962,223	1,005,996

Infant Welfare and Mothercraft Nurses. 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 Infant Welfare nurses only.

Since the inauguration of the Department of Health Mothercraft Nurses' examinations in 1930, 1,560 trainees had satisfactorily passed to the end of December, 1950. The number of Mothercraft nurses who passed the examination during the year ended 31st December, 1950, was 112.

During the year 1950, eight Mothercraft nurses received Department of Health certificates for pre-school Mothercraft nursing. Ninety-four nurses have received certificates since the course was inaugurated in 1942.

There were 1,399 Infant Welfare nurses registered with the Nurses' Board in Victoria at 31st December, 1950.

SCHOOL MEDICAL AND DENTAL SERVICES.**School
Medical
Services.**

Medical inspection of school children was established in 1909, one of the objectives being to examine medically each child in the State, three times during its school life.

At the routine inspection each child is weighed and measured, eyesight and hearing tested, and defects of teeth, throat, skin and posture noted. The child is questioned, advised *re* general hygiene, cleanliness, &c., and is then undressed and examined as for life assurance. A school nurse assists each medical officer at the examination and is also responsible for the sending of defect notices to the parent. In many cases she also interviews the mother either at the school or in the home, thus acting as liaison between medical officer, parent and teacher. School nurses also visit metropolitan schools at regular intervals to examine for pediculosis, cleanliness and infectious skin conditions.

Special classes or schools are provided by the Education Department for physically and mentally handicapped children, such as the partially sighted, partially deaf (in process of building), under-nourished, those with minor postural defects, speech handicaps, mentally retarded, &c. Children attending these classes are referred by the School Medical Officers and kept under regular medical supervision during their school career. Many children are given special appointments on account of behaviour problems, truancy, &c. These cases are also investigated by a school nurse and, if necessary, sent on to the appropriate psychiatric clinic.

Visits to State Schools within the metropolitan area are maintained regularly. Extension of the service to children attending Roman Catholic primary schools in metropolitan districts and country areas as medical staff became available was agreed upon in April, 1950, and these schools are now included in the regular itineraries.

Country schools are gradually being included in regular inspection. A part-time medical officer for the provincial centre of Hamilton took up duty in August, 1949, and two others, for Bendigo and Shepparton districts respectively, in February, 1951. An increase in the full-time medical staff has enabled us to visit schools in the Glenelg Region in the far south-west of the State and in East Gippsland. Additional school nurses have also been appointed, and schools in the provincial cities, Bendigo, Ballarat, Geelong and Mildura are now visited in addition to all metropolitan schools.

School Dental Service. A limited number of metropolitan (industrial areas) and rural schools are covered by the School Dental Service, but, owing to difficulties in obtaining staff, it has not been possible to maintain the desired policy of providing dental treatment at regular yearly intervals with initial treatment at a maximum age of eight years. Children are transported from school to and from the Dental Centre by bus (under contract to the Department of Health). A medical officer has been appointed as part-time anaesthetist, part-time school medical officer. A building has been purchased at 448 St. Kilda-road, to which the Dental Centre was transferred in January, 1951.

The number of children and teachers medically examined and given dental treatment and the cost thereof for the years 1948-1950 are shown in the following table:—

SCHOOL MEDICAL AND DENTAL SERVICES,

	Year Ended 30th June—		
	1948.	1949.	1950.
Number of children examined by medical officers	17,526	17,007	28,621
Number of children examined by school nurses ..	75,559	82,993	82,828
Number of teachers examined by medical officers	2,457	2,767	3,558
Number of children given dental treatment ..	13,282	13,001	16,539
Expenditure on medical and dental services ..	£22,244	£26,084	£36,025

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 £2,269,938 have been received, and the collections for the Hospital Sunday Fund have amounted to £396,054.

The total annual receipts of the two funds during the period 1940-41 to 1949-50 were as follows:—

Year ended 30th June—				Lord Mayor's Fund.	Hospital Sunday Fund.	Total.
				£	£	£
1941	..	..	..	61,413	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	..	..	..	111,716	22,910	135,626
1947	..	..	..	111,181	22,605	134,786
1948	..	..	..	110,298	21,291	131,589
1949	..	..	..	101,763	24,468	128,231
1950	..	..	..	141,354	23,091	171,445

**Food for
Britain
Appeal.**

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 December, 1950.

		Value of Foodstuffs Shipped.	Value of Clothing Shipped.	Total.
		£	£	£
Lord Mayor's Food for Britain Appeal	..	500,127	..	500,127
Australian Red Cross Society (Victorian Division) British Relief Appeal	.. ..	416,201	72,173	488,374
Victorian State Government (in addition to grant of £20,000 to the Lord Mayor's Appeal)		50,000	..	50,000
Total	.. ..	966,328	72,173	1,038,501

**St. John
Ambulance
Association.**

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, 1950, 4,551 students were instructed in first aid and nursing and of these 3,386 received certificates. Since the formation of the Victorian Centre of the Association in 1883, 154,506 persons have received awards. The Association medallion has been awarded to 14,281 students.

The following table shows various particulars relating to the Association's activities during the five years ended 30th September, 1950 :—

Details.				1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
				£	£	£	£	£
Receipts	..	..	..	1,631	1,900	2,344	3,636	5,651
Expenditure	..	..	..	1,656	1,812	1,847	4,002	5,271
Students Instructed	..	..	..	No. 2,249	No. 2,014	No. 2,584	No. 3,283	No. 4,551
Certificates Issued	..	..	..	1,547	1,433	1,788	2,318	3,386

The St. John Ambulance Association established the first ambulance transport service in the State of Victoria in the year 1886, and continued to operate it until the year 1916. The Council of St. John Ambulance Association then decided that much better results could be obtained if they separated the main object "That of teaching First Aid to the Injured" from the transport of sick or injured persons. They, therefore, formed a Company with its title "Victorian Civil Ambulance Service". This Company was registered under the "Companies Acts" as a Company "Not for Profit". This action completely separated the control, finance and operation of the transport service from the St. John Ambulance Association.

The Victorian Civil Ambulance Service Council applied to the State Government for a subsidy, and when this was granted they then became responsible to the Charities Board of Victoria for the conduct of the Service.

This Company's registration continued until the year 1936, when at the request of the Charities Board of Victoria, the Service, without suspending operations, went into voluntary liquidation and by order of the Governor in Council became an incorporated body under the Hospital and Charities Act.

The objects of the Society as outlined in the Constitution are:—

- (a) To organize, conduct and control the work of rendering First Aid to, and the transport of, sick and injured persons within the State of Victoria, and to assist other persons, societies and institutions engaged in the same or similar work, and in particular the St. John Ambulance Association (Victoria Centre) and the St. John Ambulance Brigade (Victoria District.)
- (b) To establish, conduct and control ambulance centres and/or divisions or branches of the Society's service in any part of the State of Victoria.

The Society is managed by an Honorary Committee and Honorary Officers. This Committee is representative of the contributors:— St. John Ambulance Association and Brigade; Victorian Civil Ambulance Service (Country Division); Melbourne City Council; and Metropolitan Municipalities.

The registered Office and Headquarters is at 217 Lonsdale-street, Melbourne, from which point, all ambulance calls are dealt with. Sub-stations are situated in East Prahran, Mordialloc, Footscray, and Canterbury. The thirty-three ambulances attached to the Metropolitan Division are fitted with single-way wireless, thus greatly increasing the efficiency of the Service.

The Country Division of the Ambulance Service was established in the year 1923, by the opening of Country Branches at Yarram, Beechworth and Yarra Junction. Funds for this purpose were made available from the "Edward Wilson Trust". As further grants were made available from the same source, more branches were opened and during the year ended 31st March, 1950, forty-eight branches, possessing fifty-two ambulances, operated throughout the State.

The locations of the Country Branches are shown hereunder:—

Alexandra	Goroke	Orbost
Apollo Bay	Heyfield	Robinvale
Ararat	Horsham	Rushworth
Ballarat (2 cars)	Kerang	Sale
Beechworth	Korumburra	Shepparton
Benalla	Kyabram	Stawell
Bendigo (2 cars)	Lakes Entrance	Swan Hill
Bright	Leongatha	Tallangatta
Castlemaine	Lorne	Terang
Chelsea	Maffra	Wangaratta (2 cars)
Cobram	Mansfield	Warracknabeal
Daylesford	Mildura (2 cars)	Warragul
Echuca	Mornington	Warrnambool (2 cars)
Erica	Nhill	Woodend
Euroa	Noojee	Wood's Point
Flinders	Omeo	Yarram

The following table furnishes information relating to the activities of the Victorian Civil Ambulance Service from 1st July, 1945, to 31st March, 1950 :—

VICTORIAN CIVIL AMBULANCE SERVICE.

Details.	1945-46.	1946-47.	1947-48.	1948-49.*	1949-50.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Metropolitan—					
Stations	4	4	4	5	5
Officers	47	50	59	70	90
Ambulances	19	21	21	21	33
Calls	29,897	32,977	36,544	29,492	51,044
Accidents attended	6,112	6,834	7,295	5,947	9,787
Mileage	339,019	362,557	416,443	305,731	552,739
Patients conveyed without payment	5,329	8,260	10,109	9,624	18,380
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts†	26,634	28,339	33,446	33,862	61,030
Government Grant	1,500	1,500	1,500	2,125	2,625
Expenditure	27,909	28,279	37,309	35,950	66,170
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Country—					
Stations	26	33	34	44	48
Ambulances	28	35	36	49	52
Calls	†	†	5,805	4,677	5,199
Mileage	†	†	134,347	132,532	168,304

* For nine months ended 31st March, 1949.

† Includes Government Grant.

‡ Not Available.

**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, 1950, 88 applications for awards were investigated, with the result that 42 certificates of merit, 36 bronze medals, and 5 silver medals were granted.

**Royal Life
Saving
Society.**

With the object of minimizing the 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 31st May, 1950, the number of awards granted by the Victorian Head Centre was 6,357; the total income was £2,918 and the expenditure £2,688.

**Society for
the Protection
of Animals.**

The objects of this society are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 589. During the year ended 30th June, 1950, 1,759 cases were dealt with, of which 401 were connected with cruelty to horses and 761 to dogs. There were 15 prosecutions in cases of deliberate cruelty, and fines were imposed in 12 instances. The receipts for the year ended 30th June, 1950, amounted to £7,723 and the expenditure to £10,980.

COMMONWEALTH SOCIAL SERVICES.

The Social Services Consolidation Act (No. 26 of 1947) which came into operation on 1st July, 1947, and which has since been amended by Nos. 38 and 69 of 1948, No. 16 of 1949, and No. 6 of 1950, 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 are made under the *National Welfare Fund Act 1945*. Total expenditure in Victoria on payment of benefits provided under the Social Services Consolidation Act for the year ended 30th June, 1950, was £20,813,602.

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 £3 12s. 6d. per week or more (blind persons £8 per week), or £7 5s. per week for a married couple (£10 2s. 6d. per week where both husband and wife are blind). See "Effect of Income" below as to income disregarded.
- (d) Any person who owns property, including cash or money in bank, to the value of more than £750 (£1,500 for married persons). The value of a home, furniture and personal effects is disregarded, also surrender values of life assurance policies up to £200, the capital value of any contingent interest, the present value (up to £500) of any reversionary interests, 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, is not deserving of a pension, 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.—£110 10s. per annum (£2 2s. 6d. per week).

**Effect of
Income.**

Permissible income is £78 per annum (£1 10s. 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 £305 10s. per annum (£5 17s. 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 £305 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 a dependent child under 16 years of age additional other income of an amount of £26 per annum, less the amount of any payment received for or in respect of the child, is allowed.

Effect of Property. The annual rate of pension is reduced by £1 for every complete £10 of the net value of property (excluding the home, &c.) above £100 up to £450, 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 or otherwise for not less than twenty years.

Persons Disqualified.—

- (a) The same as in paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (d) for age pensions.
- (b) Any person under 21 years of age who is adequately maintained by his parents.
- (c) A person who is not deserving of a pension.
- (d) A person who has an enforceable claim against any person under any law or contract, for adequate compensation in respect of his permanent incapacity or blindness.

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 £62 8s. per annum (£1 4s. 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 £23 8s. per annum (9s. per week) in respect of one child under the age of sixteen years 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 has the custody, care and control of the child and is not receiving a service pension. This allowance may be granted where the wife is ineligible on account of income or property for a wife's allowance.

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.

Rehabilitation of Invalid Pensioners. Invalid pensioners are eligible for treatment and vocational training at the Commonwealth's expense to enable them to learn some craft or occupation which may be the means of rendering them self-supporting.

During treatment, payment of pension continues but when vocational training commences pension is suspended and a rehabilitation allowance paid. Should the training or treatment be unsuccessful the pensioner's right to the invalid pension is not prejudiced.

Reciprocity with New Zealand. A reciprocal scheme exists between the Commonwealth and New Zealand with regard to age, invalid, and widows' pensions, child endowment and unemployment and sickness benefits, covering both permanent and temporary change of residence.

Residence in one country counts as residence in the other in relation to entitlement to benefits in which a residential qualification applies.

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 a 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, 1950, was 7,370, the total cost being £71,397.

**Pensioners,
1940-41 to
1949-50.**

The numbers of age and invalid pensioners in Victoria on 30th June, 1950, were as follows:—Age pensioners—men, 26,533; women, 58,298; total, 84,831. Invalid pensioners—men, 7,550; women, 6,778; total, 14,328.

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, 1950, are shown in the following statement:—

**VICTORIA—AGE AND INVALID PENSIONERS,
1940-41 TO 1949-50.**

Year Ended 30th June—				Number of Pensioners at End of Period.			Actual Amount Paid in Pensions.*
				Age.	Invalid.	Total.	
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
1948	..	..	..	78,057	15,165	93,222	9,144,961
1949	..	..	..	81,753	15,575	97,328	10,244,132
1950	..	..	..	84,831	14,328	99,159	10,783,587

* Includes payments to Benevolent Asylums and Hospitals for maintenance of pensioners, and to pensioner inmates of these institutions and from 1943-44 includes allowances to wives of invalid pensioners.

WIDOWS' PENSIONS.

Eligibility and rates of pension.

Persons Eligible—A widow's pension is payable to a woman 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. Maximum pension £2 7s. 6d. per week.

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. Maximum pension £1 17s. per week.

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. Maximum pension £2 2s. 6d. per week (payable for not more than 26 weeks immediately after death of 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. Maximum pension £1 17s. per week.

The term "widow" includes, in appropriate cases, a deserted wife, a divorcee, a woman whose husband is an inmate of a hospital for the insane, and certain dependent females under conditions specified by the Act.

No woman may receive at the same time both a widow's pension and an age pension or an invalid pension.

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 similar to those for age pensions.

Persons Disqualified.—In addition to disqualifications arising from certain income and property, the following persons are also 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 or deserving of a pension.

The number of widow pensioners and the amount expended as at 30th June, for each year during the eight years ended 30th June, 1950, are shown in the following statement :—

VICTORIA—WIDOWS' PENSIONS, 1942-43 TO 1949-50.

Year Ended 30th June—	Number of Widow Pensioners.	Amount Paid in Pensions.
		£
1943	10,710	602,957
1944	11,967	787,034
1945	12,614	799,652
1946	12,748	899,747
1947	12,311	941,734
1948	11,259	1,022,432
1949	11,164	1,120,589
1950	11,060	1,099,158

MATERNITY ALLOWANCES.

Persons Eligible.

A maternity allowance is payable to a woman who, at the date of giving birth to a child, is residing in Australia, or is in Australia and satisfies the Director-General of Social Services that she intends to remain 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 has not received and is not entitled to receive a maternity benefit in respect of the birth under the law of any other country.

Payment may be made in respect of the birth of a stillborn child, or a child which lived for less than twelve hours, if the period of intra-uterine life of the child was not less than 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 at the end of that twelve months, unless the Director-General is satisfied that the woman is likely to remain in Australia, in which case it may be paid immediately.

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.

An extra £5 is paid for each additional child in multiple births.

An advance payment of £5 on account of a maternity allowance may be made, upon application, four weeks prior to the expected date of the birth. The balance is payable immediately after the birth.

Details of allowances granted during the nine years ended 30th June, 1950, are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—MATERNITY ALLOWANCES GRANTED, 1941-42
TO 1949-50.

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
1948	46,027	744,232	1,098,071	7,762,098
1949	46,309	732,621	1,144,380	8,494,719
1950	49,035	777,920	1,193,415	9,272,639

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.

The Commonwealth Government commenced to pay child endowment in July, 1941, at the rate of 5s. per week for each dependent child in excess of one under the age of 16 years in each family. From 26th June, 1945, the weekly amount was increased to 7s. 6d., and, from 9th November, 1948, to 10s. Amending legislative passed in June, 1950, provided endowment for the first child under 16 years of age at the rate of 5s. per week from 20th June, 1950. The rate for each additional child under that age is 10s. per week. Endowment of 10s. per week is paid in respect of all children under 16 years of age in approved institutions. The total amount paid in Victoria for the year ended 30th June, 1950, was £7,663,336.

VICTORIA—CHILD ENDOWMENT.

AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1949 AND 1950.

Rate per Endowment Period (Four Weeks).	Number of Claims.	
	1949.	1950.
£1 (one child family) .. .. .	..	..
£3 (two child family)	92,135	99,054
£5 (three child family)	39,734	42,600
£7 (four child family)	15,754	16,810
£9 (five child family)	5,996	6,330
£11 (six child family)	2,307	2,377
£13 (seven child family)	1,000	1,009
£15 (eight child family)	449	458
£17 (nine child family)	149	160
£19 (ten child family)	70	77
£21 (eleven child family)	21	16
£23 (twelve child family)	8	11
£25 (thirteen child family)	1	1
£27 (fourteen child family)	1	..
£29 (fifteen child family) .. .. .	..	1
Total claims current	157,625	168,904
Number of endowed children	265,672	452,333
Average number of endowed children per claim	1.69	2.68
Average liability per claim	£ s. d. 43 16 5	£ s. d. 56 12 7

NOTE.—Figures in the above table exclude endowment in respect of children in institutions who numbered 4,517 and 4,422 in 1949 and 1950 respectively.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS.

Particulars of these benefits and the conditions under which they are obtainable appear on pages 415 to 417 of the 1946-47 *Year-Book*.

The following table gives particulars of claims, amounts paid, &c., during the year ended 30th June, 1950 :—

VICTORIA—UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS
DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1950.

	Claims Granted.	Benefits Paid.
Unemployment	1,037	£ 6,667
Sickness	15,120	217,782
Special	21,642	141,277
Total	37,799	365,726

REPATRIATION.

An outline of the activities leading up to the formation of the Commonwealth Repatriation Commission appears in Commonwealth *Year-Books* Nos. 15 page 931 and 17 page 598. The main activities of the Commission in 1949-50 were confined to the grant, review and assessment of war and service pensions, the provision of medical treatment, payment of re-employment allowances, vocational training, renewal and repair of artificial replacements and surgical appliances, the grant and review of sustenance and living allowances and the administration of the Soldiers' Children Education Scheme.

Particulars of war and service pensions in Victoria are shown below :—

VICTORIA—WAR AND SERVICE PENSIONS, 1940-41 TO 1949-50.

Year ended June—	Members of Forces.	Dependants.		Total.	Amount Paid during Year.
		Of Incapac- tated Members.	Of Deceased Members.		
	No.	No.	No.	No.	£
<i>War Pensions.</i>					
1941	25,107	41,036	7,977	74,120	2,252,227
1942	25,375	38,435	8,493	72,303	2,255,233
1943	25,921	36,583	9,251	71,755	2,497,300
1944	27,552	35,802	10,114	73,468	3,022,522
1945	30,138	37,334	10,755	78,227	3,245,026
1946	36,020	43,849	13,157	93,026	3,640,063
1947	39,711	48,101	13,167	100,979	4,081,324
1948	41,931	51,648	13,285	106,864	4,436,021
1949	44,025	55,737	13,486	113,248	5,249,295
1950	46,553	61,237	13,743	121,593	5,857,536
<i>Service Pensions.</i>					
1941	2,092	1,004	349	3,445	126,975
1942	3,034	1,079	383	4,496	140,916
1943	2,105	853	351	3,309	163,115
1944	2,071	818	375	3,264	163,377
1945	2,145	770	378	3,293	169,715
1946	2,296	713	393	3,402	206,275
1947	2,589	751	383	3,723	239,649
1948	2,793	822	370	3,985	288,084
1949	2,736	781	373	3,890	322,659
1950	2,784	735	364	3,883	347,274

Further statistical details relating to repatriation for the years 1948-49 and 1949-50 are as follows:—

	1948-49.	1949-50.
Medical Treatment—	No.	No.
Repatriation In-patients	1,704	1,691
Attendances of Out-patients	85,010	91,215
	£	£
Medical treatment expenditure	1,409,629	1,486,304
Soldiers' children Education expenditure	40,732	45,209

CREMATION.

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

The numbers of cremations in relation to total deaths are shown in the following table:—

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	20,425	8·94
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
1948	1,293	2,349	3,642	21,825	16·69
1949	1,515	2,642	4,157	21,991	18·90
1950	1,568	2,857	4,425	22,341	19·81