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COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS.
CANBERRA.

OFFICIAL

YEAR BOOK

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

No. 36.—1944 and 1945.

Prepared under Instructions from
The Right Honorable the Treasurer,

BY

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PREFACE.

By the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Parliament of the Commonwealth is empowered "to make laws for the peace, order, and good government of the Commonwealth, with respect to Census and Statistics." In the exercise of the power so conferred, a "Census and Statistics Act" was passed in 1905, and in the year following the "Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics" was created. The first Official Year Book was published early in 1908. The publication here presented is the thirty-sixth Official Year Book issued under the authority of the Commonwealth Government.

The synopsis on pp. ix. to xxv. immediately following shows the general arrangement of the work. The special index (following the usual general index) provided at the end of the volume, together with certain references given in the various Chapters, will assist in tracing in previous issues special articles and other more or less important miscellaneous matter which, owing to limitations of space, have been omitted or are not printed fully in the present volume.

Economic and financial conditions during recent years have caused a demand for new information, or information expressed in new terms, concerning many matters of finance, trade, prices, production and population, and some progress has been made in the later volumes towards bringing closer to present day requirements the Chapters dealing with these branches of statistics, while a diary of the principal financial and economic events of the years 1939 to 1945 is inserted after the last chapter.

Certain statistics, chiefly in the Chapters respecting "Transport and Communication", "Trade" and "Mineral Industry", which, owing to censorship provisions, were omitted during the war period, have been included in this issue. The "Defence" Chapter which was omitted from the last two issues reappears in this issue and contains much new matter concerning the 1939-45 War.

It is not proposed to refer here to the whole of the new matter or to the new treatment of existing matter incorporated in the present volume, but attention may be drawn to the following:—

- Chapter V. Transport, etc.—War-time Control of Shipping (pp. 121-130); Motor Omnibus Passenger Services (pp. 153-155); Ferry (Passenger) Services (pp. 155, 156); Petrol Rationing (pp. 160-163).
- Chapter VI. Education.—Commonwealth Technical Training Scheme (pp. 206, 207); Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme (pp. 207, 208);
- Chapter VIII. Public Benevolence, etc.—Commonwealth Unemployment and Sickness Benefits, Hospital Benefits Act, Tuberculosis Act and Pharmaceutical Benefits Act (pp. 252-254).
- Chapter XII. Trade.—Mutual Aid between Canada and Australia (pp. 336-338).
- Chapter XV. Vital Statistics.—Fertility Rates and Gross and Net Reproduction Rates (pp. 519-521); Fertility of Marriages (pp. 521, 522); True Death Rates (pp. 536, 538).
- Chapter XVI. Local Government.—Roads and Bridges—New Tables on financial operations (pp. 583-590).
- Chapter XVII. Private Finance.—Particulars of Commonwealth Bank Act 1945 and Banking Act 1945 (pp. 623-629); Particulars of Life Insurance Act 1945 (pp. 650-652).
- Chapter XIX. Pastoral Production.—Production and Disposal of Beef and Veal (p. 757) and Mutton and Lamb (pp. 761, 762); Australian Wool Realization Commission (pp. 767-770).
- Chapter XX. Agricultural Production—Wheat Industry Stabilization Plan (pp. 784 and 789); Production and Disposal of Wheat (p. 794); Australian Potato Committee—Receivals and Disposals of Potatoes (p. 816); Production and Consumption of Onions (pp. 817, 818); Vegetables for Human Consumption (pp. 838-840).

- Chapter XXI. Farmyard, Dairy, etc.—Number of Dairy Cattle (p. 858); Production and Disposal of Butter and Cheese (p. 863), Pork and Bacon and Ham (pp. 864, 865), and Shell Eggs (pp. 868, 869); Production of Egg Powder (p. 869).
- Chapter XXVII. Defence.—An account of the Growth and Activities of the Defence Forces during the 1939-45 War together with Statistics of Personnel, Casualties and Awards and Decorations (pp. 1016-1036); an account of the activities of the Departments of Munitions and Aircraft Production (now Munitions) during the war years (pp. 1037-1073); War Gratuity 1939-45 War (p. 1073).
- Chapter XXVIII. Miscellaneous.—Clothing and Food Rationing (pp. 1084-1090); The United Nations (pp. 1114-1116); Rent Control (pp. 1116-1118); Directorate of Housing (pp. 1118, 1119).

The material in the Year Book has been carefully checked throughout, but I shall be grateful to those who will be kind enough to point out defects or make suggestions.

The delay in publication of this volume, while regrettable, has been unavoidable. Compared with the previous volume, however, the figures have been advanced in some Chapters by three years and in others by two.

Later information which has been compiled since the various Chapters were sent to press has been incorporated in the Appendix (p. 1143) which is much more comprehensive than in previous issues. Opportunity has been taken therein to advance as far as possible, in summarized form, the more important statistics of the foregoing chapters. In many cases information has been extended to 1946.

My thanks are tendered to the State Statisticians, who have collected and compiled the data on which a great part of the information given in the Official Year Book is based. Thanks are also tendered to the responsible officers of the various Commonwealth and State Departments, and to others who have kindly, and often at considerable trouble, supplied information; special mention should be made of the services of the Chief Draftsman of the Property and Survey Branch, Department of the Interior, who was responsible for the drawing of the graphs throughout this volume.

An expression of keen appreciation is due in respect of the valuable work performed by Mr. S. H. Begley, Editor of the Official Year Book and by Mr. J. M. Jones, B.A., Assistant Editor, and of the services rendered by the officers in charge of the several sections of the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics, upon whom has devolved the duty of revising the Chapters relative to their respective sections.

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Commonwealth Statistician.

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS,
Canberra, A.C.T., May, 1947.

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STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA.

Heading.	Years.								
	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1921.	1931.	1941.	1944.	
	1881-82.	1891-92.	1901-02.	1911-12.	1921-22.	1931-32.	1941-42.	1944-45.	
Population(a) {	Males	1,247,059	1,736,617	2,004,836	2,382,232	2,799,462	3,332,577	3,592,862	3,675,833
	Females	1,059,677	1,504,368	1,820,077	2,191,554	2,711,532	3,220,029	3,539,771	3,656,866
	Persons	2,306,736	3,240,985	3,824,913	4,573,786	5,510,994	6,552,606	7,132,633	7,332,701
Births ..	No.	80,004	110,187	102,945	122,193	136,198	118,509	134,525	153,344
	Rate	35.26	34.47	27.16	27.21	24.95	18.16	18.95	21.02
Deaths ..	No.	33,327	47,430	46,330	47,869	54,076	56,560	71,176	69,596
	Rate	14.69	14.84	12.22	10.66	9.91	8.67	10.02	9.34
Marriages ..	No.	17,244	23,862	27,753	39,482	46,869	38,882	75,148	68,201
	Rate	7.60	7.47	7.32	8.79	8.59	5.96	10.58	9.33
<hr/>									
Agriculture—	Area '000 acs.	2,996	3,335	5,116	7,428	9,719	14,741	12,003	8,463
	Yld. '000 bus.	21,444	25,675	38,562	71,636	120,089	190,612	166,713	52,880
Wheat ..	Av. Yld. bus.	7.16	7.70	7.54	9.64	13.28	12.93	13.89	6.25
	Area '000 acs.	195	246	461	617	733	1,085	1,460	2,034
Oats ..	Yld. '000 bus.	4,796	5,726	9,790	9,562	12,147	15,195	22,302	8,970
	Av. Yld. bus.	24.62	23.27	21.22	15.50	16.56	14.00	15.27	4.41
Barley ..	Area '000 acs.	75,804	68,068	74,511	116,466	298,910	342,396	784,253	613,944
	Yld. '000 bus.	1,353	1,179	1,520	2,057	6,086	6,291	18,004	5,029
Maize ..	Av. Yld. bus.	17.84	17.31	20.40	17.66	20.36	18.37	22.96	8.19
	Area '000 acs.	165,777	284,428	294,849	340,065	305,186	269,448	301,360	256,955
Hay ..	Yld. '000 bus.	5,726	9,262	7,035	8,940	7,840	7,062	7,436	6,463
	Av. Yld. bus.	34.54	32.56	23.86	26.29	25.69	26.21	24.67	25.15
Potatoes ..	Area '000 acs.	768	942	1,688	2,518	2,995	2,635	2,758	2,409
	Yld. '000 tons	767	1,067	2,025	2,868	3,902	3,167	3,575	1,994
Sugar-cane (c)	Av. Yld. tons	1.00	1.13	1.20	1.14	1.30	1.20	1.30	0.83
	Area '000 acs.	(b) 76,265	112,884	109,685	130,463	149,144	145,111	99,324	241,803
Vineyards	Yld. tons	(h) 243,216	380,477	322,524	301,489	388,091	397,102	332,727	881,049
	Av. Yld. tons	(b) 3.19	3.37	2.94	2.31	2.60	2.74	3.35	3.64
Total net value all agricultural production ..	£'000	(d) 15,519	(d) 16,988	(d) 23,835	(d) 23,774	(d) 81,890	49,714	62,133	71,689
	Pastoral, dairying, etc.—								
Live-stock ..	Horses '000	1,088	1,585	1,620	2,278	2,438	1,776	1,611	1,359
	Cattle ..	8,011	11,112	8,491	11,829	14,441	12,261	13,561	14,133
Butter ..	Sheep ..	65,093	106,421	72,040	96,886	86,119	110,619	125,189	105,371
	Pigs ..	702	846	931	1,111	960	1,168	1,477	1,031
Wool production(e) '000 lb.		319,649	634,046	539,395	798,391	723,059	1,007,456	1,167,159	1,017,543
	Butter ..	(f)	(g) 42,315	(g) 103,747	(g) 212,074	(g) 267,071	391,249	375,494	317,997
Cheese ..		(f)	(g) 10,131	(g) 11,845	(g) 15,887	(g) 32,653	31,423	67,520	77,550
	Bacon and ham ..	(f)	(g) 16,772	(g) 34,021	(g) 53,335	(g) 58,626	71,122	95,119	125,991
Total net value of—	Pastoral production ..								
	Dairying ..	(d) 29,538	(d) 39,256	(d) 36,890	(d) 72,883	(d) 119,399	43,025	85,358	98,374
<hr/>									
Mineral production—	Gold ..	£'000	5,194	5,282	14,018	10,552	4,019	3,564	15,991
	Silver and lead ..		46	3,736	2,249	3,022	1,540	1,444	6,256
Copper ..			714	367	2,215	2,561	804	568	1,503
	Tin ..		1,146	561	448	1,210	418	216	1,001
Zinc ..			3	4	1,415	283	513	1,590	
	Coal ..		638	1,912	2,603	3,927	11,015	6,355	10,872
Total value of all mineral production ..	£'000	7,820	12,074	21,817	23,303	19,997	13,352	41,257	33,178
	<hr/>								
Forestry production—	Quantity of local timber sawn or hewn '000 sup. ft.	(f)	(f)	452,181	604,794	590,495	236,707	913,675	825,575

(a) At 31st December. (b) Partly estimated. (c) Productive cane. (d) Gross value. (e) In terms of greasy. (f) Not available. (g) Years ended December.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA—continued.

Heading.	Years.							
	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1921-22.	1931-32.	1941-42.	1944-45.
Factories—								
No. of factories ..				14,455	18,023	21,657	26,971	28,930
Hands employed ..	No.			311,710	378,540	336,658	725,342	750,579
Wages paid ..	£'000			27,528	58,051	55,932	180,052	207,652
Value of production ..	"			51,259	121,674	110,982	316,439	362,283
Total value of output ..	"			133,022	320,332	281,646	773,059	886,005
Shipping—								
Overseas vessels entered and cleared ..	No. '000 tons	3,284	3,778	4,028	4,174	3,111	3,057	2,544
Commerce—								
Imports, overseas ..	£'000	29,067	37,711	42,434	66,668	103,066	44,713	152,005
" per head ..	£	12/16/2	11/16/0	11/3/11	14/18/2	18/14/1	6/18/6	21/5/11
Exports, oversea ..	£'000	27,528	36,043	49,696	79,482	127,847	85,843	134,927
" per head ..	£	12/2/8	11/5/6	13/2/2	17/13/10	23/4/1	13/1/11	18/18/1
Total oversea trade ..	£'000	56,595	73,754	92,130	146,450	230,913	130,555	286,932
" per head ..	£	24/18/10	23/1/6	24/6/1	32/12/0	47/8/2	19/18/5	40/4/0
Net Customs and Excise duties ..	£'000	4,809	7,441	8,657	13,515	27,565	28,525	55,551
" per head ..	£	2/2/5	2/6/7	2/5/8	2/19/2	5/0/1	4/7/1	7/15/8
Principal Oversea Exports(d)—								
Wool ..	'000 lb. (e)	328,369	619,260	518,018	720,365	927,834	893,644	937,376
" per head ..	£'000	13,173	19,940	15,237	20,071	47,977	32,102	58,041
Wheat ..	'000 bus.	5,365	9,795	20,260	55,148	99,947	127,401	22,313
" per head ..	£'000	1,190	1,939	2,775	9,642	18,644	19,220	4,645
Flour ..	'000 tons	50	33	97	176	360	611	414
" per head ..	£'000	520	328	590	1,392	5,520	3,833	4,191
Butter ..	'000 lb.	1,299	4,240	34,607	101,722	127,347	201,639	130,347
" per head ..	£'000	39	207	1,451	4,637	7,968	10,250	8,125
Hides and skins ..	£'000	317	874	1,251	3,227	3,137	2,316	5,982
Tallow ..	"	644	571	678	1,936	1,442	831	842
Meats ..	"	363	461	2,611	4,303	5,542	6,370	14,094
Timber (undressed) ..	"	118	38	731	1,024	1,158	433	3,920
Gold ..	"	6,445	5,704	14,316	12,046	3,483	11,893	9,188
Silver and lead ..	"	58	1,932	2,250	3,213	2,697	2,902	7,434
Copper ..	"	677	418	1,619	2,346	705	472	18
Coal ..	"	361	646	987	901	1,100	342	259
Government Railways—								
Length of line open ..	miles	3,832	9,541	12,579	16,078	23,502	26,959	27,241
Capital cost ..	£'000	42,741	99,704	123,224	152,195	244,353	321,972	322,152
Gross revenue ..	"	3,910	8,654	11,038	17,848	38,195	37,580	66,482
Working expenses ..	"	2,142	5,630	7,134	10,946	29,818	28,142	51,043
Per cent. of working expenses on earnings ..	%	54.77	65.06	64.63	61.33	78.07	74.88	76.78
Postal—								
Letters and postcards dealt with ..	'000	67,640	157,297	220,853	453,063	561,973	731,335	921,901
" per head ..	No.	29.61	49.07	58.26	100.90	102.01	111.62	129.17
Newspapers dealt with ..	'000	38,063	85,280	102,727	141,638	140,477	139,502	177,974
" per head ..	No.	16.66	26.61	27.10	31.54	25.50	21.30	24.94
Cheque-paying Banks(f)—								
Note circulation ..	£'000	3,979	4,417	3,399	3,718 (g)	214	197	167
Coin and bullion held ..	"	9,108	16,713	19,781	33,471	21,627	2,882	4,479
Advances ..	"	57,733	129,742	86,353	108,579	193,436 (h)	260,918 (h)	323,850 (h)
Deposits ..	"	53,849	98,345	91,487	143,447 (i)	273,807 (h)	319,241 (h)	482,722 (h)
Savings Banks(j)—								
Total deposits ..	£'000	7,854	15,537	30,883	59,394	154,396	197,966	274,275
Aver. per head of population ..	£	3/10/5	4/18/7	8/3/0	13/8/5	28/0/4	30/1/11	38/4/7
					1921.	1931.	1941.	1944.
State Schools—								
Schools ..	No.	4,494	6,231	7,012	8,060	9,445	10,097	9,535
Teachers ..	"	9,028	12,564	14,500	16,971	26,120	33,762	32,066
Enrolment ..	"	432,320	561,153	638,478	638,850	819,042	936,901	886,655
Average attendance ..	"	255,143	350,773	450,246	463,799	666,498	817,262	732,116

(a) Owing to variation in classification effective comparison is impossible. (b) Import and export values are in British currency. Imports are recorded in British currency; the recorded values for exports were—1931-32, £A.109,034,000; 1941-42, £A.168,977,000; and 1944-45, £A.155,271,000. (c) Excludes Special War Tax of 10 per cent. on Amount of Customs Duties on all goods entered for home consumption on and after 3rd May, 1940.

(d) Australian produce, except gold, which includes re-exports. Australian currency values. (e) In terms of grams.

(f) Figures for first three years are averages for the December quarter; the remainder for the June quarter. (g) Decrease due to prohibition of re-issue. (h) Government "set-off" accounts interstate (Commonwealth Bank) excluded.

(i) Includes Commonwealth Savings Bank deposits. (j) First three years at 31st December; remainder 30th June.

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE.

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE OF CHIEF EVENTS SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SETTLEMENT IN AUSTRALIA.

NOTE.—The Government was centralized in Sydney, New South Wales, up to 1825, when Tasmania (Van Diemen's Land) was made a separate colony. In the Table, the names now borne by the States serve to indicate the localities.

Year.

- 1788 N.S.W.—Arrival of "First Fleet" at Botany Bay. Land in vicinity being found unsuitable for settlement, the expedition moved to Sydney Cove. Formal proclamation of colony on 7th February. Branch Settlement established at Norfolk Island. French navigator Lapérouse visited Botany Bay. First cultivation of wheat and barley. First grape vines planted.
- 1789 N.S.W.—First wheat harvest at Parramatta, near Sydney. Discovery of Hawkesbury River.
- 1790 N.S.W.—"Second Fleet" reached Port Jackson. Landing of the New South Wales Corps.
- 1791 N.S.W.—Arrival of "Third Fleet." Territorial seal brought by Governor King.
- 1792 N.S.W.—Visit of *Philadelphia*, first foreign trading vessel.
- 1793 N.S.W.—First free immigrants arrived in the *Bellona*. First Australian church opened at Sydney. Tas.—D'Entrecasteaux discovered the Derwent River.
- 1794 N.S.W.—Establishment of settlement at Hawkesbury River.
- 1795 N.S.W.—Erection of the first printing press at Sydney. Descendants of strayed cattle discovered at Cowpastures, Nepean River.
- 1796 N.S.W.—First Australian theatre opened at Sydney. Coal discovered by fishermen at Newcastle.
- 1797 N.S.W.—Introduction of merino sheep from Cape of Good Hope.
- 1798 Tas.—Insularity of Tasmania proved by voyage of Bass and Flinders.
- 1800 N.S.W.—Hunter River coal-mines worked. First Customs House in Australia established at Sydney. Flinders' charts published.
- 1801 N.S.W.—First colonial manufacture of blankets and linen.
- 1802 Vic.—Discovery of Port Phillip by Lieut. Murray. Q'land.—Discovery of Port Curtis and Port Bowen by Flinders. S.A.—Discovery of Spencer's and St. Vincent Gulfs by Flinders.
- 1803 N.S.W.—First Australian wool taken to England by Capt. Macarthur. Issue of "The Sydney Gazette," first Australian newspaper. Vic.—Attempted settlement at Port Phillip by Collins. Discovery of Yarra by Grimes. Tas.—First settlement formed at Risdon by Lieut. Bowen.
- 1804 N.S.W.—Insurrection of convicts at Castle Hill. Vic.—Abandonment of settlement at Port Phillip. Tas.—Foundation of settlement at Hobart by Collins, and at Yorktown by Colonel Paterson.
- 1805 N.S.W.—First extensive sheep farm established at Camden by Capt. Macarthur. Portion of settlers from Norfolk Island transferred to Tasmania.
- 1806 N.S.W.—Shortage of provisions. Tas.—Settlement at Launceston.
- 1807 N.S.W.—Final transfer of convicts from Norfolk Island. First shipment of merchantable wool (245 lb.) to England.
- 1808 N.S.W.—Deposition of Governor Bligh.
- 1809 N.S.W.—Isaac Nichols appointed to supervise delivery of oversea letters.
- 1810 N.S.W.—Post Office officially established at Sydney, Isaac Nichols first postmaster. First race meeting in Australia at Hyde Park, Sydney. Tas.—First Tasmanian newspaper printed.
- 1813 N.S.W.—Passage across Blue Mountains discovered by Wentworth, Lawson and Blaxland. Macquarie River discovered by Evans.
- 1814 N.S.W.—Flinders suggested the name "Australia", instead of "New Holland". Creation of Civil Courts.

- Year.
- 1815 N.S.W.—First steam engine in Australia erected at Sydney. Lachlan River discovered by Evans. Tas.—Arrival of first immigrant ship with free settlers. First export of wheat to Sydney.
- 1816 N.S.W.—Botanic Garden formed at Sydney.
- 1817 N.S.W.—Oxley's first exploration inland. Discovery of Lakes George and Bathurst and the Goulburn Plains by Meehan and Hume. First bank in Australia—Bank of New South Wales—opened at Sydney.
- 1818 N.S.W.—Liverpool Plains, and the Peel, Hastings and Manning Rivers discovered by Oxley, and Port Essington by Captain King.
- 1819 N.S.W.—First Savings Bank in Australia opened at Sydney.
- 1820 Tas.—First importation of pure merino sheep.
- 1821 Tas.—Establishment of penal settlement at Macquarie Harbour.
- 1823 N.S.W.—New South Wales Judicature Act passed. Discovery of gold at Fish River by Assistant-Surveyor McBrien. Qld.—Brisbane River discovered by Oxley.
- 1824 N.S.W.—Constituted a Crown Colony. Executive Council formed. Establishment of Supreme Court at Sydney, and introduction of trial by jury. First Australian Enactment (Currency Bill) passed by the Legislative Council. Proclamation of freedom of the press. First manufacture of sugar. Vic.—Hume and Hovell, journeying overland from Sydney, arrived at Corio Bay. Qld.—Penal settlement founded at Moreton Bay (Brisbane). Fort Dundas Settlement formed at Melville Island, N. Terr.
- 1825 N.S.W.—Extension of western boundary to 129th meridian. Tas.—Separation of Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania). Qld.—Major Lockyer explored Brisbane River to its source, and discovered coal.
- 1826 N.S.W.—Settlement in Illawarra District. Vic.—Settlement at Corinella, Western Port, formed by Captain Wright.
- 1827 N.S.W.—Colony became self-supporting. Qld.—Darling Downs and the Condamine River discovered by Allan Cunningham. W.A.—Military Settlement founded at King George's Sound by Major Lockyer. First official claim of British Sovereignty over all Australia.
- 1828 N.S.W.—Second constitution. First Census. Sturt's expedition down Darling River. Gas first used at Sydney. Richmond and Clarence Rivers discovered by Captain Rous. Vic.—Abandonment of settlement at Western Port. Qld.—Cunningham discovered a route from Brisbane to the Darling Downs, and explored Brisbane River.
- 1829 N.S.W.—Sturt's expedition down Murrumbidgee River. W.A.—Foundation of settlement at Swan River. Foundation of Perth.
- 1830 N.S.W.—Insurrection of convicts at Bathurst. Sturt, voyaging down Murrumbidgee and Murray Rivers, arrived at Lake Alexandrina. Tas.—Trouble with natives. Black line organized to force aborigines into Tasman's Peninsula, but failed. Between 1830 and 1835, however, George Robinson, by friendly suasion, succeeded in gathering the small remnant of aborigines (203) into settlement on Flinders Island.
- 1831 N.S.W.—Crown lands first disposed of by public competition. Mitchell's explorations north of Liverpool Plains. Arrival at Sydney of first steamer, *Sophia Jane*, from England. SS. *Surprise*, first steamship built in Australia, launched at Sydney. First coal shipped from Australian Agricultural Company's workings at Newcastle, N.S.W. First assisted immigration to N.S.W. S.A.—Wakefield's first colonization committee. W.A.—Appointment of Executive and Legislative Councils.
- 1832 N.S.W.—State Savings Bank established.
- 1833 N.S.W.—First School of Arts established at Sydney.
- 1834 N.S.W.—First settlement at Twofold Bay. Vic.—Settlement formed at Portland Bay by Henty Bros. S.A.—Formation of the South Australian Association. W.A.—Severe reprisals against natives at Pinjarrah.

Year.

- 1835 Vic.—John Batman arrived at Port Phillip; made treaty with the natives for 600,000 acres of land; claim afterwards disallowed by Imperial Government. Foundation of Melbourne.
- 1836 N.S.W.—Mitchell's overland journey from Sydney to Cape Northumberland. Vic.—Proclamation of Port Phillip district as open for settlement. S.A.—Settlement founded at Adelaide under Governor Hindmarsh.
- 1837 N.S.W.—Appointment in London of Select Committee on Transportation. Vic.—Melbourne named by Governor Bourke. First overlanders from Sydney arrived at Port Phillip.
- 1838 N.S.W.—Discontinuance of assignment of convicts. Qld.—Settlement of German missionaries at Brisbane. S.A.—“Overlanding” of cattle from Sydney to Adelaide along the Murray route by Hawden and Bonney. Settlement at Port Essington, Northern Territory, formed by Captain Bremer.
- 1839 N.S.W.—Gold found at Vale of Clwydd by Count Strzelecki. S.A.—Lake Torrens discovered by Eyre. Port Darwin discovered by Captain Stokes. W.A.—Murchison River discovered by Captain Grey.
- 1840 N.S.W.—Abolition of transportation to New South Wales. Land regulations—proceeds of sales to be applied to payments for public works and expenditure on immigration. Vic.—Determination of northern boundary. Qld.—Penal settlement broken up and Moreton Bay district thrown open. S.A.—Eyre began his overland journey from Adelaide to King George's Sound.
- 1841 N.S.W.—Gold found near Hartley by Rev. W. B. Clarke. W.A.—Completion of Eyre's overland journey from Adelaide to King George's Sound. Tas.—Renewal of Transportation. New Zealand proclaimed a separate colony.
- 1842 N.S.W.—Incorporation of Sydney. Vic.—Incorporation of Melbourne. S.A.—Discovery of copper at Kapunda.
- 1843 N.S.W.—First Representative Constitution (under Act of 1842). First manufacture of tweed. Qld.—Moreton Bay granted legislative representation.
- 1844 Qld.—Leichhardt's expedition to Port Essington. S.A.—Sturt's last expedition inland.
- 1845 N.S.W.—Mitchell's explorations on the Barcoo. Qld.—Explorations by Mitchell and Kennedy. S.A.—Discovery of the Burra copper deposits. Sturt discovered Cooper's Creek.
- 1846 N.S.W.—Initiation of meat-preserving. Qld.—Foundation of settlement at Port Curtis. S.A.—Proclamation of North Australia. W.A.—Foundation of New Norcia (Benedictine) Mission.
- 1847 N.S.W.—Iron-smelting commenced near Berrima. Overland mail established between Sydney and Adelaide. Vic.—Melbourne created a City. Qld.—Explorations by Leichhardt, Burnett and Kennedy.
- 1848 Qld.—Leichhardt's last journey. Kennedy speared by the blacks at York Peninsula. Chinese brought in as shepherds.
- 1849 N.S.W.—Indignation of colonists at arrival of convict ship *Hashemy*. Exodus of population to gold-fields of California. Vic.—*Randolph* prevented from landing convicts. Qld.—Assignment of convicts per *Hashemy* to squatters on Darling Downs. W.A.—Commencement of transportation to Western Australia.
- 1850 N.S.W.—Final abolition of transportation. First sod of first Australian railway turned at Sydney. Sydney University founded. Vic.—Gold discovered at Clunes by Hon. W. Campbell. Representative government granted. S.A.—Representative government granted. W.A.—Pearl oysters found by Lieut. Helpman at Saturday Island Shoal. Tas.—Representative government granted.
- 1851 N.S.W.—Payable gold discovered by Hargraves at Lewis Ponds and Summerhill Creek. Vic.—Separation of Port Phillip—created an independent colony under the name of Victoria. Discovery of gold in various localities. “Black Thursday,” 6th Feb., a day of intense heat. W.A.—Proclamation of Legislative Council Act.

- Year.
- 1852 N.S.W.—Arrival of the *Chusan*, first P. and O. mail steamer from England. S.A.—First steamer ascended the Murray River to the junction with the Darling. Tas.—Meeting of first elective Council protests against transportation. Payable gold discovered at The Nook, near Fingal, and at Nine Mile Springs.
- 1853 Tas.—Abolition of transportation. Vic.—Melbourne University founded.
- 1854 Vic.—Opening of first Victorian railway—Flinders-street to Port Melbourne. Riots on Ballarat gold-fields. Storming of the Eureka Stockade, 3rd Dec. Telegraph first used.
- 1855 N.S.W.—Opening of railway—Sydney to Parramatta. Mint opened.
- 1856 N.S.W.—Pitcairn Islanders placed on Norfolk Island. W.A.—A. C. Gregory's expedition in search of Leichhardt. Responsible Government in N.S.W., Vic., S.A. and Tas. (Act of 1855).
- 1857 N.S.W.—Wreck of the *Dunbar* (119 lives lost), and *Catherine Adamson* (21 lives lost), at Sydney Heads. Select Committee on Federation. Vic.—Manhood suffrage and vote by ballot. S.A.—Passage of Torrens' Real Property Act.
- 1858 N.S.W.—Establishment of manhood suffrage and vote by ballot. Telegraphic communication between Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide. Qld.—Canoona gold rush.
- 1859 Qld.—Proclamation of Queensland as separate colony. Tas.—First submarine cable, via Circular Head and King Island to Cape Otway.
- 1860 Vic.—Burke and Wills left Melbourne and crossed to Gulf of Carpentaria. S.A.—Copper discoveries at Wallaroo and Moonta. McDouall Stuart reached centre of continent and named "Central Mount Stuart".
- 1861 N.S.W.—Anti-Chinese riots at Lambing Flat and Burrangong gold-fields. Opening of first tramway in Sydney. Regulation of Chinese immigration. Vic.—Burke and Wills perished at Cooper's Creek, near Innamincka, S.A.
- 1862 N.S.W.—Abolition of State aid to religion. Real Property Act. S.A.—Stuart crossed the Continent from south to north. W.A.—First export of pearl-shell.
- 1863 Vic.—Intercolonial Conference at Melbourne. S.A.—Northern Territory taken over. W.A.—Initiation of settlement in the North-west district. Henry Maxwell Lefroy discovered and traversed area now comprised in the Coolgardie-Kalgoorlie gold-field.
- 1864 Qld.—First railway begun and opened. First sugar made from Queensland cane. Tas.—First successful shipment of English salmon ova.
- 1865 N.S.W.—Destruction by fire of St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney.
- 1866 N.S.W.—Passage of Public Schools Act of (Sir) Henry Parkes. S.A.—Introduction of camels for exploration, etc.
- 1867 Vic.—Imposition of protective tariff. Qld.—Discovery of gold at Gympie.
- 1868 N.S.W.—Attempted assassination of the Duke of Edinburgh at Clontarf, near Sydney. W.A.—Arrival of the *Hougomont*, last convict ship. Tas.—First sod of first railway (Launceston and Western) turned by Duke of Edinburgh.
- 1869 Vic.—Record gold nugget "Welcome Stranger" 2,284 oz. found near Dunolly. W.A.—First telegraph line opened from Perth to Fremantle.
- 1870 N.S.W.—Intercolonial Exhibition opened at Sydney. Imperial troops withdrawn. Vic.—Intercolonial Congress at Melbourne. S.A.—Commencement of trans-continental telegraph.
- 1871 N.S.W.—Permanent military force raised. W.A.—Passage of Elementary Education Act. Forrest's explorations. Tas.—Discovery of tin at Mount Bischoff. Launceston-Western railway opened for traffic.
- 1872 N.S.W.—International Exhibition at Sydney. Vic.—Mint opened. S.A.—Cable from Java to Port Darwin. Completion of transcontinental telegraph line.
- 1873 N.S.W.—Intercolonial Conference at Sydney. First volunteer encampment. Inauguration of mail service with San Francisco.

- Year.
- 1874 N.S.W.—Triennial Parliaments Act passed. Intercolonial Conference. W.A.—John and Alexander Forrest arrived at Overland Telegraph from Murchison. S.A.—University of Adelaide founded.
- 1875 Qld.—Transfer of Port Albany Settlement to Thursday Island.
- 1876 N.S.W.—Completion of cable—Sydney (La Perouse) to Wellington (Wakapuaka). W.A.—Giles crossed colony from east to west. Tas.—Death of Truganini, last representative of Tasmanian aborigines.
- 1877 W.A.—Opening of telegraphic communication with South Australia.
- 1878 Qld.—Restriction of Chinese immigration.
Introduction of telephone into Australia.
- 1879 N.S.W.—First artesian bore at Killara. International Exhibition at Garden Palace, Sydney. First steam tramway. W.A.—A. Forrest's explorations in the Kimberley district, and discovery of the Fitzroy pastoral country.
- 1880 N.S.W.—Public Instruction Act passed. Vic.—Opening of first Victorian International Exhibition at Melbourne. First Australian Telephone Exchange opened in Melbourne.
Federal Conference at Melbourne and Sydney.
- 1881 N.S.W.—Further restrictions on Chinese immigration.
Visit to Australia of T.R.H. Prince Albert Victor and Prince George.
- 1882 N.S.W.—Garden Palace destroyed by fire. W.A.—Nugget of gold found between Roebourne and Cossack.
- 1883 N.S.W.—Discovery of silver at Broken Hill. Completion of railway between New South Wales and Victoria. Qld.—Annexation of New Guinea—repudiated by Imperial authorities.
Federal Conference held at Sydney. Federal Council created.
- 1884 Federation Bill passed in Victoria and rejected in New South Wales. British protectorate declared over New Guinea.
- 1885 N.S.W.—Military contingent sent to the Sudan. Opening of the Broken Hill Proprietary Silver Mines. W.A.—Gold found by prospectors on the Margaret and Ord Rivers in the Kimberley district. Tas.—Silver-lead discovered at Mount Zeehan.
- 1886 Tas.—Discovery of gold and copper at Mount Lyell.
First session of Federal Council met at Hobart on 26th January.
- 1887 N.S.W.—Disaster at Bulli coal-mine (81 lives lost). S.A.—International Exhibition at Adelaide. W.A.—Cyclone destroyed nearly the whole pearling fleet off the Ninety-Mile Beach—200 lives lost. Gold discovered at Southern Cross.
First "Colonial" Conference in London. Australasian Naval Defence Force Act passed.
- 1888 N.S.W.—Centennial celebrations. Restrictive legislation against Chinese, imposing poll-tax of £100. Vic.—Second Victorian International Exhibition held at Melbourne. Qld.—Railway communication opened between Sydney and Brisbane.
Conference of Australian Ministers at Sydney to consider question of Chinese immigration. First meeting of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science held in Sydney.
- 1889 Qld.—Direct railway communication established between Brisbane and Adelaide. W.A.—Framing of new Constitution. Tas.—University of Tasmania founded.
- 1890 W.A.—Responsible Government granted.
Meeting at Melbourne of Australasian Federation Conference.
- 1891 N.S.W.—Election to Legislative Assembly of 35 Labour members. Arrival of Australian Auxiliary Squadron. Cessation of assisted immigration. W.A.—Discovery of gold on the Murchison.
First Federal Convention in Sydney; draft bill framed and adopted.
- 1892 W.A.—Discovery of gold by Messrs. Bayley and Ford at Coolgardie.
- 1893 N.S.W.—Departure by the *Royal Tar* of colonists for "New Australia".
Financial crisis, chiefly affecting the eastern States.
- 1895 N.S.W.—Free-trade tariff. Land and income taxes introduced.
Conference of Premiers on Federation at Hobart.

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- 1896 N.S.W.—People's Federal Convention at Bathurst.
- 1897-8 Sessions of Federal Convention at Adelaide, Sydney and Melbourne.
- 1898 N.S.W.—First surplus of wheat for export.
Draft Federal Constitution Bill submitted to electors in Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia and Tasmania. Requisite statutory number of votes not obtained in New South Wales
- 1899 First contingent of Australian troops sent to South Africa. Conference of Premiers in Melbourne to consider amendments to Federal Constitution Bill. Referendum—Bill accepted by New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Tasmania. First Labour Government (Queensland).
- 1900 N.S.W.—Old-age pensions instituted.
Contingents of naval troops sent to China. Commonwealth Constitution Act received Royal Assent, 9th July. Proclamation of Commonwealth signed, 17th September. Mr. (afterwards Sir) Edmund Barton formed first Federal Ministry.
- 1901 Vic.—Old-age pensions instituted.
Proclamation of the Commonwealth at Sydney. First Federal Parliament opened at Melbourne by the Duke of Cornwall and York. Interstate free-trade established.
- 1902 N.S.W.—Disastrous explosion at Mount Kembla Colliery—95 lives lost. W.A.—Opening of pumping station at Northam in connexion with Gold-fields water supply. Completion of Pacific Cable (all-British). First Federal Tariff.
- 1903 W.A.—Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie Water Supply Scheme completed.
Inauguration of the Federal High Court.
- 1905 N.S.W.—Re-introduction of assisted immigration.
- 1906 Wireless telegraphy installed between Queenscliff, Vic., and Devonport, Tas. Papua taken over by Commonwealth.
- 1907 N.S.W.—Telephone, Sydney to Melbourne, opened. First telephone trunk line service between Capital Cities, i.e., Sydney and Melbourne.
Imperial Conference in London.
- 1908 Canberra chosen as site of Australian Capital. Visit of U.S.A. fleet to Australia.
- 1909 Imperial Defence Conference in London—Commonwealth ordered two destroyers and one first-class cruiser for fleet unit. Visit of Lord Kitchener to report and advise on Australian military defence. Queensland University founded.
- 1910 Referendum on financial relations between the Commonwealth and the States. Penny Postage. Arrival of *Yarra* and *Parramatta*, first vessels built for the Royal Australian Navy. Australian Notes Act passed and first Commonwealth notes issued. Admiral Sir R. Henderson visited Australia to advise on naval defence.
- 1911 First Federal Census. Transfer of Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory to Commonwealth. Introduction of compulsory military training. Establishment of penny postage to all parts of British Empire. University of Western Australia founded.
- 1912 Opening of Commonwealth Bank. First payments of Maternity Bonus. First sod turned at Port Augusta of Trans-Australian Railway (Port Augusta to Kalgoorlie).
- 1913 Australian Capital named Canberra and foundation stone laid. Appointment of Interstate Commission.
- 1914 Visit of General Sir Ian Hamilton to report on military defence scheme. Double dissolution of Federal Parliament. Visit of British Association for the Advancement of Science. Transfer of Norfolk Island to Commonwealth.
European War declared 4th August. Australian Navy transferred to British Navy. Australian offer to equip and furnish 20,000 troops accepted. German possessions in South-West Pacific seized by Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force. German cruiser *Emden* destroyed by H.M.A.S. *Sydney* at Cocos Islands, 9th November. First contingent landed in Egypt. Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (A.N.Z.A.C.) formed under Sir William Birdwood.

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- 1915 Opening of Broken Hill Proprietary's Ironworks at Newcastle, N.S.W. Navy Department created. Defeat of Third Fisher Government. Hughes Ministry formed.
 Australian and New Zealand troops landed at Gallipoli, 25th April. Battle of Sari Bair (Lone Pine), 6th-10th August. Evacuation, 18th-20th December. Australian warships with Grand Fleet, in Atlantic, Malaysia, and elsewhere overseas during remainder of war.
- 1916 Purchase of steamships by the Commonwealth.
 Australian and New Zealand mounted troops organized in mounted divisions and camel corps, operating thereafter in Egypt, Palestine and Syria. Battle of Romani, 4th August. Other troops with reinforcements organized as four infantry divisions (1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th) with some other units, and transferred to France. Fromelles, 19th July; the Somme, 1st July-18th November (Poizieres, Moquet Farm, Flers). 3rd Division, formed in Australia, landed in France. First proposal for compulsory military service defeated by referendum.
- 1917 National Ministry formed under Rt. Hon. W. M. Hughes. Kalgoorlie-Port Augusta railway completed.
 German withdrawal from Somme; Arras offensive (Bullecourt, 11th April and 3rd May); Messines, 7th June; Third Battle of Ypres, 1st July-10th November (Menin Road, Polygon Wood, Broodseinde, Passchendaele). Palestine-Gaza, 26th March, 19th April, 31st October (Beersheba). Australian Flying Corps operating with R.F.C. in Palestine and France. Second proposal for compulsory military service defeated by referendum.
- 1918 Population of Australia reached 5,000,000. Australia House (Strand, London) opened by the King.
 Five Australian divisions in France formed into army corps, 1st January. Sir William Birdwood succeeded by Sir John Monash, 30th May. Defensive campaign on Somme, 21st March-25th April (Dernancourt, Villers-Bretonneux); Battles of the Lys, 9th-29th April (Hazebrouck); Hamel, 4th July; Battle of Amiens, 8th August; Mont St. Quentin, 31st August; Hindenburg Line, 18th September-5th October. Palestine-Megiddo, 19th September; Damascus, 1st October. Armistice with Germany, 11th November. Repatriation Commission created.
- 1919 Messrs. Hughes and Cook represented Australia at Peace Conference. Return of Australian troops. Flight England to Australia by Capt. Sir Ross Smith and Lieut. Sir Keith Smith. Peace Treaty signed at Versailles, 28th June.
- 1920 Visit to Australia of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. Wholesale prices reached a point more than double the 1914 level.
- 1921 Second Commonwealth Census. Germany's indemnity fixed (Australia's share approximately £63,000,000). Mandate given to Australia over Territory of New Guinea. First direct wireless press message, England to Australia.
- 1922 First lock on River Murray opened at Blanchetown, South Australia. Queensland Legislative Council abolished.
- 1923 First sod turned on the site of Federal Parliament House at Canberra.
- 1924 Visit of British cruiser squadron. Directorate of Commonwealth Bank appointed. Australian Loan Council formed.
- 1925 Visit of American fleet. Solar Observatory established at Canberra. Brisbane-Grafton railway joining Sydney and Brisbane by uniform gauge was commenced. Sydney Harbour Bridge commenced.
- 1926 Population of Australia reached 6,000,000. Council for Scientific and Industrial Research established. Imperial Conference. Dominion Status defined.

- Year.
- 1927 Transfer of Seat of Commonwealth Government from Melbourne to Canberra. New Parliament House opened by H.R.H. the Duke of York. Beam wireless established.
- 1928 Visit of British Economic Mission to report on the development of Australian resources. Financial agreement of Commonwealth and States; Loan Council reconstituted; State debts to be taken over; Referendum carried.
- 1929 Beginning of fall in export prices. Commonwealth Bank empowered to mobilize gold reserve. Substantial export of gold reserves towards end of year. Bruce-Page Government defeated. Labour Ministry formed by Hon. J. H. Scullin.
- 1930 Wireless phone service with other countries inaugurated. Export prices fell to half 1928 level. Cessation of oversea loans. Tariff embargoes and rationing of imports. Visit of Sir Otto Niemeyer, of Bank of England, to discuss financial questions. Heavy export of gold reserves. Exchange Pool formed. Gold bonus granted. Government deficits total nearly £11,000,000. First Australian—Right Hon. Sir Isaac Alfred Isaacs, G.C.M.G., Chief Justice of the High Court—appointed Governor-General of Australia. Telephone trunk line service established between Adelaide and Perth linking up the whole of the mainland States by telephone.
- 1931 Depression continues; Australia substantially off gold standard with exchange rate at 130 in January; 10 per cent. cut in Federal basic wage. First experimental air mail England to Australia and return. Initiation of Premiers' Conference plan to meet the financial situation. Commonwealth Bank Act amended to provide for temporary lower reserve against notes; substantial export of gold reserves. England departs from gold standard in September; depreciation of Australian £1 on Sterling continued. Wheat bounty granted. Commonwealth Bank assumed control of exchange rate and lowered it to 125. Government deficits total £25,370,000, 1930-31.
- 1932 Sydney Harbour Bridge opened. Australian Broadcasting Commission established. Lang Ministry dismissed in New South Wales. Emergency restrictions on imports relaxed. Legislation passed enabling note reserve to be held in sterling securities, subsequently gold was shipped to the United Kingdom. Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa, with consequential tariff agreements. Scullin Government defeated. Lyons Ministry formed. Taxation reductions and assistance to wheat-growers. Government deficits reduced to £19,500,000 for 1931-32.
- 1933 Third Commonwealth Census. Imperial Air-mail "Astraea" arrived. World Economic Conference in London. Australia elected as Member of League of Nations. Secession Referendum carried (Western Australia). Referendum carried for reduction and limitation of number of members of Legislative Council (New South Wales). Record wheat harvest (213,927,000 bushels). Antarctica and Ashmore and Cartier Islands taken over by the Commonwealth.
- 1934 Visit of H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester to open Victorian Centenary Celebrations, Goodwill Mission to the East—Leader Rt. Hon. J. G. Latham. Record flight from England to Australia by Messrs. Scott and Black (Centenary Air Race) in 71 hours. Inauguration of England-Australia Air Mail Service.
1935. Visit of the Rt. Hon. J. A. Lyons, Prime Minister, to London for Silver Jubilee of H.M. King George V. Empire Statistical Conference at Ottawa. Japanese Goodwill Mission to Australia. Meeting of the British Medical Association for the first time in Australia.
- 1936 South Australian Centenary. Trade dispute with Japan. Joint Commonwealth and State Marketing Schemes invalidated by decision of the Privy Council in the James case. Tasmania linked with mainland by submarine telephone cable.

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- 1937 Referendum on Commonwealth control of aviation and marketing defeated on both issues. Imperial conference in London. Commonwealth basic wage increased by 5s. per week. Report of the Royal Commission on Monetary and Banking Systems in Australia.
- 1938 New South Wales Sesqui-Centenary Celebrations. Australian Trade Delegation to review Ottawa Agreement. New Lyons Ministry. New Defence Programme involving expenditure of £63,000,000 over three years; militia forces to be raised to 70,000. New Trade Treaty with Japan.
- 1939 Death of the Rt. Hon. J. A. Lyons, Prime Minister. Page Ministry 7th to 26th April. Menzies Ministry formed. National Register and Wealth Census. War declared on Germany, 3rd September, by Britain and France after invasion of Poland. Prime Minister declared Australia at war on same date. Australia participates in vast Empire Air Training Scheme. Compulsory military training re-introduced for home defence. Special volunteer force of 20,000 men enlisted and trained for service overseas. Purchase by the British Government of the Australian wool clip and the export surplus of butter, cheese, eggs, meat, sugar, wheat, flour, lead, and zinc.
- Royal Australian Navy placed at disposal of Great Britain, 2nd September. No. 10 Sunderland Flying Boat Squadron, R.A.A.F., both personnel and aircraft, accepted by British Government for service with Coastal Command. *Middle East Campaign*. Advance party of Australians embarked for Middle East, 15th December.
- 1940 Exchange of Ministers between Australia and United States of America. Appointment of Australian Minister to Japan. Exchange of High Commissioners between Australia and Canada. Population of Australia reached 7,000,000. Naval Dock commenced at Sydney. New Menzies Ministry formed. Petrol rationing introduced. Commonwealth elections held.
- Cruiser *Perth* on patrol and escort work in Caribbean Sea and Western Atlantic. Cruiser *Australia* in Atlantic and later in operations off Dakar. Cruiser *Sydney* and five destroyers in Mediterranean. *Sydney* put to flight two Italian cruisers, July. One, *Bartolomeo Colleoni*, crippled and afterwards sunk by torpedoes. Cruiser *Hobart* at evacuation of British Somaliland, August. Australians in R.A.F. with squadrons of Advanced Air Striking Force, France, with Fighter Command squadrons, and with Bomber Command over Germany and Norway. No. 3 Squadron, R.A.A.F., sent to Libyan and Egyptian zone for co-operation with A.I.F. divisions. Three R.A.A.F. squadrons sent to Singapore.
- Middle East Campaign*. First Australian convoy (6th Australian Division) sailed for Middle East, 11th January.
- 1941 Appointment of Japanese Minister to Australia. Prime Minister's visit to London. Appointment of Sir Thomas Blamey as Deputy Commander-in-Chief of British Forces in the Middle East. Establishment of Commonwealth Child Endowment Scheme. Cessation of commercial relations between Australia and Japan. Exchange of Ministers between Australia and China. United States Congress passed Lend-Lease Bill. Atlantic Charter signed by Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill. Hon. A. Fadden succeeded Rt. Hon. R. G. Menzies as Prime Minister. Fadden Government defeated on Budget. Hon. J. Curtin formed Labour Ministry. Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour. Australia declared war on Japan, 9th December. War-time control of trading banks.
- During May and June, *Perth*, seven destroyers and one sloop engaged in Mediterranean—evacuation of Greece and Crete, Syrian campaign, Tobruk. Australian destroyers occupied on "Tobruk Ferry Run". Destroyer *Waterhen* and Sloop *Parramatta* lost in action. *Sydney* lost in November during engagement in Indian Ocean with raider *Steiermark*, which was sunk. R.A.A.F. squadrons with Fighter Command in defence of Britain and with Bomber Command. R.A.A.F. squadrons also operating in Middle East. Further R.A.A.F. squadron sent to Singapore.

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- 1941—
contd. *Middle East Campaign.* Bardia, Tobruk, Derna, Benghazi, Giarabub (North Africa) captured, 5th January–21st March. British and Australians commenced withdrawal from area of El Agheila, 24th March. Last Australian rearguard reached Tobruk, 10th April. First engagement of Australian and German forces on Greek front, 10th April. Evacuation of Greece begun, 24th April. Evacuation from Sphakia, Crete, 31st May. Syrian campaign, 8th June–12th July.
Malayan Campaign. Arrival of units of Eighth Australian Division in Malaya, 18th February.
- 1942 Daylight saving introduced. Darwin bombed. Allied Supply Council formed. United States armed forces land in Australia. General Douglas MacArthur Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in South-west Pacific. Regulation of prices, April, 1942. Federal uniform taxation adopted. Commonwealth widows' pensions introduced. Japanese submarines sunk in Sydney Harbour. Rationing of commodities. Labour Corps formed for Allied Works. Exchange of Ministers between Netherlands, Soviet Union of Russia and Australia. Constitutional Convention held in Canberra—Bill approved for reference to Commonwealth by States of powers to make laws in relation to post-war reconstruction.
- R.A.N. ships, until invasion of Java, under almost constant Japanese air, submarine and surface attacks, while engaged in minesweeping, anti-submarine protection, patrolling and convoy escort work in Malayan waters. *Perth* lost in Sunda Strait, 28th February–1st March. Sloop *Yarra* lost defending convoy against three cruisers and four destroyers. Destroyer *Vampire* sunk by aircraft, Bay of Bengal, April. *Australia* and *Hobart* part of Task Force screening Port Moresby during Coral Sea Battle, May. Cruisers *Australia*, *Canberra* and *Hobart* led attack on Solomon Islands, August. *Canberra* was lost there. Destroyer *Voyager* lost disembarking Army personnel and stores on Timor coast, September. Corvette *Armidale* sunk by aircraft, December. R.A.A.F. Sunderlands operated with Coastal Command on anti-submarine patrols, and R.A.A.F. Hampdens carried torpedoes against enemy shipping off coast of Norway. Detachment of No. 455 Squadron sent to Russia; there carried out convoy escort duty and mapped part of Arctic Ice Barrier. Low-level daylight attacks against important pin-point targets carried out by R.A.A.F. with Venturas and Mosquitos. In Middle East two R.A.A.F. squadrons engaged in naval co-operation work, convoy escort and sea reconnaissance. Composite R.A.A.F. squadron at Rabaul overwhelmed by intense air attacks prior to capture of Rabaul. First R.A.A.F. fighter squadron operating from Port Moresby reduced to three aircraft in six weeks, but destroyed 35 enemy aircraft for loss of 12 pilots and 22 aircraft. R.A.A.F. contributed largely to enemy's defeat at Milne Bay. Supplies dropped to troops advancing down northern slopes of Owen Stanleys.
- Middle East Campaign.* Ninth Australian Division launched first attack in British thrust at El Alamein (North Africa), 23rd October.
Malayan Campaign. First contact of Australian troops with Japanese, 14th January. Fall of Singapore, 15th February.
South-west Pacific Campaign. Japanese landed at Rabaul, 23rd January; Java, 27th February; Lae, Salamaua, Finschhafen (New Guinea), 7th–10th March. First contact between Australians and Japanese at Awala, 23rd July. Australians withdrew from Kokoda, 10th August. Japanese forced to withdraw from Milne Bay, 5th September. Australians recaptured Kokoda and Gorari, and captured Oivi, Wairopi, Gona, 2nd November–9th December.
- 1943 Ceiling prices fixed, 12th April. Commonwealth elections held—return of Curtin Government. National Register of Civilians. High Commissioners appointed to India and New Zealand. Price Stabilization Scheme. Mortgage Bank Department of Commonwealth Bank opened. National Works Council formed.

Year.

1943—
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Royal Australian Navy maintained essential sea communications between Australia and New Guinea and guarded Australian coastal traffic. In December began a long series of amphibious operations which finally defeated the enemy forces in the South-West Pacific Area. Royal Australian Navy ships of all sorts took part in these operations thenceforward until the end of the war. From 1943 to the end of the war R.A.A.F. squadrons in Britain continued anti-submarine patrols and to protect convoys. The R.A.A.F. attacked shipping in the North Sea and along the Norwegian coast, bombed strategic targets in Germany and in occupied countries, carried out intruder operations, provided cover for bombers, operated against flying bombs "V" weapon launching sites, and followed the invasion forces to the Continent. In the Middle East the R.A.A.F. operated over Tunisia in support of the Eighth Army and over Italy, Greece and Crete, assisted Yugo-slav partisans, and took part in the invasion of Southern France. By 1943 R.A.A.F. medium bombers and long-range fighters were operating around Dutch New Guinea and heavy bombers about Borneo and Netherlands East Indies. Mining of enemy ports in the South-West Pacific Area was begun by Catalinas in April, 1943, and sustained throughout the remainder of the war. No. 10 Operational Group, a mobile task force formed in January, 1944, gave direct support to land forces in the Ramu Valley and took part in subsequent operations in northern New Guinea. Renamed First Tactical Air Force, R.A.A.F., it moved to Morotai and from there attacked enemy watercraft. Northern Command, R.A.A.F., formerly No. 9 Operational Group, protected shipping, and supported land operations in Wewak, New Britain and Bougainville. First Tactical Air Force, R.A.A.F. and heavy bombers of north-western area took part in Tarakan, Brunei and Balikpapan landings. Throughout the war R.A.A.F. mainland squadrons helped to guard important shipping lanes. R.A.A.F. personnel served in R.A.F. squadrons in the Burma-India theatre.

South-west Pacific Campaign. Australians and Americans took Buna, 2nd January; Sanananda, 22nd January. Australians counter-attacked at Wau and began drive to Salamaua, 3rd February. Australian and American paratroops, Australian artillery, engineers and pioneers took Nadzab, 5th September. Aerial movement of Australian troops into Markham Valley began, 7th September. Australians captured Salamaua, Lae, Finschhafen, Dumpu, Sattelberg Heights, Wareo, 11th September—8th December.

1944 Mutual Co-operation Agreement between Australia and New Zealand. National Works Council approved £200,000,000 post-war works programme. Disastrous bushfires in Victoria. Mutual Aid Agreement between Canada and Australia. First Victory Loan of £150,000,000 over-subscribed. Invasion of France by sea and air on 6th June. Pay-as-you-earn taxation operated from 1st July. Completion of term as Governor-General by Lord Gowrie. Referendum on Constitution Amendment to give Commonwealth Government increased powers in post-war period defeated. Almost £155,000,000 subscribed to Second Victory Loan. First High Commissioner for India arrived in Australia.

South-West Pacific Campaign. Australians took Bogadjim, Madang, Alexis-hafen, 13th—26th April. Australians landed on New Britain, 11th October. Australians took over from Americans in Bougainville, Solomon Islands, 23rd November, and at Aitape, New Guinea, 1st December. Danmap River, New Guinea, crossed, 17th December. Pearl Ridge, Bougainville, occupied, 30th December.

1945 H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester sworn in as Governor-General. Captain Cook Dock opened. £100,000,000 Third Victory Loan over-subscribed. Cessation of hostilities in Europe, 8th May. Delegates of 50 countries sign United Nations' Charter at San Francisco. Fast new Lancastrian air service between Sydney and England. Occupation Survey taken of all civilian males aged 14 years and over. Re-establishment and Employment Act 1945 assented

Year.

1945—
contd.

to 28th June. Death of Rt. Hon. John Curtin, Prime Minister of Australia. Hon. J. B. Chifley appointed Prime Minister. War Gratuity Act 1945 and Australian National Airlines Act 1945 assented to 3rd August. Cessation of hostilities against Japan, 15th August. Casualties of Australian Fighting Services as known at 31st October, 1945, totalled 95,746, including 28,753 killed. Decision to standardize Australian railway gauges. Termination of Lend-Lease. General demobilization of Armed Forces commenced. £85,000,000 Fourth Victory Loan filled.

South-West Pacific Campaign. Australians occupied But airfield, near Wewak, New Guinea, 17th March. Landing on Soraken Peninsula, Bougainville, 20th March. Battle of Puriata River, Bougainville, won 30th March. Wewak, New Guinea, captured in combined amphibious landing and land assault, 11th May. Australians landed on Bonis Peninsula, northern Bougainville, 8th June. Yamil, in Torricelli Mountains, New Guinea, occupied, 11th June. *Borneo Campaign.* Australians landed at Tarakan Island, north-east Borneo, 1st May. Tarakan and oilfields and airstrip captured 6th-11th May. Landing at Brunei Bay, north-west Borneo, 10th June. Brunei town captured, 13th June. Landing at Lutong, Sarawak, north Borneo, 20th June. Oilfields at Brunei and Sarawak taken, 22nd-23rd June. Landing at Balikpapan, south-east Borneo, 1st July.