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CHAPTER XXX.

STATISTICAL ORGANIZATION AND SOURCES OF INFORMATION.

§ 1. Statistical Organization in Australia.

1. Development of Australian Statistics.—(i) *Crown Colony Blue Books*. Statistical organization in Australia was founded in the "Blue Books" which, in the Crown Colony days, were prepared annually for the information of the Colonial Office. Although primarily intended for administrative purposes, these documents have been important sources of statistical data, even though some important matters are not covered, and others only partially so. These Blue Books form the basis from which later statistical publications were developed. This led to an element of uniformity in statistical compilation within the British Empire.

(ii) *Statistical Registers*. Following the advent of Responsible Government which was granted during the period 1851–1860 to all Australian States except Western Australia—and to that State in 1890—the "Blue Book" was succeeded in all States by "Statistical Registers". These were in many respects the old Blue Books in a new form, and were largely confined to summaries of the "by-product" statistics of Government administrative departments.

The first example of extensive Governmental organization for purely statistical purposes was the taking of periodic population censuses, which were initiated in all States under the Crown Colony régime. The growing need for quantitative data concerning the progress of the several young communities of Australia eventually led to the appointment of official Statisticians commissioned to prepare and publish such data.

(iii) *Statistical Conferences*. To enable the interchange of ideas between States and to obtain uniform State Statistics which could be aggregated to Australian totals conferences were held in the several States from as early as 1861. Altogether, six conferences were held prior to the formation of the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics in 1906. These were held in 1861, 1875, 1890, 1900, 1902 and 1901. The holding of these conferences has been continued since the formation of the Commonwealth Bureau, and a representative from New Zealand attended up to 1928.

2. Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics.—(i) *Origin and Aims*. Under the provisions of section 51 of the Commonwealth Constitution, power is conferred on the Commonwealth Parliament "to make laws for the peace, order and good government of the Commonwealth with respect to—" (*inter alia*) "(XI.) Census and statistics". In compliance with this provision, the Census and Statistics Act 1905 was passed, and in 1906 the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics was created. A conference of Statisticians in 1906 defined the relations between the Commonwealth and State Bureaux, and in each case the State Statistician became the representative in his own State of the Commonwealth Statistician for the purpose of administering the Commonwealth Act. In addition, each State has its own "Statistics Act", and although these are not identical in all States, they embody common principles. With the establishment of the Commonwealth Bureau, the movement towards uniformity in information collected and statistical methods employed received a great stimulus. The Commonwealth Bureau did not attempt to duplicate the existing statistical organization, but endeavoured to use the services of the State statistical offices whenever possible, and to undertake the initial collection of statistics only in fields not already occupied by the States, or in which efficiency demanded complete centralization. Frequent statistical conferences (*see above*) have assisted the uniform development of existing statistics, and have facilitated expansion into new fields.

The scope of the Commonwealth Bureau has constantly been widened, more particularly during the 1939-45 War, when the Bureau responded to the urgent demands of administration for immediate and accurate statistical information in various fields. Since the war, requirements in the administrative, industrial, financial and scientific spheres have led to the development of many new statistical collections. All the activities of the Bureau are covered by the Census and Statistics Act, which confers authority to collect information and contains stringent provisions to ensure that the information obtained is treated in strictest secrecy.

(ii) *Organization.* For administrative purposes the Commonwealth Bureau is divided into a number of Divisions. These are :—Census, Compiling, Development, Publications, Social Accounting and Administrative.

(a) *Census Division.* This Division of the Bureau is responsible for the taking of periodic Population Censuses and the tabulation, summarization and preparation for publication of the results obtained.

(b) *Compiling Division.* The Compiling Division is divided into the following Branches which compile statistics dealing with specific fields of activity :—

Trade and Transport Branch—Responsible for the original compilation, tabulation and analysis of statistics relating to imports and exports, and for the compilation of statistics relating to road and rail transport, aviation, shipping, posts and telegraphs, telephones and wireless.

Prices Branch—Deals with the collection of retail and wholesale prices and the compilation of retail and wholesale price index numbers. A staff of trained field officers is maintained in the several States to facilitate the collection of accurate information.

Employment and Labour Branch—Compiles all employment estimates, wage and labour statistics.

Primary Production Branch—Deals with statistics relating to agricultural and pastoral activities, mining, forestry and fishing. Original data are largely supplied by State Statisticians.

Secondary Production Branch—Compiles all factory statistics both annual and monthly. Collates on a Commonwealth basis original annual data supplied by State Statisticians.

Finance and Taxation Branch—Compiles statistics of private finance (banking, insurance, exchange rates, etc.), public finance (Commonwealth, State and Local and Semi-Governmental authorities), and statistics relating to all aspects of Commonwealth taxation.

Demography Branch—Concerned with statistics of births, deaths, marriages and migration, and is responsible for periodic estimates of population.

(c) *Development Division.* This Division was created in order to develop new statistical collections to meet post-war demands for more adequate and up-to-date statistics, and also to examine current collections in the light of such requirements. It is divided into three Branches, namely :—

Sampling Techniques Branch—undertakes the development and application of sampling procedures to statistical collections and furnishes technical advice to branches and other Government departments.

Development Branch—Develops new statistical collections and examines current collections in the light of present day requirements. Compiles social statistics.

Business Statistics Branch—Conducts censuses and surveys and analyses statistics relating to Internal Trade (Retail), Business and Hire Purchase Activities, and Company Investments and Profits.

(d) *Publications Division.* This Division is responsible for the scrutiny, editing and graphical illustration of all Bureau publications, and, in collaboration with other Divisions, for the initiation, development and co-ordination of statistical publications. It also

maintains a regular flow of statistical series to certain international organizations, and revises statistical material in certain overseas and local publications.

(e) *Social Accounting Division*. This Division undertakes research into the theoretical and practical problems of social accounting. It is divided into three branches as follows:—

Balance of Payments Branch—collects and analyses statistics on Australia's balance of international payments.

National Income and Expenditure Branch—prepares estimates of national income and expenditure.

Quantum Indexes Branch—undertakes research into quantum of production.

(f) *Administrative Division*. The Administrative Division is responsible for all aspects of staff recruitment and direction, supplies, payment of accounts, etc. The Reproduction Section of the Division is equipped with multilith and duplicating machines for processing statistical statements for more immediate requirements. In addition, a special section of this Division is responsible for the examination of statistical methods and systems, and the co-ordination of all statistics in Commonwealth Departments (see para. 3 below). The Mechanical Tabulation Branch and the specialized library of official and unofficial publications on statistics and economics are controlled by the Administrative Division. The Mechanical Tabulation Branch is equipped with modern tabulating equipment and is responsible for all machine tabulating work required by other Divisions of the Bureau with the exception of the Census Division.

3. *Relation of the Bureau to other Commonwealth Departments*.—In October, 1950 the Commonwealth Public Service Board issued a circular relative to the compilation of statistics in other Commonwealth Departments, in which it stated that the Commonwealth Statistician should be the co-ordinating authority on all statistics in Commonwealth Departments, and that, as a general principle, where any new statistical field is to be established involving the regular collection of statistics, the Commonwealth Statistician should be consulted to ensure that they are necessary and that they are based on sound statistical methods; furthermore, that the Commonwealth Statistician should make a regular inspection, at least once every twelve months, of all statistical work done by Departments to ensure that their needs are met by the most economical means and without duplication of effort.

This project of co-ordination is being implemented as time and circumstances permit.

§ 2. Statistical Publications of Australia.

1. *General*.—The official statistical publications of Australia may be divided bibliographically into two main divisions, namely:—(i) Commonwealth publications dealing both individually and collectively with the several States of Australia; and (ii) State publications dealing with individual States only.

2. *Commonwealth Publications*.—Commonwealth publications may be grouped under two heads, namely:—(i) Publications issued by the Commonwealth Statistician; and (ii) Parliamentary and Departmental Reports and Papers.

(i) *Publications issued by the Commonwealth Statistician*. The following is a list of the principal statistical publications issued from the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics since its inauguration to June, 1956:—

Australian Balance of Payments.—Statements Nos. 1 to 3, 1928–29 to 1951–52.

Australian Life Tables, 1901–1910. Australian Joint Life Tables, 1901–1910.

Australian Life Tables, 1920–1922.

Australian Life Tables, 1932–1934. Australian Joint Life Tables, 1932–1934

Australian Life Tables, 1946–1948.

Australian Mineral Industry Statistics (formerly *Minerals and Metals Bulletin*).—

Part 2 of Quarterly Bulletin issued jointly with the Bureau of Mineral Resources.

Australian Primary Industries.—Report prepared for the Empire Producers' Conference, Sydney, March, 1938.

- Census (1911) Results.*—Bulletins. Vols. I. (Statistician's Report), II., and III., with Appendix "*Mathematical Theory of Population.*"
- Census (1921) Results.*—Bulletins, Nos. 1 to 26. Parts I. to XVI., forming Vol. I., and Parts XVII. to XXIX., forming, with the Statistician's Report, Vol. II.
- NOTE.—Part XXVII., Life Tables.
- Census (1933) Results.*—Bulletins, Nos. 1 to 25. Parts I. to XIV., forming Vol. I., Parts XV. to XXVIII., forming Vol. II., and Parts XXIX. to XXXVII., forming, with Statistician's Report and Australian Life Tables 1932-1934, Vol. III.
- Census (1947) Results.*—Bulletins, Nos. 1 to 25. Parts I. to XVI., forming Vol. I., Parts XVII. to XIX., forming Vol. II., and Parts XX. to XXVIII., forming, with Statistician's Report and Australian Life Tables 1946-1948, Vol. III.
- Census (1954) Results.*—See Price List at end of volume.
- **Census of Retail Establishments (1947-48) Results.*—Bulletins, Nos. 1 to 7.
- **Census of Retail Establishments (1948-49) Results.*—Bulletins, Nos. 1 to 7.
- **Census of Retail Establishments (1952-53) Results.*—Bulletins, Nos. 1 to 14.
- **Dairying Industry (formerly Summary of Dairying Industry).*—Statistical Bulletin, monthly; first issue, September, 1937.
- **Factories, Principal Statistics, Summary.*—Annually, 1948-49 to 1953-54.
- Finance.*—Bulletins 1907 to 1916-17 annually; 1917-18 and 1918-19 (one vol.); 1919-20 and 1920-21 (one vol.); 1922-23 to 1953-54 annually.
- **Food Production and the Consumption of Foodstuffs and Nutrients in Australia, Report.* Half-yearly, 1946-47 to 1947-48; annually, 1948-49 to 1953-54.
- **Fruit Growing Industry Summary.*—Annually, 1944-45 to 1953-54.
- Labour and Industrial Statistics.*—Memoranda and Reports, various, to 1913.
- Labour Report.*—Annually, 1913 to 1953.
- **Livestock Numbers (formerly Summary of Livestock Statistics).*—Statistical Bulletin, annually, 1943 to 1955.
- Local Government in Australia.*—July, 1919.
- **Manufacturing Industries.*—Bulletins on Individual Industries, annually, 1936-37 to 1939-40, 1940-41 (issue incomplete), and 1944-45 to 1953 54.
- **Monthly Review of Business Statistics.*—First issue, October, 1937.
- **Occupation Survey (1945) Results.*—Detailed tables.
- Official Year Book of the Commonwealth of Australia.*—Annually, 1907 to present issue (No. 42). Issues Nos. 40 to 42 also published in parts.
- Oversea Trade.*—Bulletins, annually, 1906 to 1954-55.
- **Oversea Trade.*—Preliminary Bulletins. Annually, 1952-53 to 1955-56.
- **Oversea Trade Statistics : Imports Cleared for Home Consumption classified according to Individual Items of the Customs Tariff,* 1950-51 to 1954-55.
- Pocket Compendium of Australian Statistics (formerly Statistical Digest).*—1913, 1914, 1916, and 1918 to 1956 annually.
- Population and Vital Statistics.*—Bulletins and Reports, various, 1906-1910.
- Demography,* 1911 to 1954 annually.
- Primary Industries*—Bulletin, annually, 1950-51 to 1953-54, in two parts: Part I. Rural Industries; Part II. Non-Rural Industries and Value of Production.
- Production.*—Bulletin, annually, 1906 to 1947-48. From 1936-37 to 1949-50 issued in two parts.—Part I. Secondary Industries; Part II. Primary Industries (including Total Recorded Production); thereafter separate Bulletins (see *Primary Industries* and *Secondary Industries*).
- Professional Papers.*—Various. A full list appears in Official Year Book No. 13, p. 3.
- Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics.*—First issue, No. 70, December, 1917, replacing *Monthly Summary of Australian Statistics* (Bulletins Nos. 1 to 69).
- **Report of Proceedings of the Conference of British Commonwealth Statisticians,* 1951.

* Obtainable from Commonwealth Statistician—for methods of obtaining other publications still in print see back page of this volume.

***Rural Land Use and Crop Statistics** (formerly *Summary of Crop Statistics*).—

Statistical Bulletin, annually, 1943-44 to 1954-55.

Secondary Industries.—Bulletin, annually, 1950-51 to 1953-54.

Social Insurance.—Report to the Hon. the Minister for Trade and Customs, 1910.

Social Statistics.—Bulletins, 1907 to 1915 annually, and 1918.

Superannuation for the Commonwealth Public Service.—Report to the Hon. the Minister for Home Affairs, 1910.

***Survey of Motor Vehicles (1947-48) Results**.—Bulletins Nos. 1 to 7.

***Survey of Private Superannuation Schemes 1951-52** (reprinted in *Finance Bulletin* No. 44).

Transport and Communication.—Bulletins, 1906, 1908 to 1916 annually, 1919 to 1930 annually, and 1932 to 1954-55 annually.

***Vegetables Grown on Farms for Human Consumption**.—Statistical Bulletin, annually, 1942-43 to 1954-55.

Wages and Prices.—January, 1932.

Wealth.—The Private Wealth of Australia and its Growth as ascertained by various methods, together with a Report on the War Census in 1915.

***Wheat Industry** (formerly *Summary of the Wheat Situation*).—Statistical Bulletin, periodically; first issue, July, 1936.

***Wool Supplies and Utilization**.—Bulletin, annually, 1952-53 to 1954-55.

The foregoing list includes all the printed publications issued from the Bureau, and certain more important mimeographed publications issued for the most part annually. Other mimeographed statements, obtainable on application to the Commonwealth Statistician and dealing with a wide variety of subjects, are issued as follows:—

Annually—Bee Farming; Commonwealth and State Taxation Collections; Companies with Oversea Affiliations; Factory Products (Principal); Factory Statistics (Preliminary); Fire, Marine, and General Insurance; Meat Production and Utilization; Milking Machines on Rural Holdings; Mining and Quarrying; New Capital Raisings; Oversea Trade between Australia and Eastern Countries; Registrations of New Motor Vehicles; Rural Statistics of the Australian Capital Territory; Social Services, Expenditure by States; Tractors on Rural Holdings; University Statistics; Value of Production; Wheat Forecast and Estimate; Wool Production.

Half-yearly—Australian Balance of Payments; Capital Expenditure; Labour Turnover; Trade of Australia with United Kingdom.

Quarterly—Building; Interim Retail Price Index; Quarterly Business Survey; Retail Sales of Goods; Retail Price Variations—All Items ("C" Series) Index; Road Traffic Accidents; Tractor Statistics; Trade of Australia with Monetary Areas.

Monthly—Banking; Dairying Industry; Demographic Review; Employment; Exports of Wool from Australia; Export Prices Index; Gold Mining Industry; Hire Purchase Business of Finance Companies; Life Assurance; Oversea Trade; Production Statistics; Registrations of New Motor Vehicles, Savings Bank Deposits and Savings Certificates.

(ii) *Commonwealth Parliamentary and Departmental Reports and Papers*. Lists of the principal official reports and other documents containing statistical information issued from the inauguration of the Commonwealth appear in the Official Year Books up to No. 13, but it is not now practicable to undertake the preparation of such lists.

3. *State Publications*.—The chief statistical publications of each State are set out hereunder. As with the Commonwealth Parliamentary and Departmental Reports and Papers, it is not practicable to enumerate the various Departmental Reports, statements of accounts, etc., issued by officials, boards, local and semi-governmental authorities, etc., in each State.

(a) *New South Wales*—Statistical Register (annually); Official Year Book of New South Wales (annually); Pocket Year Book (annually); Statistical Bulletin (monthly to December, 1919, quarterly to June, 1943, then discontinued to September, 1948); Monthly Summary of Business Statistics.

(b) *Victoria*—Statistical Register (annually to 1916, then discontinued); Victorian Year-book (annually); Statistical Abstracts (quarterly to 1917), then discontinued to December, 1946).

* Obtainable from Commonwealth Statistician—for methods of obtaining other publications still in print see back page of this volume.

- (c) Queensland—Statistical Register (annually); Official Year Book, 1901; A.B.C. of Queensland Statistics (annually) to 1936, then discontinued; Queensland Year Book (annually 1937 to 1941, then discontinued to 1945); Queensland Pocket Year Book (annually).
- (d) South Australia—Statistical Register (annually); Official Year Book, 1912 and 1913; Statesman's Pocket Year Book of South Australia (annually); Quarterly Summary of Statistics.
- (e) Western Australia—Statistical Register (annually); Statistical Abstracts (quarterly, previously issued monthly to July, 1917); Pocket Year Book of Western Australia (annually).
- (f) Tasmania—Statistical Register (annually); Pocket Year Book of Tasmania (annually); Monthly Review of Business Statistics.

§ 3. The Third Conference of British Commonwealth Statisticians, Canberra, 1951.

Conferences of the Government Statisticians of the British Commonwealth were held first in London in 1920 and then in Ottawa in 1935. The Third Conference was held in Canberra from 12th to 23rd November, 1951. Delegates were present from Australia, Canada, Ceylon, India, New Zealand and the United Kingdom (including a representative of the Colonial Office). Ireland, the Commonwealth Economic Committee and the United Nations were represented by observers, and the Australian State Government Statisticians were also present. A summary of the activities of the conference may be found in Official Year Book No. 39, page 1320.

§ 4. Select List of Works about, or published in, Australia.

(Compiled by the Librarian of the Commonwealth National Library.)

This list aims to meet the growing need, in Australia as publishing develops, and overseas as interest in Australia widens, for an authoritative current reference and reading list of books dealing with Australia or of Australian authorship, wherever published.

Australians will find these books in the National Library and in their State Libraries as well as in leading bookshops. Oversea readers may have access to them in the collections which the National Library maintains at 41 Australian posts abroad. They will be found also, increasingly, in leading libraries and bookshops in many countries. In the United States, for example, Australian books are included in the Farmington Plan in which 62 libraries and research institutions co-operate to ensure that at least one copy of all material published in any part of the world and likely to be required for a serious purpose will be available promptly somewhere in the country.

The list is classified broadly by subject and under each heading there is first a list of the principal standard books still in print, then a list of selected books and official publications (excluding annual reports) which were published during 1954. A few books published earlier, but received too late for inclusion in the previous list, are also included. Where known the retail price in the country of publication is given, but this is subject to fluctuation.

The Library also issues a series of select lists which include, *Australian Public Affairs Information Service* (monthly), subject index of material in new books, pamphlets, current periodicals and government publications from English speaking countries, with an important bearing on investigations into Australian political, economic, cultural and social affairs, and the following full bibliographies.

Monthly list of Australian Government Publications, covering both the Commonwealth and the States;

Books published in Australia : a monthly list of books supplied to the National Library under copyright.

The two last-mentioned publications are cumulated annually as the *Annual Catalogue of Australian Publications* which includes also a list of books published overseas of Australian interest or by authors resident in Australia, a select list of the more important Australian periodical and serial publications and a directory of publishers.

General and Descriptive.

- ABBOTT, C. L. A. Australia's frontier province (the Northern Territory). Syd., Angus & Robertson, 1950. 78. 6d.
- AUSTRALIA : the *Herald* year book : a reference work of world wide range : No. 1 to date. Melb., Herald and Weekly Times, 1949 to date. 178. 6d. Latest issue : 1950.
- AUSTRALIAN ENCYCLOPAEDIA : (ed. by A. W. Jose, H. J. Carter and T. G. Tucker : 3rd ed.): 2v. Syd., Angus & Robertson, 1926-27. (o.p., but new ed. in preparation).
- CAIGER, G., ed. The Australian way of life. Lond., Heinemann, 1953. 128. 6d.
- FINLAYSON, H. H. The red centre : man and beast in the heart of Australia (2nd ed.). Syd., Angus & Robertson, 1952. 218.
- GRATTAN, C. H. Introducing Australia. (2nd Aust. ed.) Syd., Angus & Robertson, 1949. 78. 6d.
- NOBLE, N. S., ed. The Australian environment (2nd ed.). Melb., C.S.I.R.O., 1950. 108. 6d.
- OFFICIAL YEAR BOOK OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA : No. 1 to date. Canb., Govt. Pr., 1908 to 1946-47 (No. 37), 58. *per issue*; after No. 38, 108. Latest issue : No. 42, 1956.
- RATCLIFFE, F. N. Flying fox and drifting sand : the adventures of a biologist in Australia : introd. by Julian Huxley. Syd., Angus & Robertson, 1951. 158. First published in 1938.
- TAYLOR, T. G. Australia : a study of warm environments and their effect on British settlement (6th ed.). Lond., Methuen, 1951. 308.
- WALKABOUT : Australian geographical magazine : v. 1 to date. Melb., Australian Geographical Society, 1934 to date. Monthly, 248. *per annum*.
- WHITE, H. L., ed. Canberra : a nation's capital : foreword by Sir Robert Garran. Syd., Angus & Robertson, 1954. 358.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

- AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF POLITICAL SCIENCE. Northern Australia : task for a nation. Syd., Angus & Robertson, 1954. 198. 6d.
- BARTLETT, N. The pearl seekers. Lond., Melrose, 1954. 168. An historical account of the Australian pearling industry.
- BLUNDEN, G. The land and people of Australia. Philadelphia, Lippincott, 1954. 32.75.
- FRASER, J. A. Gold dish and kava bowl. Lond., Dent, 1954. 188. Autobiography of a gold prospector in Australia, Fiji and the Solomons.
- GRIFFITH, G. NESTA. Some northern homes of N.S.W. Syd., Shepherd Press, 1954. 358.
- HILL, ERNESTINE. Australia : land of contrasts : ed. by Sydney Ure Smith (2nd ed.). Syd., Sands, 1954. 78. 6d.
- IDRIESS, I. L. The nor-westers. Syd., Angus & Robertson, 1954. 188.
- MILES, BERYL. The stars my blanket. Lond., Murray, 1954. 168. Account of an adventurous journey through central Australia in search of aboriginal cave drawings.
- MOOREHEAD, A. C. Rum Jungle. Lond., H. Hamilton, 1954. 128. 6d. Deals not only with the recently discovered uranium field, but with many aspects of life in northern and central Australia.
- REID, F. The romance of the Great Barrier Reef. Syd., Angus & Robertson, 1954. 228. 6d.
- WANNAN, W., comp. The Australian : yarns, ballads, legends and traditions of the Australian people. Melb., Australasian Book Society, 1954. 188. 6d.
- WHITE, MYRTLE R. No roads go by : illus. by Elizabeth Durack (2nd ed.). Syd., Angus & Robertson, 1954. 168. An account of the daily life on a cattle station in South Australia forty years ago. First published in 1932.

Territories Outside Australia.

- AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL ANTARCTIC RESEARCH EXPEDITION. 1947-1949. Reports. Melb., Antarctic Division, Department of External Affairs, 1951 to date.
- GORDON, D. C. The Australian frontier in New Guinea 1870-1885. N.Y., Columbia Univ. Press, 1951. \$4.25.
- HOGGIN, H. I. Transformation scene: the changing culture of a New Guinea village. Lond., Routledge, 1951. 30s.
- MEAD, Margaret. From the South Seas: studies of adolescence and sex in primitive societies. 3 v. in 1. N.Y., Morrow, 1939. \$4.
- NEW ZEALAND ANTARCTIC SOCIETY. The Antarctic to-day: a mid-century survey: ed. by Frank A. Simpson. Well., Reed, 1952. 47s. 6d.
- PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA, Territory of. Official research publications: no. 1 to date. Port Moresby, Govt. Pr., 1951 to date.
- PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA, Territory of—Laws, statutes &c. Laws of the Territory of Papua-New Guinea, 1945-1949 (annotated) . . . together with supplements to the Laws of the Territory of Papua, 1888-1945 (annotated) and the laws of the Territory of New Guinea 1921-1945 (annotated). Syd., Govt. Pr., 1952.
- RIESENFELD, A. Megalithic culture of Melanesia. Leiden, Brill, 1950. 35 glds.
- SCHOLES, W. A. Seventh continent: saga of Australian exploration in Antarctica 1895-1950. Lond., Allen & Unwin, 1953. 21s.
- STANNER, W. E. H. The South Seas in transition: a study of post-war rehabilitation and reconstruction in three British Pacific dependencies. Syd., Asian Pub. Co., 1953. 50s.
- WILLIAMS, F. E. Orokaiva magic. Oxf., Oxford Univ. Press, 1928. 12s. 6d.
- Orokaiva Society. Oxf., Oxford Univ. Press, 1930. 25s.
- Papuaus of the Trans-Fly. Oxf., Oxford Univ. Press, 1936. 30s.
- See also the annual reports of the Administrators of the various Territories, and reports to the General Assembly of the United Nations on trusteeship territories, the anthropological reports of the Governments of Papua and New Guinea, and material appearing in *Oceania*.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

- BARRETT, C. L. Isles of the sun. Melb., Heinemann, 1954. 22s. 6d. Observations of a naturalist in Papua-New Guinea.
- BELSHAW, C. S. Changing Melanesia: social economics of culture contact. Melb., Oxford Univ. Press, 1954. 17s. 6d.
- DUPRYRAT, A. Mitsinari: twenty-one years among the Papuaus. Lond., Staples, 1954. 15s. First published in France.
- HANDBOOK OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA, 1954: comp. and ed. by R. W. Robson, Syd., Pacific Publications, 1954. 15s.
- LEESON, IDA. A bibliography of bibliographies of the South Pacific. Melb., Oxford Univ. Press, 1954. 15s. Published under the auspices of the South Pacific Commission.
- LUNDQVIST, E. Un Suédois chez les Malais et les Papous. Paris, Julliard, 1954. f8.60.
- SIMPSON, C. Adam in plumes. Syd., Angus & Robertson, 1954. 25s.

History.

- CLARK, C. M. H., ed. Select documents in Australian history 1788-1800: selected and ed. by C. M. H. Clark with the assistance of L. S. Pryor. 2v. Syd., Angus & Robertson, 1950. 112s.
- CRAWFORD, R. M. Australia. Lond., Hutchinson's Univ. Library 1952. 8s. 6d.
- FITZPATRICK, B. C. British Empire in Australia: an economic history 1834-1939 (2nd ed.). Melb., Melbourne Univ. Press, 1949. 17s. 6d.
- HISTORICAL RECORDS OF AUSTRALIA: (ed. by J. F. Watson). Syd., Commonwealth National Library, 1914 to date. 12s. 6d. *per v.* 34 v. have so far appeared. Publication has been suspended since 1925.
- HISTORICAL STUDIES: AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND: No. 1 to date. Melb., Melbourne Univ. Press, 1945 to date. Bi-annual. 16s. *per annum*.
- O'BRIEN, E. M. The foundation of Australia (1786-1800): a study in English criminal practice and penal colonization in the eighteenth century: foreword by John M. Ward (2nd ed.). Syd., Angus & Robertson, 1950. 25s.
- SHANN, E. O. G. An economic history of Australia. Melb., Georgian House, 1948. 18s. First published in 1930.
- SHAW, A. G. L. Economic development of Australia (rev. ed.). Melb., Longmans, 1946. 8s. 6d.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- ALEXANDER, F. The origins of the eastern goldfields water scheme in Western Australia: an exercise in the interpretation of historical evidence: by F. Alexander, F. K. Crowley and J. P. Legge. Perth University of Western Australia Press, 1954. 5s.
- CROWLEY, F. K. The records of Western Australia. Perth, Publications Committee of the University of Western Australia, 1953 to date. 84s. *per v.*
- CURREY, C. H. The Irish at Eureka. Syd., Angus & Robertson, 1954. 21s.
- HARRIS, A. Settlers and convicts: or, Recollections of sixteen years' labour in the Australian backwoods: by an emigrant mechanic: foreword by C. M. H. Clark (2nd ed.). Melb., Melbourne Univ. Press, 1954. 18s. 6d.
- INGAMELLS, R. C. Royalty and Australia. Melb., Hallcraft Publishing Co., 1954. 19s. 6d.
- HUDSPETH, W. H. Hudspeth memorial volume: an introduction to the diaries of the Rev. Robert Knopwood A.M. and B. T. W. B. Boyes. Hobart, Committee of the W. H. Hudspeth Memorial, 1954. 21s.

- LEMPRIERE, T. J. The penal settlements of early Van Diemen's Land. Launceston, Royal Society of Tasmania (Northern Branch), 1954.
- PALMER, E. VANCE. The legend of the nineties. Melb., Melbourne Univ. Press, 1954. 25s.
- ROYAL VISIT TO AUSTRALIA OF HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II. AND HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH 1954. Syd., Angus & Robertson, 1954. 21s. 6d. Official commemorative volume of the royal visit. Comp., photographed, written and designed by the Australian News and Information Bureau.
- WOLLASTON, J. R. Wollaston's Albany Journals (1848-1856) being vol. 2 of the Journals and diaries (1841-1856) of Revd. John Ramsden Wollaston, M.A., Archdeacon of Western Australia, 1849-1856: collected by Rev. Canon A. Burton: ed. with notes by Canon Percy V. Henn. Perth, Paterson Brokensha, 1954. 17s. 6d.
- ZIEGLER, O. L., ed. The royal visit to New South Wales: official record: the visit of Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, February-March, 1954. Syd., Oswald L. Ziegler, 1954. 3cs. A popular ed. of the books presented to the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh by the Government of New South Wales.

Military and Naval History.

- AUSTRALIA—Army. *Department of—Public Relations Directorate.* The Australian army at war: an official record of service in two hemispheres, 1939-1945. Melb., 1947.
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DIARY OF PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC EVENTS, 1952 to 1955.

The principal economic events for the years 1931 to 1938 were shown on pp. 968 to 977 of Official Year Book No. 33, those for the years 1939 to 1944 on pp. 1129 to 1141 of Official Year Book No. 36 while those for the years 1945 to 1951 were included in the range of years covered by the three Official Year Books following (Nos. 37 to 39). For reasons of space some of the items originally shown for the years 1952 and 1953 have been omitted from this issue. Previous issues should be consulted for additional information for these years.

1952.

Migration was on a reduced scale during 1952. The decline in immigration was associated with unsettled employment conditions in Australia, and total numbers employed (excluding rural and household domestic workers and the defence forces) fell from 2,637,000 in December, 1951, to 2,533,000 in December, 1952. Except for small increases in February and December, this decline continued throughout 1952, while the number of persons on unemployment benefit increased from 2,000 to 40,000.

68,000 new houses were started and 79,000 completed during the year. Production of coal, gas, electricity, pig-iron and steel was maintained or increased, and electricity restrictions were much less severe than in recent years.

In the early part of the year continuing drought and bushfires, particularly in New South Wales, Queensland and the Northern Territory, seriously affected pastures and restricted meat and butter production. Conditions improved later in the year and meat and milk production increased quickly. For crops, weather conditions generally were favorable and wheat production in 1952-53 was considerably higher than in 1951-52. Average yield per acre reached an all-time record of about 19 bushels. Wool production is estimated to have reached an all-time record in 1952-53, being 19 per cent. above 1951-52.

The high level of imports reached in the latter half of 1951 continued into 1952. This increase in imports, together with a drop in the receipts for exports, resulted in a balance of payments deficit on current account for the latter half of 1951, and the continuation of these conditions in 1952 led to the imposition of severe import restrictions to safeguard overseas reserves. Licences to import goods from dollar areas were also recalled and reviewed. The value of imports fell by more than 50 per cent. in the second half of the year and the balance of payments deficit of £269 million in the first half of the year was changed to a surplus of £75 million in the second half of the year.

Average earnings per employee continued to rise and in the December quarter were about 11 per cent. above the corresponding level of the previous year. Retail prices increased by about 10 per cent. and wholesale prices by about 9 per cent. during the year.

During 1952 uncertainty about the future of interest rates for public authority borrowing resulted in a number of loan failures until some stability in interest rates was reached towards the end of the year. Bank overdraft and deposit rates were also raised from the beginning of August.

2nd January.—The Australian Mutual Provident Society to take over a large low-rainfall area in the Mallee-Wimmera District for development and improvement for settlement under the Victorian Land (Development Leases) Act 1951. (*See also* 18th August, 1949, Official Year Book No. 39.)

5th January.—Australia and Pakistan signed a one-year trade agreement.

17th January.—Commonwealth Conciliation Commissioner Galvin refused an application by eleven metals trades unions for marginal wage increases. (*See* 29th February, 1st March, 1952, and 11th November, 1953.)

21st January.—A conference of British Commonwealth Finance Ministers, attended by the Treasurer of Australia, issued a statement on the measures considered necessary to correct the sterling area situation.

25th January.—Widespread bushfires in New South Wales, Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory.

19th February.—Good rains in the northern areas of New South Wales end the worst drought experienced for many years, during which extensive areas of pastures and crops were destroyed by bushfires. Drought conditions continued in Queensland and the Northern Territory.

23rd February.—Discovery announced of important high-grade uranium deposits at Rum Jungle in the Northern Territory.

26th February.—Introduction into the House of Representatives of the Fisheries and Pearl Fisheries Bills to conserve swimming and sedentary fisheries in Australian waters. (Acts assented to 13th March.)

7th March.—The Commonwealth Bank prohibited the establishment of further import credits until licences had been obtained for the goods involved.

8th March.—Imposition of severe restrictions on imports from all sources and on amounts available for Australians travelling overseas.

11th March.—Arrival of the President of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to survey development progress and to discuss loan prospects with the Commonwealth Government.

1st April.—Agreement between the Commonwealth and South Australian Governments and the combined Development Agency of the British and American Governments on the development of uranium deposits at Radium Hill, South Australia.

9th April.—The Waterside Workers' Federation, in connexion with its claim for higher margins, imposed an Australia-wide ban on overtime.

29th April.—Wages of about 50,000 workers in the pastoral industry in all States, except Queensland (where a State award is in operation), reduced by Commonwealth Conciliation Commissioner because of a decline in wool prices.

3rd May.—A special Loan Council meeting approved programmes amounting to £247,500,000 for Government loans and £128,000,000 for local and semi-governmental authorities loans, the Commonwealth Government being prepared to guarantee subscriptions to an extent of £125,000,000 (subsequently increased to £135,000,000).

7th May.—Introduction into the House of Representatives of the Aluminium Industry Bill, an amending bill designed to increase by £4,250,000 the capital originally contributed in 1944 (£3,000,000) for the establishment of the industry at Bell Bay, Tasmania, and provide for the annual production of 13,000 tons of aluminium ingots. (Act assented to 30th May.)

22nd May.—Modification of the Commonwealth Bank's advance policy to secure greater flexibility and to enable individual banks to apply the policy appropriately in individual cases.

The Conciliation and Arbitration Bill introduced into House of Representatives providing for a limited right of appeal from decisions of Conciliation Commissioners to a court of three Arbitration Court Judges, and an increase in the number of Arbitration Court Judges to at least seven, so that two full courts may sit at once. (Act assented to 17th June.)

23rd May.—Good rains brought relief to north and central Australia which had suffered from prolonged drought causing heavy losses in cattle industry.

29th May.—Bill introduced to approve agreement between the Commonwealth Government and the Bulolo Gold Dredging Ltd. to form a joint company to cut 10,000,000 super. feet of timber annually from pine forests at Bulolo, New Guinea. (Act assented to 17th June.)

18th June.—Wagga, Forbes, Cowra and many other towns were badly flooded by water from the Murrumbidgee and Lachlan Rivers and their tributaries.

24th June.—Employers' organizations lodged a claim with the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration seeking the following adjustments to awards of 25 metal trades unions, affecting about 250,000 workers in all States except Western Australia:— (i) Reduction in basic wage by amounts of from £2 5s. to £2 7s. per week; (ii) Reduction of the female rate from 75 per cent. to 60 per cent. of the male rate; (iii) An increase in working hours from 40 to 44 hours per week, to be worked in either 5 or 5½ days; (iv) Abandonment of the system of automatic quarterly cost of living adjustments to the basic wage. (See 12th September, 1953.)

1st July.—New five-year Dairy Industry Stabilization Scheme commenced to operate.

7th July.—At a conference of the Prime Minister and State Premiers a total of £135,900,000 was decided on as tax reimbursement grant to the States for 1952-53, plus Special Grants to Victoria and Tasmania of £800,000 and £70,000 respectively.

9th July.—The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development announced the granting of a further loan to Australia of \$50,000,000 for a twenty-year term at 4½ per cent. interest.

14th July.—Relaxation of bank advance policy to provide hire-purchase finance for farm equipment announced.

24th July.—Announced that as a result of present economic situation the migration programme for 1952 and 1953 would be reduced.

1st August.—Revocation of the order made by the Commonwealth Bank under National Security Regulations fixing maximum rates of interest. This was followed by a general increase in interest rates.

6th August.—The Commonwealth Budget for 1952-53 introduced into the House of Representatives. (For details, see Official Year Book No. 40, p. 1198.)

26th August.—Arrival of Santa Gertrudis cattle from King Ranch, Texas, U.S.A., to start the breed on the Darling Downs, Queensland.

27th August.—The new blast furnace lit at Port Kembla, New South Wales, expected to increase output of pig iron at that centre by 1,500 tons daily.

11th September.—Announced that Consolidated Zinc Pty. Ltd. would develop the Rum Jungle, Northern Territory, uranium deposits on behalf of the Commonwealth Government, the United States of America Atomic Energy Commission to supply uranium refining plant to begin operating in 1954.

30th September.—All controls over building operations and materials ended in New South Wales.

6th October.—The Commonwealth Bank announced the cessation of restrictions on bank advances for any purpose, except where the control of capital issues is involved.

14th October.—The Navigation Bill, proposing the transfer of jurisdiction over maritime industrial disputes from the Maritime Industry Commission to a single judge of the

Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration and the abolition of the Maritime Industry Commission, introduced into the House of Representatives. (Act assented to 8th December.)

Broken Hill Proprietary Steel Industry Agreement Bill introduced into the Western Australian Legislative Assembly to ratify an agreement for the establishment of a steel rolling mill and fence post factory at a cost of approximately £4,000,000 at Kwinana, near Fremantle, Western Australia. (Act assented to 18th December.)

16th October.—A Bill to provide for the sale of the Commonwealth's holding of shares in Commonwealth Oil Refineries Ltd. to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd. introduced into the House of Representatives (Act assented to 6th November). The Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd. is to construct an oil refinery with a capacity of about 3,000,000 tons a year, to cost about £40,000,000, at Kwinana.

22nd October.—Owing to the increased production of coal, the Coal Industry Tribunal granted an application to advance the date for commencement of the long service leave scheme from 1st January, 1954 to 1st January, 1953. (See 7th September, 1949, Official Year Book No. 39.)

27th November–11th December.—The Prime Minister and other Australian Ministers attended the British Commonwealth Economic Conference in London. All subjects were discussed in the light of the necessity to curb inflation and rises in the cost of living, to encourage sound economic development, and to extend a multilateral trade and payment system over the widest possible area.

5th December.—The Coal Industry Stabilization Plan was announced by the Commonwealth Government, its main features being the financing by the Commonwealth of the stockpiling of surplus production, and of the sale of coal on a credit basis to major consumers; the foregoing by the Commonwealth of interest charges on mining plant which might become idle, and the daily review of production and demand.

31st December.—The first good rains for many months were recorded in Northern Territory drought-stricken areas.

1953.

The immigration programme was cut further during the year and net migration amounted to only about 43,000, compared with 94,000 in 1952 and over 100,000 in each of the preceding three years.

Total employment (excluding rural and household domestic employment and the defence forces) rose from 2,533,000 in December, 1952 to 2,612,000 in December, 1953. Numbers on unemployment benefit dropped to less than half the level of 41,600 reached in January.

Production of coal was down slightly from the 1952 level, but production of gas and electricity and of many basic materials continued to increase. Production of refrigerators, washing machines, radios and other domestic electrical goods, many clothing and textile lines and sporting goods increased substantially after the set back of the previous year. There was also some revival in house building, but the number of houses started did not regain the 1951 level.

Seasonal conditions were satisfactory. Meat production was substantially increased. The average wheat yield was lower than the previous year's record but still high at 17 bushels per acre. Acreage was somewhat greater and total production was estimated at about 199 million bushels compared with 195 million bushels in the 1952–53 harvest. The wool clip for 1953–54 was only 3 per cent. under the record of the previous year.

After some weakness at the close of the 1952–53 season, wool prices firmed again at the opening sales in September and during the first half of the 1953–54 season averaged 85d. compared with 81.8d. in 1952–53. Export prices generally remained above the previous year's level and the value of exports was considerably higher than in 1952. During the second half of the year imports also increased substantially over the low level of the previous twelve months, and the balance of payments credit on current account which reached about £100 million in the first half of the year dropped to about £20 million in the second half.

Rises in internal prices and earnings were much smaller. Average earnings per employee rose by 4 per cent., the basic wage by 2 per cent., retail prices by 4 per cent., and wholesale prices by 5 per cent. before falling towards the close of the year, compared with increases of about 10 per cent. in 1952.

Interest rates were kept stable during the year at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on Commonwealth bonds, $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on local and semi-governmental securities and 5 per cent. on bank advances. Both Commonwealth loans raised during the year at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. were over-subscribed, and during the second half of the year there was some speculation about a possible drop in interest rates.

5th January.—New deposits of coal, bauxite, tin and zinc discovered as a result of surveys carried out by the Bureau of Mineral Resources, Geology and Geophysics.

8th January.—Ten-year agreement signed for sale to the United States of America of uranium from deposits at Rum Jungle, Northern Territory.

10th January.—United Kingdom and Queensland Governments agreed to abandon the Queensland-British Food Corporation's farming project in Central Queensland.

22nd January.—For first time since 1945, basic wage adjustment for December quarter showed no change in average for six capital cities.

18th February.—Television Bill introduced into House of Representatives to permit the establishment of both National and Commercial television transmitting stations. (Act assented to 20th March.)

19th February.—The Commonwealth Bank Bill 1953, which sets up the Commonwealth Trading Bank under a General Manager, in place of the General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank, and the Banking Bill 1953, which provides for a new method of determining the maximum amounts which the trading banks may be required to lodge with the Commonwealth Bank, introduced into House of Representatives. (Both Acts assented to 28th March.)

20th February.—Premiers' Conference in Canberra failed to reach agreement on return of income tax powers to the States.

1st April.—Further relaxation of import restrictions to allow additional imports to the value of £50,000,000 during the next twelve months other than from the dollar area and Japan.

13th April.—New International Wheat Agreement signed in Washington fixing Australia's annual wheat export quota at 75,000,000 bushels. (Later legislation introduced into House of Representatives, 11th October.)

18th April.—Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization announced that a process had been developed to prevent shrinkage in wool.

15th May.—Australia and United States of America signed conventions to end double taxation between the two countries. (Acts ratifying these conventions were assented to 11th December.)

19th May.—Australian Loan Council meeting at Canberra adopted programme of £231,000,000 for State Government works during 1953-54. Borrowing programme of £90,486,000 by Local Government and Semi-governmental authorities also approved. Loan Council decided to retain ruling interest rates on public loans for at least twelve months.

8th June.—Britain and Australia signed agreement for reciprocity in social services benefits.

9th June.—Conference of Commonwealth Prime Ministers on defence, economic and political issues concluded in London.

24th June.—Contract prices for sale of Australian butter and cheese to the United Kingdom Ministry of Food during 1953-54 increased by approximately $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

1st July.—Commonwealth Medical Benefits Scheme commenced, under which persons who are contributors to an approved medical benefits organization are entitled to receive part reimbursement by the Commonwealth of payments made for medical services to themselves or their dependants.

Conditions of purchase by Australian Atomic Energy Commission of acceptable uranium ores and concentrates from 1st July announced, including guaranteed minimum prices for five years.

Further relaxation of restrictions on imports from sterling countries came into operation. Some increases in imports from Japan also to be allowed.

15th July.—Announced that the United Kingdom Government would pay higher prices, representing increases of $7\frac{1}{2}$ and $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. respectively, for Australian lamb and mutton in 1953-54.

7th August.—Shipping freights to United Kingdom rose by $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

13th August.—Commonwealth Government rejected a Japanese request for a conference to discuss trade relations between Australia and Japan.

9th September.—The Commonwealth Budget for 1953-54 introduced into the House of Representatives. (For details, see Official Year Book No. 41, p. 1086.)

10th September.—Pearl Fisheries Bill introduced, providing for a licensing system and other measures to control pearl fisheries (Act assented to 17th September). *See also* 11th September.

11th September.—Australian sovereignty proclaimed over sea-bed, subsoil, and continental shelf adjoining Australia and Australian territories. (Australia subsequently agreed to submit issues arising from the Pearl Fisheries Act to the International Court of Justice for adjudication.)

12th September.—Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration refused applications by employers for reduction of current basic wages and for an increase of standard hours of work and also refused applications by unions for increases of basic wages. The employers' applications for abandonment of the system of automatic adjustment of the basic wage in accordance with retail price indexes were, however, granted. Later, the extension by the Court, on its own motion, of this decision to awards not the subject of an application before the Court was challenged in the High Court by the unions concerned but the power of the Arbitration Court to so vary awards was upheld.

24th September.—Australian Council of Trade Unions Congress withdrew its policy of unqualified opposition to incentive payments, leaving individual unions free to accept incentive payment schemes if they so desire.

1st October.—Announced that Australia would receive an increase of $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in the price of beef and veal shipped to the United Kingdom during 1953-54 under the fifteen-year meat agreement with United Kingdom.

Further relaxation of import restrictions on goods from sterling areas came into operation, allowing additional annual imports valued at £45 million.

7th October.—All States agreed to a price of 14s. per bushel for wheat sold in Australia for the three years ending 1955-56.

13th October.—Wheat Marketing Bill providing for orderly marketing of wheat for next three harvests introduced into House of Representatives. (Act assented to 26th October.)

Bill providing for ratification of the International Wheat Agreement, under which portion of Australia's crop for the next three seasons will be exported within certain price limits, introduced into House of Representatives. (Act assented to 26th October.)

Queensland State Full Industrial Court rejected application by employers' organizations to end basic wage adjustments.

22nd October.—Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration refused New South Wales transport authorities permission to withdraw applications for relief from basic wage adjustments.

26th October.—Factories and Shops (Wages Boards) Bill 1953 introduced in Victoria to pay latest cost-of-living increase in basic wages. (Act assented to 25th November.)

30th October.—Tasmanian Government abolished price control on all goods other than copper.

11th November.—Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration completed hearing of evidence by Australian Engineering Union and other organizations in the margins case and reserved its decision. (See 5th November, 1954.)

12th November.—Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Bill, giving absolute preference to unionists, introduced in New South Wales Parliament. (Act assented to 17th December.)

3rd December.—Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia commenced operations.

4th December.—Oil discovered at Exmouth Gulf, 680 miles north of Perth. The oil, discovered at a depth of approximately 3,600 feet, was stated to be a very high grade crude oil.

31st December.—With the expiration of the Defence Preparations Act, control of Capital Issues ceased.

Price control abandoned in Western Australia.

1954.

Immigration was greater than in 1953. Net migration increased from 43,000 in 1953 to 68,000 in 1954, but was still well below the level of the preceding four years. Employment increased continuously throughout 1954. Total employment (excluding rural and household domestic employment and the defence forces) rose from 2,612,000 in December, 1953 to 2,701,000 in December, 1954. In April total employment exceeded the previous peak of 2,643,000 reached in November, 1951. Numbers on unemployment benefit fell from 13,423 in January to 2,975 in November, 1954. Production of pig-iron and steel was practically the same as in 1953, but there were rises in the production of coal, gas and electricity, and many basic materials (copper, lead, zinc, acids, cement, superphosphate). Production of domestic electrical appliances and of many textile and clothing lines also increased. More new houses were commenced in 1954 than in 1953, but the number completed was slightly below the 1953 figure. Meat production increased slightly in 1954. The wheat acreage for 1954-55 was about the same as in 1952-53, but both the total crop and the average yield are estimated to be below the levels of the previous two seasons. A substantial fall in exports, however, resulted in a level of stocks at 30th November, more than twice as high as a year earlier. The 1954-55 wool clip is estimated to be practically the same as the record 1952-53 clip and about 3 per cent. higher than the 1953-54 clip. In April there was a further relaxation of import restrictions (imposed in March, 1952) on trade with countries other than dollar area and Japan, and imports were substantially higher than in 1953. A fall in wool and wheat prices and a lower volume of wheat exports contributed to a decline in exports. In the second half of 1954 there was a debit balance, estimated at £96 million, in the balance of payments on current account compared with a debit balance of £62 million in the first half of the year, and a credit balance of £54 million in the second half of 1953. Quotas were re-imposed on some imports in October. Average earnings per employee rose by 4 per cent., the same as the previous year's rise. In 1954, however, retail and wholesale prices showed practically no change whereas in 1953 they rose by 4 per cent. and 3 per cent. respectively. Bank interest rates were not altered during the year. The three Commonwealth loans were issued at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for long dated bonds and most local and semi-governmental loans at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

7th January.—Reciprocal agreement with the United Kingdom on Social Services became operative.

8th-15th January.—Conference of British Finance Ministers held in Sydney with the Prime Minister as Chairman and other Australian Ministers in attendance. Conference reaffirmed the British Commonwealth's objectives of strengthening the internal economies of member countries and of establishing with other countries the widest possible system of multilateral trade and payments.

19th January.—It was announced that Australia would sign the declaration extending until 30th June, 1955 the schedule of tariff concessions under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

5th February.—Tariff Board increased to seven by the appointment of three new members.

25th February.—Interim decision by Full Arbitration Court on claim by Metal Trades employees for increased margins left rates of pay unchanged (*see* 5th November, 1954).

4th March.—Loan of \$54 million from the International Bank, to be used to import capital goods and equipment.

10th March.—19th Security Loan of £35 million closed with a subscription of about £50 million.

1st April.—United Kingdom Free and Assisted Passages Migration Agreement with Australia renewed for another year.

9th April.—Contract for £25 million let to Kaiser group, of U.S.A. for the construction of the Eucumbene—Tumut tunnel and other works in the Snowy Mountains Scheme.

16th April.—Revision of the 15 year marketing agreement for Australian meat sold in the United Kingdom, occasioned by the change over from bulk purchasing to private trading.

27th April.—£3.9 million contract for building the Upper Tumut power station of the Snowy Mountains Scheme let to a French group of contractors.

4th June.—Queensland Industrial Court increased margins to workers under Mechanical Engineering Award.

16th June.—Premier of South Australia announced two new uranium finds in north-east of State.

28th June.—Australia signed International Tin Agreement as a consuming country. Savings Bank deposits in Australia reached £1,000 million for the first time.

30th June.—Loan Council approved borrowing programme of £290 million for 1954-55 comprising Government loans, £200 million, Semi-Governmental loans, £75 million, and Local Government loans, £15 million. Tax reimbursement Grants to States to be £150 million for 1954-55. Australian population census taken.

1st July.—Forecast that by 31st July stocks of wheat carried over by the four major producing countries will total 1,601 million bushels compared with 1,061 million in 1953.

4th July.—Commonwealth Budget for 1953-54 resulted in a surplus of £56,300,000 Favourable trade balance of £149,400,000 for 1953-54.

13th July.—Heavy rain and gales caused damage to 200 miles of coastal area from Queensland to Northern New South Wales with floods in river districts of S.E. Queensland and Northern New South Wales. For the seventh time in five years (and twice in 1954) the New South Wales North Coast towns have been flooded. Damage estimated at £17,000,000.

16th July.—Retail prices index for June showed, on average, a slight fall throughout Australia.

4th August.—£1,800,000 hydro-electric project approved for Warragamba Dam (New South Wales).

13th August.—Wool sold in Australia in 1953-54 season realized £390.7 million, £14 million less than last year, but third highest on record.

18th August.—Commonwealth Budget for 1954-55 introduced into the House of Representatives, providing for an estimated expenditure of £1,016,923,000, revenue of £1,017,174,000 and an estimated surplus of £251,000. Major items of estimated expenditure from Consolidated Revenue Fund were:—Defence Services, £200,000,000;

War and Repatriation Services, £118,000,000; National Welfare Fund, £193,000,000; Payments to or for the States, £199,000,000; Capital Works and Services, £104,500,000; Estimated expenditure from Loan Fund included £5,000,000 for War Service Land Settlement and £5,000,000 for redemption of War Savings Certificates. Budget included proposals for increases in expenditure on repatriation benefits (£1,500,000) and social services benefits (£16,500,000); and reductions in taxation of an estimated annual value to taxpayers of £35,000,000. Proposals for reductions in taxation included reduced rates of income tax with increased allowances and exemptions (£23,000,000), sales tax (£10,000,000) and increased annual exemption from pay-roll tax (£1,500,000).

19th August.—Miners' Federation convention unanimously agreed to the mechanical extraction of pillar coal. (See 20th September, 1954.)

31st August.—New South Wales Government granted £125,000 to New South Wales University of Technology for research in nuclear engineering (previously £50,000 was granted to the University of Sydney for research into nuclear physics). £50 million Commonwealth Cash and Conversion Loan oversubscribed by £1 million.

17th September.—Prime Minister officially opened at Rum Jungle first uranium plant established in Australia.

20th September.—Mechanical extraction of pillar coal commenced in some New South Wales mines.

29th September.—The Tariff Board annual report issued a warning against any general increase in the tariff level and on high cost in industry.

30th September.—New import restrictions announced on imported materials and equipment (goods on which quota restrictions were abandoned in April, 1954), on the basis of 100 per cent. of imports in the base year, 1950-51.

5th October.—Hon. H. E. Holt, Federal Minister for Labour and National Service, announced the formation of a National Joint Production Council representing management and workers.

14th October.—Announced that Commonwealth would grant £24 million for roads in 1954-55.

29th October.—Tariff changes increased tariffs on certain imports and increased protection to eight Australian industries. Government bounties on rayon yarn in Australia and scutched flax fibre produced from flax grown in Australia were announced.

3rd November.—Bounty paid on sulphuric acid as from 1st July, 1954. Legislation introduced to appropriate £600,000 annually for five years. Waterside workers declared a general strike on the Australian waterfront as a protest against proposed new Stevedoring legislation. (See 5th November.)

5th November.—Federal Arbitration Court granted higher margins for skilled workers in a judgment intended to be a guide to other wage fixing authorities. New Stevedoring legislation introduced into House of Representatives which, in effect, gave employers the right to nominate new waterside workers. Previously the right of deciding eligibility for work in the industry had been the prerogative solely of the Unions. Government will pay subsidy on gold produced in Australia, Papua and New Guinea in the next three years.

19th November.—Privy Council ruled New South Wales State Transport (Co-ordination) Act is invalid insofar as it applied to interstate Transport.

22nd November.—New arrangements for regulation of trading with Japan gave Japanese exporters the opportunity of obtaining a larger share of Australia's trade.

23rd November.—Commonwealth Government set target of migrants for 1954-55 at 115,000.

25th November.—Commonwealth Government called tenders for equipment necessary for television stations in Sydney and Melbourne.

2nd December.—Australian wheat prices guaranteed under the wheat stabilization plan will remain at 12s. 7d. per bushel for 1954-55 season.

10th December.—\$25 million loan floated by Australia on United States market oversubscribed.

14th December.—£13 million lag in cash section of Commonwealth Government £125 million cash and conversion loan.

15th December.—Increased margins for coal industry employees, applying in New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria and Tasmania, announced by Coal Industry Tribunal.

31st December.—Governor of Commonwealth Bank announced an increase of 5s. per cent. in rates of interest on bank fixed deposits and Savings Bank deposits, to operate from 1st January, 1955.

1955.

When the Treasurer presented the budget in August he said that there were "unmistakable signs of active inflation". A boom had been getting under way in consumer spending and private investment, and labour shortages had become general. No concessions in taxation were made in the budget. During the year several measures were introduced to check inflation. In July the Commonwealth Bank directed the trading banks to restrict new loans which would increase the scale of hire purchase. Towards the end of the year the Prime Minister held a series of conferences with representatives of financial and industrial institutions to enlist their co-operation in checking inflation. Hire purchase and finance companies agreed to restrict the increase in their loans to 10 per cent. above the level at September, 1955. The level of total bank advances changed little in the second half of the year. In spite of lower wool and wheat prices the value of exports was slightly higher than in 1954. The value of imports was much greater than in 1954 and the balance of payments deficit was therefore greater in 1955. Import restrictions were made more severe in April and again in September. Following the judgment of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration late in 1954, margins for skill were adjusted upwards in many occupations. Nominal wages rose throughout the year, and by December, 1955 were 3½ per cent. higher than in December, 1954. Over the same period average earnings rose by 7 per cent. and retail prices by 4½ per cent. Employment rose steadily during the year, and the number of persons receiving unemployment benefit fell to the lowest level since 1951. Investment by private businesses in 1955 was well above the level of 1954. Dwelling construction also continued at a high level. There were 78,000 new houses completed in 1955, a higher number than in any post-war year except 1952. The number commenced was 3,000 less than in 1954, but was higher than in 1952 or 1953. Secondary production was generally maintained at the high level of the previous year, and output of primary products increased. The wheat acreage in 1955-56 is estimated to have been slightly less than in any other post-war year, but the average yield was estimated to be the highest on record. The total crop was therefore well above the 1954-55 level and nearly as high as in 1953-54. It was predicted that the production of wool in 1955-56 would be over 1,400 million pounds compared with the previous record of about 1,290 million pounds in 1954-55. Net immigration during 1955 was 95,000. This compared with 68,000 in 1954, and 43,000 in 1953 but was still well below the 1950 and 1951 levels of 153,000 and 111,000 respectively.

1st January.—Price control in Victoria ended after 14 years. Increased Bank Deposit interest rates.

12th January.—Harbour at Cockburn Sound, Western Australia, opened to provide shipping facilities for Kwinana. Kwinana £40 million oil refinery began operations—to be in production by mid-March.

4th February.—Announced that arrangements completed for issue of £6 million public loan in Switzerland to Commonwealth Government.

7th February.—Australia's first aluminium plant, at Bell Bay, Tasmania, began production.

17th February.—Special conference agreed that Waterside Workers Federation should have right to nominate waterside recruits; counteracts legislation passed last November. (see 5th November, 1954).

22nd February.—Guthega power station in operation, first power generated from Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric scheme being fed into New South Wales electricity system.

24th February.—Disastrous floods cover large areas of Central West New South Wales and Hunter Valley. Damage estimated at £15 million to townships, stock and grazing lands, and many lives lost.

18th March.—Government plan announced for sale to tenants of houses built under Commonwealth and State Housing Agreement. Maximum advance to be £2,750 repayable over 45 years at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. interest, minimum deposit 5 per cent. of first £2,000 of sale price, repayments of principal included in rent previously paid to be credited as part of deposit.

19th March.—Details announced of new 15 year $5\frac{1}{2}$ million dollar loan from International Bank of Reconstruction to Australia at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. interest, including Bank's 1 per cent. commission.

21st March.—New import restrictions imposed, cutting Australia's rate of imports by about 20 per cent; to operate from 1st April.

23rd March.—First commercial shipment of Australian uranium oxide, worth about £200,000, dispatched to United States.

15th April.—All price control ended in New South Wales.

20th April.—Broken Hill Pty. Company announced plans for spending £67 million on plant in next five years at Newcastle and Port Kembla.

12th May.—Increase of interest rates for home purchase and building finance from 5 per cent. to $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. announced by most of major life assurance companies in Australia.

16th May.—Commonwealth Government to build ammunition filling and assembly factory at St. Marys, near Sydney, at estimated cost of £23 million.

5th June.—Australia's 1955-56 immigration programme to be increased to basic intake of 125,000 migrants (including 70,000 under assisted-passages scheme).

10th June.—Full High Court in reserved judgment declared invalid recent legislation imposing a road-tax on interstate road hauliers.

19th June.—Commonwealth abandons control of tea.

21st-23rd June.—At annual Loan Council meeting, Prime Minister rejected proposals by State Premiers for substantially increased loan programme to finance State Works in 1955-56. Loan Council, by majority vote, approved borrowing programme of £193,500,000 for public works in 1955-56. Prime Minister announced that Commonwealth Government would grant States £157 million taxation reimbursements for 1955-56, an increase of £7 million on 1954-55.

19th July.—Decision by Federal Cabinet to cut subsidy on local consumption of butter and cheese, followed by increase in butter and cheese prices. General Motors-Holden's announced £21.6 million expansion programme for plants throughout Australia.

26th-28th July.—Price control re-imposed in New South Wales and South Australia.

9th August.—Western Australian State Arbitration Court increased Western Australian basic wage by 5s. 11d.

14th August.—Prime Minister stated that Australia would not extend trading concessions to Japan under G.A.T.T.

22nd August.—First International Wool Textile Research Conference to be held in Australia opened in Sydney. Attended by 100 research workers, including 52 scientists from overseas.

23rd August.—Contract system of shipping Australian wool exports to Europe and United Kingdom broke down as British and European shipowners refused to renew contracts at less than 10 per cent. increase in freight rates.

24th August.—Commonwealth Budget for 1955-56 introduced into the House of Representatives, providing for an estimated expenditure of £1,123,599,000, revenue of £1,123,769,000 and an estimated surplus revenue of £170,000. The major items of estimated expenditure from Consolidated Revenue Fund were:—Defence Services, £190,000,000; War and Repatriation Services, £121,000,000; National Welfare Fund, £218,500,000; Payments to or for the States, £220,000,000; Capital Works and Services, £104,000,000. Estimated expenditure from Loan Fund includes £8,500,000 for War Service Land Settlement and £3,000,000 for redemption of War Savings Certificates. The Budget included proposals for increases in expenditure on repatriation benefits (£1,750,000) and social services benefits (£11,000,000).

26th August.—Overall prices of Australian iron and steel raised by 5 per cent.

30th August.—New £30 million hot-strip steel mill of Australian Iron and Steel Ltd. at Port Kembla (N.S.W.) opened by the Prime Minister who described it as "a great and historic event in the development of Australia".

12th-21st September.—Prime Minister called series of conferences with representatives of trading banks, hire purchase companies, and trade-union leaders to discuss financial aspects of Australian economic problems and suggested remedies. Fresh tightening of bank credit.

13th September.—Bank of New South Wales Savings Bank Ltd. registered in Sydney. The first new savings bank established in Australia for 40 years.

1st October.—Increase of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in shipping freights for Australian exports to most oversea countries became effective. Reductions of from $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. to 25 per cent. operated on licensed imports.

6th October.—15 million dollars (£A6.8 million) loan successfully negotiated in Canada by Australian Government.

4th November.—Legislation passed to re-introduce automatic quarterly basic wage adjustments in New South Wales.

18th November.—Queensland and New South Wales coal producers combined to form Australian Coal Association with main object of trying to find new and improved ways of producing, preparing and marketing coal.

22nd November.—For the first time in history, brown coal coke was successfully used at a Richmond (Vic.) foundry to smelt iron commercially.

26th November.—Reduction of about 10 per cent. in Queensland shearing rates under the State Shearing industry award ordered in Industrial Court judgment of 25th November.

13th December.—Trade Unions case for increased basic wages and restoration of quarterly cost of living adjustments brought before Arbitration Court.

17th December.—Commonwealth £30 million cash Loan undersubscribed by £2 million. Commonwealth Arbitration Court upholds appeal by Public Service Board against salary increases granted under "Castieau" Award of June, 1955, based on metal trades " $2\frac{1}{2}$ times" formula; Court, however, granted certain adjustments.

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE.

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

NOTES.—For each earlier year this Table contains rarely more than two or three items; for recent years, however, in order to provide a wide cover of events, etc., it includes a much greater number. Both the nature of the Table and considerations of space render necessary a continual reduction in these items, and for more information the reader should therefore consult earlier issues.

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", under Captain Arthur Phillip, at Botany Bay. Land in vicinity being found unsuitable for settlement, the expedition moved to Sydney Cove, and formal possession of the colony was taken on 26th January. Formal proclamation of colony and establishment of regular government on 7th February. Branch Settlement established at Norfolk Island. French navigator La Pérouse 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.—Scarcity of provisions. "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 *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 fisherman 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 Vic.—Abandonment of settlement at Port Phillip. Tas.—Foundation of settlement at Hobart by Collins.
- 1805 N.S.W.—First extensive sheep farm established at Camden by Capt. Macarthur.
- 1806 N.S.W.—"The great flood" on the Hawkesbury. Shortage of provisions. Tas.—Settlement at Launceston.
- 1807 N.S.W.—First shipment of merchantable wool (245 lb.) to England.
- 1808 N.S.W.—Deposition of Governor Bligh.
- 1809 N.S.W.—Free school established.
- 1810 N.S.W.—Post Office officially established at Sydney.
- 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.—Sydney Hospital opened.
- 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 (N.T.) by Captain King.
- 1819 N.S.W.—First Savings Bank in Australia opened at Sydney.
- 1820 Tas.—First importation of pure merino sheep from Camden Park (N.S.W.) flocks.
- 1821 Tas.—Establishment of penal settlement at Macquarie Harbour.
- 1822 N.S.W.—Formation of Agricultural Society of New South Wales.
- 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 Tas.—Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania) proclaimed a separate colony. 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 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.—Sturt, voyaging down Murrumbidgee and Murray Rivers, arrived at Lake Alexandrina. Tas.—Black line organized to force aborigines into Tasman's Peninsula, but failed. Small remnant subsequently (1830 to 1835) persuaded to settle on Flinders Island.
- 1831 N.S.W.—Crown lands first disposed of at auction. Mitchell's explorations north of Liverpool Plains. 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 Brothers. S.A.—Formation of the South Australian Association. W.A.—Severe reprisals against Murray River natives at Pinjarrah for continued attacks on settlers.
- 1835 Vic.—John Batman arrived at Port Phillip; 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.

Year.

- 1837 N.S.W.—Appointment in London of Select Committee on Transportation. Vic.—First overlanders from Sydney arrived at Port Phillip.
- 1838 N.S.W.—Discontinuance of assignment of convicts. Qld.—Settlement of German missionaries at Brisbane—first free colonists. 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.—Pensal 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. W.A.—Completion of Eyre’s overland journey from Adelaide to King George’s Sound. 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). Qld.—Moreton Bay granted legislative representation as a distinct electoral division.
- 1844 Qld.—Leichhardt’s expedition to Port Essington (N.T.). 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.
- 1847 N.S.W.—Iron-smelting commenced near Berrima. Overland mail established between Sydney and Adelaide. Qld.—Explorations by Leichhardt, Burnett and Kennedy.
- 1848 N.S.W.—National and Denominational School Boards established. 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 *Hashemy* convicts 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. 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.—Port Phillip created an independent colony under the name of Victoria. Discovery of gold in various localities. W.A.—Proclamation of Legislative Council Act.
- 1852 N.S.W.—Arrival of *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 protested 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 Ballaarat gold-fields. Storming of the Eureka Stockade, 3rd Dec. Telegraph first used.

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- 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 Governments in N.S.W., Vic., S.A. and Tas. (Act of 1855).
- 1857 N.S.W.—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.—Canooona gold rush.
Population of Australia reached 1,000,000.
- 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 (Torrens) Act passed. 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 sugar made from Queensland cane.
- 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 W.A.—Arrival of *Hougomont*, last convict ship.
- 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.—Forrest's explorations. Tas.—Discovery of tin at Mount Bischoff.
- 1872 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.
- 1874 N.S.W.—Triennial Parliaments Act passed. Intercolonial Conference. S.A.—University of Adelaide founded. W.A.—John and Alexander Forrest arrived at Overland Telegraph from Murchison.
- 1875 Qld.—Transfer of Port Albany Settlement to Thursday Island.
- 1876 N.S.W.—Completion of cable—Sydney to Wellington. W.A.—Giles crossed colony from east to west. Tas.—Death of Truganini, last representative of Tasmanian aboriginals.
- 1877 W.A.—Opening of telegraphic communication with South Australia.
Population of Australia reached 2,000,000.
- 1878 Qld.—Restriction of Chinese immigration.
Introduction of telephone into Australia.
- 1879 N.S.W.—First artesian bore at Kallara Station, near Bourke. First steam tramway. W.A.—A. Forrest's explorations in the Kimberley district. and discovery of the Fitzroy pastoral country.

- Year.
- 1880 N.S.W.—Public Instruction Act passed. Vic.—First Australian Telephone Exchange opened in Melbourne.
Federal Conference at Melbourne and Sydney.
- 1881 N.S.W.—Further restrictions on Chinese immigration.
First Australia-wide censuses on same date taken.
- 1882 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 held at Hobart on 26th January.
- 1887 W.A.—Gold discovered at Southern Cross.
First "Colonial" Conference in London. Australasian Naval Defence Force Act passed.
- 1888 N.S.W.—Restrictive legislation against Chinese, imposing poll-tax of £100.
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.—Railway communication established between Brisbane and Adelaide.
W.A.—Framing of new Constitution. Tas.—University of Tasmania founded.
Population of Australia reached 3,000,000.
- 1890 W.A.—Responsible Government granted.
Meeting at Melbourne of Australasian Federation Conference.
- 1891 N.S.W.—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 at Coolgardie.
- 1893 Financial crisis, chiefly affecting the eastern States.
- 1894 S.A.—Women's suffrage granted—first State to do so.
- 1895 N.S.W.—Free-trade tariff. Land and income taxes introduced.
Conference of Premiers on Federation at Hobart.
- 1896 N.S.W.—People's Federal Convention at Bathurst. Vic.—Wages Board system established by Act of Parliament.
- 1897-8 Sessions of Federal Convention at Adelaide, Sydney and Melbourne.
- 1898 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.

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- 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 Proclamation of the Commonwealth at Sydney. First Federal Parliament opened at Melbourne by the Duke of Cornwall and York. Interstate free-trade established.
- 1902 Completion of Pacific Cable (all-British). First Federal Tariff.
- 1903 Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie Water Supply Scheme completed. Inauguration of the Federal High Court.
- 1904 Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act.
- 1905 Population of Australia reached 4,000,000. Re-introduction of assisted immigration in New South Wales.
- 1906 Wireless telegraphy installed between Queenscliffe, Vic., and Devonport, Tas. Papua taken over by Commonwealth. Excise Tariff Act imposed duties on agricultural machinery except when manufactured "under conditions as to the remuneration of labour which are declared to be fair and reasonable"
- 1907 First telephone trunk line service between Capital Cities, i.e., Sydney and Melbourne. Imperial Conference in London. Declaration of first basic wage in "Harvester Judgment".
- 1908 Canberra chosen as site of Australian Capital.
- 1909 Imperial Defence Conference in London. Visit of Lord Kitchener to report and advise on Australian military defence. Queensland University founded.
- 1910 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. 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.
- 1913 Australian Capital named Canberra and foundation stone laid. Appointment of Interstate Commission.

Year.

1914 Visit of General Sir Ian Hamilton to report on military defence scheme. Double dissolution of Federal Parliament. 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.

1915 Opening of Broken Hill Proprietary's Ironworks at Newcastle, N.S.W.

Australian and New Zealand troops landed at Gallipoli, 25th April. Evacuation, 18th-20th December. Australian warships with Grand Fleet.

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. Other troops transferred to France. First proposal for compulsory military service overseas defeated by referendum.

1917 National Ministry formed under Rt. Hon. W. M. Hughes. Transcontinental (Kalgoorlie-Port Augusta) Railway completed.

Australian Flying Corps operating with R.F.C. in Palestine and France. Second proposal for compulsory military service overseas 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. Armistice with Germany, 11th November. Repatriation Commission created.

1919 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. Imperial Statistical Conference in London.

1921 Mandate given to Australia over Territory of New Guinea. First direct wireless press message, England to Australia. Second Federal Census.

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 Directorate of Commonwealth Bank appointed. Australian Loan Council formed.

1925 Population of Australia reached 6,000,000. Solar Observatory established at Canberra.

1926 Council for Scientific and Industrial Research established. Imperial Conference. Dominion Status defined.

1927 Transfer of Seat of Commonwealth Government from Melbourne to Canberra. Beam wireless established. Financial agreement between Commonwealth and States.

1928 State Debts referendum carried.

Year

- 1929 Commonwealth Bank empowered to mobilize gold reserve. Abolition of peacetime compulsory military training in favour of voluntary system.
- 1930 Effects of world-wide severe economic depression felt throughout Australia. Brisbane-Grafton (N.S.W.) railway, first step towards uniform gauge railway communication between capitals of mainland States, opened. First Australian—Rt. Hon. Sir Isaac Alfred Isaacs, C.C.M.G., Chief Justice of the High Court—appointed Governor-General of Australia.
- 1931 Depression continues. Initiation of Premiers' Conference plan to meet the financial situation. Commonwealth Bank Act amended to provide for temporary lower reserve against notes. England departed from gold standard. Commonwealth Bank assumed control of exchange rate and lowered it to 125 (previously 130).
- 1932 Sydney Harbour Bridge opened. Australian Broadcasting Commission established. Legislation passed enabling note reserve to be held in sterling securities. Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa.
- 1933 World Economic Conference in London. Secession Referendum carried (Western Australia). Antarctica and Ashmore and Cartier Islands taken over by the Commonwealth. Third Federal Census.
- 1934 Inauguration of England-Australia Air Mail Service.
- 1935 Empire Statistical Conference at Ottawa.
- 1936 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.
- 1937 Imperial Conference in London. Report of the Royal Commission on Monetary and Banking Systems in Australia.
- 1938 New Defence Programme involving expenditure of £63,000,000 over three years. New Trade Treaty with Japan.
- 1939 Population of Australia reached 7,000,000.
War declared on Germany, 3rd September. Royal Australian Navy placed at disposal of Great Britain. Advance party of Australians embarked for Middle East, 15th December.
- 1940 Exchange of Ministers between Australia and United States of America marked Australia's entry into field of direct diplomatic representation with countries other than the United Kingdom.
First Australian convoy (6th Australian Division) sailed for Middle East. Cruiser *Sydney* crippled Italian cruiser *Bartolomeo Colleoni*.
- 1941 Establishment of Commonwealth Child Endowment Scheme. United States Congress passed Lend-Lease Bill.
Arrival of units of Eighth Australian Division in Malaya. Australian destroyers in "Tobruk Ferry Run". *Sydney* lost after fight with *Kormoran*. R.A.A.F. in defence of Britain, in Middle East and at Singapore. Australian forces engaged in Middle East, Greece, Crete and Syria. Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour. Australia declared war on Japan, 9th December.
- 1942 Federal uniform taxation adopted. Commonwealth widows' pensions introduced. Rationing of commodities.
Japanese landed at Rabaul. Fall of Singapore. Darwin bombed. United States armed forces landed in Australia. Headquarters of South-West Pacific Command set up by General Douglas MacArthur in Melbourne. Coral Sea Battle. Japanese midget submarines in Sydney Harbour. Australian cruisers in attack on Solomon Islands. Australians withdrew from Kokoda. Japanese forced to withdraw from Milne Bay. Owen Stanley Ranges offensive. Ninth Australian Division at El Alamein (North Africa). Kokoda recaptured. Further Australian successes in New Guinea.

Year.

- 1943 Price Stabilization Scheme. Mortgage Bank Department of Commonwealth Bank opened. National Works Council formed.

Australian forces combined with American forces to recapture many places in New Guinea. Commencement of long series of amphibious operations in which R.A.N. ships took part. R.A.A.F. from 1943 till end of war operated on all fronts.

- 1944 Pay-as-you-earn taxation operated from 1st July. Referendum refused Commonwealth Government increased powers in post-war period.

Australian advances in Northern New Guinea. Allied invasion of France. Australians landed on New Britain; took over from Americans in Bougainville, Solomon Islands, and at Aitape, New Guinea.

- 1945 Captain Cook Dock opened by Governor-General, the Duke of Gloucester. Re-establishment and Employment Act. Banking Act to regulate banking and to protect the currency and public credit. Australia ratified United Nations Charter.

Cessation of hostilities in Europe, 8th May. Cessation of hostilities against Japan, 15th August. Australian forces operating in New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Borneo. General demobilization commenced.

- 1946 Cessation of man-power controls. Commonwealth Government accepted responsibility for supply and maintenance of BCOF in Japan. Inauguration of Commonwealth Employment Service. Joint Organization (Wool Disposal) commenced operations. Act to establish National University at Canberra. Coal Industry Act providing, *inter alia*, for a joint Commonwealth-State authority. Commonwealth and State agreement on housing. Trans-Australia Airlines (Government) began operations. Constitution Alteration Referendum granted powers in regard to social services to Commonwealth. Double taxation relief agreement between Australia and Britain. Approval for establishment of guided missile range in Central Australia.

- 1947 End of demobilization. Census of Australia—first since 1933. Full High Court declared invalid section of Banking Act 1945 prohibiting banks from conducting business for State authorities. Legislation to nationalize trading banks enacted (*see* 1948). Australian National Antarctic Research Expedition to establish scientific research station at Heard Island. First "displaced persons" reached Australia.

- 1948 Forty-hour week effective throughout Australia. Membership of Commonwealth Parliament increased. Constitution Alteration (Rents and Prices) proposal defeated. High Court declared invalid vital sections of Banking Act 1947. International Trade Organization Act (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and Havana Charter for International Trade Organization).

- 1949 Nationality and Citizenship Act operative. Broadcasting Control Board came into operation. New Guinea placed under international trusteeship and administrative union of Papua and New Guinea established. Certain Australian aborigines for first time granted franchise at Federal elections. Establishment of New South Wales University of Technology. Dispute over hours, wages and leave claims rendered all Australian black coal mines idle from 27th June until 15th August, causing restrictions in dependent services and unemployment. Australian Whaling Commission established. Reduction of 25 per cent. in Australia's imports from dollar areas. Devaluation of sterling against American dollar, and commensurate devaluation of Australian pound to two dollars twenty-four cents. Commencement of Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Power Scheme. Australia's population reached 8,000,000.

Year.

- 1950 Severest flooding for twenty-five years in south-east corner of New South Wales. Arrival of Field-Marshal Sir William Slim, Chief of Imperial General Staff, for defence talks. Disastrous floods on north coast of New South Wales. Following attacks by forces of North Korea on forces of Republic of Korea and failure of Security Council's call for immediate cessation of hostilities, the Council called on members to furnish assistance to Republic of Korea. Australian naval and air forces in vicinity of Korea placed at disposal of United Nations, and decision to withdraw Australian troops with BCOF in Japan countermanded. Loan of \$100,000,000 for Australia by International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Inauguration of modified free medicine scheme. All volunteers in Australian Regular Army and Citizen Military Forces to be liable for service anywhere in the world—but only in the event of a major war. Australian ground troops joined British Commonwealth Brigade in Korean conflict. Adult franchise for Victorian Legislative Council replaced existing franchise dependent on property qualifications. Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration ruling of increase of £1 in male basic wage, and increase in female basic wage from 54 to 75 per cent. of male rate. Railway dispute caused cessation of railway services in Victoria from 16th October to 8th December, and in South Australia from 23rd October to 19th November. National Service Bill to establish a system of national training for defence forces of Australia introduced in House of Representatives. Commonwealth Government to contribute £31,250,000 to Colombo Plan for Co-operative Economic Development in South and South-east Asia and £3,500,000 for technical assistance programme. Conference of Commonwealth Prime Ministers in London.
- 1951 Opening of Jubilee celebrations to mark the fiftieth year of Australian federation. British Government's confirmation of transfer of Heard Island and the Macdonald Islands (Southern Indian Ocean) to Australia as from 26th December, 1947. Governor-General granted double dissolution of nineteenth Parliament. Return of Menzies-Fadden Government after general election. The Governor-General opened the twentieth Parliament with special Jubilee ceremonies. Official cessation of hostilities with Germany. Conferences at all levels of business, finance, and working classes called by Prime Minister to discuss methods of dealing with adverse economic trends. Security Treaty signed in Washington by the United States of America, Australia and New Zealand for action in the event of an armed attack in the Pacific. Japanese Peace Treaty signed at San Francisco. Constitution Alteration (Powers to deal with Communists and Communism) referendum defeated. Australia to provide an additional infantry battalion for United Nations forces in Korea. Third Conference of Government Statisticians of the British Commonwealth held in Canberra. Opening of new Legislative Council of Papua and New Guinea, which included, for the first time in the history of Australian Legislature, representatives of the native peoples. New mace presented to the House of Representatives by the House of Commons, to commemorate the Australian Commonwealth Jubilee.
- 1952 Nuclear experiments commenced at National University, Canberra. Refusal by Commonwealth Conciliation Commissioner of an application by eleven metal trades unions for marginal wage increases ("Galvin" Award) affected more than 250,000 metal trades workers throughout Australia. Widespread bushfires in New South Wales, Victoria and Australian Capital Territory. Prototype of first unmanned radio-controlled jet aircraft designed and built in Australia successfully tested. Death of His Majesty King George VI.; Princess Elizabeth proclaimed Queen. Third British Commonwealth Scientific Official Conference held in Canberra and Melbourne. Good rains in

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1952—
contd.

northern areas of New South Wales ended the worst drought experienced there for many years. Important high-grade uranium deposits discovered at Rum Jungle, Northern Territory. 1st Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, sailed from Sydney for service in Korea. Australia ratified Pacific Pact between United States of America, New Zealand and Australia. Commonwealth Bank prohibited the establishment of further import credits until licences had been obtained for the goods involved. Severe restrictions imposed on imports from all sources and on amounts available for Australians travelling overseas. Agreement between the Commonwealth and South Australian Governments and the Combined Development Agency of the British and American Governments, on the development of uranium deposits at Radium Hill, South Australia. At Berala, near Sydney, in first collision between two electric trains in New South Wales to result in fatalities, ten persons killed and more than 100 injured. Good rains brought relief to north and central Australia, after prolonged drought conditions. Nine people died and 22 were injured in a level-crossing smash at Boronia in Victoria. An amendment to the Conciliation and Arbitration Act provided for a limited right of appeal to the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration from decisions of Conciliation Commissioners, and for an increase in the number of Judges. Many towns in central and south-west New South Wales experienced one of the worst floods in their history. In the Basic Wage and Standard Hours Inquiry before the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, employers' organizations sought reductions in wages, longer hours and abandonment of the system of automatic quarterly cost of living adjustments to the basic wage. (See 1953.) Representatives of New Zealand, the United States of America and Australia met at Honolulu to consider the Pacific defence pact (A.N.Z.U.S.). Qantas Empire Airways began first direct service between Sydney and Johannesburg, South Africa, via Perth, Cocos Islands and Mauritius. Commonwealth legislation requiring employers to give preference in employment to ex-servicemen extended for three years. Commonwealth Government disposed of shares in Commonwealth Oil Refineries to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Britain's first atomic weapon detonated on the Monte Bello Islands, near the north-west coast of Australia. Agreement between the Commonwealth Government and Australian National Airways Pty. Ltd. guaranteeing the latter a loan to purchase new aircraft and an equal share with Trans-Australia Airlines in government business, and reducing air route charges. British Commonwealth Economic Conference in London attended by Prime Minister of Australia. Good rains in Northern Territory terminated prolonged drought there.

- 1953 Ten-year agreement signed for sale to the United States of America of uranium from deposits at Rum Jungle, Northern Territory. Inquiry by Royal Commission into the establishment of television in Australia. Television Act authorized the establishment of both National and Commercial television transmitting stations. Commonwealth Bank Act 1953 and Banking Act 1953 passed. Premiers' Conference in Canberra failed to reach agreement on return of income tax powers to States. 2nd Battalion sailed from Sydney for service in Korea. Bill introduced into Northern Territory Legislative Council to give citizenship rights to Northern Territory aborigines, except those committed to State care (assented to 17th April). Atomic Energy Act 1953, established Atomic Energy Commission. H.M.A.S. *Sydney* sailed from Melbourne for England with Coronation Contingent. National Health Bill 1953 consolidated legislation relating to pharmaceutical, medical and hospital benefits and other health services. Australian designed and built radio-controlled jet plane for use in guided missile research successfully tested. Field-Marshal Sir William Slim sworn in as Governor-General of Australia.

Year.

1953—
contd.

Australia and United States of America signed conventions to end double taxation between the two countries. Australian Loan Council adopted programme of £231,000,000 for 1953-54. Borrowing programme of £90,486,000 by Local Government and Semi-Governmental Authorities also approved. Loan Council decided to retain ruling interest rates on public loans for at least twelve months. Full Court of Victoria upheld validity of Electoral Reform Bill providing for two State seats for each Commonwealth Electorate. Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second. Britain and Australia signed agreement for reciprocity in social services benefits. Conference of Commonwealth Prime Ministers on defence, economic and political issues held in London. Commonwealth Medical Benefits Scheme commenced. Korean armistice signed by United Nations and Communist Forces at Panmunjom, bringing to an end over three years of fighting. Pearl Fisheries Act providing for stricter control of pearl fisheries. Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration refused applications by employers for reduction of current basic wages and for an increase of standard hours of work, and also refused applications by unions for increases of basic wages. The employers' applications for abandonment of the system of automatic adjustment of the basic wage in accordance with retail price index numbers were, however, granted. Arrangements made with United Kingdom for sharing cost of guided missile research at Woomera, South Australia. Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia commenced operations. Oil, stated to be a very high grade crude oil, discovered at Exmouth Gulf, about 680 miles north of Perth.

1954

Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh arrived in Sydney on 3rd February to commence their tour of Australia, making the first visit of the reigning sovereign to Australia. Australian and Japanese Governments exchanged notes for the submission of dispute over extent of Australian sovereignty over sea-bed and control of pearl fisheries to the International Court of Justice. Agreement signed on a provisional régime to regulate Japanese pearling in Australian waters in the interim. The Australian Antarctic Research Expedition established a station at Mawson on the coast of MacRobertson Land to conduct meteorological and other research. An Australian Services mission visited Singapore for a conference between Service representatives of the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Australia, and New Zealand. Her Majesty the Queen opened the Federal Parliamentary session and unveiled the Australian-American War Memorial at Canberra. Australian Academy of Science incorporated by Her Majesty the Queen. New South Wales Government granted Sydney University £100,000 for nuclear research. Inaugural meeting of Nuclear Research Foundation. Commonwealth grant of £50,000 to Sydney University for fundamental nuclear research. Royal tour of Australia ended on 1st April. Contract for £25 million let to Kaiser group, of the United States of America, for the construction of the Eucumbene-Tumut tunnel and other works in the Snowy Mountains Scheme. Mr. and Mrs. Vladimir Petrov of the Soviet Embassy granted political asylum. On 25th April, the Soviet Government informed the Australian Government that it had decided to recall its Embassy in Australia, and the Ambassador and his staff sailed from Fremantle on 26th April. The Australian Embassy left Moscow on the same date. Royal Commission into espionage in Australia set up. Political conference on Korea and Indo-China opened in Geneva, with Australia represented by the Minister for External Affairs. £3.9 million contract for building the Upper Tumut power station of the Snowy Mountains Scheme let to a French group of contractors. Royal Commission into Television recommended introduction of television into Australia as soon as practicable. Australia took part in Five Power military talks, at Washington, on South-East Asia. Premier

Year.

1954—
contd.

of South Australia announced two new uranium finds in north-east of State. Australian population census taken. Carnegie Corporation granted £250,000 to help finance the building of a giant radio telescope (the balance, £300,000 to be found in Australia). Pan Indian Ocean Science Congress held in Perth. Australia at the Manila Conference signed a treaty pledging collective defence against aggression in South-East Asia and the South-West Pacific. 3rd Battalion withdrawn from Korea. At Rum Jungle, Prime Minister officially opened first uranium treatment plant established in Australia. Minister for Labour and National Service announced the formation of a National Joint Production Council representing both management and workers. Atomic Energy Commission authorized to construct an advanced type of nuclear reactor and research laboratories as part of a programme of co-operation in atomic research with the United Kingdom. Control of Cocos Islands handed over to Australia by Great Britain. Privy Council ruled that New South Wales State Transport (Co-ordination) Act was invalid insofar as it applied to inter-state transport.

- 1955 Harbour at Cockburn Sound, W.A. opened to provide shipping facilities for Kwinana. Mr. David McNicol first Australian Minister to Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. Commonwealth Government announced that about 135 Japanese pearl divers would be permitted to enter Australia to operate with pearling fleets from Broome to Darwin. Dr. N. Tamzil first Ambassador to Australia from Indonesia. Conference of British Commonwealth Prime Ministers held in London; attended by Mr. Menzies. Australia's first Aluminium plant, opened at Bell Bay by Minister of Supply, began production (Feb. 7). Minister for External Affairs after month's tour of South East Asian countries attended first council meeting of signatories to Manila Treaty. Prime Minister visited Washington as guest of President Eisenhower to talk on defence policy and Australia's role in South East Asia. New airport opened for traffic at West Beach, Adelaide, 7 miles closer to city than Parafield. First power generated from Snowy Mountains fed into New South Wales electricity system; Guthega power station opened by Prime Minister. Disastrous floods cover large areas of Central West New South Wales and Hunter Valley, causing damage to townships, stock and grazing lands estimated at £15 million and the loss of many lives. Electoral boundaries changed after examination of Census results by Commissioner. Australian population reaches 9 million. Kwinana Oil Refinery commenced operations. Federal Cabinet lifts ban on passports to certain countries. All price control ended in New South Wales. Announced that Australia would make Salk polio vaccine at Commonwealth Serum Laboratories, Melbourne. Commonwealth Government announced licensing of 4 commercial television stations for Australia (2 in Sydney and 2 in Melbourne). Major contracts let to A.W.A. Limited for construction of National Television Stations in Melbourne and Sydney. Commonwealth Government decided to build an ammunition filling and assembly factory at St. Mary's near Sydney, at an estimated cost of £23 million. Australia's 1955-56 immigration programme to be increased to a basic intake of 125,000 migrants, of whom 70,000 would be assisted-passage. Privileges committee of Commonwealth Parliament found Messrs. Brown and Fitzpatrick guilty of serious breach of privilege. House of Representatives committed both to prison for three months. Commonwealth Full High Court in reserved judgment declared that recent legislation imposing a road tax on interstate hauliers was invalid. South Australian State Government's uranium treatment plant at Port Pirie began operations. Prime Minister announced Australia's acceptance of British invitation to join expedition to cross Antarctic in summer of 1957-58. First International Wool Textile Research Conference to be held in Australia opened in Sydney, and was attended by 100 research workers including 52 scientists

Year.

1955—
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from overseas. First F.A.O. Conference to be held in Australia opened in Brisbane, discussion centred on livestock production under tropical conditions. First S.E.A.C.D.T. defence talks to be held in Australia began in Melbourne, representatives from Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Phillipines, Thailand, the United Kingdom and the United States of America were present. Australian task force left for Malaya. New £30 million hot-strip steel mill of Australian Iron and Steel Ltd. at Port Kembla (N.S.W.) opened by Prime Minister who described it as "a great historic event in the development of Australia". Abolition of subsidy on tea results in substantial increase in retail price. Bank of New South Wales Savings Bank Ltd. registered in Sydney, first new savings bank established in Australia for 40 years. Report of Royal Commission on Espionage tabled in House of Representatives. Minister for Health announced that Commonwealth Government had decided to apply means test to Pensioner Medical Service, to be based on income of new pensioners and to apply to all pensions granted under scheme after 31st October. Prime Minister of Ceylon, Rt. Hon. Sir John Kotelawala, K.B.E., visited Australia as guest of Commonwealth Government. New South Wales Government reintroduced quarterly automatic Basic Wage adjustments. Cocos (Keeling) Islands became Territory under authority of Commonwealth. Australian legations in Thailand and the Phillipines raised to status of Embassies; Messrs. Hay and Shann first Ambassadors. Government of Victoria issued High Court writ for declaration that present system of uniform taxation is illegal.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA.

NOTE.—(1) In most cases where figures are available back to 1861, these were shown in Official Year Book No. 39, pp. xxviii-xxix.

(2) Most of the statistics in this Summary relate to the periods shown in the table headings. In those comparatively few cases where the statistics relate to other periods, this is indicated in footnotes.

Item.	Year ended 30th June—							
	1892.	1902.	1912.	1922.	1932.	1942.	1952.	1955.
Demography(a)—								
Population(b) { '000 Males ..	1,737	2,005	2,382	2,799	3,333	3,599	4,311	4,598
Population(b) { '000 Females ..	1,504	1,820	2,192	2,712	3,220	3,545	4,217	4,492
Population(b) { '000 Persons ..	3,241	3,825	4,574	5,511	6,553	7,144	8,528	9,090
Net Oversea Migration ..	'000 26.9	3.0	74.4	17.5	-10.1	5.2	111.4	68.2
Marriages ..	'000 24	28	39	47	39	75	77	71
Divorces(d) and Judicial Separations ..	Rate(c) 7.5	7.3	8.8	8.6	6.0	10.6	9.2	7.9
Births ..	'000 190	399	522	1,502	1,955	3,330	7,327	6,528
Deaths ..	Rate(c) 34.5	27.2	27.2	25.0	18.2	18.9	22.9	22.5
Deaths ..	'000 47	46	48	54	57	71	82	82
Infant Deaths ..	Rate(c) 14.8	12.2	10.7	9.9	8.7	10.0	9.7	9.1
Infant Deaths ..	'000 12.7	10.7	8.4	9.0	5.0	5.3	4.9	4.5
Infant Deaths ..	Rate(e) 115.3	103.6	68.5	65.7	42.1	39.7	25.2	22.5
Wages (Adult Males)(a)—								
Nominal Weekly Wage Index Numbers ..	(f)	848	1,000	1,826	1,752	1,997	4,495	5,632
Real Wage Index Numbers(g) ..	(f)	(f)	1,000	1,087	1,210	1,194	1,439	1,459
Production—								
Agricultural(h)—								
Wheat ..	Area mill. acs. 3.3	5.1	7.4	9.7	14.7	12.0	10.4	10.7
Wheat ..	Yield mill. bus. 26	39	72	129	191	167	160	169
Wheat ..	Av. Yield bus. 7.7	7.5	9.6	13.3	12.9	13.9	15.4	15.8
Oats ..	Area '000 acs. 246	461	617	733	1,085	1,460	2,305	2,574
Oats ..	Yield mill. bus. 5.7	9.8	9.6	12.1	15.2	22.3	34.5	32.8
Oats ..	Av. Yield bus. 23.3	21.2	15.5	16.6	14.0	15.3	14.6	12.8
Barley ..	Area '000 acs. 68	75	116	299	342	784	1,118	1,691
Barley ..	Yield mill. bus. 1.2	1.5	2.1	6.1	6.3	18.0	21.9	29.4
Barley ..	Av. Yield bus. 17.3	20.4	17.7	20.4	18.4	23.0	19.6	17.4
Maize ..	Area '000 acs. 284	295	340	305	269	301	170	170
Maize ..	Yield mill. bus. 9.3	7.0	8.9	7.8	7.1	7.4	4.0	5.1
Maize ..	Av. Yield bus. 32.6	23.9	26.3	25.7	26.2	24.7	23.7	29.9
Hay ..	Area '000 acs. 942	1,688	2,518	2,995	2,635	2,758	1,549	1,984
Hay ..	Yield '000 tons 1,067	2,025	2,868	3,902	3,167	3,575	2,345	2,856
Hay ..	Av. Yield tons 1.13	1.20	1.14	1.30	1.20	1.30	1.51	1.44
Potatoes ..	Area '000 acs. 113	110	130	149	145	99	118	107
Potatoes ..	Yield '000 tons 380	323	301	388	397	333	509	468
Potatoes ..	Area '000 acs. 3.37	2.94	2.31	2.50	2.74	3.35	4.31	4.36
Sugar-cane ..	Area '000 acs. 45	87	101	128	242	255	282	374
Sugar-cane ..	Yield '000 tons 738	1,368	1,682	2,437	4,213	5,154	5,327	10,086
Sugar-cane ..	Av. Yield tons 16.2	15.7	16.7	19.0	17.4	20.3	18.9	27.0
Vineyards ..	Area '000 acs. 49	64	61	92	113	130	136	136
Vineyards ..	Wine mill. gals. 3.4	5.3	5.0	8.5	14.2	16.0	35.3	24.0
Total Area of Crops ..	mill. acs. 5.4	8.4	12.1	15.4	21.2	20.5	19.8	21.7
Pastoral, Dairying etc.—								
Livestock(j) { Horses mill. 1.6	1.6	1.6	2.3	2.4	1.8	1.6	0.9	0.8
Livestock(j) { Cattle .. 11.1	11.1	8.5	11.8	14.4	12.3	13.6	14.9	15.8
Livestock(j) { Sheep .. 106	106	72	97	86	111	125	118	131
Livestock(j) { Pigs .. 0.9	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.5	1.0	1.3
Wool(k) ..	mill. lb. (a) 634	(a) 539	(a) 798	723	1,007	1,167	1,080	1,283
Butter ..	'000 tons (a) 19	(a) 46	(a) 95	(a) 119	175	168	135	191
Cheese ..	'000 tons (a) 4.5	(a) 5.3	(a) 7.1	(a) 14.6	14.0	30.1	40.6	45.2
Meat(l)—								
Beef and Veal ..	'000 tons (f)	(f)	(f)	339	350	534	582	720
Mutton and Lamb ..	'000 tons (f)	(f)	(f)	218	307	372	282	388
Pork ..	'000 tons (f)	(f)	(f)	11.1	22.7	58.1	35.0	47.2
Bacon and Ham ..	'000 tons (a) 7.5	(a) 15.2	(a) 23.8	26.2	31.8	42.5	36.6	38.4
Total Meat ..	'000 tons (f)	(f)	(f)	608	727	1,027	949	1,207

(a) Year ended previous December. (b) At 31st December of previous year. (c) Number per 1,000 of mean population. (d) Decrees made absolute, including decrees for nullity of marriage. (e) Number per 1,000 live births. (f) Not available. (g) Index of nominal weekly wage rates for adult males divided by the "C" Series Retail Price index number. (h) Season ending in year shown. (i) Cane cut for crushing. (j) As at 31st December of previous year for years to 1942 as at 31st March thereafter. (k) In terms of greasy. (l) Bone-in weight in terms of fresh meat; cured weight, bacon and ham.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA—continued.

NOTE.—See headnotes on page 1175.

Item.	Year ended 30th June—							
	1892.	1902.	1912.	1922.	1932.	1942.	1952.	1955.
Production—continued.								
Mineral(a)(b)—								
Copper(c) ..	'000 tons	(d)	(d)	(d)	13.5	20.9	17.9	40.9
Gold(c) ..	'000 fine oz.	1,243	3,300	2,484	758	595	1,497	896
Lead(c) ..	'000 tons	(d)	(d)	(d)	150.8	289.4	212.0	284.9
Zinc(c) ..	"	(d)	(d)	(d)	66.1	232.6	189.2	252.7
Black Coal	mill. tons	4.4	6.9	10.6	12.8	8.4	14.2	17.6
Brown Coal	"	"	"	(e)	0.1	2.2	4.6	7.8
								9.3
Forestry—								
Sawn output of native timber	mill. sup. ft.	(d)	(a) 452	(a) 605	590	237	914	1,393
								1,438
Factories—								
Number of factories	'000	(f)	(f)	{ 14.5	18.0	21.7	27.0	45.8
Persons employed ..	"	(f)	(f)	{ 312	379	337	725	978
Salaries and wages paid	£m.	(f)	(f)	{ 28	68	56	180	612
Value of production(g)—								
Chemicals, etc. ..	"			{ 1.1	3.2	7.9	24.8	63.7
Industrial metals, etc.	"			{ 12.0	23.6	22.8	119.9	413.1
Textiles, etc. ..	"	(d)	(d)	{ 7.5	19.2	6.9	21.0	56.6
Clothing ..	"	(d)	(d)	{ 11.1	23.6	11.1	23.6	81.1
Food, etc. ..	"	(d)	(d)	{ 11.8	27.2	28.7	53.2	141.1
Paper, etc. ..	"	(d)	(d)	{ 4.2	9.0	9.6	17.1	68.2
All groups ..	"	23.3	29.1	{ 47.5	112.5	111.0	316.5	1,024.0
Value of plant and machinery	"	(d)	(d)	{ 31.4	78.1	121.5	169.2	412.5
Value of land and buildings	"	(d)	(d)	{ 32.5	67.3	106.6	156.3	360.2
								556.0
Net value of production(h)—								
Agriculture ..	£m.	17.0	23.8	38.8	81.9	49.7	64.0	246.7
Pastoral ..	"	31.3	27.2	52.7	75.1	43.0	85.4	400.5
Dairying ..	"	6.0	7.6	16.1	35.3	22.6	34.3	103.8
Poultry ..	"	1.9	2.0	4.0	9.0	5.7	6.5	31.5
Bee-farming ..	"	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.8
Total, Rural ..	"	56.3	60.7	111.7	201.4	121.1	190.6	783.3
Trapping ..	"	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	1.5	5.0	6.7
Forestry ..	"	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	3.9	10.2	37.9
Fisheries ..	"	4.4	2.8	{ 1.1	1.4	1.4	1.8	5.7
Mines and Quarries(i)	"	12.1	22.0	23.3	20.0	13.5	33.4	97.2
Total, Non-Rural ..	"	16.5	24.8	29.2	30.5	20.3	50.4	147.5
Total, Primary ..	"	72.8	85.5	140.9	231.9	141.4	241.0	930.8
Factories(g) ..	"	23.3	29.1	47.5	112.5	111.0	316.5	1,024.0
Total All Industries	"	96.1	114.6	188.4	344.4	252.4	557.5	1,954.8
								2,414.3
Building(j)—								
Permits, New Dwellings {	'000	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	{ 2.1	9.7	32.8
.. All Buildings(k)	£m.	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	{ 1.5	9.6	80.4
	£m.	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	{ 4.6	13.5	116.4
								215.1
Oversea Trade—								
Imports ..	£m. f.o.b.	(a) 34	(a) 38	(a) 61	94	52	174	1,053
Exports ..	"	36	50	79	128	108	169	675
								774
Principal Exports (l)—								
Wool ..	{ mill. lb.(m) ..	641	529	734	946	903	938	1,036
	{ £m. f.o.b. ..	20	15	26	48	32	58	323
Wheat ..	{ '000 tons ..	258	543	1,477	2,677	3,413	598	1,685
	{ £m. f.o.b. ..	1.9	2.8	9.6	28.6	19.2	4.6	55.3
Flour ..	{ '000 short tons ..	33	97	176	360	611	414	789
	{ £m. f.o.b. ..	0.3	0.6	1.4	5.5	3.8	4.2	33.0
Butter ..	{ mill. lb. ..	4	35	102	127	202	130	25
	{ £m. f.o.b. ..	0.2	1.4	4.6	8.0	10.3	8.1	4.6
								24.6

(a) Year ended previous December. (b) Breaks in the continuity of the series occurred in 1931 and 1951. (c) Mine production, i.e., metal content of minerals produced. (d) Not available. (e) Less than .05. (f) Owing to variation in classification, effective comparison is impossible. (g) For definition see page 349. (h) Gross value from 1891 to 1921–22. Prior to 1922 figures are for years ended previous December. For definitions of gross and net value see page 106r. (i) Incomplete. (j) Six capital cities and suburbs. (k) Includes additions and alterations. (l) Australian produce except gold, which includes re-exports. (m) In terms of greasy.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA—continued.

NOTE.—See headnotes on page 1175.

Item.	Year ended 30th June—							
	1892.	1902.	1912.	1922.	1932.	1942.	1952.	1955.
Overseas Trade—continued.	(a)	(a)	(a)					
Principal Exports(b)—continued.								
Hides and Skins fm. f.o.b.	0.9	1.3	3.2	3.1	2.3	6.0	17.1	19.7
Meats	0.5	2.6	4.3	5.5	6.4	14.1	35.5	63.1
Fruit (c) .. .. .	..	0.2	0.5	3.0	4.8	4.0	19.5	32.7
Sugar .. .. .	..	(d)	(d)	(d)	2.5	2.6	6.9	31.2
Gold	5.7	14.3	12.0	3.5	11.9	9.2	7.0	13.7
Silver and Lead(e) ..	1.9	2.3	3.2	2.7	2.9	7.4	32.1	31.1
Ores and Concentrates ..	..	(d)	3.7	0.8	0.2	1.3	20.4	10.3
Principal Imports—		(a)	(a)					
Vegetable foodstuffs, etc. ..	(f)	{	3.6	3.7	4.0	2.6	6.1	25.0
Apparel, etc.			10.9	16.2	31.0	15.4	32.7	203.6
Oil, etc.			1.2	1.6	4.7	5.5	16.2	87.5
Metals, etc.			7.8	14.0	22.8	7.4	71.8	392.9
Rubber, etc.			0.5	1.4	1.7	0.8	3.2	35.1
Paper, etc.			1.6	2.6	4.4	4.4	4.3	68.6
Transport and Communication—								
Shipping—	(a)	(a)	(a)					
Oversea Vessels, { No. ..	3,778	4,028	4,174	3,111	3,057	2,544	4,136	4,505
Entrances and { mill. tons	4.7	6.5	10.0	9.1	11.4	10.8	18.2	20.0
Clearances								
Oversea Cargo—								
Discharged .. mill. tons(g)	(f)	{	(f)	9,605	9,782	7,957	9,100	7,524
Shipped								
Interstate Vessels, { No. ..								
Entrances and { mill. tons								
Clearances								
Interstate Cargo Shipped								
mill. tons(g)	(h)	(h)	(h)	5.5	4.0	10.0	9.0	11.7
Government Railways—								
Route-miles	10.4	12.8	16.8	23.5	27.0	27.2	26.8	26.6
Passenger-journeys ..	84	115	228	335	303	475	501	517
Goods and livestock carried								
mill. tons	9.4	15.5	25.5	31.5	26.1	38.9	44.3	47.7
Train-miles run	29.7	38.2	55.2	56.1	63.8	88.5	93.4	94.0
Tramways and Omnibuses—								
Passenger-journeys—								
Trams	(f)	(f)	{	360	569	589	874	686
Omnibuses(i)								
Motor vehicles on the register—								
Cars	{	..	(f)	102	{	420	451	1,032
Commercial vehicles ..								
Civil Aviation (Internal)—								
Plane-miles flown .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2.5	7.8	41.8	43.5
Passengers carried .. .. .	..	..	..	..	57	152	1,829	1,918
Passenger-miles .. .. .	..	..	..	..	(f)	76	722	766
Freight car- { '000 short tons	..	..	..	..	0.1	1.2	57.5	78.7
ried .. .. .	..	..	..	..	(f)	0.9	26.7	37.0
Postal—	(a)	(a)	(a)					
Postal matter dealt with(j)								
mill. articles	242	324	595	702	(k) 871	(k) 1,100	(k) 1,148	1,619
Telegrams and cablegrams mill.	10.0	9.9	13.3	16.8	13.9	26.1	29.8	25.5
Telephones—								
Instruments	7	29	103	259	485	739	1,301	1,587
Lines	(f)	25	85	196	364	531	927	1,127
Calls—Trunk	(f)	(f)	(f)	14.0	28.9	45.3	69.4	39.9
Local	(f)	(f)	(f)	221	369	664	968	1,103
Broadcast Listeners' Licences	..	..	..	(l) 36	369	1,320	1,961	2,035
Public Finance—								
Commonwealth—								
Consolidated Revenue Fund—		(h)	(h)					
Revenue .. .. .	..	11	21	64	72	210	1,017	1,067
Expenditure .. .. .	..	4	15	64	70	210	1,017	997
Net loan fund expenditure ..	..	..	1	5	4	213	55	63
Taxation collections .. .. .	..	9	16	50	54	180	934	938

(a) Year ended previous December. (b) Australian produce except gold, which includes re-exports. (c) Excludes fruit juices. (d) Less than .05. (e) Includes concentrates. (f) Not available. (g) Tons weight plus tons measurement. (h) Year ended 30th June. (i) Government and municipal only. (j) Letters, postcards, lettercards and newspapers. (k) Includes packets. (l) Year 1923-24.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA—continued.

NOTE.—See headnotes on page 1175.

Item.	Year ended 30th June—								
	1892.	1902.	1912.	1922.	1932.	1942.	1952.	1955.	
Public Finance—continued.									
State—									
Consolidated Revenue Funds—									
Revenue £m.	(a)	28	41	85	100	152	387	493	
Expenditure "	(a)	29	41	87	121	149	390	496	
Net loan expenditure(b) "	(a)	9	16	34	6	8	198	161	
Taxation collections "	(a)	3	5	18	33	57	63	89	
Public Debt(c)—									
Commonwealth—									
State £m.	(d) 155	213	279	519	789	911	1,396	1,826	
Total "	(d) 155	213	285	873	1,108	1,549	3,265	3,750	
Overseas "	(a)	(a)	194	412	522	516	406	436	
In Australia "	(a)	(a)	91	461	586	1,033	2,859	3,314	
Private Finance—									
Commonwealth Note Issue(e) £m.	(a)	(a)	8	54	51	103	303	363	
Cheque-paying banks—									
Advances(f) "	(d) 125	94	109	183	261	270	677	809	
Deposits(g) "	(d) 98	91	143	289	319	387	1,189	1,326	
Bank clearings(d) "	(a)	338	662	1,702	1,581	2,828	12,160	13,046	
Savings bank deposits(g) "	15	31	59	154	198	274	892	1,074	
Life Assurance(d)(h)—									
Ordinary—									
Policies '000	(a)	414	484	730	871	1,340	2,553	3,033	
Sum assured £m.		108	109	181	285	463	1,212	1,741	
Industrial—									
Policies '000		236	467	973	1,550	2,780	3,843	3,827	
Sum assured £m.		5	10	30	67	127	254	297	
Total—									
Policies '000	(a)	650	951	1,703	2,421	4,120	6,396	6,860	
Sum assured £m.		113	119	211	352	590	1,466	2,038	
Social Statistics—									
Commonwealth Social Services—									
Age and Invalid Pensions '000(e)	..	..	90	144	256	336	420	510
.. .. £m.	..	..	2.2	5.4	11.1	19.3	59.8	88.0
Child Endowment, Claims in force '000(e)	..	..	..	..	..	488	1,205	1,304
.. .. £m.	..	..	..	..	..	11.3	46.6	52.5
Total Commonwealth Health and Social Services(i) £m.									
War Pensions '000(e)	..	..	2.2	6.1	11.5	30.9	137.6	189.3
.. .. £m.	..	..	..	225	274	220	525	584
Service Pensions '000(e)	..	..	..	7.0	7.4	7.5	31.8	(j) 44.5
.. .. £m.	..	..	..	..	..	14	17	22
State Social Services(l)—									
Education(d)—									
Government Schools—									
Schools '000	6.2	7.0	8.0	9.4	10.1	9.5	7.6	7.6	
Staff "	12.6	14.5	17.0	26.1	33.8	32.1	36.7	42.3	
Students "	561	638	639	819	937	887	1,013	1,211	
Non-government Schools—									
Schools '000	2.0	2.5	1.9	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.9	2.0	
Staff "	6.0	8.3	7.8	8.8	10.0	11.4	13.3	14.4	
Students "	125	149	161	199	221	257	326	388	
Universities(m)—									
Number "	4	4	5	6	6	8	9	9	
Staff(n) "	(a)	(a)	249	482	703	1,416	3,082	3,313	
Students '000	1.6	1.8	3.4	8.0	9.8	13.9	31.7	29.4	
Public Hospitals—									
Number "	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)				
Staff—Medical '000	(a)	285	355	404	513	566	675	709	
Nursing "	(a)	(a)	1.1	1.5	3.2	3.9	6.9	7.7	
In-patients, cases treated (p) 54	(a)	(a)	5.1	6.8	9.3	15.4	24.6	27.6	
.. .. (p) 54	(p) 54	91	134	215	371	595	896	1,046	
Police and Prisons(d)—									
Police '000	5.3	5.8	6.4	6.9	8.6	9.7	12.3	12.6	
Prisons "	(a)	(a)	104	91	85	70	69	73	
Prisoners '000	(a)	4.3	3.1	2.9	4.2	3.2	4.4	5.0	
Prices(d)—									
"C" Series Retail Price Index .. .. "	..	..	1,000	1,680	1,448	1,673	3,124	3,860

(a) Not available (b) Loan Expenditure in works, services, etc. (c) At 30th June.
 (d) Year ended previous December. (e) At end of June. (f) Figures for 1892 are averages of weekly balances for the December quarter; the remainder are for the June quarter. All cheque-paying banks to 1931-32, Private Trading Banks thereafter. (g) 1891 at 31st December, thereafter at 30th June. (h) Existing business in Australia. (i) Excludes war and service pensions.
 (j) Includes Service pensions. (k) Included with War pensions. (l) Includes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory. (m) Excludes Australian National University.
 (n) Teaching and research staff. Includes part-time. (o) Year 1891-92 for Victoria. (p) South Australia includes Adelaide Hospital only.