

SOCIAL CONDITION.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.

The University of Melbourne.

The University of Melbourne was incorporated and endowed by an Act of the Governor and Legislative Council of Victoria, to which the Royal assent was given on 22nd January, 1853. The University buildings, together with those of the affiliated colleges, are situated on 106 acres of land, in the southern part of Carlton. The University consists of a Council and Senate, and is incorporated and made a body politic with perpetual succession. It has power to grant degrees, diplomas, certificates, and licences in all faculties except divinity. The Council consists of twenty members elected by the Senate for a term of five years, together with three members appointed by the Governor in Council. It elects two of its members to be Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor respectively. The Senate consists of all persons who have graduated doctor or master in the University. It elects a Warden annually from its members. Control and management are in the hands of the Council. Council and Senate conjointly make statutes and regulations. There is no religious test for admission. By Royal letters patent of 14th March, 1859, it is declared that the degrees of the University of Melbourne shall be as fully recognised as those of any University in the United Kingdom. Scholarships, exhibitions, and prizes are provided in all the principal subjects, the cost being defrayed partly out of University funds and partly by private bequests. In the matter of endowment by private persons the Melbourne University does not compare favorably with others. Still, the investments at present held as the result of private benefactions, together with donations which have been expended on buildings and equipment, amount to about £200,000. The Act of 1853 provides for an endowment of £9,000 annually for maintenance and management. Additional grants have been voted annually by Parliament for maintenance, and from time to time for building purposes. Since 1853, the amount received from the Government has been £1,044,194—£220,744 for building and apparatus, £668,500 endowment under "Special Appropriation Act," 16 Vic. 34, and £154,950 additional endowment by annual votes of the Legislature. By Act No. 1926 of 1904 an additional endowment of £11,000 annually is provided for a period of ten years, conditionally on the University undertaking teaching in agriculture and mining, and granting a number of free scholarships to pupils from the primary schools; also £1,000 on condition that Evening Lectures are held at the University. In addition, the Council derives

income from the fees paid by students for lectures, examinations, certificates, and diplomas. These are charged as follows:—

- For the degree of Bachelor of Arts, £12 12s. per annum.
 For the degree of Bachelor of Science, £21 per annum.
 For the degree of Bachelor of Laws, £12 12s. for each of the 1st and 2nd years; and £25 4s. for each of the 3rd and 4th years.
 For the degree of Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery, £22 per annum.
 For the degrees of Bachelor of Civil Engineering, Bachelor of Electrical Engineering, Bachelor of Mining Engineering, and Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering, £18 18s. for the 1st year, £21 for the 2nd year, and £25 4s. for each of the 3rd and 4th years.
 For the degree of Bachelor of Music and Diploma in Music, £12 12s. per annum.
 For the degree of Bachelor of Agriculture, £21 per annum.
 For the degree of Bachelor of Veterinary Science £22 for the 1st year, and £25 for each of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th years.
 For the Licence in Veterinary Science, £18 for the 1st year, and £25 for each of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th years.
 For the degree of Bachelor of Dental Science, fees are paid to the Australian College of Dentistry.
 For the course for Diploma of Education, £6 6s. per annum for students of the Education Department. For other Students, the fees are those of the course taken during the first two years, and £12 12s. for the 3rd year.
 For the Diploma of Agriculture, £21 per annum.
 For the Diplomas in Mining and in Metallurgy, £18 18s. for the 1st year, £21 for the 2nd year, and £25 4s. for the 3rd year.
 For the Diploma of Architecture, £12 12s. per annum.
 For single subjects, special fees are charged, ranging from £2 2s. each annually to £21, the latter fee being chargeable for Science subjects in which laboratory work plays a great part.
 For admission to degrees, £7 7s. is payable by bachelors (except Dentistry, £3 3s.), and £10 10s., by masters and doctors.
 For any diploma, £3 3s. is the fee.
 For the Licence in Veterinary Science, £5 5s.
 For certificates of matriculation, attendance upon lectures, &c., special small fees are charged.

Examinations. In May, 1906, the last matriculation examination was held, and the new system of junior and senior public and commercial examinations was introduced in December, 1906. Under the regulations, the rights of all candidates who had passed any subject at any previous matriculation examination were reserved. The appended table gives the results of the public examinations conducted by the University during 1914:—

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS CONDUCTED BY THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1914.

Examination—	Number who attempted to Pass fully.	Number who Passed fully.	
		Total.	Percentage.
Junior, Public	2,497	1,166	46·7
„ Commercial	71	28	39·4
Senior, Public	731	288	39·4

No candidate attempted to pass fully in the Senior Commercial examination.

Degrees. The number of degrees taken in 1914 was 319, 305 of which were direct and 14 *ad eundem*, as against a total of 1,105 for the preceding five years, or an average of 221 per annum for that period. During those five years 1,087 persons obtained direct and 18 *ad eundem* degrees. Of the total number of 5,701 degrees granted since the establishment of the University, 564 have been conferred on women, 558 of which were direct and 6 *ad eundem*. These were apportioned as follows:—249 Bachelor of Arts, 115 Master of Arts, 62 Bachelor of Medicine, 5 Doctor of Medicine, 60 Bachelor of Surgery, 7 Bachelor of Laws, 3 Doctor of Science, 37 Bachelor of Science, 18 Master of Science, 5 Bachelor of Music, and 3 Bachelor of Dental Science. The following table shows the number of degrees conferred at the University between the date of its first opening and the end of 1914—the years 1913 and 1914 being shown separately:—

DEGREES CONFERRED.

Degrees.	Prior to 1913.			During 1913.			During 1914.			Total.		
	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem</i> .	Total.	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem</i> .	Total.	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem</i> .	Total.	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem</i> .	Total.
Bachelor of Arts ...	1040	116	1156	27	1	28	77	1	78	1144	118	1262
Master of Arts ...	580	175	755	14	1	15	10	...	10	604	176	780
Doctor of Letters ...	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Bachelor of Medicine	951	15	966	52	...	52	63	...	63	1066	15	1081
Doctor of Medicine ...	182	107	289	13	...	13	7	...	7	202	107	309
Bachelor of Surgery ...	877	4	881	55	...	55	63	...	63	995	4	999
Master of Surgery ...	18	...	18	1	...	1	4	...	4	23	...	23
Bachelor of Laws ...	400	11	411	11	...	11	20	1	21	431	12	443
Master of Laws ...	76	3	79	1	...	1	3	...	3	80	3	83
Doctor of Laws ...	16	22	38	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	22	38
Bachelor of Civil Engineering ...	170	2	172	7	...	7	1	...	1	178	2	180
Bachelor of Mining Engineering ...	24	...	24	1	...	1	5	...	5	30	...	30
Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering ...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
Master of Engineering	76	...	76	1	...	1	...	...	...	77	...	77
Bachelor of Science ...	117	5	122	12	...	12	9	...	9	138	5	143
Master of Science ...	48	1	49	8	1	9	4	...	4	60	2	62
Doctor of Science ...	13	8	21	4	...	4	1	12	13	18	20	38
Bachelor of Music ...	9	2	11	2	...	2	1	...	1	12	2	14
Doctor of Music ...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Bachelor of Dental Science ...	26	...	26	31	...	31	18	...	18	75	...	75
Doctor of Dental Science ...	...	...	...	4	...	4	5	...	5	9	...	9
Bachelor of Veter- inary Science ...	14	...	14	10	...	10	6	...	6	30	...	30
Doctor of Veterinary Science ...	3	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	1	4	...	4
Bachelor of Agricul- tural Science ...	2	...	2	6	...	6	7	...	7	15	...	15
Total ...	4645	474	5119	260	3	263	305	14	319	5210	491	5701

Students attending lectures, and undergraduates admitted. The number of persons attending lectures has greatly increased during the past ten years, the total in 1914 having been 1,389 as compared with 615 in 1904, thus showing an advance of 126 per cent. To some extent this is due to the inclusion of new subjects in University teaching, principally Education, Agriculture, Metallurgy, Mining, Dentistry, and the Veterinary courses; but apart from these, the increase is very large. A great improvement is also shown in the admission of undergraduates, the number having increased by 178 per cent. in the period mentioned.

PERSONS ADMITTED AS UNDERGRADUATES AND STUDENTS ATTENDING LECTURES, 1910 to 1914.

Year.	Number of Persons Matriculated and Admitted as Undergraduates.			Number of Students Attending Lectures.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1910 ...	214	73	287	903	334	1,237
1911 ...	239	44	283	944	276	1,220
1912 ...	243	72	315	1,009	310	1,319
1913 ...	205	82	287	1,015	315	1,330
1914 ...	283	81	364	1,089	300	1,389

Of the number attending lectures in 1914—1,389—405 were students in Arts and Education, 160 in Laws, 108 in Engineering, 401 in Medicine, 53 in Science, 65 in Music, 82 in Dentistry, 15 in Agriculture, 28 in Veterinary Science, 52 in Architecture, and 1 in Public Health, and 14 were doing Science Research Work.

University Finance. Prior to 1911, it was the practice to publish under the heading of University Finance the transactions relating to the General Account only, but of late years other funds have become so important that, in order to prevent misleading comparisons, it is thought desirable to show the receipts and expenditure in all departments of the University. This has been done in the subjoined statement:—

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1914.

	General Account.			Other Accounts.			All Departments.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Receipts—									
Government Grants ..	22,000	0	0	9,842	6	1	31,842	6	1
Lecture, Degree, Examination, and other Fees ..	30,162	8	9	6,527	12	1	36,690	0	10
Other sources ..	1,581	2	10	6,779	9	5	8,360	12	3
Total ..	53,743	11	7	23,149	7	7	76,892	19	2
Expenditure ..	51,915	18	10	23,613	8	3	75,529	7	1

In addition the University received the sum of £800 from private benefactors, to be held in trust for scholarships and other purposes.

AFFILIATED COLLEGES.

The
affiliated
colleges.

The permission accorded by the "University Act of Incorporation" for the establishment of affiliated colleges has been taken advantage of by the clergy and people of the Church of England, and of the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches of Victoria. Large residential colleges have been built upon the sites reserved for this purpose, which are situated in the northern portion of the University grounds, fronting Sydney-road and College-crescent, Carlton. These colleges, which admit students without regard to their religious beliefs, maintain efficient staffs of tutors and lecturers for the teaching of the principal subjects in each of the University courses. They also provide training for the ministers of their respective denominations. The Roman Catholic body has not yet erected a college upon its site in Madeline-street. In 1906, the Australian College of Dentistry was formally affiliated with the University, which obtained certain rights of supervision and control, and in return undertook to recognise the professional teaching of the College in connexion with the Degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery.

Trinity
College.

The Anglican Church was the first to avail itself of the right to establish an affiliated college. In 1869, Bishop Perry (then Lord Bishop of Melbourne) assisted by Professor Wilson, Sir William Stawell, Dean Macartney, and others, undertook to raise the funds required for the college buildings. Their efforts were crowned with success, and the building of Trinity was commenced in the following year. Its progress was remarkably rapid, and, in 1877, it was found necessary to increase the accommodation for students. In 1883, the Clarke buildings were erected by Sir W. J. and Mr. Joseph Clarke, and additions have been repeatedly made since that time. In 1886, Trinity College Hostel, for resident women students of the college, was established by the present Warden, and was carried on until 1890 in houses rented by him. In 1890, mainly through the munificence of the late Janet Lady Clarke, the Hostel was supplied with permanent buildings erected within the College precincts, and named "The Janet Clarke Buildings." The Hostel forms an integral part of Trinity College, and the women students of the college consequently enjoy all its educational advantages. The Hostel, like the College itself, is open to students of all religious denominations. The college buildings consist of a chapel, dining hall, chemical and biological laboratories, lecture-rooms, libraries, and students' common-room, in addition to apartments for the Warden, tutors, and students. A handsome new chapel is in course of erection, at a cost of £10,000, which has been presented to the college by Mr. J. S. Horsfall, of Orrong, Toorak. The warden of the college is Dr. Alex. Leeper, M.A., LL.D., late of Trinity College, Dublin, and of St. John's College, Oxford, who is assisted by a staff of tutors and lecturers. There is a chaplain, and there are two resident medical tutors. The college annually holds, in the month of November, an examination for open scholarships and exhibitions. Prospectuses may be obtained on application to the Warden.

**Ormond
College.**

In 1877, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Victoria appointed a committee to take charge of the site assigned to it. Shortly afterwards it was resolved to raise subscriptions, to obtain the Crown grant for the land, and to proceed with the erection of a college. When £6,000 was subscribed for the purpose, Mr. Francis Ormond offered £10,000, provided that the church obtained £10,000 from other sources, and in less than a year the Council was in a position to receive Mr. Ormond's subscription. The buildings were at once commenced, and the college was opened in March, 1881. It was then announced that Mr. Ormond would bear the whole expense of the structural part of the building, so that the remaining subscriptions could be entirely devoted to payments for fittings, improvements, repairs, &c. In 1883, the buildings were enlarged. In 1887, Mr. Ormond erected the Victoria Wing, in honour of the late Queen's Jubilee. The buildings comprise lecture and reading-rooms, common-room, dining-hall, and master's, tutors', and students' quarters. They form a college of residence for students attending the University of Melbourne in Arts, Science, Law, Medicine, Engineering, Mining, and Agriculture. The college is open to members of all religious denominations. In it are delivered the lectures of the Theological Hall of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria for the training of Ministers of that church. The theological course covers three years after a student has taken his B.A. degree in the University, and the lectures are given by a staff specially set apart for that purpose. Mr. Ormond's benefactions, amounting to £41,780 during his life-time, were increased under a bequest by him to a sum which will ultimately amount to £100,000. The college bears the name of this generous donor. The first master was J. H. MacFarland, M.A., LL.D. On his retirement at the end of 1914, D. K. Picken, M.A. (Camb. and Glasg.), formerly professor of mathematics in Wellington, N.Z., was appointed master of the college.

**Queen's
College.**

The Conference of the Methodist Church in Victoria, in 1878, appointed a committee to arrange for the building of a college. A request for donations met with a generous response. The first donor being Sir William McArthur, who made a gift of £1,000. The work of erecting the college was not, however, commenced until 1887. It was formally opened in March, 1888. The strenuous efforts of the Rev. W. A. Quick, in the establishment of the college, entitle him to the honour of being regarded as its founder. In 1889, large additions were made to the buildings, which now comprise fully equipped lecture-rooms, laboratories, library, reading-rooms, and apartments for the master, tutors, and students. Further additions were made in 1905, and the "coming of age" of the college was celebrated in 1909 by the enlargement of the building so as to provide a larger library and common-room, with the result that the college is now capable of accommodating about 70 students in residence. Its lectures are open to non-resident, as well as to resident, students. The master is the Rev. E. H. Sugden, M.A., B.Sc.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

University
extension.

The system of local lectures and classes, known as University Extension, which has been in vogue in England for nearly 50 years, and has more lately been introduced into other countries of Europe and the United States, was organized in Victoria in 1891, under a Board appointed by the Melbourne University. The system aims at bringing teaching of the scope and standard of that given at the University itself within the reach of the numerous and constantly growing class of people whose position in life prevents them from attending lectures there, but who wish to devote their leisure to systematic reading and study. To these, material assistance is given by formal lectures, illustrated, where the subject requires it, by demonstrations and experiments, by informal classes and discussions, and by the examination and criticism of written essays. By thus systematizing the knowledge of the extension students, guiding their reading, and suggesting new methods and new directions of inquiry, the University imparts to them the higher education. The lectures are not of the ordinary popular kind. Their primary object is education, they seek to instruct and stimulate rather than to entertain; at the same time, they endeavour to avoid pedantry and dullness. The lectures are delivered in courses, and thus fairly wide subjects may be treated with some approach to thoroughness. The movement is under the control of the University Extension Board, which consists of eighteen members, of whom not more than five may be non-graduates. This Board acts in conjunction with the local committees of the several centres scattered throughout the suburbs and country towns. The Board supplies a list of suitable courses of lectures by competent and approved lecturers, and the local committee chooses the lecturer and subject. During the year 1914, lectures were delivered at three centres in Melbourne, and at Ararat, Ballarat, Beechworth, Benalla, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Colac, Daylesford, Echuca, Euroa, Horsham, Kerang, Korumburra, Kyneton, Leongatha, Mildura, Nurmurkah, Sale, St. Arnaud, Stawell, Swan Hill, Wangaratta, Warracknabeal, Warragul, and Warrnambool.

Mr. Albert Mansbridge, M.A., visited Victoria and the other States during the year 1913, and organized Workers' Educational Associations in the different States with a view to the establishment of "Tutorial Classes." The year 1914 saw the successful formation in Melbourne of such classes. The Hon. the Treasurer, W. A. Watt, M.L.A., having made available the sum of £300, four were established, while others had to be refused. These pioneer classes were—Trades Hall (Secretaries' Union), studying Economics with Mr. E. C. W. Kelly, University Lecturer in Economics, as tutor; Footscray, studying Economics under Mr. Kelly's tutorship; Liberal Workers' Institute, studying Economics with Mr. G. Lightfoot, of the Commonwealth Statistician's Office, as tutor; and Trades Hall, studying Literature under the guidance of Professor Tucker. These classes have been a pronounced success.

THE STATE EDUCATION SYSTEM.

The
educational
system of
Victoria.

The present system of "free, compulsory, and secular," education came into operation on 1st January, 1873, the Act which introduced it having been passed in the previous year. Subsequently, this Act, and two amending Acts passed in 1876 and 1889, were consolidated in the *Education Act 1890*, which in turn has been amended by Act No. 1777 passed in December, 1901, Act No. 2205 passed in December, 1905, Act No. 2301 passed in December, 1910, and Act No. 2330 passed in October, 1911. Before the inception of the present method several different systems were tried. Prior to 1848, education was left to private enterprise; but in that year a denominational system was introduced and administered by a Board, a subsidy being granted by the State. Under that system, religious as well as secular instruction was imparted by the teachers—the former being given according to the principles of the denomination to which the school was attached, the clergy of which also exercised control over the instruction imparted. On the separation of Port Phillip district from New South Wales in 1851, a Board of National Education was established in the new Colony of Victoria "for the formation and management of schools to be conducted under Lord Stanley's National system of Education, and for administering the funds in connexion therewith." There were thus two systems of education under separate boards in operation at the same time, the duplicate system continuing in force until 1862, when it was abolished as being cumbrous and costly. The *Common Schools Act 1862* transferred the powers of both boards to a single Board of Education, provided a minimum distance which must exist between new schools established, and fixed a minimum of scholars a school must have in order to entitle it to State aid; it prescribed, moreover, that four hours each day should be set apart for secular instruction, and that no child should be refused admission to any school on account of its religious persuasion. Although this Act caused some improvement, it was not such as to wholly abolish denominationalism, nor did it reduce the number of small schools in the towns to any appreciable extent. It continued in force, however, for ten years, when it was repealed by the Act of 1872. Under these systems, a fee ranging from 6d. to 2s. 6d. weekly was charged to all children except those whose parents were in destitute circumstances. Under the Act of 1872, education was made free to all willing to accept it; compulsory, in the sense that, whether they attend or do not attend State schools, evidence must be produced that all children are educated up to a certain standard; and secular, no teacher being allowed to give other than secular instruction in any State school building. Facilities are, however, afforded to persons other than State school teachers to give religious instruction, on one or two days each week, to the children of the parents who desire that their children shall receive such instruction. In each school four hours at least are set apart during each school day for secular instruction, two hours of which are to be before, and two hours after, noon.

In December, 1910, an Act of Parliament of a most comprehensive and far-reaching character was passed. It marks a most important epoch in the history of education in Victoria, and lays the foundation of a complete national system from the infant school to the highest educational institutions in the State. Power is given in this Act for the establishment of higher elementary schools, and of secondary and technical schools of various types, the aim being to create a co-ordinated system of public education, leading through elementary schools and evening continuation classes to trade and technical schools on the one hand, or through elementary schools and high schools to the University or to higher technical schools on the other. Provision is also made for evening continuation classes, in which the education of children who have left the day school at fourteen years of age may be continued till they are seventeen years of age. Power is given to make attendance at evening continuation classes compulsory in any district proclaimed for this purpose. Education is made compulsory in the case of deaf and dumb, blind, or physically or mentally defective children between seven and sixteen years of age.

In order to provide for the due co-ordination of all branches of public education a Council of Public Education has been created, representative of the various educational and industrial interests of the State. This body, which consists of 20 members presided over by the Director of Education, reports annually to Parliament on the development of public education in Victoria and elsewhere.

Compulsory clauses. Under the provisions of Act No. 2301, parents and custodians of children not less than six nor more than fourteen years of age are required to cause such children (unless there is a "reasonable excuse") to attend a State school on every school half-day in each week. Non-attendance may be excused for any of the five following reasons:—(1) If the child is receiving efficient instruction in some other manner, and is complying with the prescribed conditions as to regularity of attendance; or (2) has been prevented from attending by sickness, reasonable fear of infection, temporary or permanent infirmity, or any unavoidable cause; or (3) has been excused by a general or particular order of the Minister; or (4) is at least thirteen years of age, and has obtained a certificate of merit as prescribed; or (5) that there is no State school within 1, 2, 2½, or 3 miles in the case of children under seven, between seven and nine, between nine and eleven, and over eleven years of age respectively. Parents and custodians who fail to make a child attend as provided may be summoned and fined not less than 2s., nor more than 10s., for each such offence, or, in default, may be imprisoned for any term not exceeding three days; and truant officers are appointed to see that the compulsory provisions are carried out.

Conveyance allowance. In cases where schools are closed through low average attendance, or where, though there is no school, the number of children would warrant the Department in establishing a school, allowances are made by the Department for the conveyance of children to the nearest school. The amount of the allowance is 3d.

per day for children over six and under twelve who reside between $2\frac{1}{2}$ and 3 miles from the nearest school, or 4d. per day for children over six and under fourteen who reside 3 miles or over from the nearest school.

Under Act No. 2301 Boards of Advice have been abolished and a School Committee of not more than seven persons for each school or group of schools has been substituted. The members of the School Committee shall be such persons as are nominated for the purpose by the parents of children attending the school or group of schools for which the Committee is to be appointed. The main duties of such Committees are:—(a) to exercise a general oversight over the buildings and grounds, and to report to the Minister on their condition when necessary; (b) to carry out any necessary work referred to the Committee in connexion with maintenance or repair of or additions to buildings; (c) to promote the beautifying and improvement of school grounds, the establishment and maintenance of school gardens and agricultural plots, the decoration of the schoolroom, and the formation of a school library and museum; (d) to provide for the necessary cleansing and for the sanitary services of the school; (e) to visit the school from time to time; and (f) to use every endeavour to induce parents to send their children to school.

The following are the subjects in which instruction is absolutely free:—Reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, history, drill, singing, drawing, elementary science, manual training, gymnastics, and swimming where practicable; lessons on the laws of health and on temperance; needlework, and where practicable, cookery and domestic economy for girls. Pupils buy their own books and material.

The programme of instruction in force contains provisions to secure a more realistic treatment than formerly of the essential subjects of school education, and a larger share of attention to the training of the hand and eye through manual instruction in various forms. The requirements from teachers of infants are also such as to secure methods of teaching in accord with the principles enunciated by Froebel, the founder of the kindergarten system. Great activity has been displayed in the training of teachers for their work. During the past few years, in addition to the large number of teachers who have taken the course at the Teachers' College and the Melbourne University, hundreds have been instructed (especially in those subjects the method of teaching which has undergone modification recently) in special classes held in the evenings and on Saturdays at centres of population, and, on a larger scale still, during the Christmas vacations, at what are called "Summer Schools." Much attention has been given to the beautifying and improvement of school grounds by the planting of trees and shrubs, and by the establishment of school gardens. One day in each year—termed Arbor Day—is specially set apart for tree-planting, and for the giving of lessons on the value of trees. The teaching of elementary agriculture is warmly encouraged by both the Department of Education and the Department of Agriculture, and the subject is being dealt with in a very practical way.

**Drill,
swimming,
school
gardens, &c.**

There were, on 30th June, 1914, 61 Sloyd centres in operation, having accommodation for about 12,000 boys; and 62 cookery centres, with an attendance of 7,064 girls, also one laundry centre with 200 girls in attendance. In addition, woodwork is being taught in 69 country schools by the head teacher as one of the ordinary subjects, the number of schools having increased by eight since the previous year. Swimming is taught in schools that have the necessary facilities, the children being formed into swimming clubs, which hold annual competitions at various centres. Drill is taught in all schools. During 1912 the system of physical training approved of by the Commonwealth military authorities was introduced. Nearly every State school now has its garden, and some of the school gardens are among the beauty spots of their districts.

**Special
days.**

In addition to Arbor Day, three other special days—Empire Day, Discovery Day, and Bird Day—call for mention. The observance of the first promotes the growth of an intelligent patriotism, and is world-wide; but nowhere is the day more enthusiastically celebrated than in Victoria. The special lessons given on Discovery Day serve to foster the desire for fuller acquaintance with the history of Australia—a highly desirable result to secure, as Australia is the native land of almost all the children in the elementary schools of Victoria. Bird Day, which was kept for the first time in October, 1909, has for its object the protection of native birds and their eggs. On that day lessons are given on bird life and, where possible, bird-observing excursions are made. About 50,000 of the older scholars have joined the "Gould League of Bird Lovers," which has been established under the auspices of the Australasian Ornithologists' Union and the Bird Observers' Club, for the protection of bird life.

**Medical
inspection.**

The need for the medical inspection of school children has received widespread recognition, and the Victorian Education Department has followed the lead of progressive countries by appointing four medical inspectors. They devote their whole time to investigating the hygienic condition of school premises and the physical and mental condition of the pupils, and to giving instruction to teachers.

**Teachers'
remuneration
and
classification.**

Under the provisions of Act No. 2330, passed on 20th October, 1911, male teachers are divided into six and female teachers into five classes, there being no female teachers in the first class. The salaries for males, excluding junior teachers, range from £120 to £500, and those for females, excluding junior teachers and sewing mistresses, from £80 to £250. Under certain conditions the fixed salaries may be supplemented by long-service increments ranging up to £20 per annum. In addition to the head and assistant teachers, there are four classes of junior teachers, with salaries ranging from £30 to £60. Sewing mistresses receive £40 yearly.

State schools, teachers, and scholars, 1872 to 1914.

The following statement shows the progress as regards State schools, teachers, and scholars since 1872. The figures relating to the number of schools and teachers refer to 30th June, and those relating to the number of scholars to the financial year ended 30th June, for the last thirteen years; the reference is to 31st December and the years ended on that date respectively for all previous returns:—

STATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, 1872 TO 1913-14.

Year.	Number of Schools at end of year.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Schools.		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In average Attendance.	Distinct Children (estimated).
1872	1,049	2,416	136,055	68,456	113,197
1880	1,810	4,215	229,723	119,520	195,736
1890	2,170	4,708	250,097	133,768	213,886
1900	1,948	4,977	243,667	147,020	218,240
1901-2	2,041	5,066	257,355	150,939	228,241
1902-3	1,988	5,037	251,655	150,268	224,178
1903-4	1,928	4,797	241,145	145,500	214,822
1904-5	1,935	4,639	234,614	143,362	210,200
1905-6	1,953	4,598	229,179	142,216	203,119
1906-7	1,974	4,721	231,759	147,270	203,782
1907-8	2,017	4,665	233,893	143,551	205,541
1908-9	2,035	4,808	233,337	146,106	205,278
1909-10	2,036	4,957	235,042	145,968	206,263
1910-11	2,059	5,087	234,766	146,464	204,086
1911-12	2,093	5,533	238,111	151,247	205,695
1912-13	2,127	5,683	241,042	152,600	209,172
1913-14	2,175	5,710*	246,447	158,213	214,986

* In addition to these teachers, 410 were temporarily employed on 30th June, 1914.

Children's attendance at school, 1872 and 1914.

In 1872, before attendance at school was free and compulsory, each child on the average attended 58 out of every 100 days the school was open; now each child attends 73 out of every 100 school days.

Ages of State school scholars.

The following table shows the number and percentage of distinct children attending State schools, below, at, and above the school age (6 and under 14), during the year 1913-14:—

AGES OF STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS.

Ages.	Distinct Children Attending—					
	Day Schools.		Night Schools.		Total.	
	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.
Under 6 years	12,456	5·8	...	...	12,456	5·8
6 to 14 ,,	179,282	83·4	...	...	179,282	83·4
14 years and upwards	23,121	10·8	127	100·0	23,248	10·8
Total	214,859	100·0	127	100·0	214,986	100·0

Children of school age receiving instruction.

The estimated number of children in the State at school age (6 to 14 years) on 30th June, 1914, was 216,268, and of these 211,619 were being instructed in State and private schools. The number of children not being instructed in schools was, therefore, 4,649, and, if allowance be made for those being taught at home, for others who, having obtained certificates of exemption, have left school, and for those bodily or mentally afflicted, it would appear that the number of children whose education is being wholly neglected is not great.

Net enrolment in Australia and New Zealand.

The following comparative statement, which relates to the year 1913, shows, for the various States of the Commonwealth and for New Zealand, the net enrolment of children in State and private schools and the percentage of such enrolment to the population. The percentage in the Commonwealth is 18·01 (14·68 per cent. in State, and 3·33 in private schools), and in New Zealand, 18·66 (16·11 per cent. in State, and 2·55 in private, schools). The highest enrolment in proportion to the population in State and private schools is in New Zealand, 18·66 per cent., New South Wales coming next with 18·64 per cent., and Victoria following with 18·57 per cent.

NET ENROLMENT OF SCHOLARS IN STATE AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND, 1913.

State.	Net Enrolment of Scholars —all Ages.			Percentage of Population.		
	State Primary Schools.	Private Scholars.	Total.	State Primary Schools.	Private Schools.	Total.
Victoria	209,172	49,549	258,721	15·01	3·56	18·57
New South Wales	269,937	67,128	337,065	14·93	3·71	18·64
Queensland	97,987	15,500	113,487	15·02	2·37	17·39
South Australia	58,656	11,012	69,668	13·53	2·54	16·07
Western Australia	42,081	10,335	52,416	13·40	3·29	16·69
Tasmania	26,919	6,275	33,194	13·74	3·20	16·94
Northern Territory	123	65	188	3·36	1·78	5·14
Federal Territory	278	..	278	11·35	..	11·35
Total Australia	705,153	159,864	865,017	14·68	3·33	18·01
Dominion of New Zealand..	172,168	27,269	199,437	16·11	2·55	18·66

Cost of instruction per scholar.

The cost of State school instruction, including the expenditure on buildings, in the Commonwealth and in New Zealand for the year 1913, is set out below. The average cost per scholar in Australia is £8 2s. 3d., and in New Zealand, £7 6s.

COST OF STATE SCHOOL INSTRUCTION IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, 1913.

State.	Scholars in Average Attend- ance.	State Expenditure—				Per Head of Scholars in Average Attendance.				
		On Admin- istration and Main- tenance.	On Build- ings and Rent.	Total.	Including Buildings and Rent.		Excluding Buildings and Rent.			
					£	s.		d.	£	s.	d.
Victoria	152,600	£ 1,040,621	£ 158,028	£ 1,198,649	7	17	1	£ 6	16	5
New South Wales ..	178,027	1,318,325	367,830	1,686,155	9	9	5	7	8	1
Queensland	79,391	426,557	77,715	504,272	6	7	0	5	7	5
South Australia ..	43,319	251,779	61,735	313,514	7	4	9	5	16	3
Western Australia ..	36,254	258,171	71,913	330,084	9	2	1	7	2	5
Tasmania	21,174	91,513	16,456	107,969	5	2	0	4	6	5
Northern Territory ..	68	1,942	791	2,733	40	3	10	28	11	2
Total Australia	510,833	3,388,908	754,468	4,143,376	8	2	3	6	12	8
Dominion of New Zealand	151,242	902,374	201,682	1,104,056	7	6	0	5	19	3

The items taken into consideration in compiling the expenditure are:—Instruction in day and night schools in primary and secondary subjects, cost of training teachers, cost of administration, cost of buildings, rent, and pensions and gratuities.

The number of registered schools, instructors in same, and individual scholars in attendance in 1872, the year before the adoption of the present secular system, for a number of subsequent years, and for the latest year available, were:—

REGISTERED SCHOOLS AND ATTENDANCE, 1872 TO 1913-14.

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Individual Scholars.
1872	888	1,841	24,781
1880	643	1,516	28,134
1890	791	2,037	40,181
1900	884	2,348	48,483
1901-2	872	2,379	43,182
1902-3	798	2,369	42,695
1903-4	787	2,360	42,214
1904-5	771	2,289	43,014
1905-6*	757	2,397	48,732
1906-7	751	2,313	49,803
1907-8	696	2,188	50,058
1908-9	678	2,178	49,145
1909-10	641	2,067	49,964
1910-11	587	1,975	51,495
1911-12	548	1,856	48,391
1912-13	519	1,846	49,549
1913-14	512	1,844	50,480

* In this year the *Registration of Teachers and Schools Act* came into operation.

Scholars attending State and registered schools.

On comparing the number of scholars with the number attending schools, it is seen that 19 per cent. of the scholars during 1913-14 attended registered schools, and the balance, 81 per cent., attended State primary and secondary schools.

REGISTRATION OF TEACHERS AND SCHOOLS.

Registration of teachers and schools.

By Act No. 2013, passed in 1905, all private schools and teachers of private schools had to be registered by the Teachers and Schools Registration Board. This Board consisted of three representatives of the Education Department, four of non-State schools, two of the University, and one of State-aided technical schools. Its chief functions were to see (1) that only qualified persons were employed in private schools; and (2) that private schools met requirements in hygienic matters. Under the provisions of Act No. 2301, passed in December, 1910, the Teachers and Schools Registration Board was abolished and its duties were taken over by the Council of Public Education.

THE TRAINING OF TEACHERS.

Teachers' College.

In recent years the training of teachers for the State Department has been much modified and altered. Formerly, young people who had completed the State School course of education were employed as pupil teachers to teach the whole of each day, and during their three or four years' course they received instruction, usually in the mornings or in the late afternoons, from the head masters and other qualified teachers of the staff. Now such young persons enter one or other of the High Schools throughout the State where they stay for at least two years, receiving the groundwork of a good secondary education, and also receiving instruction in certain subjects which are considered essential for a teacher. If at the end of two years they choose to enter the Service, they are appointed as Junior Teachers, and in the course of a few years they can possess second class and first class certificates, and be enrolled as fully qualified teachers. The more ambitious of the intending teachers remain at the High Schools for at least three years, when they pass the Senior Public examination. In some cases they remain a year longer in order to qualify themselves to enter for the course of training for Secondary Teachers. Intending teachers who wish to get higher certificates and to receive the best course of training available enter the Teachers' College. This is situated in a corner of the University Grounds, Carlton, and is at the present time in close connexion with the University.

Here there are three full courses of training; the first, for Kindergarten or Infant Teachers, is open to any young teacher of the Education Department who has passed the Junior Public examination and who has taught for two years, and is also open, on payment of a fee of £10 10s. per annum, to non-Departmental students who are at least seventeen years of age, and who have passed the Junior Public examination. This course, which is for two years, gives a thorough training in the work of such institutions as Free Kindergartens, the Primary Department of private schools and the Infant Department of State Schools, and imparts

the necessary instruction in all subjects connected with Kindergarten work. Students of this course, who pass all the tests in Theory and Practice, are awarded the Trained Kindergarten and Infant Teacher's Certificate.

The second course—for Primary Teachers—is open to any young teachers of the Education Department who have passed an examination entitling them to matriculate, and who have spent at least two years in practical teaching, and is open on payment of a fee of £10 10s. per annum to any non-Departmental student who is eighteen years of age and who has passed the matriculation examination. This course, which is for two years, imparts the necessary skill for teaching classes in the Primary department of a private or State school. One of the years, either before or after the year spent in the College, must be given exclusively to practical work. The students of the course who pass all its tests are awarded a Trained Primary Teacher's Certificate. This course is open to non-Departmental students who are 17½ years of age, and who have passed the Junior Public examination and wish to be registered under the Council of Education; but who do not desire to have the Trained Primary Teacher's Certificate.

The third course—for Secondary Teachers—is open to any young teachers of the Education Department who have passed the Senior Public examination, and who have taught for at least one year in a school, or to candidates who have won Government Exhibitions, or who have already passed in two years in any Degree Course of the Melbourne University. This course, which is for three years, is almost wholly under the University of Melbourne, and gives at the end the Diploma of Education of that University. The Course is open to any student of the University qualifying to sit for that Diploma.

The certificates granted at the end of these courses are the standards set by the Council of Education for Registered Schools. The regulations of the Teachers' College have recently been widened so as to permit students who have been trained in private schools to enter the College with the full rights of Departmental students. This insures that at the end of their course the Department will classify them and immediately find them a position. A selection Committee meets at the end of each year, and determines the number of students for each course, and the course that each candidate for admission will be allowed to take. Recently the work in the Kindergarten Department has been extended. A Diploma in Kindergarten and Infant Room work will now be granted to all students who, already having gained the Trained Infant Teacher's certificate, and, having taught for some four or five years afterwards, spend four years further in the study of Kindergarten and Infant Room methods. This course, which is open to State and private students, it is hoped will be instrumental in causing Kindergarten teachers to introduce experimental methods in their work. In connexion with the Infant Teacher's Certificate the Teachers' College carries on a large correspondence class, by means of which some 100 Infant teachers scattered over the State are assisted to pass the examinations for this certificate.

Students of the Domestic Arts Hostel receive their instruction in Science, in English, in Drawing, and in Education at the Teachers' College. All Departmental students are entitled to free instruction, and either to reside at the College, or to receive an allowance of £18 per annum if they live at home. The students who reside at the College must, after they leave, repay to the Department a sum of £12 for every year spent at the College. All Departmental students receive an allowance of £12 per annum towards personal expenses. Every "State" student is required to enter into an agreement, by himself and an approved surety, not to relinquish his course of training without the permission of the Minister, and for four years (three years in the case of women students resigning on account of marriage) after the termination of his studentship to teach in any school to which he may be appointed. Successful State students receive appointments as sixth class teachers, the salary for males being from £140 to £170, and for females from £80 to £130 a year, according as they are appointed assistants or head teachers; or if they hold the Secondary Teacher's Certificate they may be appointed at higher salaries to High Schools or Elementary High Schools. During 1914 there were in all 411 students in training at the Teachers' College or in classes connected with it, of whom 80 were taking most of their work at the University. Seventy-seven of the students are in residence.

DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOLS AND AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOLS.

District High Schools. The Education Act of 1910 authorized the establishment of these schools in order to open a broad highway, at little or no cost to the parents of the pupils, leading from the elementary schools to the technical schools and to the University. A further important function of these institutions is to train teachers for the primary schools. Under the scheme of training now in operation aspirants for the teaching profession are expected during the period spent at a district high school to complete their preliminary literary studies and to gain an acquaintance with modern teaching methods. The course of study lasts for four years in the case of pupils who enter from the sixth grade of the elementary school after obtaining the qualifying certificate, or for two or three years in the case of those who enter from the eighth grade after completing the course of the elementary school. At the end of that time they begin their work as teachers. The qualification for entrance to a district high school is the possession of the merit certificate. Winners of Government scholarships are also trained at these schools. but parents are at liberty to select an approved secondary school for the education of their boys and girls. Besides the day classes there are formed at a few of the district high schools evening classes for the instruction of teachers living in the vicinity, and correspondence classes for those residing at a distance. Provision is made at the agricultural high schools also for the education of holders of scholarships and for the training of junior teachers. There are district high schools at Ararat, Bairnsdale, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Echuca, Essendon, Geelong,

Horsham, Kyneton, Maryborough, Melbourne (two), St. Arnaud, and Stawell, and district high schools, which are also equipped as agricultural high schools, at Ballarat, Colac, Leongatha, Mansfield, Mildura, Sale, Shepparton, Wangaratta, Warragul, and Warrnambool. During the term ended 30th June, 1914, there were in attendance at these schools 3,890 pupils, of whom 2,089 were boys and 1,801 were girls. Education is free up to the age of fourteen years, after which a fee of £6 per annum is charged. Travelling expenses (up to £5 per annum) are provided for children living beyond 3 miles from the school if the parents' income does not exceed £150 per annum. In special cases the department has power to make grants in aid of school requisites up to £2 per annum, and of the cost of maintenance up to £26 per annum, to enable pupils to continue their studies at district high schools and higher elementary schools.

HIGHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Higher elementary schools.

There are now nineteen higher elementary schools—at Beechworth, Benalla, Charlton, Clunes, Coburg, Corryong, Daylesford, Dean, Donald, Hamilton, Inglewood, Kerang, Kyabram, Nhill, Omeo, Orbost, Portland, Rutherglen, and Warracknabeal. During the term ended 30th June, 1914, there were in attendance at higher elementary schools 1,132 pupils, and of these 582 were boys and 550 were girls. Education in the higher elementary schools is free throughout the course, which extends over two or four years.

The purpose of the district high school and the higher elementary school is to provide the essentials of a good general education for pupils who have completed the work of the sixth grade in elementary schools, and are likely to profit by a further course of study, and to give them, in the third and fourth years, a specialized training that will help to prepare them for their several careers in life. These schools will thus form a link between the elementary school and technical institutions, or the University, or vocations that may be followed by pupils upon the completion of the course of study.

University High School. For the practical part of the work of training secondary teachers the University High School was opened in a State building in 1910, and this school was specially staffed by lecturers in methods of teaching, in addition to the teachers of the ordinary form subjects of secondary schools. The practical training in teaching received at this school is part of what is prescribed for the course for the Diploma of Education at the Melbourne University. Opened with 40 boys and 40 girls in 1910, the school has since grown until there is an attendance of 180 pupils taking the full six years' course, which extends from the standard of the sixth grade in the elementary school to that of the Senior Public Honours examination. The number of diploma (University) students admitted for teaching practice during 1914 was 67, and there has been an average total attendance weekly at criticism lessons of 54 students. In its management of the school the Department is aided by an advisory committee from the Faculty of Arts of the University. The University supplements the salaries paid to the method staff by an annual grant for lectures given at the University.

SCHOLARSHIPS.

The Minister of Public Instruction may annually award scholarships in the manner and on the conditions hereafter mentioned :—

Junior scholarships. One hundred junior scholarships or any less number may be awarded annually in three divisions as follows :—

- (a) Fifty open to pupils in attendance at State elementary schools.
- (b) Thirty open to pupils in attendance at higher elementary schools or district high schools.
- (c) Twenty open to pupils in attendance at registered schools.

The fifty junior scholarships open to State elementary schools are grouped in two divisions :—

1. Those open to pupils attending schools with a monthly average attendance of 150 or over.
2. Those open to pupils attending schools with a monthly average attendance of less than 150.

No junior scholarship will be awarded to any candidate whose age, as attested by a certificate of birth, exceeds $14\frac{1}{2}$ years on the 1st January immediately succeeding the examination. A scholarship is tenable for four years at an approved district high school or approved registered secondary school, or alternatively at an approved higher elementary school for two years and thereafter during its currency at an approved district high school or approved registered secondary school. A scholarship holder must obtain satisfactory reports as to attendance, conduct, and progress from the head teacher, and must be recommended annually by an inspector of schools for a continuance of his scholarship.

Senior scholarships. Forty senior scholarships or any less number are to be awarded annually on competitive examination, of which—

- (a) Twenty are open to holders of junior scholarships.
- (b) Twenty are open either to holders of junior scholarships or to pupils of district high schools or registered schools who satisfy the conditions relating to age and educational qualifications.

Candidates for senior scholarships under clause (a) must have been holders of junior scholarships for at least three years and must, previous to the competitive examination, have passed the Junior Public examination of the Melbourne University or an approved equivalent examination. Candidates for senior scholarships under clause (b) must, previous to the competitive examination, have passed the Junior Public examination, or an approved equivalent examination, and, for the two years immediately preceding the competitive examination, must have been in regular attendance at a district high school or a registered secondary school. No senior scholarship will be awarded to a candidate whose age exceeds $18\frac{1}{2}$ years on the 1st January immediately

succeeding the examination. Senior scholarships are of the annual value of £40, tenable for four or five (and in special cases for six) years at the Melbourne University.

Scholarships for candidate teachers. Sixty scholarships or any less number are to be awarded annually for the preliminary training of candidate teachers intending to enter the service of the Education Department. These scholarships are tenable for three years under conditions relating to schools to be attended and reports as to conduct similar to those which are in force for junior scholarships, also with the provision that the course of study is approved by the Director of Education. No scholarship will be awarded to a candidate less than fourteen years or more than seventeen years of age on the 1st January immediately succeeding the examination. Every holder of a teaching scholarship is required to enter into an agreement by himself and an approved surety not to relinquish his scholarship without the permission of the Minister and for three years after the termination of his scholarship to teach in any school to which he may be appointed.

Junior technical scholarships. Fifty junior technical scholarships are to be awarded annually on competitive examination in two divisions, viz. :—

- (a) Forty open to pupils in attendance at State schools.
- (b) Ten open to pupils in attendance at registered schools.

These scholarships are tenable for two years at a junior technical school, or in the industrial course at a higher elementary school, or a district high school. An allowance of £4 per annum towards expenses of books, workshop and laboratory, and other material will be made. The scholar must obtain at the end of each year a satisfactory report as to attendance, conduct, and progress from the head teacher, and be recommended by the inspector of schools for the continuance of his scholarship. Scholarships are not open to candidates whose age exceeds fourteen years on the 1st January immediately succeeding the examination.

Senior technical scholarships. Fifty senior technical scholarships or any less number are to be allotted annually to candidates who have been in regular attendance for at least two years at junior technical schools, technical schools, evening continuation classes, higher elementary schools, district high schools, or registered schools, as under :—

- Twenty are open to boys, and tenable for the full length of approved day courses in technical schools, and entitle the holders to free tuition and to an allowance of £30 per annum.
- Ten are open to girls, and tenable for the full length of approved courses in domestic arts, and entitle the holders to free tuition and to an allowance of £30 per annum.
- Twenty are open to boys in employment, and tenable for the full length of approved evening courses, and entitle the holders to free tuition and to an allowance of £10 per annum.

Applications for senior technical scholarships are to be made before the 1st November each year, and will be dealt with by a Board consisting of the Chief Inspector of Technical Schools, the Art Inspector, and a third person nominated by the Minister. If the Board consider it necessary a competitive examination may be held. No scholarship will be awarded to a candidate whose age exceeds sixteen years on 1st January in the year immediately succeeding the year in which the application is made.

On the recommendation of a Board consisting of the **Travelling scholarships.** Director, the Public Service Commissioner, and a member of the teaching staff of the University, one travelling scholarship, tenable for one year, for the purpose of enabling the holder to pursue such studies and investigations outside Victoria as may be approved by the Minister, will be awarded annually in rotation to the following classes of officers :—

- (a) An inspector of schools.
- (b) A lecturer in the Teachers' College, or a teacher in a technical school.
- (c) A teacher in a higher elementary school, or in a district high school.
- (d) A teacher in an elementary school.

The value of the scholarships is full pay during the absence of the holder from Victoria, and if the salary does not exceed £250 per annum an additional allowance up to £50.

On the recommendation of the Board mentioned above, the following travelling scholarships are also to be awarded :—

To an officer of the Education Department annually for the purpose of allowing him to undertake such studies as may be approved by the Minister. The value of this scholarship is £150 per annum, together with an allowance, and it will be tenable for one or two years as may be determined.

To teachers of modern languages in the service of the Education Department who are also graduates in arts and in education and who have obtained final honours in the School of Modern Languages at the Melbourne University. This scholarship, which is given biennially, is valued at £150, and is tenable in countries outside Australia for courses of study approved by the Minister.

To exit-students or to teachers in technical schools annually to enable the holders to undertake such duties as may be approved by the Minister. This scholarship is tenable for one year, and entitles the holder to an allowance of £150 with an allowance for travelling expenses.

For all travelling scholarships, except the last-mentioned, the holder is required to enter into an agreement by himself and an approved surety not to relinquish his scholarship and for three years after its termination to remain in the service of the Department.

Nominated courses in agricultural, mining, and veterinary science.

In accordance with the provisions of the University Act No. 1926, twenty nominations or any less number are to be made annually for the purpose of enabling students to proceed to a degree or a diploma in agriculture, mining, or in veterinary science at the Melbourne University.

Applications for nominated courses are to be made before the 1st November each year, and preference will be given to holders of scholarships for proficiency in agriculture, mining, and veterinary subjects, and to applicants qualified for matriculation at the Melbourne University who have undergone a course in agriculture at an agricultural high school or in science at a technical school.

No student will be nominated whose age exceeds 18½ years on 1st January in the year immediately succeeding the year in which the application is made. Every nominated student will be required to enter into an agreement by himself and an approved surety not to transfer to any other course at the University without the approval of the Minister, and also in the event of such approval being granted to repay all fees and allowances the benefits of which he has received as a result of the nomination. If the circumstances warrant it a subsistence allowance of £26 per annum may be granted, but in every case the special circumstances must be specifically set forth.

General conditions.

Where the holder of a junior scholarship or a teaching scholarship attends a higher elementary school or a district high school, he will receive free tuition and an allowance of £4 per annum towards expenses of books and other materials, and where he attends an approved registered secondary school he will be granted an allowance of £12 towards expenses of tuition and of books and other materials.

Where the holder respectively of a junior scholarship, teaching scholarship, or junior technical scholarship does not reside within five miles of a school at which his scholarship is tenable, an allowance up to £5 per annum may be made to cover the cost of transit to and from school; and if it is necessary that he shall reside apart from his parents or guardians he may be given, in lieu of the cost of transit, an allowance of £26 per annum.

In special cases the Department has power to make grants in aid of school requisites up to £2 per annum and of the cost of maintenance up to £26 per annum to enable pupils to continue their studies at district high schools and higher elementary schools.

These allowances are not payable if the income of the parent or guardian during the preceding year exceeded a quota of £50 for each member of the family, excluding children earning a wage of 10s. or more weekly. This restriction does not apply where the income of the parents does not exceed £250 per annum.

A scholarship may be cancelled if the prescribed conditions of tenure are not complied with; if the conduct of the scholar has been idle, disorderly, or immoral; or if it is shown on the report of the inspector that the scholar has failed to make satisfactory progress.

STANDARD OF EDUCATION.

Signing with marks. The proportion of either sex who showed their want of elementary education, by signing the marriage register with a mark instead of in writing, is given in the following table for each fifth year from 1875 to 1905, and for each of the last five years:—

SIGNING THE MARRIAGE REGISTER WITH MARKS,
1875 TO 1914.

Year.	Men.	Women.	Mean.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
1875	5·48	9·43	7·46
1880	4·18	4·09	4·13
1885	2·56	2·62	2·59
1890	1·50	1·53	1·52
1895	·89	·67	·78
1900	·66	·85	·76
1905	·50	·38	·44
1910	·29	·30	·29
1911	·27	·21	·24
1912	·24	·32	·28
1913	·19	·15	·17
1914	·22	·16	·19

In 1914 the number of marriages celebrated was 11,830, and 26 men and 19 women signed the marriage register with marks. In seven marriages both contracting parties were illiterate persons.

Increased numbers signing in writing. It will be observed that, in proportion to the total numbers married, a very satisfactory increase took place during the 20 years ended with 1895 in the numbers of both sexes signing the marriage register in writing, in that every fifth year, as compared with its predecessor, showed a smaller proportion of persons signing with marks. From 1895 to 1900 this proportion remained at a somewhat uniform level, but since the latter year the improvement has been marked. It is probable, however, that the irreducible minimum has now been reached, for a certain residuum of the population will remain illiterate even under the compulsory system of education which prevails in Victoria. Evidence on this point is obtained from the results of the census of 1911, which show that the percentage of males aged 20 years and upwards (exclusive of full-blooded aborigines) who could not write was 1·49, and that of females aged 15 years and upwards, 1·11; whereas at the age groups fifteen to twenty, immediately following the school period, the percentage was ·41 for males and ·19 for females. The persons marrying in Victoria at all ages are thus not only far better instructed than the general population, but are quite as well educated as those who have just completed their school life.

Compared with England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland, where the proportions per cent. signing with marks were .97, 1.00, and 4.66 respectively, the elementary educational standard is very high in this State, which, in this respect, occupies the highest position in Australasia.

Illiteracy in
England
and Wales
and Victoria.

A very interesting table appeared in the report of the English Registrar-General for 1909, showing the proportions of men and women who signed the marriage register with marks per 100 marriages celebrated during quinquennial periods from the year 1841. Similar particulars have been tabulated for Victoria, for the period commencing with the year 1853, and these are compared with the English ratios in the following table:—

PERSONS SIGNING THE MARRIAGE REGISTER WITH MARKS
IN ENGLAND AND WALES AND VICTORIA.

Period.	Number of Persons in every 100 Marriages who Signed the Marriage Register with Marks.			
	Men.		Women.	
	Victoria.	England and Wales.	Victoria.	England and Wales.
1841-45 ...	*	32.6	*	48.9
1846-50 ...	*	31.4	*	46.2
1851-55 ...	12.47†	30.2	26.90†	43.5
1856-60 ...	10.99	27.1	27.85	38.1
1861-65 ...	8.62	23.6	20.59	32.9
1866-70 ...	7.92	20.5	15.39	28.3
1871-75 ...	6.16	18.5	10.28	25.2
1876-80 ...	4.49	14.8	5.68	20.0
1881-85 ...	2.78	12.3	3.22	15.5
1886-90 ...	1.68	8.4	1.72	9.8
1891-95 ...	.99	5.1	1.10	6.0
1896-1900 ...	.77	3.2	.71	3.7
1901-05 ...	.59	2.0	.46	2.4
1906 ...	.43	1.5	.44	1.9
1907 ...	.47	1.4	.29	1.7
1908 ...	.33	1.3	.40	1.5
1909 ...	.32	1.1	.29	1.3
1910 ...	.29	1.1	.30	1.2
1911 ...	.27	1.0	.21	1.2
1912 ...	.24	.9	.32	1.1
1913 ...	.19	.9	.15	1.0
1914 ...	.22	*	.16	*

* Not available.

† Average of the period 1853-55.

The progress of education is illustrated in a marked manner by the figures in this tabulation. During the period 1841-45 about 49 women in every 100 who married in England and Wales could not

attach their names to the marriage register, but in 1913 the proportion of illiterates was only 1 in every 100 marriages. In the case of men the proportions were 33 in every 100 in the early period, and slightly less than 1 in 100 in the later one. In Victoria the improvement is also very striking. During the period 1853-5 about 27 women and 12 men in every 100 marriages signed the marriage register with marks instead of affixing their names, as compared with about 1 in every 455 marriages for men and 1 in 623 marriages for women in 1914. These records seem to indicate that the early arrivals in Victoria from the United Kingdom were better educated than their compatriots who remained in that country.

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

Technical schools.

The whole of the Technical Schools in the State, prior to the passing of Act No. 2301 in 1910, were under the control of local Councils. Act 2301 provides for schools being under the control of the Minister of Public Instruction. The Education Department, in all cases, still retains the general direction of technical education. Regulations are issued defining the powers of the Councils, allotting the Government grants, and providing for the instruction and examination of the students.

The former lack of any organized method for preparing pupils for courses in Technical Schools largely neutralized the efforts of the instructors in such institutions. In order to overcome this difficulty, junior or preparatory technical schools have been established in connexion with the higher technical schools at Bendigo, Ballarat, Swinburne Technical College, Sunshine, Geelong, Melbourne, Warrnambool, and Collingwood. These schools offer a course of two years' instruction for boys between the ages of twelve and a half and fifteen years. The course has been very popular, and the accommodation has not been sufficient for the number of students coming forward.

The aim of the Victorian technical schools is to provide vocational courses of training in industrial subjects. The various branches of Engineering and its subdivisions, Mining, Metallurgy, Technical and Agricultural Chemistry, subjects connected with the building and other trades, applied art, commercial subjects and those connected with household economy are included in its syllabus.

The larger technical schools such as the Working Men's College, and the Ballarat and Bendigo Schools of Mines, have an extensive curriculum embracing the most important industrial subjects. The smaller schools in some country districts have courses for mining, metallurgy, and engineering subjects as well as courses in drawing and applied art work, while in a few schools the subjects taught are mainly drawing and art work. The only technical school for women's industries is the College of Domestic Economy.

The fees per term range from 14s. per subject per annum to £35 per course of subjects per annum.

The following is a statement showing the Government expenditure on each technical school during the last five years:—

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON SCHOOLS OF MINES AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, 1909-10 TO 1913-14.

Name.	1909-10.	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.
	£	£	£	£	£
Bairnsdale	768	851	750	913	2,019
Ballarat	4,129	8,936	9,936	4,475	6,019
Beechworth	400*	..	975	1,065	689
Bendigo	2,604	4,361	3,280	5,447	7,605
Castlemaine	565	1,052	550	816	3,358
Collingwood .. .. .	..	..	945	5,379	3,662
Daylesford	350	350	350	416	900
Echuca	300	300	300	300	861
Geelong	1,000	1,000	1,001	1,895	5,865
Glenferrie	2,814	2,899	1,000	5,062	4,244
Horsham	357	350	350	416	555
Kyneton	256	262	250	271	252
Maryborough	750	750	750	1,754	1,076
Melbourne	14,951	16,782	10,309	11,354	19,148
Melbourne Junior Technical School .. .. .	..	..	2,485	4,391	7,073
Nhill	200	200	215	239	254
Prahran	26	101	100	100	213
Sale	412	422	411	400	455
Stawell (with Ararat Branch)	758	783	775	910	1,349
Sunshine Technical School .. .. .	..	..	4,638	380	2,167
Warrnambool	150	150	150	163	2,557
College of Domestic Economy	467	541	802	948	901
Miscellaneous	956	1,054	2,214	2,044	2,432
Total	32,213	41,144	42,536	49,138	73,654

*Paid into Trust Fund.

THE AUSTRALIAN COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY.

The foundation of the Australian College of Dentistry was decided on in the year 1897 by a unanimous vote of dentists assembled at a meeting held to discuss this question on 10th June in that year. The College was opened on the 4th July following for the purpose of providing instruction and training in the art, science, and practice of dentistry, and was affiliated with the Melbourne Dental Hospital, which had been founded and opened in the month of September, 1890.

The curriculum then set forth was further enlarged by the amending Dental Act of 1898, which gave the Dental Board of Victoria plenary powers to frame a full course of study and practice, and also to grant diplomas. The registerable Diploma of Licentiate of Dental Surgery of Victoria (L.D.S., Vic.) signifies the completion of a four years' course of teaching and training.

The old rented building in Lonsdale-street soon proved to be far too small to accommodate the students who were studying the subjects required for the Board's diploma, and, when affiliation with

the University of Melbourne was sought for the more complete instruction in the medical and surgical requirements of the curriculum, one of the conditions of affiliation was that more adequate provision should be made for the teaching and training in the dental subjects of the curriculum. To accomplish this result the present Melbourne Dental Hospital and the Australian College of Dentistry was built, and was opened by His Excellency the Governor-General of Australia (Lord Northcote) on the 4th November, 1907.

It is satisfactory that the usefulness of the combined institutions has been demonstrated by the teaching and practice imparted to students as well as by the relief afforded to the poor when suffering from dental troubles and their attendant ailments.

The land is freehold. The building, erected by the Trustees and Council of the College and Hospital, is gradually being freed from liability. The financial obligation was successfully arranged without any appeal whatever to, or aid from, the State Government. The Council, nevertheless, thankfully recognises the contributions given by the Hospital Sunday Fund, the Trustees of the Edward Wilson Estate, and the Walter and Eliza Hall Trust, by various municipalities, and by those private and generous donors who have helped the institution.

The Council (elected annually by and from the life governors and subscribers of the institution) claims that it is fulfilling a very important public duty with respect to the care of the teeth; also that more public interest therein has been aroused through its action in this regard.

In 1915 there were 82 students on the College roll going through the prescribed four years' course. The College Council may legitimately claim that the functions, both of college and hospital, are carried out in such a manner as to reflect credit not only on itself but also on the University of Melbourne, with which the institutions are affiliated.

The receipts of the College of Dentistry for 1914-15 amounted to £2,863 and the expenditure to £2,629, while the Dental Hospital received £1,901 and expended £2,758 during the same period.

MELBOURNE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.

Melbourne
College of
Pharmacy.

The Melbourne College of Pharmacy was established in 1880 for the purpose of providing instruction in the subjects prescribed in the compulsory curriculum set out in section 88 of the *Medical Act* 1890, Part III., for a person desiring to qualify as a pharmaceutical chemist in Victoria. In 1882, the old County Court, in Swanston-street, was purchased from the Government, and since then a large amount has been spent in the erection of laboratories, lecture-rooms, library, &c. During the year 1913 additions were made to the buildings costing over £1,000. These comprised new class rooms, an optometry and microscopic room, and pharmaceutical research laboratories. The College is under the control of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia, by which

it was established. It is also recognised by the Pharmacy Board of Victoria as a school of pharmacy providing instruction in accordance with the provisions of section 88 of the *Medical Act* 1890. The land upon which the College is erected is a reservation by the Crown for educational purposes, and is vested in the Pharmacy Board and Pharmaceutical Society. An annual grant of £500 is paid by the Government towards the maintenance of the College.

The College of Pharmacy, in addition to providing instruction for pharmaceutical students in chemistry, practical chemistry, materia medica, botany, and practical pharmacy, is affiliated to the Melbourne University, and gives instruction in materia medica and practical pharmacy to third-year medical students and third-year veterinary students. It is represented on the Faculty of Medicine by a member of the teaching staff. The syllabus makes provision for students entering the College at any date, and pursuing an independent course of study, according to the object in view. Dental students undergoing the curriculum prescribed by the Dentists Act receive instruction at the College in theoretical and practical chemistry. In 1906, evening post-graduate classes in bacteriology and urine analysis were established. Provision is made in the laboratory for students desirous of acquiring a knowledge of chemistry in its application to medicine, manufactures, toxicology, brewing, analysis, or original research. In 1912 evening classes were established for the study of optometry, and were largely availed of by students desiring instruction in this subject. At the end of 1913 it was decided to establish evening tutorial classes for students desirous of receiving additional instruction in the pharmaceutical course. The lectures in this course are accepted by all the Australian States, New Zealand and Great Britain. The Royal Commission on Technical Education in 1901, after full inquiry into its scope and objects, reported that the functions of the College were manifestly those of a high-class technical school.

Appended are the details of the work from 1st January, 1880, to 31st December, 1914:—

Number of Students who have attended the College.

Pharmaceutical students	798
Medical students, Melbourne University	1,131
Dental students	458
Extra Laboratory students	613
Bacteriological students	106
Urine Analysis students	17
Analytical and Applied Chemistry students	68
Veterinary students, Melbourne University	33
Optical students	119
First-Aid Students	32
Students attending Tutorial Classes	26
Total	3,401

Number of Candidates Examined.

Preliminary examination	2,930
Intermediate examination	1,672
Modified examination	164
Final qualifying examination	1,222
Medical students	1,013
Dental students	456
Bacteriological students	78
Urine Analysis students	11
Analytical and Applied Chemistry students ..	57
Veterinary students	33
Optical students	94
First-Aid Students	20
Total	7,750

Finance.

(1880-1914).

	Total.	Per £1 of Revenue.
	£	£ s. d.
Revenue—		
Grants from Government ..	19,250	0 7 6
Fees received from students ..	25,315	0 9 11
Aids from Pharmaceutical Society	6,648	0 2 7
Total Revenue	51,213	1 0 0
Expenditure—		£
On buildings and general maintenance ..		51,213

Average yearly expenditure (35 years), £1,463.

THE WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, MELBOURNE.**Working
Men's
College,
Melbourne.**

The Working Men's College is a technical institution and school of mines, founded in 1887. It is open to all classes and both sexes, and supplies the higher technical instruction.

Its revenue is obtained from students' fees, supplemented by a Government grant. There are both day and evening courses.

Fees.

All fees are payable in advance, and no refund is allowed.

Students under 18 years of age, those under 21 in receipt of less wages than 25s. per week, and indentured apprentices, are admitted

at reduced fees to many of the evening classes. Examinations are held in November, and entrance to these examinations is free to students of the college attending the classes in which they present themselves for examination, provided they have made the necessary attendances.

Fees Payable.

Full Day Courses.					Fee.
Mechanical, Electrical, Marine, and Mining En-					
gineering—Diploma Courses—					
First year ...	...	...	...	...	£5 per term
Second year ...	...	...	...	...	£6 „
Third year ...	...	...	...	...	£8 „
Metallurgy—Diploma Course—					
First year ...	...	..	...	...	£5 „
Second year ...	...	...	...	...	£6 „
Third year ...	...	...	...	...	£8 „
Applied Chemistry—Diploma Course—					
First year ...	...	...	...	...	£5 „
Second year ...	...	...	...	...	£6 „
Third year ...	...	...	...	...	£7 „
Fourth year ...	...	...	...	...	£8 „
Woolsorting ...	...	...	...	...	£5 „
Full Art Course ...	...	...	...	...	£1 1s. „
Full Commercial Course ...	...	...	...	...	£2 2s. „

Evening Classes.

Arithmetic	} Various amounts ranging from 5s. upwards per term.
Algebra ...	...	...	...	...
Geometry ...	...	...	...	...
Trigonometry ...	...	...	...	...
Practical Geometry ...	...	...	...	...
Full Art Course ...	...	...	...	...
Freehand Drawing ...	...	...	...	...
Painting ...	...	...	...	...
Modelling ...	...	...	...	...
Applied Mechanics ...	...	...	...	...
Applied Electricity ...	...	...	...	...
Architecture ...	...	...	...	...
Building Construction ...	...	...	...	...
Surveying ...	...	...	...	...
Hydraulics ...	...	...	...	...
Chemistry ...	...	...	...	...
Assaying ...	...	...	...	...
Metallurgy ...	...	...	...	...
Engineering ...	...	...	...	...
Drawing ...	...	...	...	...
Telephone Mechanics ...	...	...	...	...
Science, Art, Trade, Commercial, and Mining, and numerous other Subjects ...	...	...	...	...
Evening Courses for Experts' Certificates	From 15s. per term.

Special prizes are awarded to students annually. The Magee prize is of the annual value of £3, and is awarded to the student who obtains highest marks at examination in the work of the senior mechanical drawing class. The Sir George Verdon prize is of an annual value equal to the interest on the amount of the donor's endowment of £210, and is awarded for excellence of design and workmanship in the technical or trade subject selected by the Council at the beginning of each year. The Turri prizes, awarded for original inventions of students, consist of two prizes of £5 5s., and four prizes of £1 ls. each.

The total receipts from Government, in 1914, amounted to £15,113.

Over 160 classes are held in the following departments:—Commercial, Elocution and Music, Mathematics, Engineering, Architecture, Chemistry, Mining and Metallurgy, Art and Applied Art, Rural Industries, and Trade Courses. The work is divided into—(1) day courses, and (2) evening courses and classes. In the day school students are prepared for the higher positions of industrial life, in the following complete courses:—(1) Mechanical Engineering, (2) Electrical Engineering, (3) Marine Engineering, (4) Mining Engineering, (5) Metallurgy, and (6) Applied Chemistry. To students who complete any of the above courses, pass the necessary examinations, and produce evidence of having obtained twelve months' approved practical experience, the Diploma of "Associateship" of the College is issued.

In the evening school, the following courses for certificates are in operation:—Assayers, geologists, electricians, municipal engineers, traction engineers, marine engineers, telephone artificers, mechanical draughtsmen, public analysts, architects, carpenters, printers, sign-writers and house decorators, plumbers, coach builders, and motor car body makers. There are also courses for marine engineers, and for naval artificers, both fitters and wood workers. The following figures indicate the comparative amount of work done at the college during the years 1910 to 1914:—

STUDENTS AT WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, 1910 TO 1914.

	1910.	1911.	1912.*	1913.	1914.
Students enrolled—					
Average per term	2,610	2,538	2,209	2,341	2,318
Males over 21	467	477	477	574	614
„ under 21—Apprentices ..	720	768	690	701	734
„ „ Others	1,078	983	741	748	739
Females	345	310	301	318	231
Fees received during the year £	8,981	8,289	6,589	7,213	7,315
Average fee per student ..	68s. 10d.	65s. 5d.	59s. 8d.	61s. 5d.	63s. 0d.
Number of classes	181	185	176	160	163
„ instructors	83	95	87	85	86
Salaries paid instructors £	11,947	12,235	11,297	12,267	13,499

* In 1912 the Lower Technical portion of the school work was taken over by the Education Department and run as a separate institution.

LIBRARIES.

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF VICTORIA.

Public
Library of
Victoria.

The buildings of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of Victoria cost £324,530. The funds were provided by the Government, as also were further moneys expended on maintenance, and amounting, with the sum just named, to a total of £1,475,954 at the end of 1914. At that date the Reference Library contained 230,370 volumes. It is open to the public without payment on week days (Christmas Day and Good Friday excepted), between the hours of 10 a.m. and 10 p.m., and was visited during the year 1914 by about 400,000 persons. The Library consists of three distinct sections, viz. :—The Reference Library, the Lending Library, and the Country Lending Library. The librarian reports that 4,199 volumes were purchased, 2,436 volumes presented, 228 volumes obtained under the "Copyright Act," and 45,376 newspapers added to the Reference Library during the year. The Lending Branch, which is also free to the public, issued 125,266 volumes during 1914, and the number of persons to whom the books were lent was 8,194. Of these volumes 41·3 per cent. related to fiction, 21·0 to history, 9·5 to general literature, 13·7 to religion, philosophy, natural science, and art, 9·4 to arts and trades, and 4·7 per cent. to social science.* The number of volumes in the Lending Library at the end of 1914 was 32,977, of which 1,923 were added during the year.

In 1907 Parliament agreed to place upon the estimates the first instalment of a sum of £75,000 for the erection of a new library building on modern lines for the purposes of reading and store rooms. This structure was completed and opened in November, 1913. The building is octagonal in form, with double walls 15 feet apart, the dome springing from the inner wall at a height of 96 feet. It contains a basement, ground floor, first floor, and three galleries. The basement is a huge room nearly 160 feet in diameter, and is so well lighted that when empty it is an easy matter to read the smallest print in the centre of the room, some 80 feet from the windows. The ground floor is a chamber similar in size to the basement, brilliantly lighted by means of four large windows, 30 feet x 15 feet, and eight smaller ones, about 15 feet x 4 feet. It is divided by a handsome screen in panelled cedar, 12 feet high, one-half of the room being devoted to storage of newspapers, and the other portion, in front of the screen, being set apart for the accommodation of readers. Tables are so arranged that they radiate towards a counter in the middle of the screen, and from this central point papers are issued, and the attendant behind the counter can supervise every reader in the room.

The great reading room is an imposing chamber 115 feet in diameter and only one foot less in height from the floor to the centre of the dome. It is surrounded by an annulus 15 feet wide between the double walls of the building, and in this annulus are three galleries containing stack rooms for books. On four sides of the octagon, beyond the outer wall of the annulus, there is provision for four additional stack rooms

several stories in height, but at present only two of these are built, the lower stories of these two containing staircases leading to the reading room, whilst the upper stories are devoted to book stack purposes. The other four sides of the outer wall of the annulus are pierced by a series of long narrow windows for the purpose of lighting the book stacks. In two of the galleries provision is made for the erection of a light dividing floor so that each gallery will contain two rows of stacks, each about 7 ft. 6 in. high. The four sides of the annulus, which have no windows, are lighted from the dome of the building, the inner wall containing a series of large arches through which an excellent light is admitted from the reading room dome. In the reading room itself, the sides of the octagon present alternately a solid wall relieved by narrow balconies, containing book cases at the back, and a wall broken into a series of arches or arcades, behind which are tiers of books, the best possible decoration for a library.

Members of the public are not admitted to the galleries and store rooms, but they have free access to some 30,000 books on the main floor of the reading room. These works are for the most part standard books of reference, which may be withdrawn and replaced from time to time by the latest authorities on any particular subject. Ladders are used in the public reading room, as by their use it was found possible to place a much larger number of volumes within the direct reach of readers. The furniture of the reading room is made of Queensland silky oak. It consists of eight long tables capable of seating thirteen people on each side, with a number of smaller tables between the long tables. All tables radiate towards the centre of the room, and each reader is under supervision by an officer stationed at this point. A screen 2 feet high divides each long table so that no visitor is disturbed by having to sit face to face with another reader. The desk space devoted to each reader is 3 feet x 2 feet, with an adjustable centre piece, covered in leather, which can be raised to any angle to suit the reader's comfort, or laid flat should he wish to write, or prefer to read with his book on a flat surface. In the centre of the reading room is a handsome desk, surrounded by show cases for manuscripts or rarities. Here sit one or two supervising officers whose duty is mainly to watch the readers and generally supervise the room.

A separate inquiry room is provided near the entrance, in which are all necessary catalogues and guides for showing the resources of the Library. A lift and staircase lead from this room directly to the store rooms, and an attendant should be able to get a book from the furthest portion of the building and hand it to a reader within five minutes, at longest, from the time at which he is asked for it. It is estimated that, if the basement be used for book stores in addition to the ordinary stacks, the building will provide accommodation for more than 2,000,000 volumes, and provision for indefinite expansion can be made by using the buildings surrounding the octagon for library purposes.

Following on the establishment of the Melbourne Public Library, libraries were founded in many of the larger towns. The attention of the original trustees of the Melbourne Library was directed to these institutions, and to the vast number of people whom distance prevented from reaching their building. They, therefore, initiated a scheme by which the larger country centres should have the benefit of their collection, and forwarded cases of books on loan for fixed periods. To the country towns of less importance cases were also sent, and in many instances the nucleus of a local library was thus formed. This travelling library system, as it is called, greatly stimulated the library movement in those places where it had begun, and inaugurated it in many places to which it had not previously extended. At the present time loans are made up to 300 volumes at a time to the committees of free libraries and mechanics' institutes, and to the councils of municipalities, for a period of one year, with a further extension of time if required. The books are selected with a view to meeting the special requirements of the district to which they are to be forwarded, publications on mining being sent to mining centres, and those relating to agricultural and pastoral pursuits to the districts where these industries are carried on. Although this scheme is now in operation in many countries, research among library records does not reveal the existence of anything similar prior to its establishment in Melbourne, so that the credit of starting it seems to belong undoubtedly to the original trustees of our library. Many of the local libraries are now in a position to supply all the wants of their patrons without having recourse to these loans.

National Gallery. The National Gallery at the end of 1914 contained 19,268 works of art, viz., 580 oil paintings, 4,590 objects of art, statuary, &c., and 14,098 water colour drawings, engravings, photographs, &c. It is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily on week days (Christmas Day and Good Friday excepted), and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. The school of painting in connexion with the institution was attended in the year by 13 male and 20 female students, and the school of drawing by 36 male and 62 female students. The students are encouraged to paint original works, by which means it is hoped the foundation will be laid of a school of art dealing with purely Australian subjects. Every three years a Travelling Scholarship is open for competition amongst the students of painting. Its money value is £150 per annum, and it is awarded with the object of enabling promising students to travel and complete their art studies in England and on the Continent. The Trustees also award a prize of £20 for the best painting from life shown at the annual exhibition of students' work, and numerous other prizes (ranging from £15 to £3) for distinction in the different branches of the drawing and painting schools. The average annual income from the Felton bequest amounts to £8,000, which is expended on paintings, statuary, and other works of art.

**Industrial
Museum.**

The Industrial and Technological Museum occupies the whole of the first floor front of the institution. It was closed to the public for re-modelling during 1914, and was re-opened early in 1915. At the end of 1914, it contained 55,155 specimens.

**National
Museum.**

The collection in the National Museum, formerly kept in a building situated on the grounds of the Melbourne University, is now located in the Public Library Buildings. It comprises natural history, geology, and ethnology. The National Museum is open to the public free of charge on all week days throughout the year, except Thursdays, Christmas Day, and Good Friday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. In 1914 the expenditure on specimens, furniture, materials, &c., was £618. The payments for salaries and wages during the year amounted to £2,610.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

**Patent
Office
Library.**

The free library attached to the Commonwealth Department of Patents, Railway Offices, Flinders-street, Melbourne, contains over 10,000 volumes, including the Patents Acts, Rules, and official Gazettes of the principal countries of the world, and the printed specifications of Great Britain, France, Germany, Norway, Denmark, and Japan, also the official gazette of the United States Patent Office and the Canadian Patent Office Record, both of which contain illustrated abridgments of patent specifications. The whole of the classified illustrated abridgments of British specifications for the period 1855 to 1908 have been collated and bound, and by means of these any member of the public may make a quick and accurate search through the whole of the records of inventions published in Great Britain during this period. The value of the books donated by the countries referred to is very great, and additions of several hundred volumes are made annually. The library also contains the principal journals of mechanical science and numerous encyclopædias and scientific text-books, to which frequent additions are made by purchase. A class catalogue, founded on the Dewey system, of publications contained in the library has been printed, and, as the library deals mainly with the history of science and manufactures, all books are arranged in chronological order. In October, 1906, the printing *in extenso* of all specifications accepted and open to public inspection was commenced, and it has been completed from No. 1 of 1904 to No. 20,336 of 1910. A new series of numbers was commenced in 1911, and all accepted cases and specifications open to public inspection have been printed as notified weekly in the official journal. Specifications are printed, and on sale at the Government Printing Office, Melbourne, two weeks after notification of acceptance. The printing of the subject-matter of specifications of letters patent granted under State Patent Acts is in progress, and the first 2,750 have already been completed. Each specification is designed to contain the whole of the

subject-matter of similar applications in other Australian States, the State of Victoria being taken as the basic State. The specifications are arranged in two separate files for free public perusal, one classified chronologically and numerically, the other according to the subjects of the inventions. Complete sets are sent weekly to the branch patent offices and public libraries in the State capitals, and to other public libraries in various foreign States and countries. A revised edition of the numerical subject list of inventions arranged thematically in groups and classes, with definitions or limitations of their scope, and directions for searching in related classes, has been published for the convenience of the public. The library is open to the public on each week day, except Saturday, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4.30 p.m., and on Saturday from 9 a.m. until noon.

**Supreme
Court
Library.**

The Supreme Court Library at Melbourne has eighteen branches in the assize towns. It is free to members of the legal profession between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., except on Saturdays, when it closes at noon. It is supported by fees paid under Acts of Parliament and rules of court for the admission of barristers and solicitors.

FREE LIBRARIES.

**Free
libraries.**

Most of the suburban and country libraries receive Government aid—the amount granted in 1914 being £5,987. Of these libraries 499 furnished returns in 1914, which show that they possessed 874,353 volumes, and received £55,665 in revenue, that the total expenditure was £52,642—£8,586 on books, &c., and £44,056 on maintenance—and that 2,626,441 visits were paid to the 448 institutions which kept records of the attendances of visitors. As to the class of literature in general use, it appears, from particulars received from a number of the institutions, that works of fiction are in much greater demand than any other class. Next come general literature, history, and travel, in that order.

EXHIBITION BUILDINGS.

**Exhibition
Buildings,
Aquarium,
and Museum.**

The Exhibition Buildings, which are situated in the Carlton Gardens, Melbourne, when first opened, in October, 1880, occupied a total space of 907,400 square feet. The original cost of the permanent structure was £132,951; of the temporary annexes, £83,111; gardens, £18,481; machinery, £5,715; and organ, £5,560; there was also miscellaneous expenditure, £547—making a total of £246,365. After the close of the exhibition, on 30th April, 1881, the annexes were removed, and the permanent building was vested in trustees. Another exhibition was opened in the building on 1st August, 1888, to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the first Australian Colony. On this occasion, a further sum of £125,178 was expended upon the re-erection

of the annexes; £30,986 upon additions to and alterations and decorations of the permanent building; £4,854 upon the gardens; £16,471 upon machinery; £77,128 upon electric lighting; and £8,337 upon gas and gas fittings—making a total of £262,954. At the close of the exhibition, there was realized from the sale of various materials, including temporary annexes, a sum of £56,904. The property again reverted to the trustees, in whose report for the year 1914 it is stated that all the buildings are in good and substantial condition, the gardens well maintained, and the aquarium and insectarium museums extremely useful, both from educational and scientific points of view. An efficient and up-to-date fire service has been provided in the buildings, and the employes are trained in the use of the fire appliances. The receipts for the year amounted to £5,915, consisting of rents, £3,077, and aquarium and other receipts, £2,838. The expenditure totalled £5,304, viz., £2,340 for expenses of the aquarium; and £2,964 for maintenance, improvement of the building and gardens, insurance, and sundry expenses. The deposits and balances in banks to the credit of the trust amount to £4,210.

THE MELBOURNE BOTANIC GARDEN.

Botanic Garden.

The Melbourne Botanic Garden is situated on the south side of the River Yarra, and is at a distance of about a mile and a half from the city. The area of the garden proper, including lawns, groups, &c., is 88 acres, whilst that of the lake, including the added elbow, or bend of the River Yarra, amounts to 12 acres in addition. This now historic garden, together with the Government House grounds (62 acres), and the Domain (150 acres), extends over a total area of 312 acres. The facts as to the commencement and progress of the establishment, compiled from the most reliable sources, are to be found in the profusely illustrated edition of the "Descriptive Guide to the Botanic Gardens," published by the Government Printer in 1908, at a price of 1s., from which the accompanying quotation has been taken:—

"The first site chosen for a Botanic Garden was an area of 60 acres, near to where the Spencer-street railway station is situated, and was selected by Mr. Hodde, Surveyor-General, in 1842. Afterwards various other localities were proposed, but finally, owing mainly to the discrimination and taste of the Hon. Charles Joseph La Trobe, first Government Superintendent (afterwards Lieutenant-Governor) of the province of Port Phillip, a portion of the present site was decided upon for the purpose. In September, 1845, Dr. Nicholson presented a petition, signed by three or four hundred of the citizens, headed by the Mayor, praying for the immediate establishment of the Botanic Garden, and the sum of £750 was thereupon voted—1845-6—for its maintenance. The first superintendent, or curator (Mr. John Arthur), was appointed 1st March, 1846, and he at once fenced in a 5-acre paddock, that portion of the garden at present known as the Anderson-street Lawn, sloping towards the tea-house on the edge of Lake, in which he made good progress both as to cultivation and planting. Mr. Arthur, however, whose labours were much appreciated at the time, died in January, 1849. Mr. John Dallachy succeeded Mr. Arthur as curator, and insured such good results that, at the end of 1851, a progress report submitted

to the Legislature showed that, in addition to an extension of cultivated ground, many kinds of exotic plants had been added to the collection, and also that the native vegetation had received attention. The various shows of the Horticultural Society were at that time held in the gardens. For several years prior to the retirement of Mr. Dallachy, a scientific arrangement of plants in a part of the garden was undertaken by the then Government Botanist, Dr. Ferdinand Mueller (subsequently Baron Sir F. von Mueller), who had accompanied the Gregory Expedition in search of Leichhardt, the explorer. After the Baron had received the appointment as Director (1857), Mr. Dallachy was re-employed for several years as a collector of seeds and herbarium specimens for the gardens, and discovered many new and beautiful species in Queensland. The Baron held office as Director until 1873, when, with the view of enabling him to give undivided attention to his scientific labours as Government Botanist, he was relieved of control of the Botanic Gardens, and Mr. W. R. Guilfoyle was appointed to the position of Curator. The gardens were entirely remodelled by him and their area extended by more than 40 acres."

Mr. Guilfoyle retired from the Curatorship on 1st December, 1909, and Mr. J. Cronin was subsequently appointed to the position. The present features of the garden are its extensive undulating lawn areas and broad sweeping paths with varied groupings and marginal beds of ornamental trees, flowering shrubs, and useful plants. Large specimens of Australian and exotic trees and other vegetation are effectively disposed about the grounds. At suitable spots, rockeries and mounds have been formed and planted. Along the western and southern boundary fence an interesting plantation of Australian vegetation has been made, which contains many hundreds of representative trees and shrubs of the continent.

A large conservatory, which is situated on the eastern side of the grounds, contains a numerous and varied collection of tropical plants, including many rare orchids, ferns, palms, and other handsome foliaged and flowering species. The conservatory is open daily, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

In 1873, about 2,500 species of plants were growing in the Garden, and, these having been constantly added to, it now contains about 15,000 species and varieties of plants. Many of the most valuable additions are large palms in great variety, and arborescent and other ferns, such as are found in and around the rather extensive fern-gully in the centre of the garden. This gully has a thousand feet of winding pathway running through its area. Many hundreds of rare ornamental and utilitarian plants, and a large collection of medicinal herbs, have been added of later years.

An extensive "System or Classification Pavilion" is situated in the south-western part of the garden. The plants, all in large pots, are classified in their natural orders, and, like the various collections in the outer grounds, conservatory, &c., have labels attached—giving both their scientific and common names, their orders, native countries, &c.

The "Museum of Botany and Plant Products" contains many thousands of fully-named herbarium specimens; seeds in their seed vessels (or pods), fibres, and woods; also products of food, medicinal, and other plants. Both the pavilion and the museum are open to the

public on Tuesdays and Fridays from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and are freely visited by students connected with botanical classes in the various colleges and schools in and around Melbourne.

In addition to the large lake in the centre of the garden, which covers an area of about 10 acres in extent, a Water-lily lake may be found in the valley immediately above the head of the fern gully on the south side of the garden. Over 60 different varieties of *Nymphæas* and white and pink flowering forms of *Nelumbium speciosum* have been planted in the pockets built for them in the form of mounds in the lake. Around the margin of the water, a "shelf" or "shadow" has been raised to within a few inches of the surface, and on this a number of ornamental semi-aquatic plants have been planted. The area directly surrounding the lake has been laid out in gently sloping swards of grass, with mounds and promontories covered with suitable vegetation jutting out at various intervals.

The tea houses, including a "Pavilion," "Kiosk," and "Chalêt," which occupy the site on the south side of the lake where the propagating houses and nurseries were formerly located (since removed to the west side of the grounds), are well maintained, and are largely patronized by visitors, for whose benefit these refreshment rooms were provided.

The grounds are almost encircled by a much-used carriage way, which, having been inter-connected, comprises the Alexandra Avenue and the South Yarra Drive, and now makes one wide promenade of $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles in length. Adjacent to the two entrances from the Alexandra Avenue, and on one of the highest points, close to Government House, has been erected a large domed structure with ten columns, which is known as the "Temple of the Winds." This was dedicated by the late Curator to the memory of the Hon. Charles Joseph La Trobe, the first Governor of Victoria, who selected the site for the Botanic Garden in 1845-6. The Temple is very attractive to visitors, as from it very fine views of the Garden, Yarra Improvements, City, Eastern Suburbs, and the Dandenong and Healesville Ranges are to be obtained.

An efficient water supply is obtained from the River Yarra. A pumping station is located near Dight's Falls, at Studley Park, and the water is drawn by powerful pumps from the river and forced into a storage reservoir, situated on the highest point in the Park. The whole of the water required is conducted from this reservoir for a distance of over three miles directly into the garden's water mains. A service of Yan Yean water is provided for drinking purposes for visitors.

The garden may be approached from the City by foot or vehicle along the interesting Alexandra Drive and Avenue from Prince's Bridge, by boat along the Yarra River, or by the South Yarra or Toorak trams, which pass close to one of the main entrances; while visitors from the northern, eastern, or southern suburbs can obtain access by gates on these boundaries of the garden.

The gates are opened daily from April to September (inclusive) at 7.30 a.m., and from October to March (inclusive) at 7 a.m., and closed at sunset.

The Melbourne Botanic Garden has now had an existence of over 70 years, and, as a favorite resort, has become increasingly popular of late years. Many thousands of people, including students, and tourists from various other States and countries, visit the garden during the week days, while on Sundays and holidays large crowds of visitors are attracted to the place.

**Royal
Zoological
and Acclimatisation
Gardens.**

The gardens of the Royal Zoological and Acclimatisation Society of Victoria are situated in the centre of Royal Park, on the northern side of the city, nearly 2 miles distant from the Post Office, and can be reached by the tramcars starting every few minutes from the lower end of Elizabeth-street, or by rail. The ground enclosed contains 50 acres, rather more than half of which is laid out as a Zoological garden and the rest in deer paddocks. Most of the large animals of the world are exhibited here, such as the African rhinoceros, the hippopotamus, giraffe, African and Indian elephant, &c., as well as many native animals. The Patron of the Society is His Excellency the State Governor, and the Director is Mr. D. Le Souëf, C.M.Z.S., &c.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA.

The initiation and progress of horticultural interests in this State may justly be considered as due to the efforts of this society, which, as the Horticultural Society of Victoria, was started in the year 1849. Its pioneer members have by this time all passed away, but there remain a few who were members of the society in the early fifties and whose interest in the work of popularizing the growth of plants, flowers, and fruits still manifests itself.

Some few years after its establishment, the society undertook the responsibility of forming and maintaining experimental gardens at Burnley—the park of which they formed a part being known as Survey Paddock—and Mr. Clarson was intrusted with the direction of the work, acting for many years as honorary director. Upon his resignation in 1882, Mr. George Neilson took charge as curator and

remained in that position until his death a few years ago. During all this time, the society was rendering most valued assistance to growers, especially in the establishment of the most complete and reliable type collection of fruits ever seen in Australasia. Horticulturists from all parts of Australia and New Zealand readily availed themselves of this magnificent collection in order to settle disputed questions of nomenclature of fruits, as very great pains were taken to insure absolute correctness of name of every variety planted among the collection. In 1885, Her Majesty the late Queen Victoria issued the warrant for the society to use the name of "Royal," and it has since worked under the full title of "Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria."

The years of depression following the crash of the land boom had their full effect on the society, many of the most liberal donors to its funds being compelled to relinquish the financial support they had in previous years generously accorded to the committee. In 1891, the Government of the day undertook the establishment of a School of Horticulture, and the balance due to debenture-holders on the handsome show pavilion erected in the gardens having been paid by the Government, the estate was handed over to the management of the Department of Agriculture, Mr. Neilson continuing as curator under the direction of a Board of Horticultural Advice to whose *personnel* the Government appointed three, and the society three, with the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture as Chairman. This arrangement worked with the utmost satisfaction until the death of the curator. Some years after that event, the Minister made a new departure by dissolving the board and placing the School of Horticulture under the sole control of the Department.

Conferences on special matters are held from time to time under the society's auspices, at which delegates from the provinces and other States attend, the Daffodil Conference being now an annual fixture.

The members' monthly meeting is held on the second Thursday of each month at the Austral Salon Rooms, 317 Flinders-lane, at which competitive displays of flowers, &c., are made, and lectures delivered on horticultural matters by leading experts.

Since relinquishing the control of the Gardens, the society has set itself the task of giving instruction by means of lectures and exhibits at monthly meetings of members, and by imposing fruit and floral displays, all of which attract large attendances.

The membership subscription is low enough (10s. per annum) to be within the reach of all lovers of horticulture, and, as a consequence, the list of members is an encouraging evidence of the society's popularity.

The business of the society is vested in a committee, consisting of the president, four vice-presidents (two amateur and two professional), an honorary treasurer, and twenty members (ten amateurs and ten professionals), the administrative work being conducted by the secretary, Mr. F. W. Soden, 325 Collins-street, Melbourne (Tel., Central 10,459).

Other Societies. There are 47 other horticultural societies in the State, situated at Ballarat, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Kyneton, Mildura, Terang, Traralgon, and other centres. The Government provided £600 in aid of these associations during the year ended 30th June, 1914.

METROPOLITAN PUBLIC RESERVES.

Public reserves, Greater Melbourne. Greater Melbourne is amply supplied with public reserves and parks, the total area devoted to such purposes having been 5,867½ acres in 1914. The following list of these reserves, together with a statement of their respective areas, has been supplied by the Lands Department:—

AREA OF RESERVES, PARKS, AND GARDENS IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS, 1914.

Municipality.	Name of Reserve.	Area.
Melbourne City	Royal Park	Acres. 425
"	Yarra "	150
"	Prince's "	97
"	Fawkner "	102
"	Flinders "	8
"	Alexandra Park	46
"	Alexandra Gardens	9
"	Park (Model Farm)	23
"	Botanic Garden and Domain	188
"	Queen Victoria Memorial Statue and Garden	10½
"	Zoological Gardens	55
"	Carlton "	63
"	Fitzroy "	64
"	Treasury Gardens	14
"	Flagstaff "	18
"	Argyle Square	34

AREA OF RESERVES, PARKS, AND GARDENS IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS, 1914—*continued.*

Municipality.	Name of Reserve.	Area.
		Acres.
Melbourne City	Curtain Square	3½
"	Darling "	2
"	Lincoln "	3½
"	Macarthur "	1
"	Murchison "	1
"	University "	3½
"	University Grounds	106
"	Amateur Sports and Children's Playground	25
"	Industrial Schools and Board of Health Depôt	47
"	Melbourne Cricket Ground	9½
"	East Richmond Cricket Ground	7
"	Carlton " (old)	5
"	Parliament Reserve	10
"	Ornamental Plantations	26
"	General Cemetery	101
"	Old Cemetery	8½
"	Powlett-street Reserve	5
"	Recreation (Brown's Hill)	7½
"	Recreation (North Melbourne)	9½
"	Race-course (Flemington)	297
"	Recreation (Kensington)	5½
Fitzroy City	Edinburgh Park	34
"	Recreation	7
Collingwood City	Mayor's Park	6
"	Recreation	7
"	Darling Gardens	16
"	Victoria Park	10
"	Park and Recreation (Yarra Bank)	23
"	Ornamental Plantation and Recreation	13
"	Gahan Reserve	2½
Richmond City	Richmond Park	158
"	Horticultural Gardens	33½
"	Barkly Square	7
"	Municipal Reserve	7½
Northcote City	Jika Park	6
"	Recreation	7
South Melbourne City	Albert Park (part of)	464
"	St. Vincent Gardens	7½
"	Ornamental Plantations	2½
"	Cricket and Recreation (St. Kilda-road)	8
"	Foreshore Reserve	12
Port Melbourne Town	Cricket Ground	74
"	Park and Garden	58
"	"	2
"	Ornamental Plantations	17
Prahran City	Brookville Gardens	2
"	Fairbairn-road Gardens	3
"	Gladstone Gardens	1½
"	Malvern-road Gardens	2½
"	Orrong Park	10½
"	Prahran Reserve	2½
"	Rockley Gardens	2
"	Toorak Park	8½
"	Victoria Gardens	4½
St. Kilda City	St. Kilda Gardens	16

AREA OF RESERVES, PARKS, AND GARDENS IN MELBOURNE AND
SUBURBS, 1914—continued.

Municipality.	Name of Reserve.	Area.
St. Kilda City	Albert Park (part of)	106
"	Recreation (Point Ormond)	49
"	"	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	11
"	" (Beach Reserves)	62 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	" (Alma Park)	22 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Recreation (Elwood)	10
"	Cemetery	20
Brighton Town	Elsternwick Park	90 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Beach Park	67
"	Cricket Ground	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Moorabbin Beach Park (part of)	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Brunswick City	Brunswick Park	12 $\frac{3}{4}$
"	Fleming Park	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Methven Park	2
"	Temple Park	3
"	North Park	1
Essendon City	Recreation	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Agricultural Society's Yards	44
"	Queen's Park	22
"	Park and Recreation Reserve	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	" " "	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Hawthorn City	City Sports Ground	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Central Gardens	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Auburn Reserve	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Harcourt-street Reserve	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Smart-street Reserve	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Mason-street Reserve	1
"	Creswick-street Reserve	2
"	Eastern Reserve	14
"	Lynch Gardens	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	West Hawthorn Reserve	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Kew Town	Studley Park	203
"	Lunatic Asylum	384
"	Cemetery	31
"	Recreation (Victoria Park)	16
"	Alexandra Gardens	3
"	Fitzwilliam street Reserve	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Eglinton-street Reserve	2
"	Park Hill-road Reserve	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Footscray City	Yarraville Gardens	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Napier Gardens	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Cricket Ground, &c.	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Park and Recreation	38
"	Recreation (Yarraville)	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	" (Footscray West)	15
"	"	11
Williamstown Town	Park (Newport)	25
"	"	2
"	"	10
"	Recreation	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Beach Park	20
"	Cemetery	28

AREA OF RESERVES, PARKS, AND GARDENS IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS, 1914—continued.

Municipality.	Name of Reserve.	Area.
Williamstown Town ...	Rifle Range	332
" ...	Cricket Ground	6½
" ...	Public Garden	3½
" ...	Park and Garden (Newport	4½
" ...	" " " "	10
" ...	Recreation (Spotswood)	7
Malvern City ...	Tooronga Park and Garden	16
" ...	Malvern Gardens	8
" ...	Recreation Reserve	4½
" ...	Closer Settlement Reserve	2
" ...	Kooyong Gardens	1
" ...	Union Gardens	2
" ...	Central Park	18½
" ...	Eastern Park and Gardens	15½
" ...	Hedgeley Dene Reserve	8½
" ...	High-street Reserve	2
Caulfield City ...	Race-course	144
" ...	Park	62
" ...	Recreation Reserve	14
" ...	" " (East Caulfield)	13
" ...	" " (Glen Huntly)	1½
" ...	Brighton Cemetery	29
" ...	Hopetoun Gardens	5
" ...	Greenmeadows Park	3½
" ...	Koornang Reserve	14½
" ...	Murrumbeena Reserve	11½
" ...	Garden-avenue Reserve	1
Oakleigh Borough ...	Recreation	8
" ...	Park and Garden	30
" ...	Park and Recreation	5
" ...	Cemetery	10
Camberwell City ...	Camberwell Sports Ground	8
" ...	Highfield Park	15
" ...	Burwood Recreation Reserve	8
" ...	Balwyn Park	9
" ...	Canterbury Sports Ground	6
" ...	Camberwell Gardens	7
" ...	Broadway Gardens	2½
" ...	Boroondara Park	5
" ...	Riversdale Park	13½
" ...	Canterbury Gardens	5½
" ...	Surrey Gardens	3
" ...	Belmont Park	5½
" ...	Glen Iris Park	2
Coburg Town ...	Recreation	5
" ...	"	3
Outside urban municipalities }	Yarra Bend Asylum	350
	Williamstown Race-course	190
	Heidelberg Park and Recreation Reserve	26
	Fairfield. " " " "	16½
	Total	5,867½

Public
reserves in
country
towns.

Most of the large towns throughout the State also possess public gardens, parks, and reserves for recreation purposes.

The following table contains particulars respecting the most important of these:—

NUMBER AND AREA OF PARKS AND GARDENS IN
COUNTRY TOWNS IN VICTORIA, 1914.

Town.	Number of Reserves.	Area.
		Acres.
Ararat	4	36½
Bairnsdale	5	171
Ballarat	7	1,056
Ballarat East	14	188¾
Beechworth	6	684
Benalla	1	25
Bendigo	12	176
Buninyong	4	114
Burrumbeet	1	100
Castlemaine	4	484
Clunes	6	116½
Colac	5	111
Creswick	3	54½
Daylesford	5	330
Dromana	2	274¾
Dunolly	4	109
Eaglehawk	4	42½
Echuca	4	336
Flinders	1	25
Geelong	6	266
Hamilton	6	64½
Horsham	3	142½
Koroit	1	13
Korumburra	2	31½
Kyneton	1	14
Learmonth	5	77
Majorca	3	217
Maldon	4	156
Maryborough	3	142
Mortlake	2	65
Newtown and Chilwell	1	105
Portland	5	103
Port Fairy	1	26
Queenscliff	2	48
Rutherglen	1	60
Sale	1	40
Sebastopol	1	36
Shepparton	4	123½
St. Arnaud	2	68
Stawell	3	71½
Wangaratta	5	157
Warrnambool	11	457

At the end of 1914, there were in the State 3,059 regular churches and chapels, and 2,114 other buildings, where religious services were held—a total of 5,173 places of public worship—and these were attended by 2,007 regular clergymen. The following statement contains particulars of the different denominations :—

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS, 1914.

Denominations.	Number of Clergy, Ministers, &c.	Buildings used for Public Worship.		
		Churches and Chapels.	Other Buildings.	Total.
Protestant Churches—				
Church of England ...	406	669	661	1,330
Presbyterian Church of Victoria ...	280	583	528	1,111
Free Presbyterian ...	2	9	3	12
Methodist ...	240	838	497	1,335
Independent or Congregational ...	73	83	9	92
Baptist ...	67	103	59	162
Lutheran ...	25	49	22	71
Salvation Army ...	468	109	153	262
Church of Christ ...	77	76	21	97
Church for Deaf Mutes ...	2	1	...	1
Other Protestant ...	16	18	7	25
Roman Catholic Church ...	321	502	150	652
New Church (or Swedish) ...	1	1	...	1
Catholic Apostolic Church ...	2	1	...	1
Spiritualists ...	7	7	...	7
Greek Orthodox Church ...	1	1	...	1
Jews ...	7	6	2	8
Re-organized Church of Latter-Day Saints ...	3	3	2	5
Total ...	2,007	3,059	2,114	5,173

The Sunday Schools of the various religious bodies numbered 2,944 ; the teachers 22,574 ; and the number of scholars on the rolls, 222,130—98,173 males and 123,957 females.

The following table shows the principal religions of the people as ascertained at the census of 1911 :—

RELIGIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF VICTORIA AT THE CENSUS OF 1911.

Religion.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per cent. of Population.
Protestant Churches—				
Church of England (including Protestant so stated) ..	238,977	236,226	475,203	37.02
Presbyterian	116,653	117,900	234,553	18.27
Methodist	84,376	92,286	176,662	13.76
Independent or Congregational ..	7,624	8,860	16,484	1.28
Baptist	14,134	17,110	31,244	2.43
Lutheran	7,025	4,657	11,682	.91
Salvation Army	3,409	4,390	7,799	.61
Unitarian	314	198	512	.04
Church of Christ	7,356	9,155	16,511	1.29
Seventh Day Adventists	551	892	1,443	.11
Other Protestant Churches	3,811	4,243	8,054	.63
Total	484,230	495,917	980,147	76.35
Roman Catholic Church	139,174	147,259	286,433	22.31
Other Denominations—				
Greek Orthodox Church	385	88	473	.04
Jews	3,214	3,006	6,270	.49
Other Religions	3,081	669	3,750	.29
Sceptics, &c.	4,780	1,907	6,687	.52
Total specified	634,864	648,896	1,283,760	100.00
„ unspecified	20,727	11,064	31,791	..
Grand Total	655,591	659,960	1,315,551	..

The next table shows the principal religions of the people per 100 of the population in the last six census years :—

RELIGIONS OF THE PEOPLE PER 100 OF THE POPULATION, 1861 TO 1911.

Religion.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.
Protestant Churches—						
Church of England (including Protestant so stated)	40.60	36.01	36.74	37.33	36.52	37.02
Presbyterian	16.07	15.78	15.65	14.94	16.16	18.27
Methodist	8.90	13.16	13.58	14.14	15.21	13.76
Independent or Congregational ..	2.45	2.54	2.35	1.98	1.45	1.28
Baptist	1.72	2.28	2.40	2.50	2.75	2.43
Lutheran	1.92	1.47	1.32	1.39	1.18	.91
Salvation Army .. ..	..	..	..	1.21	.74	.61
Church of Christ	*	.50	.57	.74	.90	1.29
Other Protestant Churches .. ..	.59	.51	.37	.66	1.45	.78
Total Protestant Churches	72.85	72.25	72.98	74.89	76.36	76.35
Roman Catholic Church	21.02	23.83	24.02	22.24	22.26	22.31
Jews .. ..	.56	.50	.51	.58	.50	.49
Others	5.57	3.42	2.49	2.29	.88	.85
Total specified	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

* Included with "Other Protestant Churches."

Protestants
and Roman
Catholics.

The total number of Protestants of all denominations in 1911 was 980,147, as against 904,934 in 1901. The Roman Catholics numbered 286,433 in 1911, and 263,710 in 1901. The rate of increase of each of these bodies, in the ten years was, therefore, about the same as that of the population.

Protestant
Sects.

The members of the Church of England and the Presbyterians had improved their positions relatively to the total population between 1901 and 1911, but the Independents had decreased from 17,141 to 16,484, and the adherents of the Salvation Army from 8,830 to 7,799.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

Legislation.

Friendly societies seem to have been established in Victoria very soon after the first settlement of the territory, but it was not until after the passing of the 1855 Act that any steps were taken for their registration as institutions recognised by law. That statute consolidated and amended the laws then in force relating to friendly societies, and was the first Act passed in this connexion by the Victorian Legislature after the separation of Victoria from New South Wales in 1851. It was assented to on 12th June, 1855, and provided for the appointment of a registrar, and also a certifying barrister, to whom the rules of a society had to be submitted for examination, and whose certificate, that these rules were in accordance with the law, was necessary before registration could be effected. It also provided that the table of contributions had to be certified to by an actuary of an assurance company, or "some person" appointed by the registrar before the latter could register the rules of the society.

Registration was not, however, made compulsory, and the actuarial certificate given by the actuary appointed by the registrar, under the provisions of the Act, for this purpose, was only of a provisional nature, issued under the condition that the tables were to be submitted to him for approval after a certain period had elapsed. This temporary certificate was given because there were no data then available in Australia on which to calculate the amount necessary to provide the sickness benefits. As there was nothing in the Act to compel a society to apply to the actuary for a renewal of the provisional certificate when the time covered by that certificate had expired, the registration of these institutions was unfortunately permanently effected at what afterwards proved to be, in almost every instance, inadequate rates of contribution. The control exercised over friendly societies as a result of this legislation was very slight.

No further serious attention was given by the Government to friendly societies until 1875, when a Commission was appointed to inquire into "the working of the Friendly Societies Statute, the position and operations of the societies registered under it, and what amendment, if any, is desirable in the existing law." The outcome of this Commission was the 1877 Act, which provided (*inter alia*) for the appointment of a fully qualified barrister as registrar, and also that each society should

furnish returns annually to the Government Statist, and once at least in every five years should either have its assets and liabilities valued by a valuer appointed by the society or send such particulars to the Government Statist as would enable him to have the valuation made. The fees for valuation were purposely fixed at a low rate, and average no more than threepence per member, the result being that, although it is competent for the societies to employ outside valuers, should they desire it, as a matter of fact they have rarely done so, and nearly all the valuations have been made by the Government Actuary. The passing of this Act had the effect of considerably increasing the control exercised by the Government over the operations of friendly societies.

In accordance with its provisions, an actuary was appointed under the Government Statist in 1881, whose chief duty was to make periodical valuations of the assets and liabilities of societies, and the result of these valuations disclosed the fact that, in almost every instance, the rates then being paid by the members were insufficient to provide the benefits which the societies had by their rules agreed to pay. The Act gave no power to enforce payment of adequate rates of contribution, and the actuary could not therefore compel a society to take such steps as would enable it to meet its liabilities, but could only give advice as to the best means to be adopted to secure that end. It is only just to the managing bodies of these institutions, however, to state that most of the principal societies made a serious effort to carry out the suggestions of the actuary. Several of them passed rules requiring future members to pay adequate rates of contribution, and in nearly every case some effort was made to improve the financial position.

It was not until 1907 that registration of societies was made compulsory, and that they were required to adopt adequate rates of contribution in respect of all members, existing as well as new members. An Act which was passed in that year embodied these provisions, the penalty for failure to adopt adequate rates of contribution being cancellation of registration. The operation of the Act, in so far as it related to the scale of contributions payable, was, however, limited to a period of eighteen months. This was a serious defect, as contributions which are sufficient at one time may at a future date become inadequate, owing to fluctuations in interest, sickness, or mortality rates or faulty management. To remedy this defect an amending Act was passed in the year 1911. This Act provides that if a society receives two successive notifications from the Government Statist that its rates are inadequate, it must adopt adequate rates within twelve months of the second notification, otherwise its registration will be cancelled. There must be an interval of at least three years between the two notifications. It is expected that a society on receiving the first notification will take such steps to improve its position as will obviate the necessity for the second being issued.

The legislation which has been referred to has had a very beneficial effect on societies. Of sixteen societies having a membership of over 500 each, nine have assets whose ratio to liabilities exceeds, or closely

approximates, to 20s. in the £1, and only in one case is the ratio less than 17s. in the £1. In Victoria the societies have received no subvention from the State.

If, on an actuarial valuation being made, a surplus is found to exist in any one fund of a society, the Government Statist may, under an Act passed in 1914, authorize the utilization of the whole or a portion of such surplus for the purposes of the same or any other fund.

An Act passed in 1915 gives power to societies to reinsure with the Government or with an approved life assurance company their liabilities to members who are engaged on active naval or military service in connexion with the present war. The terms and conditions of reinsurance are to be approved by the Government Statist, and the fulfilment of every contract is guaranteed by the Government of Victoria, which will pay out of consolidated revenue the amounts required to meet the liabilities under the reinsurance contracts, in so far as the contributions received from the societies are insufficient to provide for these. The arrangement in regard to reinsurance is to cease on the termination of the war, when the Government will pay to the societies the amounts required to discharge outstanding liabilities, and will return to them any surplus moneys in its possession.

Registered societies must not contract to pay more than 40s. per week in sickness, and the practice now obtaining in Victoria is to pay a maximum of only 20s. per week. Central bodies are empowered by statute to appoint auditors to audit and inspect the accounts and securities of branches at such time as the central body may direct. The *Friendly Societies Act* 1907 provides that every trustee, treasurer, secretary, chairman or member of the committee of management who takes any money or valuable thing in consideration of any benefit received or to be received by any member of an unregistered society shall be liable to a penalty of £50. Trade unions are exempted from registration. The investment of funds on leasehold property is now illegal, but the power to invest generally is extended to all trustee securities. All loans on freehold property must be on first mortgage only, and are not to exceed three-fifths of the value as certified by a practical surveyor or valuer. The trustees are prohibited from investing if the fee-simple of the property has been in the possession of a trustee or his wife during the previous five years. An Act passed in 1910 created a new stock for the special benefit of friendly societies. Interest is payable at 4 per cent., and investment is optional, but the societies are taking advantage of it to an increasing extent. The amount invested in the stock at the end of 1914 was £354,993. Prior to the year 1907, it was not lawful for a friendly societies' dispensary to sell patent or other medicines to members of friendly societies or their relatives, but this restriction has been amended so that all benefit members who have paid the full subscription to the dispensary, and the full amount payable to the society for medicines and medical appliances, may now be supplied with medicines for which payment is required.

Benefits of friendly societies.

The societies perform a function which cannot be carried out with the same success by other means—that of providing for the loss which would otherwise be sustained by the wage-earners of the community and those dependent on them through illness or death. Their organization enables them to keep in touch with their members, to guard against malingering, and to perform satisfactorily a work which, on account of its peculiar nature, could not be attended to satisfactorily by institutions organized on the lines of the ordinary insurance company. Their main objects are to afford relief in sickness, and to provide a sufficient sum to cover funeral expenses on the death of a member or his wife. The usual benefits payable on sickness are 20s. weekly during the first six months, 10s. during the second six months, and 5s. thereafter during life. The member has also the benefit of medical attendance and medicine for himself and his near relatives. A sum of £20 is usually payable on the death of the member, and of £10 on the death of his wife should she predecease him. The benefits coming under the heading of medical attendance and medicine extend usually to the whole family, embracing in the general case member, wife, and children under eighteen years of age, widowed mother of unmarried member, and also widow and family after the death of member if fees continue to be paid.

The funds of the societies are divided into two portions—the sick and funeral fund, out of which are payable the sickness and death benefits, and the medical and management fund, from which are taken the payments for medical attendance, medicines, and management expenses. The weekly contribution to the sick and funeral fund varies with the age at entry, and for the benefits above mentioned usually ranges from 6d. to 1s. per week. The contribution to the other fund generally remains uniform throughout life, the usual charge being from 6d. to 8d. per week. The total sum payable by each member thus ranges from about 1s. to 1s. 8d. per week. There are in addition small initiation fees, and, in some instances, registration fees for second wives.

Progress of friendly societies.

The growth of Victorian friendly societies in recent years is worthy of note. The total membership increased from 105,714 in 1902, to 159,741 at the close of 1914—an increase during the twelve years of 54,027 members; 5,318 members were added in 1912, 3,359 in 1913, and 2,461 in 1914—a year which was characterized by a severe drought and the commencement of a great war. The funds increased during the twelve-year period from £1,420,257 to £2,644,216—an addition of £1,223,959. These are well invested, the return from the sick and funeral fund averaging slightly more than 4½ per cent. for the year 1914. Female societies have been established in recent years, and at the end of 1914 these had a membership of 12,372, and funds amounting to £46,324.

A table is appended showing the membership, revenue, expenditure, and total funds of friendly societies in Victoria during the years 1910-1914 :—

Year.	Membership.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Funds.
		£	£	£
1910	142,275	534,616	424,431	2,122,602
1911	148,603	559,585	435,791	2,246,396
1912	153,921	580,371	465,303	2,361,464
1913	157,280	606,785	477,292	2,490,957
1914	159,741	620,765	467,506	2,644,216

The following is a more detailed statement in regard to the societies for the five years, 1910 to 1914 :—

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES, 1910 TO 1914.

(Including Female Societies.)

	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
Number of societies ...	48	48	47	47	46
Number of branches ...	1,475	1,498	1,505	1,501	1,524
Average number of members	139,308	145,439	151,262	155,601	158,511
Number of members sick	28,040	28,109	28,656	27,434	29,014
Weeks for which sick pay was allowed	215,089	215,696	225,409	220,462	230,979
Deaths of members ...	1,194	1,221	1,288	1,287	1,348
Deaths of registered wives	437	468	477	464	495
	£	£	£	£	£
Income of sick and funeral fund	288,257	308,020	314,848	327,829	342,294
Income of incidental fund	224,943	230,788	238,114	255,445	253,341
Other Income ...	21,416	20,777	27,409	23,511	25,130
Total Income ...	534,616	559,585	580,371	606,785	620,765
Expenditure of sick and funeral fund	186,065	193,060	201,658	196,382	194,873
Expenditure of incidental fund	220,542	224, 83	234,450	252,028	250,199
Other Expenditure ...	17,824	17,748	29,195	28,882	22,434
Total Expenditure...	424,431	435,791	465,303	477,292	467,506
Amount to credit of sick and funeral fund	1,978,568	2,093,528	2,206,718	2,338,165	2,485,586
Amount to credit of incidental fund	77,125	82,930	86,594	90,011	93,153
Amount invested—sick and funeral fund	1,888,750	2,002,210	2,140,626	2,263,693	2,407,557
Amount invested—incidental fund	66,348	69,394	75,669	77,859	83,635
Amount invested—other funds	62,714	62,571	60,719	57,989	61,521
Total invested ...	2,017,812	2,134,175	2,277,014	2,399,541	2,552,713
„ funds ...	2,122,602	2,246,396	2,361,464	2,490,957	2,644,216

NOTE.—Returns from juvenile branches were received for the first time in respect of the year 1911, but the information regarding these branches has not been considered of sufficient importance to be included in the above table.

Sickness and death rates. In proportion to the number of effective male members of the societies, the amount of sickness experienced in 1914 by males was greater than that of 1913, but less than the mean annual amount for the 32 years 1883-1914. The days per effective member for which sick pay was allowed were equal to an average of 10·3 in each of the five years 1910-1914, which was below the average for the 27 years ended 1909, viz., 11·2. The death rate in 1914 was slightly higher than the average of recent years—the rate per 1,000 members being 8·89 in 1914, 8·69 in 1913, 8·85 in 1912, 8·74 in 1911, 8·92 in 1910, and 10·01 for the 37 years ended 1914. The female societies experienced a smaller amount of sickness than the male branches—the days per effective member for which sick pay was allowed averaging only 7·9 yearly during the five years ended 1914. The death rate, too, was considerably lower, being 3·86 per 1,000 members in 1914, which was slightly above the average annual rate for the quinquennial period 1910-14. The lower rates of sickness and mortality among females are due to the fact that the average age of the members of female branches is considerably below that of male members.

Secessions and expenses. Societies lost 8 per cent. of their members in 1914 through secession. The vast majority of secessions take place during the first few years, before members have learnt to appreciate the value of their connexion with the societies. In this respect the experience is similar to that which prevails in life assurance companies. Expenses of management absorbed 17 per cent. of the contributions to all funds during 1914. This ratio is very similar to that prevailing in well-managed life assurance companies, and is considerably below the rate in industrial assurance business. When it is remembered that the lodge element is an essential feature of friendly societies, and that a considerable outlay is unavoidable in connexion with the lodges, it would appear that the rate of expense is very moderate.

Sickness and Mortality Experience 1903-7. An investigation was made into the sickness and mortality experience of three of the largest Victorian friendly societies for the period 1903-07. This relates to male lives only. The number of years of life included in the experience was 262,038, the number of weeks' sickness experienced was 442,829, and the deaths numbered 2,451.

In the following table the sickness rate (*i.e.*, the average number of weeks of sickness experienced each year by each member), according to the Victorian Friendly Societies' experience 1903-07, is compared with the corresponding rates obtained from the New South

Wales experience 1900-08, the South Australian experience 1895-1904, and the Manchester Unity (England) experience 1893-97 :—

AVERAGE NUMBER OF WEEKS' SICKNESS EXPERIENCED EACH YEAR.

Age.	Victorian Friendly Societies' Experience, 1903-07.	New South Wales Friendly Societies' Experience, 1900-08.	South Australian Friendly Societies' Experience, 1895-1904.	Manchester Unity, England, 1893-97.
18 ..	·909	·839	·740	·952
23 ..	·860	·761	·772	·900
28 ..	·845	·738	·814	·968
33 ..	·885	·751	·819	1·095
38 ..	·988	·835	·925	1·320
43 ..	1·204	1·020	1·080	1·649
48 ..	1·456	1·306	1·397	2·096
53 ..	2·096	1·831	1·971	2·955
58 ..	3·824	2·912	3·043	4·357
63 ..	6·558	4·623	5·012	7·072

The Victorian rates are considerably below those of the Manchester Unity (England), but they are higher than the rates according to the New South Wales and South Australian experiences. It should be noted that the New South Wales rates which appear in the comparative statement relate to non-mining lodges only.

In the *Year-Book* for 1913-14 the rates of sickness in mining and non-mining lodges are compared, and it is shown that the rate experienced by miners is greatly in excess of that prevailing in the rest of the community.

The mortality rates of Victorian Friendly Society members have been found by the investigation to be, at most ages, much lower than those prevailing in the general community. This favorable feature is specially noticeable at the younger and middle ages. In the following table, the mortality rate, as deduced from the Victorian Friendly Societies' experience, is compared with that obtained from other experiences :—

MORTALITY RATES IN FRIENDLY SOCIETIES IN AUSTRALIA AND ENGLAND (PER 100 MEMBERS AT EACH AGE).

Age.	Victorian Friendly Societies, 1903-07.	New South Wales Friendly Societies, 1900-08.	South Australian Friendly Societies, 1895-1904.	Manchester, Unity, England, 1893-7.
18 ..	·265	·288	·431	·258
23 ..	·343	·303	·385	·390
28 ..	·372	·324	·481	·472
33 ..	·410	·424	·558	·574
38 ..	·521	·529	·616	·743
43 ..	·673	·678	·774	·980
48 ..	1·014	·901	·987	1·266
53 ..	1·439	1·373	1·378	1·829
58 ..	2·485	2·184	2·125	2·591
63 ..	3·649	3·146	2·901	3·950

The foregoing rates relate to persons engaged in both healthy and unhealthy occupations. It will be seen that the Victorian rates differ slightly from those of New South Wales, and are lower than those of South Australia up to age 48, also that, except at age 18, they are below the rates of the Manchester Unity experience (England).

CONDITIONS OF LABOUR IN FACTORIES AND SHOPS.

**Labour
legislation.**

The earliest attempt at regulating the conditions of labour in Victoria was made by the passing of an Act dated 11th November, 1873, forbidding the employment of any female for more than eight hours in any day in factories. The same Act defined "factory" to be a place where not less than ten persons were working.

This small provision was administered by the Board of Public Health, and was followed, in 1885, by a much larger statute, providing for the registration of factories, their sanitation, fire escape, guarding of machinery, and regulating the conditions of work generally to a much greater extent, besides providing for the closing of shops at fixed hours. These latter provisions were designed to give some relief to the employees, who could previously be kept at work in shops as long as their employers chose.

From that time onwards, further legislative provisions have been passed at frequent intervals, and gradually the community has come to recognise the necessity of securing the health, comfort, and reasonable ease of the workers. The opposition, which was at first very strong, has gradually disappeared, until now it is safe to say that all sections of the community realize the humanitarian aspects of the movement, and have accepted the principle that the rights of work-people shall be conserved by law.

The interests of the factory worker as regards wages, personal safety, and health now receive a large amount of attention. Government inspectors prosecute employers wherever underpayment is found. They take proceedings also to carry out all the provisions of the factories laws. No one can occupy a factory unless the place is properly lighted, ventilated, has ample means of escape in case of fire, has all its machinery fenced and guarded, and has proper sanitary arrangements provided for both sexes. The closing time of shops is carefully regulated. The hours of shop employees are also restricted, and they must be given a half holiday every week.

**Wages
Boards.** The Wages Board system of fixing wages and settling the conditions of employment had its origin in Victoria. It was introduced into an Act of Parliament in 1895 by Sir Alexander Peacock, the present Premier. The principle embodied in the British jury system that a man can only be tried by his peers is the essence of the Victorian Wages Board scheme. The Boards are composed of equal numbers of employers and employees. The representatives are carefully chosen, so that every shade of interest

in the trade shall be represented as fully as possible on the Board. The Board thus becomes a jury of trade experts, all of whom are versed in the requirements and intricacies of the trade they are dealing with.

An application for a Board in any trade which has not been brought under the Wages Board system can be made either by a Union or a meeting of employees. Upon receipt of such an application the Minister usually orders the collection of figures to show the rates of wages, the average number of hours worked, the number of persons employed in the trade, and so on. If he finds that there is good reason he introduces into Parliament a resolution in favour of the appointment of a Special Board. After this resolution has been passed by both Houses of Parliament, the Governor in Council may, if he thinks fit, appoint a Special Board and define the scope of its operations. The Board consists of from four to ten members (half elected by employers and half by employees), who are to nominate some outside person as chairman; or if no agreement can be arrived at as to such nomination, then the Governor in Council appoints the chairman. The Board may fix the rates of payment either by piece-work or wages, or both; the maximum number of hours per week for which such rates shall be paid; a higher rate for work done in excess of such maximum number of hours; the times of beginning and ending work, including the hours of each shift; a higher rate for work done outside such times; special rates for casual work, or for work done on Sundays and public holidays, and for time occupied in travelling to and from work; the number of and also the rates of pay to apprentices and improvers who may be employed. Casual work is now defined in the Act as work or labour during any week for not more than one-half of the maximum number of hours fixed by the Special Board appointed to fix rates for the work in question.

Resolutions in favour of appointing three new Special Boards were carried in both Houses of the Legislature during 1914.

The new Boards are :—

- Opticians Board.
- Perambulators Board.
- Tilelayers Board.

Under the powers conferred by section 133 of Act 2386, the Governor in Council deprived the Artificial Manure, Country Shop Assistants, and Hotelkeepers Boards of certain of their powers, and appointed three additional Boards, viz., the Animal Manure, the Country Butchers, and the Fish and Poultry Boards to take over such powers.

On 31st December, 1914, there were 140 Special Boards existent or authorized, affecting about 150,000 employés. Three of these Boards have not been constituted, viz., the Slaughtering for Export Board, Stationery Board, and Felt Hatters Board.

The following is a list of Boards existent or authorized :—

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. Aerated Water Trade | 34. Coal and Coke |
| 2. Aerated Water Carters | 35. Confectioners |
| 3. Agricultural Implements | 36. Coopers |
| 4. Agricultural Implements
(Country) | 37. Cordage |
| 5. Asphalters | 38. Cycle Trade |
| 6. Bagmakers | 39. Drapers |
| 7. Bedsteadmakers | 40. Dressmakers |
| 8. Bill Posters | 41. Dyers and Clothes Cleaners |
| 9. Biscuit | 42. Electrical Installation |
| 10. Boiler Makers | 43. Electrical Supply |
| 11. Boot | 44. Electroplaters |
| 12. Boot Dealers | 45. Engine-drivers (Factory) |
| 13. Brassworkers | 46. Engine-drivers (Mining) |
| 14. Bread | 47. Engineering |
| 15. Bread Carters | 48. Engravers |
| 16. Brewers | 49. Farriers |
| 17. Bricklayers | 50. Fellmongers |
| 18. Brick Trade | 51. Fish and Poultry |
| 19. Brushmakers | 52. Flour |
| 20. Builders' Labourers | 53. Flour (Country) |
| 21. Butchers | 54. Fuel and Fodder |
| 22. Butchers (Country) | 55. Fuel and Fodder (Country) |
| 23. Butter | 56. Furniture |
| 24. Candlemakers | 57. Furniture Dealers |
| 25. Cardboard Box Trade | 58. Gardeners |
| 26. Carpenters | 59. Gas Meter |
| 27. Carriage | 60. Glass Workers |
| 28. Carters | 61. Grocers |
| 29. Chaffcutters | 62. Grocers Sundries |
| 30. Cigar Trade | 63. Grocers (Wholesale) |
| 31. Clerks (Commercial) | 64. Hairdressers |
| 32. Clothing (Manufacturing
Men's) | 65. Ham and Bacon Curers |
| 33. Clothing (Waterproof) | 66. Hardware |
| | 67. Hats (Straw) |
| | 68. Hatters (Felt) |

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 69. Horsehair | 106. Polish |
| 70. Hotel Employees | 107. Pottery Trade |
| 71. Ice | 108. Printers |
| 72. Ironmoulders | 109. Printers (Country) |
| 73. Jam Trade | 110. Process Engravers |
| 74. Jewellers | 111. Quarry |
| 75. Leather Goods | 112. Rubber Trade |
| 76. Lift | 113. Saddlery |
| 77. Livery Stable | 114. Saddlery (Country) |
| 78. Malt | 115. Shirt |
| 79. Manure (Animal) | 116. Shop Assistants (Country) |
| 80. Manure (Artificial) | 117. Slaters and Tilers |
| 81. Marine Store | 118. Slaughtering for Export |
| 82. Meat Preservers | 119. Soap and Soda |
| 83. Men's Clothing | 120. Starch. |
| 84. Millet Broom | 121. Stationery |
| 85. Milliners | 122. Stone Cutters |
| 86. Miners (Coal) | 123. Storemen, Packers, and
Sorters |
| 87. Miners (Gold) | 124. Tanners |
| 88. Motor Drivers | 125. Tea Packing |
| 89. Nailmakers | 126. Tentmakers |
| 90. Night Watchmen's | 127. Tiemakers |
| 91. Office Cleaners | 128. Tilelayers |
| 92. Opticians | 129. Timber Fellers |
| 93. Organ | 130. Tinsmiths |
| 94. Ovenmakers | 131. Tramway |
| 95. Painters | 132. Tuckpointers |
| 96. Paper | 133. Underclothing |
| 97. Paper Bag Trade | 134. Undertakers |
| 98. Pastrycooks | 135. Watchmakers |
| 99. Perambulator | 136. Wicker |
| 100. Photographers | 137. Wireworkers |
| 101. Picture Frame | 138. Woodworkers |
| 102. Plasterers | 139. Woodworkers (Country) |
| 103. Plasterers (Fibrous) | 140. Woollen Trade |
| 104. Plate Glass | |
| 105. Plumbers | |

A Wages Board, having been constituted, meets as often as it chooses, usually once a week, at the Factories Office. An officer of the Factories Department acts as secretary. The members of the Board are paid 10s. a sitting, with the addition of necessary out-of-pocket expenses. The Chairman receives £1 per sitting. After a Determination has been arrived at it is sent to the Minister of Labour and gazetted, and it thereupon becomes law. It is then the duty of the officers of the Factories Department to enforce it. Where the Minister considers that any breach of the law is trivial, or has occurred through a mistake, he administers a warning; in more serious cases he orders a prosecution. The prosecutions are carried out by the officers of the Factories Department, without expense to the worker, and on a conviction being obtained the Court may order that any arrears of wages that may be due be paid. It is, however, open to any worker, if he has made demand in writing on the employers within two months from the date same became due, to sue in a civil court for the amount of wages owing to him. Employers must pay all wages due at least once in every fortnight.

Appeals. Provision has been made in the law for the constitution of a Court of Industrial Appeals for deciding all appeals against a Determination of a Special Board, and for dealing with any Determination of a Special Board referred to the Court by the Minister. The Court has been asked to make or alter eighteen Determinations. Since 1st January, 1915, the Court has consisted of a President and two other persons. The President, who must be a Judge of the Supreme Court, holds such office for such period as the Governor in Council thinks fit, and must sit in every Court of Industrial Appeals. The Honorable Mr. Justice H. E. A. Hodges has been appointed President. The other members can only act in the Court for which they are appointed, and one must be a representative of employers and the other a representative of employees. Each must be nominated in writing by the side which he represents, and must have been *bonâ fide* and actually engaged in the trade concerned for at least six months during the three years immediately preceding his nomination. Subject to the Act a majority decides every reference to the Court.

The Chief Inspector of Factories in his report for the year 1914 stated that determinations, made by 129 Boards appointed under the Act, were in force, and furnished figures showing the increase in average earnings consequent thereon. Some instances of the increases are given below :—

Trade.	Average Weekly Wage Paid to all Employés.		Increase.
	Before Determination was made.	In 1914.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Aerated Water	1 6 7	1 17 8	0 11 1
Agricultural Implements ..	1 19 5	2 10 1	0 10 8
Asphalters	2 2 10	2 13 8	0 10 10
Bedsteadmakers	1 12 2	2 9 6	0 17 4
Boot	1 3 2	2 1 7	0 18 5
Boot Dealers*	1 6 11	2 0 11	0 14 0
Bread	1 12 6	3 2 7	1 10 1
Brewers	1 14 4	2 10 2	0 15 10
Brushmakers	1 3 1	2 4 9	1 1 8
Butchers	1 17 8	3 1 2	1 3 6
Candlemakers	1 4 8	2 4 2	0 19 6
Carpenters	2 7 6	3 3 10	0 16 4
Clothing	1 0 0	1 6 9	0 6 9
" Waterproof.. ..	1 2 3	1 17 4	0 15 1
Coopers	1 15 7	3 6 3	1 10 8
Commercial Clerks	1 10 7	2 9 6	0 18 11
Engravers	1 16 11	2 5 11	0 9 0
Farriers	1 15 2	2 4 5	0 9 3
Furniture Trade—			
(a) European (Cabinet making, &c).	1 9 1	2 5 10	0 16 9
(b) European (Mantelpieces)	1 13 6	2 9 7	0 16 1
Glassworkers	1 14 11	2 7 3	0 12 4
Grocers	1 7 4	2 6 8	0 19 4
Hairdressers	1 2 9	2 2 7	0 19 10
Ice	2 10 3	3 4 7	0 14 4
Jewellers	1 13 10	2 9 8	0 15 10
Lift Attendants	1 5 0	2 7 8	1 2 8
Malt	2 1 1	2 17 1	0 16 0
Marine Store	1 5 7	2 5 0	0 19 5
Men's Clothing	1 18 4	2 14 6	0 16 2
Millet Broom	1 7 11	2 2 9	0 14 10
Milliners	0 10 11	0 18 2	0 7 3
Painters	2 0 9	2 14 11	0 14 2
Picture Frame	1 3 11	1 19 9	0 15 10
Plate Glass	1 7 6	2 5 11	0 18 5
Plumbers	1 12 8	2 14 4	1 1 8
Pottery	1 8 1	2 0 8	0 12 7
Saddlery	1 7 1	2 2 11	0 15 10
" Country	1 10 7	1 16 11	0 6 4
Slaters and Tilers	2 0 8	3 7 3	1 6 7
Starch	1 0 9	2 0 6	0 19 9
Stonecutters	1 15 11	3 2 0	1 6 1
Tanners	1 11 9	2 10 6	0 18 9
Watchmakers	1 14 2	2 19 2	1 5 0
Wicker	1 2 11	2 2 4	0 19 5
Woodworkers	1 13 2	2 11 9	0 18 7
" Country	2 9 0	2 14 11	0 5 11

Apprentices.

The wages of apprentices in Victoria are fixed by the Wages Boards in each trade. These Boards also prescribe the form of indenture and the term of apprenticeship. Once a boy is indentured, it becomes the duty of the Factories Department on the one hand to see that he is taught his trade properly, and on the other to enforce his proper attendance at his work, and generally to protect both parties and see that they carry out the agreement.

Factory legislation.

The Factories and Shops Acts were consolidated during the year 1912 by the *Factories and Shops Act 1912*, No. 2386. No changes were effected in the law by this measure. The eight existing Acts were merely consolidated.

Shortly after the consolidation, the *Factories and Shops Act 1912* (No. 2), No. 2447, was passed, and it came into force on 31st December, 1912.

On 20th October, 1914, the *Apprentices Act 1914*, No. 2540, came into operation, and will remain in force until six months after the publication in the *Government Gazette* of a proclamation that a state of war or danger of war no longer exists. The effect of this Act is that an employer may, on obtaining a permit from the Minister of Labour, employ his apprentices for the same number of hours in each week as his adult employees are employed, and pay them *pro rata*.

The *Factories and Shops Acts Amendment Act 1914*, No. 2558, which came into force on 1st January, 1915, made several important amendments in the law.

Shops.**Metropolitan District.**

Shortly stated, in the Metropolitan District, as defined in the *Factories and Shops Act 1912*, the hours for closing shops are as follows:—Hairdressers' shops must be closed on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 8 p.m.; and on Wednesday or Saturday at 1 p.m. If the shop be closed on Saturday at 1 p.m., it must be closed on Wednesday at 8 p.m., and may be kept open until 10 p.m. on Friday; if it be closed at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, it may be kept open till 11 p.m. on Saturday. Bicycle shops, dairy produce shops, flower shops, and pawnbrokers' shops (so far only as giving in or taking out pledges are concerned) are now required to close at 8 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, at 10 p.m. on Friday, and at 1 p.m. on Saturday. Butchers' shops are required to close at 5 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, at 8 p.m. on Friday, and at 1 p.m. on Saturday. All other shops (except Fourth Schedule shops) must be closed at 6 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. On Friday the closing hour is 10 p.m., and on Saturday 1 p.m.

The Fourth Schedule shops are:—

- Booksellers' and news agents' shops.
- Chemists' shops.
- Coffee-houses.
- Confectioners.

Cooked meat (other than tinned meat) shops.

Eating-houses.

Fish and oyster shops.

Fruit and vegetable shops.

Restaurants.

Tobacconists' shops.

The hours for closing such shops are not fixed by the Act, but may be fixed by regulation. Under a Regulation chemists' shops have to be closed at 10 p.m. on Friday, and 8 p.m. on other week days.

Under the provisions of the *Factories and Shops Act 1912* the Minister can grant permission to certain shopkeepers, who would ordinarily be required to close their shops at 6 p.m., to keep open till 8 p.m. Such permission can only be granted to widows and old people, or in cases of great hardship, and only applies to the Metropolitan District.

Provision is also made under the Acts for overtime and tea money for shop employés.

Outside the Metropolitan District. The shops provisions of the Acts now apply to the whole State. Previous to 1st January, 1915, they did not apply to shires or portions of shires unless the shopkeepers therein had petitioned for them to be extended, and there was little uniformity throughout the Country Districts either as to the hours of closing shops or the observance of a weekly half-holiday. A universal Saturday half-holiday was legalized by Act No. 2558, the shops being allowed to remain open till 10 p.m. on Fridays, and the Country Districts were thus brought into line with the Metropolitan District, in which the Saturday half-holiday had been observed for years. In certain cases an exemption may be petitioned for and the half-holiday fixed for a day other than Saturday.

The hours of closing *on other days* outside the Metropolitan District are fixed at 7 p.m., but, if a petition be received from a majority of any class of shopkeepers, they may be fixed earlier or later. The hours have been altered in accordance with this provision in a few municipalities. Hairdressers may choose either Wednesday or Saturday as the day on which they will observe the half-holiday but, if they choose Wednesday, they are required to close at 7 p.m. on Fridays. Fourth Schedule shops are not affected by these provisions. Petrol may be sold at any hour to travellers to enable them to continue their journey.

Registration of shops became compulsory as from 1st March, 1915, the registration fee ranging from 2s. 6d. to 63s., according to the number of persons employed.

Factories. A factory is defined to mean any place in which four or more persons other than a Chinese, or in which one or more Chinese are employed in any handicraft, or in preparing articles for trade or sale; or any place in which one or more are employed, if motive power be used in the preparation of such articles, or where furniture is made, or where bread or pastry is made or baked for sale, or in which electricity is generated for the supply of heat or light, or power, or in which coal gas is made; and also any clay pit or quarry worked in connexion with and occupied by the occupier of any pottery or brickyard. The expression "handicraft" includes any work done in a laundry or in dyeworks. Provision is made for the registration of factories, and inspectors are appointed to inspect and examine them in order to insure that the health requirements and other provisions of the Acts are complied with. A record is to be kept in every factory of the names, work, and wages of all employees, and the ages of those under 21. The employment of males under 14 and females under 15 years of age is debarred, but a provision is made by which a girl of 14 can receive permission to work in a factory if it be shown that the parents are poor, and that the best interests of the girl will be served. A strict limitation is placed on the hours of employment of all females and of males under sixteen. There are special provisions to guard against accidents, and persons in charge of engines and boilers must hold certificates of competency of service. The working hours of Chinese are specially restricted, with the view of preventing or lessening unfair competition. Every employee in a factory must be paid at least 2s. 6d. per week, this provision being, of course, intended as a protection for juvenile workers. All wages must be paid at least once in every fortnight. There were registered in 1886 only 1,949 factories with 39,506 employees, whereas in 1914 the figures were 8,447 factories with 110,660 employees.

GOVERNMENT LABOUR BUREAU.

**Government
Labour
Bureau.**

Prior to 1st October, 1900, two labour bureaus were administered by the Railway Department. One registered men in search of work, and distributed all Government work, each Department paying the cost. The other was a Railway Staff Office, regulating and distributing all temporary and casual railway employment. Both these are now administered by a bureau under the control of the Lands Department, where applicants are registered for temporary or casual employment principally as artisans and labourers on Government works, including railways. Men are supplied, when work is available, according to their order of registration, subject to fitness. This bureau also undertakes to supply workmen for private employment, and advances railway tickets to deserving applicants who may themselves have obtained employment in country districts, which they would be otherwise unable to

reach, these advances being subject to orders for repayment out of earnings.

The following is a summary of the operations of the bureau for the year 1914 in respect to registrations and applicants sent to employment:—

GOVERNMENT LABOUR BUREAU.

Year and Month.	Number of Applicants for Work as Registered at the end of each Month in the Metropolis.	Number of Men for whom Employment was Obtained.
1914—January	2,066	} 8,302
February	2,374	
March	2,528	
April	2,374	
May	2,801	
June	2,751	
July	2,905	
August	2,854	
September	3,051	
October	2,889	
November	3,526	
December	3,759	

In the next table particulars are given of the operations of the bureau over a series of years:—

Year.	Registrations Effected.		Engagements Effected.
	In the City.	In the Country.	
1901	13,865	...	2,705
1902	10,071	...	806
1903	7,629	...	1,203
1904	11,559	...	1,329
1905	12,937	571	1,531
1906	13,232	1,600	2,896
1907	10,119	1,921	2,466
1908	14,444	3,294	4,973
1909	12,134	3,900	4,050
1910	15,279	3,968	6,447
1911	14,043	3,972	7,084
1912	20,230	4,169	7,229
1913	22,858	6,185	7,441
1914	33,878	11,274	8,302

Regarding the number of distinct individuals included in the registrations and engagements effected, the officer in charge of the bureau states that the number of men who are regular applicants at the bureau is very considerable, especially amongst unskilled labourers, and consequently the allowance to be made for duplication of registrations is proportionately great. It would probably be safe to say that the number of distinct individuals applying in any one year would be represented by about half the registrations effected. In connexion with the engagements effected during the year allowance must also be made for the fact that the same applicants may be employed more than once during the year, and this further employment, it is considered, would represent about one-sixth to one-eighth of the engagements made.

During the year 1914, the number of railway tickets advanced was 4,019, valued at £3,155, of which £1,672 has been refunded. During the past fourteen years 19,857 railway tickets have been advanced, of the value of £16,201, of which £9,672 has been refunded.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT 1914.

An Act which was passed in February, 1914, entitled the *Workers' Compensation Act 1914*, provides for compensation being paid by an employer to an employé or his representatives in the event of the employé being killed or personal injury being caused to him by an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment.

An epitome of the Act is given below :—

Interpretation. The following are the more important definitions :—

“Accident insurance” means insurance against liability in relation to workers' compensation to which employers are subject under this or any other Act or at common law or otherwise.

“Certifying medical practitioner” means a legally qualified medical practitioner—

(a) appointed under the Act by the Governor in Council,
or

(b) appointed or acting as a certifying medical practitioner under the *Factories and Shops Act 1912*.

“Employer” includes any body of persons corporate or unincorporate and the legal personal representative of a deceased employer.

“Insurer” means the Insurance Commissioner or any company approved by the Governor in Council as an insurer for the purposes of the Act.

“Outworker” means a person to whom articles or materials are given out to be made up, cleaned, &c., in his own home or in other premises not under the control or management of the person who gave out the materials or articles.

" Worker " includes all employés with the following exceptions :—

- (a) a person employed otherwise than by way of manual labour whose remuneration exceeds £250 a year ;
- (b) a person whose employment is of a casual nature and who is employed otherwise than for the purposes of the employer's trade or business ;
- (c) a member of the police force appointed before the 25th November, 1902 ;
- (d) an outworker ;
- (e) a member of the employer's family dwelling in his house.

**Government
Departments.**

Any claim against or premium payable by a Government Department may with the authority of the responsible Minister of the Crown administering the Department concerned be paid out of any moneys available for the purpose, or out of any accident or insurance fund established by Act of Parliament and available for the purpose, or out of moneys specially appropriated by Parliament for the purpose.

**Liability of
employer.**

An employer is liable under the Act for a personal injury caused to a worker by an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment. There are certain provisos of which the following are the principal :—

- (a) The employer is not liable unless the incapacity lasts for a week.
- (b) Where the injury was caused by the personal negligence or wilful act of the employer the civil liability of the employer is not affected by the Act. In such case the worker may at his option claim compensation under the Act or take proceedings independently of it, but the employer shall not be liable to pay compensation independently of and also under the Act.
- (c) If it is proved that the injury to a worker is attributable to his serious and wilful misconduct, any compensation claimed shall be disallowed unless the injury results in death or serious and permanent disablement.
- (d) If a claim for compensation has already been made under any law of the United Kingdom, or of the Commonwealth or of any other part of His Majesty's dominions, compensation shall not be allowed. Any person having a claim under such a law must make a statutory declaration that he has not claimed and covenant with the employer that he will not make a claim thereunder, before he can claim under this Act.
- (e) If any question arises as to the liability to pay compensation, or as to the amount of compensation, the question, if not settled by agreement, shall be settled by arbitration in accordance with provisions contained in the Second Schedule.

When an employer is responsible for unreasonable delay in the settlement of compensation interest may be added thereto.

The compensation payable shall in default of agreement be in the discretion of a Judge or Police Magistrate either a lump sum or a weekly payment during the period of incapacity. When a lump sum is awarded it shall be the present value at 5 per cent. compound interest of the aggregate of the weekly payments which would probably become payable.

For certain injuries, such as the loss of eyes, arms, legs, &c., the compensation is according to a scale given in the Fourth Schedule, the amount of compensation varying from 100 per cent. of the full compensation for total incapacity in the case of the loss of two eyes or two hands, and certain other injuries, to 5 per cent. of such compensation in the case of the loss of a toe.

Compensation under the Act is absolutely inalienable.

Proceedings. Notice of an accident must be given as soon as practicable after the happening thereof and before the worker has voluntarily left the employment in which he was injured, and the claim for compensation with respect to such accident must be made within four months from its occurrence, or, in case of death, within four months from the time of death.

The want of a notice or any defect therein shall not be a bar to the maintenance of proceedings for recovery of compensation if there was a reasonable cause therefor, or if the employer was not prejudiced thereby. Failure to make a claim within the specified period shall not be a bar to the maintenance of proceedings if the failure was occasioned by a reasonable cause.

The notice of accident may be served by delivering it to the person on whom it is to be served, or by sending it by post in a registered letter addressed to him at his residence or place of business.

If, within the time mentioned above, an action is brought to recover damages independently of this Act for an injury caused by an accident, and it is determined that the employer is not liable in such action, but that he would have been liable to pay compensation under the Act, the action shall be dismissed; but the Court shall, unless the plaintiff objects, proceed to assess compensation under the Act.

If it is determined in any proceedings under the Act that the injury is one for which the employer is not liable under the Act, this shall not prevent an action being brought independently of the Act.

Schemes of compensation. If a Judge of County Courts specially appointed by the Governor in Council for the purpose, after taking steps to ascertain the views of the employer and workers, and the Government Statist certifies—

- (a) that any scheme of compensation, benefit, or insurance for the workers of any employer provides scales of compensation not less favorable to these workers and their dependants than the corresponding scales contained in the Act; and

- (b) that where the scheme provides for contributions by the workers it confers benefits at least equivalent to such contributions in addition to the benefits to which the workers would have been entitled under the Act; and
- (c) that a majority (to be ascertained by ballot) of the workers to whom the scheme is applicable are in favour of it—

the employer may, whilst the certificate is in force, contract with any of his workers that the provisions of the scheme shall be substituted for the provisions of the Act.

A Judge of the County Court may give a certificate to expire at the end of a limited period of not less than five years, and may renew it with or without modifications for a further period.

Workers are not to be obliged to join the scheme as a condition of their obtaining employment, and they are to be free to withdraw from it if they wish.

There are provisions for the revocation of a certificate in certain circumstances and for the distribution of any moneys held for the purposes of the scheme when a certificate has been revoked or has expired.

The Treasurer of Victoria may with respect to all or any of the Government Departments cause schemes of compensation to be framed with a view to their being certified by a Judge of County Courts.

Contractors and Sub-contractors. When a contractor in the course of his business arranges that work undertaken by him shall be carried out by a sub-contractor, the former is liable to pay any compensation under the Act which he would have been liable to pay if the workers employed in the execution of the work had been immediately employed by him.

When a sub-contractor arranges with some one else to carry out work which he has undertaken, he is liable under the Act to the same extent as if he had not delegated his work. The right to indemnity of each contractor and sub-contractor includes a right against every sub-contractor standing between him and the sub-contractor by whom the worker was employed at the time when the accident occurred.

When under the section dealing with this matter a contractor or sub-contractor is liable to pay compensation, he is entitled to be indemnified by any person who would have been liable to pay compensation to the worker independently of the section.

The section does not prevent a worker recovering compensation from the sub-contractor instead of from the contractor.

Persons who jointly enter into a contract for work in a gold or coal mine and personally engage in the work shall be deemed not contractors, but workers, and the person with whom they enter into the contract shall be deemed to be an employer within the meaning of the Act.

Insolvency of employer. If an employer who has entered into a contract with an insurer in respect of his liability under the Act becomes insolvent, the rights of the employer against the insurers are transferred to the worker, and upon such transfer the insurers have the same rights and remedies and are subject to the same liabilities as if they were the employer.

Among the debts which are to be paid in priority to all other debts there shall be included an amount not exceeding in any individual case £200 due in respect of any compensation the liability whereof accrued before the date of the order of sequestration.

The provision with respect to priorities is not to apply where the insolvent has entered into a contract with an insurer in respect of his liability.

Liability of person other than employer. Where there is a legal liability in some person other than the employer to pay damages in respect of an injury, the worker may take proceedings both against that person to recover damages and against any person liable to pay compensation under the Act for such compensation, but he is not entitled to recover both damages and compensation.

A person by whom compensation has been paid under these circumstances is entitled to be indemnified by the person who is liable to pay damages.

Seamen. The Act applies in respect of an accident happening to a seaman employed on a Victorian ship if the accident arises out of and in the course of his employment and happens within the State or within the jurisdiction of the State.

In the Act the term "Victorian ship" means any ship which—

- (a) is registered in the State; or
- (b) is owned by a body corporate established under the laws of the State, or having its principal office or place of business in the State, or is in the possession of any such body corporate by virtue of a charter; or
- (c) is owned by any person or body corporate whose chief office or place of business in respect of the management of such ship is in the State, or is in the possession of any such person or body corporate by virtue of a charter; or
- (d) is owned by the Crown in respect of the Government of the State, or is in the possession of the Crown in that respect by virtue of a charter.

When the Act is applied to accidents happening to seamen its provisions are subject to certain modifications.

Where—

Industrial diseases.

(1) the certifying medical practitioner for the district in which a worker was employed certifies that the worker is suffering from a disease mentioned in the Third Schedule and is thereby disabled from earning full wages at the work at which he was employed; or

(2) the death of the worker is caused by any such disease,

and the disease is due to the nature of any employment in which the worker was employed within the twelve months previous to the date of the disablement, whether under one or more employers, the worker or his dependants are entitled to compensation under the Act as if the disease were a personal injury by accident arising out of and in the course of that employment and the disablement is to be treated as the happening of an accident.

The compensation is to be recoverable from the employer who last employed the worker during the said twelve months in the employment to the nature of which the disease was due, and notice of the death or disablement is to be given to that employer.

There are provisions outlining the procedure to be followed where the disease was contracted by a gradual process and during a period in which the worker was employed by several employers.

Where there is a doubt as to the liability of an employer or as to the extent of his liability the matter is to be settled in the manner defined in the Act.

Six diseases are mentioned in the Third Schedule, including anthrax, lead poisoning, and septic poisoning arising from the handling of meat.

Where a resolution has been passed by both Houses of Parliament declaring that it is expedient to include in the Third Schedule any diseases and manufacturing processes which may cause these diseases other than those mentioned in that Schedule, the Governor in Council may, by order published in the *Government Gazette*, declare that these diseases and processes shall be included in the Schedule in accordance with such resolution.

Returns. Every employer in any industry which may be specified in regulations issued by the Governor in Council must submit annually a return specifying—

- (a) the number of injuries in respect of which compensation has been paid by the employer under the Act during the previous year ;
- (b) the amount of such compensation ; and
- (c) such other particulars as the Minister may direct.

Existing contracts. Existing contracts whereby workers relinquish any rights to compensation from employers for personal injuries arising out of and in the course of their employment are not for the purposes of the Act to be deemed to continue after the time at which the workers' contracts of service would determine if notice of the determination thereof were given at the commencement of the Act.

Insurance policies. These policies are to contain only such provisions as are in accordance with regulations made by the Governor in Council.

This provision is not to apply to any policy issued within six months after the commencement of the Act.

State accident
insurance
office.

A State Accident Insurance Office is to be constituted. The office is to be managed and controlled by an Insurance Commissioner; and, subject to the Public Service Acts, such agents, officers, clerks, and persons as may be necessary are to be appointed to assist the Commissioner. A Deputy Insurance Commissioner is to be appointed who is to manage and control the office during the absence of the Insurance Commissioner and also during the occurrence of a vacancy in the office of Commissioner. The Insurance Commissioner may, subject to the approval of the Governor in Council, delegate any of his statutory powers to the Deputy Commissioner or to any of his assistants.

All moneys received by the Insurance Commissioner are to be paid into an account to be kept in the Treasury to be called the State Accident Insurance Fund and all payments are to be made out of this fund.

Every policy issued by the Insurance Commissioner is to be guaranteed by the Government of Victoria. Any sum paid out of consolidated revenue by reason of this guarantee is to be recouped from the State Accident Insurance Fund when funds are available.

When the Insurance Fund shows in any year a surplus of assets over liabilities such portion as the Insurance Commissioner and Auditor-General may deem advisable is to be carried to a reserve fund which shall be invested in securities of the Government of Victoria. Any balance of the surplus may be dealt with as the Governor in Council may direct.

The Insurance Commissioner is in the month of August in each year to prepare and transmit to the Minister a balance-sheet and statement of accounts for the preceding financial year.

Except where there is a scheme of compensation approved in accordance with the Act it is obligatory for every employer to obtain either from the Insurance Commissioner or from an insurer approved by the Governor in Council a policy of accident insurance for the full amount of his liability under the Act.

Provision for
persons
employing
principally
casual labour.

Where an employer has paid not more than £160 in wages in the twelve months preceding the first employment by him of workers in any year he shall, if not already insured, be deemed to have been insured in the State Accident Insurance Office from the commencement of the employment in that year for the full amount of his liability to pay compensation under the Act, provided that—

- (a) within fourteen days after the commencement of the employment and pursuant to regulations he gives notice in writing to the Insurance Commissioner of the fact of his employing workers; and
- (b) he obtains an insurance policy from the Insurance Commissioner as soon as practicable.

The premiums on such a policy will be considered to be due as from the commencement of the employment and they will be recoverable by the Insurance Commissioner in any court of competent jurisdiction.

Regulations. The Governor in Council may make regulations—

- (a) For fixing the rates of premium to be charged in connexion with State accident insurance contracts, for prescribing the conditions to be contained in these contracts, and for defining the nature and extent of the risks to be covered ;
- (b) For providing generally for the proper conduct of State Accident Insurance business.
- (c) As to any matters necessary for giving effect to the provisions of the Act.

Malingering. Persons attempting by malingering to obtain any benefit under the Act are guilty of an offence and are liable to a penalty not exceeding £20.

Schedules. There are four schedules attached to the Act.

The first of these gives the scale of compensation and the conditions attaching thereto. The amount of compensation payable under the Act is as follows :—

In Case of Death.			In Case of Total or Partial Disablement.
Where there are Total Dependants.	Where there are only Partial Dependants.	Where there are no Dependants.	
A sum equal to deceased's earnings for three years preceding the injury or £200, whichever is the larger, but not exceeding £500. If not employed three years, then 156 times his average actual weekly earnings is basis of calculation.	A sum, not exceeding the amount payable to total dependants, as may be agreed upon or determined to be reasonable.	The medical and funeral expenses not exceeding £50.	A weekly payment during incapacity not exceeding half his average weekly earnings during the previous twelve months. Such weekly payments not to exceed 30s. per week, and the total liability of the employer not to exceed £500. Workers under 21 years of age—If under 21 years at date of injury and average weekly earnings are less than £1, the worker is entitled to 100 per cent. of these earnings, the weekly payment not to exceed 10s.

SCHEDULES—continued.

In Case of Death.			In Case of Total or Partial Disablement.
Where there are Total Dependants.	Where there are only Partial Dependants.	Where there are no Dependants.	
*Aged workers and those suffering from physical or mental infirmity or other incapacity—If death occurs and there are dependants, not less than £50.			<p>*Aged workers and those suffering from physical or mental infirmity or other incapacity—A weekly payment during incapacity after the first week of not less than 5s., or a quarter of the average weekly earnings whichever of these is the larger, and a total liability of £50.</p> <p>In fixing the amount of the weekly payment consideration is given to any payment, allowance, or benefit which the worker may receive from the employer during the period of his incapacity.</p> <p>In the case of partial incapacity the weekly payment is not to exceed the difference between the amount of the average weekly earnings of the worker before the accident and the average amount which he can earn in some suitable employment after the accident, but is to bear such relation to the amount of the difference as under the circumstances may seem proper.</p>

Rules are given for the computation of "earnings" and "average weekly earnings."

Where a worker has given notice of an accident he must, if so required by the employer, submit himself for examination by a duly qualified medical practitioner provided and paid by the employer.

* A reduction in the compensation payable to an aged or infirm worker is inoperative unless a certificate has been obtained from a certifying medical practitioner to the effect that his age or infirmity renders him specially liable to accident, or will cause the result of an accident to him to be specially serious, and unless an agreement in writing has been entered into between the employer and employee, limiting the amount of compensation payable.

Any worker receiving weekly payments under the Act must, if so required by the employer, from time to time submit himself for examination by a duly qualified medical practitioner provided and paid by the employer.

A worker shall not be required to submit himself for examination at more frequent intervals than may be prescribed by regulations made by the Governor in Council.

When the employer and worker cannot agree as to the worker's fitness for employment, the Registrar of a County Court may, on application being made to the court by both parties and on payment of a prescribed fee, not exceeding £2, refer the matter to a medical referee who shall, in accordance with regulations made by the Governor in Council, give a certificate as to the condition of the worker and his fitness for employment, and this certificate shall be conclusive evidence as to the matters certified.

The provisions of the preceding paragraph shall, subject to any regulations made by the Governor in Council, apply in the case where no agreement can be come to between the employer and the worker as to whether or to what extent the incapacity of the worker is due to the accident.

Any weekly payment may be reviewed at the request either of the employer or of the worker, and on such review may be ended, diminished, or increased subject to the maximum provided in the Act. Where the worker was at the date of the accident under 21 years of age and the review takes place more than twelve months after the accident, the amount of the future weekly payment may be increased, subject to the maximum referred to, to any amount equal to one-half of the weekly sum which the worker would probably have been earning at the date of the review if he had remained uninjured.

Where a weekly payment has been continued for not less than six months, the liability therefor may, on application by the employer, be redeemed by the payment of a lump sum of such amount as may be settled by arbitration under the Act. This will not prevent agreements from being made for the redemption of a weekly payment by a lump sum.

If a worker receiving a weekly payment ceases to reside in Victoria he shall thereupon cease to be entitled to receive any weekly payment, unless the medical referee certifies that the incapacity resulting from the injury is likely to be of a permanent nature.

Where a right to compensation is suspended no compensation shall be payable in respect of the period of suspension.

The second schedule contains a statement of the provisions which are to apply when any matter arising under the Act is to be settled by arbitration.

The third schedule, which has already been referred to, contains a list of diseases, disablement or death from which entitles a worker to compensation in the same way as if an accident had occurred, provided the disease is due to the nature of any employment in which the worker was engaged during the preceding twelve months. The following are the diseases :—

Anthrax

Lead poisoning or its sequelæ

Mercury poisoning or its sequelæ

Phosphorus poisoning or its sequelæ

Arsenic poisoning or its sequelæ

Septic poisoning arising from the handling of meat or meat products or its sequelæ.

The fourth schedule has also been referred to. It contains a list of injuries, such as loss of two eyes, loss of one leg, loss of a finger, &c., which entitle a worker to compensation of a specific amount.

STATE ACCIDENT INSURANCE OFFICE.

A State Accident Insurance Office was established shortly after the passing of the Act for the purpose of enabling employers to obtain from the State policies of insurance indemnifying them against their liability in relation to workers' compensation. It commenced business on the day on which the Act came into operation—7th November, 1914.

Between that date and the end of the financial year—30th June, 1915—the premiums paid and outstanding, less reinsurance premiums and refunds, amounted to £27,501 18s. The number of claims settled and in the course of settlement was 376, and an amount of £1,895 16s. 11d. had actually been paid away in settlement of claims and progress payments. It was estimated that a further sum of £1,110 1s. 11d. would be required to provide for the outstanding liability in respect of the unsettled claims.

Included in the amount quoted above as having been actually paid away there is a sum of £364 12s., representing two death claims, in one of which there was total, and in the other partial, dependency. There is also included in that amount a sum of £240 9s. 5d. paid in respect of four separate claims, which entitled the sufferers to compensation under the Fourth Schedule of the Act.

As a result of the operations of the Office to the end of the first financial year—30th June, 1915—there was at that date a credit balance of £4,244 15s. 5d., of which £2,750 formed the nucleus of a general reserve fund and £1,494 15s. 5d. was set aside as a special provision for bonuses, which it was intended to allocate to policy-holders in the future.

The Profit and Loss Account of this Office for the period 7th November, 1914, to 30th June, 1915, and the balance-sheet as at the latter date are given on a subsequent page.

Compulsory Insurance. It is obligatory for every employer to obtain from the State Accident Insurance Office or from an insurance company approved by the Governor in Council a policy of accident insurance for the full amount of his liability to pay compensation under the Act.

The number of insurance companies approved by the Governor in Council as at 24th August, 1915, was 46. One of the conditions of approval was that the company should deposit with the Treasurer a sum of not less than £6,000, which sum was to be held in trust to insure the due fulfilment of policy obligations. The total amount lodged by all the companies which had been approved at the date mentioned was £281,000.

The amount quoted above as the minimum deposit required from insurance companies was based on the assumption that each company would charge the same rates of premium as were payable to the State Accident Insurance Office. It was quite at liberty to charge lower rates, but it seemed necessary to provide that, in the event of its doing so, the deposit lodged should be increased so that the interests of the policy-holders might be fully protected.

Schemes of Compensation. Several large employers of labour have submitted or have had under consideration schemes of compensation, which they wished to have substituted for the provisions of

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.

The total number of organizations throughout the State which administered charitable relief, or were of a reformatory character, and which forwarded returns to the Government Statist for the year 1914, was 244. The number of these which received aid from the Government was 171. The total receipts of all the institutions were £1,684,060, of which £1,337,022 was contributed by the Government, and £347,038 was received from all other sources. The total expenditure amounted to £1,718,885. The daily average number under care indoors throughout the year was 15,177, and there were no less than 136,611 distinct cases of outdoor relief. With regard to the outdoor relief, it has been ascertained that in some institutions the "distinct cases treated" represent the actual number of persons treated; in others, they represent the actual cases of illness, accident, or disease; in these latter cases, unfortunately, the books of the institutions do not furnish the necessary particulars as to the number of distinct persons. Again, it is considered probable that some obtained relief at more than one establishment, and that some, in the course of the year, became inmates of one or other of the institutions. There is no available information upon which an estimate of the number of these duplications can be based.

In the following table will be found a summary containing full particulars of all these charitable and reformatory institutions, and showing the number in each class, the daily average number of persons under care in the institutions, and the total number of distinct cases receiving outdoor relief, together with the receipts and expenditure:—

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS— INMATES, RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, 1913-14.

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Daily Average Indoors	Outdoor Relief Distinct Cases.	Receipts.			Expenditure (Including Building Expenses for Year).
				From Government.	From Other Sources.	Total.	
HOSPITALS.							
General Hospitals	50	2,244	54,259	59,644	135,162	194,806	240,839
Women's Hospital	1	136	1,749	4,126	13,110	17,236	14,362
Children's Hospital	1	141	12,960	2,500	19,564	22,064	19,937
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	1	26	3,086	425	1,855	2,280	2,141
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	1	95	..	4,683	285	4,968	4,968
Heatherton Sanatorium	1	61	..	2,335	1,331	3,666	3,666
Convalescent Homes	2	35	..	367	1,976	2,343	1,985
Deaf and Dumb, Blind, and Eye and Ear Institutions	4	290	8,408	3,790	16,423	20,213	14,256
Hospitals for Insane, Idiot Asylum, and Receiving House	12	5,735	..	240,824	23,184	264,008	264,008
Foundling Hospitals	2	234	..	2,000	5,530	7,530	9,026
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	1	126	..	8,082	8,423	16,505	13,977
Total	76	9,123	80,462	328,776	226,851	555,627	589,166

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS—INMATES, RECEIPTS,
AND EXPENDITURE, 1913-14—*continued.*

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Daily Average Indoors.	Outdoor Relief Distinct Cases.	Receipts.			Expenditure (including Building Expenses for Year).
				From Government.	From Other Sources.	Total.	
BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS AND SOCIETIES.							
Benevolent Asylums	8	2,025	963	15,714	19,872	35,586	40,862
Old Colonists' Association ..	1	78	7	..	5,538	5,538	5,592
Freemasons' Homes	1	17	..	..	1,095	1,095	600
Benevolent Societies	92	..	9,902	5,847	22,925	28,772	26,767
Orphan Asylums	10	1,597	..	4,425	25,732	30,157	29,780
Total	112	3,717	10,872	25,986	75,162	101,148	103,601
REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.							
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	15	471	8,475	123,322	6,278	129,600	129,600
Lara Inebriates' Institution ..	1	36	..	1,371	1,264	2,635	2,635
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	1	18	..	40	1,237	1,645	1,312
Female Refuges	10	712	..	3,960	24,597	28,557	28,330
Salvation Army Rescue Homes ..	5	151	..	400	4,993	5,393	5,281
Prison Association of Victoria ..	1	..	356	195	548	743	763
Gaols and Penal Establishments ..	18	877	..	56,555	..	56,555	56,555
Total	51	2,265	8,831	186,211	38,917	225,128	224,476
MISCELLANEOUS.							
Old-age and Invalid Pensioners ..	..	..	31,994	795,449	..	795,449	795,449
Talbot Colony for Epileptics ..	1	72	..	600	3,120	3,720	3,092
Night Shelter (Dr. Singleton's) ..	1	..	..	..	54	54	70
Charity Organization Society ..	1	..	..	..	2,320	2,320	2,333
Free Dispensaries	2	..	4,452	..	614	614	699
Total	5	72	36,446	796,049	6,108	802,157	801,643
Grand Total	244	15,177	136,611	1,337,022	347,038	1,634,000	1,718,885

Charitable institutions - accom-
modation.

Particulars relating to the accommodation in the most important of the various classes of charitable institutions in the State are given below. The information relates to the year ended 30th June, 1914, except in the case of the Hospitals for the Insane, the Idiot Asylum, and the Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, where it relates to the calendar year 1914, and in the case of the Infectious Diseases Hospital, where it is for the year ended 30th September, 1914. Of the general hospitals, six are in Melbourne, and the remainder in country towns, nine of the latter being also benevolent asylums. The accommodation available for indoor patients was as follows:—

AMOUNT OF ACCOMMODATION, 1913-14.

Description of Institution.	Number of Institutions.	Dormitories.		Number of Beds for Inmates.	Number of Cubic Feet to each Bed.
		Number.	Capacity in Cubic Feet.		
General Hospitals ...	50	416	4,464,187	3,391	1,316
Women's Hospital ...	1	27	229,970	170	1,353
Children's Hospital ...	1	17	151,855	132	1,150
Eye and Ear Hospital ...	1	14	78,092	84	930
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	1	4	25,720	26	989
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	1	4	97,597	100	976
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows)	1	7	47,153	95	496
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	1	5	16,488	40	412
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	1	13	58,582	100	586
Heatherton Sanatorium ...	1	13	99,728	92	1,094
Receiving Houses for the Insane	2	20	45,911	64	717
Hospitals for the Insane ...	9	1,406	3,655,935	4,893	747
Idiot Asylum ...	1	20	114,288	337	339
Benevolent Asylums ...	8	178	2,130,527	2,643	806
Convalescent Homes ...	2	33	68,790	65	1,058
Blind Asylums ...	2	11	93,200	89	1,047
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ...	1	5	87,604	90	973
Orphan Asylums ...	10	85	826,969	1,635	506
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	15	75	276,134	620	445
Female Refugees ...	10	167	550,600	793	694
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	5	26	124,870	216	578
Lara Inebriates' Institution	1	11	46,796	50	936
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	1	11	20,391	27	756
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	1	20	70,669	66	1,071
Total ...	127	2,588	13,382,056	15,818	846

Charitable
Institutions
—Inmates
and deaths.

The next statement shows the number of inmates and of deaths in these institutions :—

INMATES AND DEATHS, 1913-14.

Description of Institution.	Number of Inmates.		Number of Deaths.	Proportion of Deaths to Total Number of Inmates.
	Total during the Year.	Daily Average.		
				Per cent.
General Hospitals	30,915	2,244	2,755	8·9
Women's Hospital	3,200	136	74	2·3
Children's Hospital	1,789	141	225	12·6
Eye and Ear Hospital	1,168	65	6	·5
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	387	26	9	2·3
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	1,900	126	87	4·6
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows)	214	89	12	5·6
Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	223	145	14	6·3
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	437	95	7	1·6
Heatherton Sanatorium	401	61	121	30·2
Receiving Houses for the Insane	770	26	20	2·6
Hospitals for the Insane	6,470	5,371	362	5·6
Idiot Asylum	371	338	25	6·7
Benevolent Asylums	3,669	2,025	450	12·3
Convalescent Homes	1,020	35	...	...
Blind Asylums	155	129	...	...
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	109	96	...	...
Orphan Asylums	2,139	1,597	5	·2
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	10,517	8,946	128	1·2
Female Refuges	1,119	712	8	·7
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	1,005	151	3	·3
Old Colonists' Association	78	78	5	6·4
Lara Inebriates' Institution	216	36	...	...
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	87	18	1	1·1
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	99	72	2	2·0
Freemasons' Home	18	17	1	5·6
Total	68,476	22,775	4,320	6·3

In addition to the inmates shown in the above table, there were 96 mothers of infants in the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home, 159 infants in the Female Refuges, and 143 infants in Salvation Army Homes during the year.

The receipts of all charitable institutions in the year 1913-14 amounted to £832,071, of which £485,018, or 58 per cent., was contributed by Government, and the expenditure amounted to £866,862. Of the Government contribution, £372,535 was expended on the Receiving House for the Insane, Hospitals for the Insane, the Idiot Asylum, the Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, the Greenvale and Heatherton

Charitable
Institutions
—receipts and
expenditure.

Sanatoria for Consumptives, and the Lara Inebriates' Institution, which are Government institutions. Particulars are given below:—

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1913-14.

Description of Institution.	Receipts.			Expenditure.
	From Government.	From other Sources.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£
General Hospitals	59,644	135,162	194,806	240,839
Women's Hospital	4,126	13,110	17,236	14,362
Children's Hospital	2,500	19,564	22,064	19,937
Eye and Ear Hospital	1,190	5,391	6,581	5,534
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	425	1,855	2,280	2,141
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	8,082	8,426	16,508	13,977
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows)	100	1,542	1,642	1,812
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	1,900	3,988	5,888	7,214
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	4,683	285	4,968	4,968
Heatherton Sanatorium	2,335	1,331	3,666	3,666
Receiving House for Insane Hospitals for the Insane	240,824	23,184	264,008	264,008
Idiot Asylum				
Benevolent Asylums	15,714	19,872	35,586	40,862
Convalescent Homes	367	1,976	2,343	1,985
Blind Asylum	1,700	6,909	8,609	4,599
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	900	4,128	5,028	4,123
Orphan Asylums	4,425	25,732	30,157	29,780
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	123,322	6,278	129,600	129,600
Female Refuges	3,960	24,597	28,557	28,330
Salvation Army Rescue Homes ...	400	4,993	5,393	5,281
Old Colonists' Association ... ..	...	5,553	5,553	5,573
Freemasons' Home ... ..	...	1,095	1,095	600
Prison Association of Victoria ...	195	548	743	763
Charity Organization Society ... ..	...	2,320	2,320	2,333
Benevolent Societies	5,847	22,925	28,772	26,767
Free Dispensaries ... ..	...	614	614	699
Dr. Singleton's Night Shelter ... ..	...	54	54	70
Lara Inebriates' Institution	1,371	1,264	2,635	2,635
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	408	1,237	1,645	1,312
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	600	3,120	3,720	3,092
Total	485,018	347,053	832,071	866,862

Charities
Receipts and
Expenditure,
1905-1914.

The expenditure of charitable institutions has considerably increased during the past ten years. In 1905 the amount expended was £482,218, and this had increased to £866,862 in 1914. This is equivalent to an advance of about 80 per cent. The aid from Government has increased by 80 per cent., and that from other sources by 53 per cent. in the period mentioned.

Information in regard to the receipts and expenditure in each year of the period is given in the accompanying table:—

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, 1905 TO 1914.

Year ended 30th June.	Receipts.			Expenditure.			
	Government aid.	Other.	Total.	Building and extra-ordinary Repairs.	Maintenance.	Other.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1905 ..	268,881	226,287	495,168	36,911	438,749	6,558	482,218
1906 ..	285,227	253,749	538,976	39,561	454,389	2,954	496,904
1907 ..	361,498	250,760	612,258	122,950	474,061	5,834	602,845
1908 ..	383,086	267,264	650,350	118,642	515,038	4,162	637,842
1909 ..	378,164	264,770	642,934	131,066	542,481	3,128	676,675
1910 ..	385,467	295,741	681,208	93,879	564,033	4,465	662,377
1911 ..	436,859	314,665	751,524	147,387	580,488	4,215	732,090
1912 ..	446,332	384,722	831,054	192,712	614,705	3,143	810,560
1913 ..	468,588	347,963	816,551	179,514	668,094	4,484	852,082
1914 ..	485,018	347,053	832,071	154,565	705,768	6,529	860,862

Charitable institutions—average cost per inmate.

The following statement shows the average number of inmates of the respective institutions, the total cost of their maintenance, and the average cost for the year of each inmate:—

COST OF MAINTENANCE, 1913-14.

Description of Institution.	Daily average Number of Inmates.	Total Cost of Maintenance.	Average cost of each inmate.
		£	£ s. d.
General Hospitals	2 244	169,058	75 6 9
Women's Hospital	136	11,480	84 8 3
Children's Hospital	141	13,442	95 6 8
Eye and Ear Hospital	65	5,095	78 7 8
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	26	2,071	79 13 1
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	126	13,007	103 4 7
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows) ...	89	1,411	15 17 1
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	145	4,524	31 4 0
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	95	4,814	50 13 6
Heatherton Sanatorium	61	3,666	60 2 0
Receiving Houses for the Insane			
Hospitals for the Insane	5,735	209,191	36 9 6
Idiot Asylum			
Benevolent Asylums	2,025	37,185	18 7 3
Convalescent Homes	35	1,779	50 16 7
Blind Asylums	129	4,253	32 19 5
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	96	3,204	33 7 6
Orphan Asylums	1,597	20,596	12 17 11
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	8,946	128,842	14 8 1
Female Refuges	712	22,860	32 2 2
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	151	4,626	30 12 9
Old Colonists' Association	78	3,423	43 17 8
Lara Inebriates' Institution	36	2,635	73 3 11
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	18	1,312	72 17 9
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	72	2,419	33 11 11
Freemasons' Home	17	600	35 5 11
Total	22,775	671,493	29 9 8

In calculating the average cost of each inmate, the cost of treating out-patients is necessarily included, as there is no available information showing the cost of in-patients and out-patients separately.

The institutions showing the lowest average cost per inmate are the Orphan Asylums, the Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, the Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows), and the Benevolent Asylums. As many of the wards of the Neglected Children's and Reformatory Department cost the State nothing—maintaining themselves at service or being supported by relatives—the cost of maintenance per head shown above is not a correct indication of the burden on the public, the true cost per head of those supported by the State being about £16 9s. 4d. The average cost per inmate of the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home, Female Refuges, and Salvation Army Homes would be reduced if allowance were made for mothers of infants in the first-named institution, and for infants in the two latter groups of institutions.

HOSPITALS.

Melbourne Hospital. The origin of this institution belongs to the very earliest days of Melbourne. Within five years from the foundation of the city, the great desirability, and even necessity, of providing some establishment for the reception, nursing, and treatment of the sick poor, and for the relief of victims of accidents, was apparent. A public meeting, presided over by the Superintendent of the Province, Mr. Latrobe, and attended by the leading people of the settlement, was held on 1st March, 1841, and resolutions were unanimously and enthusiastically adopted in favour of the foundation of a hospital in which the best medical advice and the most skilful surgical treatment available would be at the service of those who were in indigent circumstances, as well as of those who might be admitted as paying patients. The severity of the struggle for existence in those early days, and the poverty of the people of the settlement, retarded for a time the collection of subscriptions. In a year, only £300 had been received; but urgent requirements were met by the establishment of a dispensary in a small brick cottage rented for the purpose in Little Collins-street. The grant in aid, which had been fully expected, was refused by the Government in Sydney, but the charitable work was not thereby doomed, and private donations enabled larger premises, in Bourke-street west, to be engaged for hospital purposes. It was intimated that no more than £500 could in any event be expected from Sydney, and the indignation and disappointment in Melbourne culminated in a meeting of prominent colonists at the house of Dr. Palmer, afterwards President of the Legislative Council under responsible government. Strong representations were made to the Governor, Sir George Gipps, who promised the memorialists a site for the hospital, and a money grant by way of building fund and endowment. In February, 1845, two sites were offered, namely, the hay and corn market

reserve, between Flinders-lane and Flinders-street, where St. Paul's Cathedral now stands, and a block, in a then sequestered corner of the town, bounded by Lonsdale, Little Lonsdale, Swanston, and Russell streets. The latter was ultimately chosen, and upon it the building of the hospital was commenced.

As an intimation had been received from Sydney that the Government was prepared to advance £1,000 if a like amount was subscribed in Melbourne, immediate steps were taken to fulfil the condition. At a public meeting £265 was subscribed, and a governing body was appointed. The first entertainment raised nearly £60, and was given by some gentlemen amateurs who had formed themselves into a philharmonic society. In January, 1846, tenders were called for the erection of the building. The foundation stone was laid on the same day as that of the original Prince's-bridge. Early in 1848, the building was ready for occupation, and a staff was appointed, and in March of that year two patients were admitted and four out-patients treated. By July, 1848, all the beds, 21 in number, were occupied; even at that early date applications for admission exceeded the available accommodation, and additions had therefore to be made. From that time up to the present day continual additions and alterations have been made in order to meet the growing demands of an increasing population, and equip the institution for the position it has held as the principal general hospital of Victoria, and the chief medical training school for University students. The wards now contain 318 beds, in which about 6,600 in-patients are treated annually. In the out-patients' department, 24,165 persons were treated last year, including 8,390 casualty cases. The aggregate number of attendances was 101,728.

The usefulness of the Melbourne Hospital since its inauguration may be judged from the work carried out. The in-patients treated up to date number 238,661; the out-patients, 1,001,964.

In 1913-14 the Government grant amounted to £15,250; the revenue derived from municipal grants was £814; private contributions amounted to £5,067; proceeds of entertainments to £90; bequests to £9,417; Hospital Sunday collections to £2,470; payments and contributions by in-door patients to £2,335; and out-patients' fees to £1,435; interest yielded a revenue of £5,791; and £4,027 was received from all other sources. The receipts for the twelve months reached a total of £46,696. The expenditure was £74,262—£36,864 for buildings, £36,340 for maintenance, and miscellaneous items, £1,058.

In the year 1907 an offer of £120,000 was made by the trustees of the Edward Wilson estate towards the erection of a new hospital. This was subsequently added to by the trustees of the Sumner estate to the extent of £20,000, and by gifts of £1,000 each from Mrs. Aubrey Bowen and Mr. S. Miller, and a promise of £500 in fittings, and a

donation of the machinery necessary to equip the hospital laundry in a thorough up-to-date manner from Mr. A. T. Danks. The Government, in 1912, promised to contribute £25,000, and by public subscription £36,000 was raised. It was decided to re-build on the present site, and one of the architects for the committee (Mr. J. J. Clark) made a visit to Great Britain, the Continent, and America, with the object of studying modern hospital architecture before preparing the plans for the new structure. On Mr. Clark's return to Melbourne certain matters of detail had to be arranged, the most important of which had reference to the number of beds. The committee decided to provide 400. The number to be used at once will, however, depend on the amount available for maintenance. The plans were then prepared, and the building operations were commenced on 3rd November, 1910. Considerable progress has been made with the sections now in course of erection. The out-patient department, the casualty department, and most of the wards are now available for use, but the whole of the new buildings, with their necessary furnishings, &c., will not be completed for about two years.

**Alfred
Hospital.**

For many years before the establishment of this institution, the necessity for a second general hospital in Melbourne was recognised. It was not, however, until 1868 that it was finally resolved that a charitable institution should be erected as a memorial of the providential escape of H.R.H. Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, from assassination during his visit to Sydney. A site of 13 acres within the municipality of Prahran was secured, and the foundation stone was laid in March, 1869, by His Royal Highness, after whom the hospital was named. In May, 1871, the establishment was opened, and additions were made in 1885. In 1888 a fire occurred, which entirely destroyed a portion of the original buildings. This portion was replaced, and, during the year 1901-2 further additions were made. Extensive alterations and additions, including a new laundry and plant and a new kitchen block, have recently been completed. The hospital is recognised by the Melbourne University as a clinical school for medical students, and, in addition, a training school for nurses was established in 1880, the term of instruction decided upon being one year, which term was subsequently increased to three years. The pupils are of one grade, and pay an entrance fee of £5 5s., receiving a small and progressive salary after six months. For the year ended 30th June, 1914, the daily average number of in-patients was 171. The total number of patients for the year ended 30th June, 1913-14, was 11,784. The total revenue from all sources was £19,674—£5,230 from the Government; £552 municipal grants; £3,589 private contributions; £2,889 proceeds of entertainments; £1,322 legacies, bequests, &c.; £1,385 Hospital Sunday collections; £2,198 contributions by in-door patients; £1,557 contributions by out-door patients; £702 from interest; and £250 from all other sources. The total expenditure was £19,034, of which £3,539 was spent on buildings, £15,447 on maintenance, and £48 on miscellaneous items. The average cost per occupied bed was £82.

Homeopathic Hospital. This institution was first established in 1869 as a dispensary, in Spring-street, Melbourne. In 1876, the buildings were enlarged, and converted into a hospital for the treatment of both in and out-patients. In 1881, owing to annually increasing demands for the treatment of in-patients, it was decided to remove the institution to its present site on St. Kilda-road, and the northern wing and administrative quarters were then erected. In 1890, the southern wing, which is reserved for surgical cases, was added, the cost being met by a gift of £9,000 made by Mr. James S. Hosie, of Melbourne. From the date of the opening of the institution to 30th June, 1914, 219,628 patients received treatment. During the year ended on that date, 12,380 patients were treated, and there were 17,865 visits of out-patients. The average stay of in-patients was 22 days, as against 21 days in the previous year, which is an exceedingly low average; 1,347 operations were performed by the visiting honorary surgeons, and 3,295 casualty cases were attended to. The general death rate for 1913-14 was 4.92 per 100 persons admitted. The establishment has attached to it a school for training nurses, who have to serve a period of three years, and pass prescribed examinations. Visitors are admitted on Sundays and Wednesdays, between the hours of 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. The income for the year was £9,007—made up of £1,350 Government grant; £339 municipal grants; £87 proceeds of entertainments; £1,336 private contributions; £2,523 legacies, bequests, &c.; £603 Hospital Sunday collections; £840 contributions by in-door, and £789 by out-door patients; £570 visitors' contributions; £473 interest; and £97 from all other sources. The expenditure was £6,984—£305 for buildings; and £6,679 for maintenance.

The institution has accommodation for 102 patients. On 30th June, 1914, there were remaining under care 40 men and 43 women. An operating theatre has been built, and equipped with all the latest modern instruments and appliances, also a separate building in the grounds which contains two large wards and provides accommodation for 28 children. A building for nurses' accommodation, and a laundry containing the latest modern machinery, mortuary buildings, and out-patients' waiting-rooms have also been constructed.

Austin Hospital for Incurables. This hospital for incurables, the only one of its kind in Victoria, is situated on a block of 17 acres at Heidelberg. Its origin belongs to the year 1880, when Mrs. Thomas Austin, of Barwon Park, Winchelsea, offered £6,000 for the purposes of the institution. Mrs. Austin died on 2nd September, 1910, aged 89 years, and a colonist of 69 years' standing. Other donations quickly followed that given by her, and the Government of the day granted the present site. The hospital was opened in August, 1882, and provided accommodation for 66 patients. In 1884, a wing, containing sixteen beds for the reception of cancer patients, was opened, and in 1900 another wing was added for consumptives, containing 41 beds. Alterations in 1897 increased by eight the accommodation for cancer patients. The Nurses' Home, with accommodation for 30 nurses

and women servants, was erected and furnished in 1897. This building was enlarged in 1906 so as to increase the accommodation for nurses and women servants to 45 beds. In 1901 the children's wing was erected, and a laundry has since been added. In 1905 an additional wing for consumptives, capable of containing 60 patients, was opened. Of the total cost (about £6,000) of the erection of the building, £5,110 was provided by Mr. Joseph Kronheimer, of Melbourne. At the request of the Government additional accommodation has been provided for cancer and consumptive patients. A new building for the accommodation of nurses, presented by Mr. William Drummond in memory of his deceased wife, will shortly be ready for occupation. The sanitary arrangements of the institution have been entirely remodelled, the whole of the waste material (sewage, &c.) being treated by the septic tank system. Up to 30th June, 1914, 4,289 patients were admitted; of this number 3,044 died in the institution, 1,028 were discharged, and 217 were at the date mentioned occupying beds in the various wards. The patients treated have been of the one class, *i.e.*, chronic or incurable, many of them reaching the hospital in a dying condition. Amongst the number set out as having been discharged, a fair percentage, say, 45 per cent., have benefited very considerably from the treatment received in the institution, the remaining 55 per cent. having left of their own accord, many of them preferring to die amongst their friends and relatives. Practically no cures have been effected. The patients treated during the year 1913-14 numbered 436, of whom 222 were new admissions, and the daily average was 216. The institution is well supported by the public. Of the total expenditure for 1913-14—£19,373—£7,336 was spent on buildings, and £12,037 related to maintenance and other expenses. The revenue was £13,326, made up of £3,650 Government grant; £300 municipal grants; £3,677 private contributions; £366 proceeds of entertainments; £2,450 legacies and bequests; £937 Hospital Sunday collections; £971 contributions from in-door patients; £938 interest; and £37 miscellaneous contributions. The institution now contains 30 dormitories with 230 beds. There were 127 males and 90 females under care on 30th June, 1914.

St. Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne. This hospital was founded in 1893, and is conducted by the Sisters of Charity. Though associated with the Roman Catholic Church, the work of the institution is carried on upon entirely unsectarian lines. The present building in Victoria-parade, Fitzroy, forms only the rear portion of the proposed completed structure, and contains 138 beds. That the work of the institution conforms in every way to the most modern requirements is evidenced by the fact that the Faculty of Medicine of the Melbourne University recommended the hospital for recognition as a clinical school, and the University Council accepted the recommendation. The necessary addition to the hospital buildings was made, and fully equipped, and the work of the clinical school has been carried out with highly satisfactory results. The X-ray department during

the year 1913-14 treated patients to the number of 693. During the year ended 30th June, 1914, 2,721 patients were treated in the institution; and the number of out-patients who received treatment was 19,692 (including 4,379 casualty and 855 dental cases), the total number of patients for the year being 22,413. The number of surgical operations performed on patients was 2,777; of these patients 52 died, the death rate after operations thus being under 2 per cent. The receipts totalled £14,255, made up of £5,500 Government grant; £215 from municipalities; £1,887 private contributions; £973 proceeds of entertainments; £1,026 bequests; £1,141 Hospital Sunday fund; £3,018 patients' contributions; and £495 from other sources. The expenditure was £26,473, of which £12,444 was spent on buildings and repairs, and £14,029 on maintenance, &c.

**Women's
Hospital.**

The necessity for establishing an institution of this kind forced itself upon the attention of the benevolent ladies of Melbourne nearly sixty years ago. In 1856 it was definitely founded, its original title being the Melbourne Lying-in Hospital and Infirmary for Diseases of Women and Children, and it was the first institution of this special nature erected in Australia. The work was first carried on in Collins-street, Eastern Hill, but a permanent site was eventually granted by the Government in Madeline-street, Carlton, where the hospital was opened in 1858; its title being altered in 1868 to Women's Hospital, the name it now bears. Important and improved additions have since been made, including the Genevieve Ward wing, constituting the largest portion of the midwifery department, nurses' quarters, and the infirmary and midwifery operating theatres. The management has also caused to be erected an up-to-date pathological block, an eclamptic ward, a new out-patients' department, fresh quarters for nurses, an infirmary wing, and a septic ward. These buildings are part of a complete scheme for a new Women's Hospital. The institution, early in its career, attained a high reputation for the efficient help it afforded, and the accommodation had to be augmented from time to time to meet increasing demands. A special appeal is now being made to the women of Victoria for funds to provide a pre-maternity ward, to which those patients requiring special observation and treatment may be admitted before the time of labour. At present, through lack of this accommodation, it is feared that lives of mothers and infants have been lost which otherwise might have been saved to the State. It is a special training school in gynaecology and midwifery for medical men and nurses, and the excellent work carried on is fully recognised. Up to 30th June, 1914, the number of patients received into the hospital was 64,552, of whom 46,327 were admitted for confinements, and the attendances of out-patients were 213,365. During the year ended on that date, 1,992 midwifery and 1,084 gynaecological patients were admitted, which, together with 109 remaining at the close of the previous year, gave a total of 3,185 treated. There were also in the same period 4,859 attendances of 1,540 out-patients. There is

now accommodation in the institution for 170 in-patients, each bed having the most liberal allowance of space. It is governed by a committee of 15 ladies and 6 gentlemen, on whom falls the responsibility of the effective working of the whole establishment. The professional work devolves chiefly on an honorary staff. The receipts amounted to £17,236, made up of £3,250 Government grant; £394 municipal grants; £1,512 private contributions; £4,209 Druids' Gala and Bazaar; £1,229 bequests and donations; £994 Hospital Sunday collections; £3,606 from patients; £926 from medical students and pupil nurses; £142 interest; £876 from Government for special wards; and £98 from other sources. The expenditure on maintenance, &c., was £11,480, on buildings, furniture, repairs, &c., £2,829, and on miscellaneous items, £53—a total of £14,362. Every patient who passes through the wards is seen and spoken to by some lady or ladies of the committee—many before admission, but all before leaving. No patient is discharged without inquiries being made as to her home, &c., and, where possible, the wants of needy patients are supplied. To prevent abuse of the charitable trust, certain ladies each week give much of their time to interviewing applicants for admission, with the view of inquiring into their circumstances.

Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital for Women and Children. In this establishment 25 patients remained under care on 1st July, 1913. During the year 1913-14, 362 were admitted, making a total of 387 treated; 331 were cured or relieved; 20 were discharged at their own request or on other grounds; 1 left incurable; and 9 died, leaving 26 in the hospital on 30th June, 1914. As regards out-patients, the total number of distinct cases treated was 3,086, and the attendances numbered 9,682. The income for 1913-14 was £2,280, made up as follows:—Government grants, £425; municipal grant, £120; private contributions, £273; proceeds of entertainments, £12; legacies, bequests, &c., £408; Hospital Sunday collections, £205; out-patients' contributions, £404; in-patients' fees, £287; interest, £26; and miscellaneous receipts, £120. The expenditure was £2,141.

Children's Hospital. The Children's Hospital, Melbourne, was founded in 1870, when a small cottage was rented in Stephen-street, Melbourne. The present buildings cover over two acres of land in Drummond, Pelham, and Rathdown streets, Carlton, and the institution ranks amongst the foremost Children's Hospitals in the world. The honorary medical staff numbers 39, and a Pediatric Society in connexion with the hospital meets monthly, when most interesting cases are shown and diseases peculiar to children are discussed. At the out-patients' department the largest portion of the hospital work is done. During the year ended 30th June, 1914, there were 1,665 patients admitted, which, with 124 in the hospital on 1st July, 1913, made a total of 1,789 in-patients treated during the year, of whom 1,407 were discharged relieved, 225 died, and 157 were in the institution on 30th June, 1914. The total in-door patients treated from the commencement number 38,468. In the out-door patients' department during the year 1913-14, 12,960 children attended

80,053 times, and since the foundation of the hospital there have been 1,815,589 attendances of 343,876 out-patients. The cost of maintenance last year was £13,442, which, with £6,356 expended on the building and £139 miscellaneous items, gave a total expenditure of £19,937. The revenue was £22,064, made up of £2,500 Government grant; £432 municipal grants; £4,453 private contributions; £1,083 proceeds of entertainments; £9,401 bequests, &c.; £1,458 Hospital Sunday and church collections; £1,879 contributions by patients; £489 interest; and £369 miscellaneous revenue.

The Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital deals not only with the diseases which, as the name of the institution implies, are peculiar to the eye and ear, but also with diseases in parts adjacent to those organs, viz., the nose, pharynx, naso-pharynx, and larynx. Thus, classes of ailments are treated in the institution, which are not only the cause of extreme suffering in themselves, but are also, when unchecked, the means of producing much helplessness and poverty, arising from deafness, blindness, &c., and of entailing a heavy burden on the community. It places within the reach of all persons, without distinction of creed or country, every attainable means for the relief or cure of diseases of the eye and ear, provided they are unable to pay for private treatment. The patients treated are distributed throughout the whole of the Commonwealth, New Zealand also contributing its quota. The patients admitted during 1914 numbered 1,111, making with 57 in the institution at the commencement of the year a total of 1,168 treated. The patients discharged numbered 1,111, of whom 1,091 were stated to be cured or relieved, and 11 to be incurable; 3 were discharged at their own request; and 6 died. Besides these, there were 8,408 out-patients treated, of whom 122 were from the other States and New Zealand, 93 were from the various charitable institutions in Victoria, and 67 were wards of the State. The total number of attendances was 40,527, and of operations 1,635, the latter number not including minor operations in the out-patients' surgery. The hospital buildings are situated on a fine site in Victoria-parade, opposite the Central Fire Station at East Melbourne. The hospital is bounded on three sides by Gisborne and Brunswick streets and Victoria-parade, and the buildings include considerable additions made since their first erection. The accommodation for the out-patient department requires to be enlarged so that the, at present, alternate clinics may be conducted simultaneously to the greater convenience of the patients. The total number of beds available for in-door patients is 84, and the hospital is the largest of its kind in the British Empire. The total of the receipts for the year 1913-14 from all sources and on all accounts was £6,581, made up of £1,190 Government grant; £316 from municipalities; £514 private contributions; £1,286 legacies, bequests, &c.; £1,474 out-patients' fees; £690 in-patients' fees; £540 from Hospital Sunday and church collections; £370 interest; and £201 from other sources. The total expenditure on maintenance, building account, &c., was £5,534.

Royal
Victorian
Institutes for
the Blind.

The Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind occupies a site in St. Kilda-road, Melbourne. The institute is strictly undenominational in its character, and its objects are to give a suitable scholastic and religious education to the young blind of the State, and to teach them trades or professions by means of which they may earn an independent livelihood. It is further intended, as far as the exigencies of trade will permit, to give employment in its industrial department to blind people, who, having completed their term of training, may be unable to get work elsewhere. The institute is not in any sense a benevolent asylum for the indigent blind, who can not only be maintained cheaper, but can also be better cared for in the ordinary institutions for the assistance of the destitute. Its programme of scholastic education is similar to that of the State schools, and it is carried out under the supervision of the State Education Department. Under the Education Act of 1910 the education of blind children between the ages of seven and sixteen years is compulsory, and the institute provides all the necessary facilities for carrying out its provisions. Education is free, but where parents are able to do so, they are required to contribute towards the cost of pupils' maintenance. In cases where this is not possible, the whole cost is borne by the institute. Music is an important part of the education of the blind; those who display exceptional talent are trained for the musical profession, or as piano-tuners. During the earlier period of their trade training, pupils may be admitted to reside at the institute, or, if residing at home, they may be allowed wages based on those fixed by the wages logs of their various trades. Adults receive a minimum wage, and, when they gain skill, they are paid piece wages at a higher rate than the ordinary trade standards, which are also supplemented by bonus additions, married workers receiving special consideration.

Non-resident workers are assisted in times of sickness by "The Blind Workers' Sick Benefit Society," the funds of which are maintained by weekly contributions from its members, subsidized by a grant from the board of management of the institute equal to the amount of the members' contributions. The society is managed by a committee of its members, assisted by the principal of the institution and the accountant, who acts as honorary treasurer.

The institution contains four dormitories with 72 beds. There were under care on the 1st July, 1913, 109 persons; 22 were admitted during 1913-14, and 12 were discharged, leaving 119 under care at the end of the financial year.

The sales of manufactured goods realized £9,737. Other receipts in 1913-14 reached a total of £7,357, comprising £1,700 Government grant; £208 municipal grants; £2,517 private contributions; £1,731 proceeds of entertainments; £813 interest; and £388 from all other sources. The total ordinary expenditure was £3,552.

The Victorian Deaf and Dumb Institution occupies a site in St. Kilda-road, Melbourne, and is a home and school combined for deaf children from all parts of the State, irrespective of creed or nationality. At the beginning of the year there were 94 pupils on the roll. During the year ended 30th June, 1914, 15 new pupils were admitted, and 6 discharged, leaving 103 on the roll. A total of 570 pupils have been educated at the institution, and the great majority of these are not only able to earn their own living, but are useful members of the community.

The combined oral and manual teaching, which is used in the majority of similar institutions throughout the world, is also used here, with very gratifying results. In addition to the ordinary school subjects, the boys are instructed in carpentering, bootmaking, and gardening, and the girls are taught dressmaking, plain and fancy needlework, and all kinds of domestic duties. The education of the deaf is now compulsory, but unfortunately there are many deaf children in various parts of the State who are not receiving any instruction. The receipts for the year amounted to £5,028, made up of £900 Government grant; £237 municipal grants; £1,614 private contributions; £1,086 legacies, bequests, &c.; £389 payments and contributions for pupils; £678 interest; and £124 from other sources. The expenditure for maintenance, buildings, and improvements was £4,123.

BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS AND SOCIETIES.

Benevolent asylums.

In addition to the nine Benevolent Asylums connected with general hospitals, there are eight other of these institutions in the State; two are situated in Ballarat, and one each in Bendigo, Beechworth, and Castlemaine, the remaining three being in Melbourne. The number of inmates on 1st July, 1913, was 2,074; the number admitted during the year was 1,595; and the total number discharged cured, relieved, or otherwise, and died was 1,671, leaving under care on 30th June, 1914, in all the institutions, 1,998. The Government grant in aid for the year 1913-14 was £15,714; from municipalities a sum of £891 was received; private contributions amounted to £4,017; proceeds of entertainments to £1,148; legacies, bequests, and special donations to £1,233; Hospital Sunday collections to £1,226; and payments by patients to £9,376; interest was £1,318; and from all other sources £663 was received, making a total income of £35,586. The expenditure was £40,862, of which £2,020 was spent on buildings.

Benevolent societies.

Ninety-two benevolent or philanthropic societies furnished returns for the year ended 30th June, 1914. These associations are for the relief of distressed or indigent persons, and are generally managed by ladies. The names of three of the societies indicate their connexion with the Jewish body, but no distinctive denomination is perceptible in the titles of any of the others, with the exception of the Central Methodist Mission and Scots' Church.

Mission. The distinct adult individuals relieved during the year numbered about 9,902; the receipts amounted to £28,772, of which £5,847 was from Government, £1,726 from municipalities, and £21,199 from private sources; the expenditure was £26,767.

ORPHAN ASYLUMS.

Orphan asylums. There are ten of these establishments in the State, situated at Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, and Melbourne. The number of children under care on 1st July, 1913, was 1,653; the number admitted during the twelve months was 486; and the total discharged and died, 485; leaving under care on 30th June, 1914, 1,654. In two of these establishments, the Nazareth Home at Ballarat, and St. Aidan's Orphanage, Bendigo, the particulars respecting cost of maintenance, &c., cannot be furnished. In the other eight institutions, the receipts totalled £30,157—made up of £4,425 Government grant; £422 municipal grants; £6,004 private contributions; £1,397 proceeds of entertainments; £5,060 legacies and bequests; £233 Hospital Sunday contributions; £3,521 payments on account of orphans maintained; £8,612 interest; and £483 other receipts. The total expenditure was £29,780—£5,723 for buildings, and £24,057 for maintenance and other expenses.

CONSUMPTION SANATORIA.

Greenvale Consumption Sanatorium. The Greenvale Consumption Sanatorium at Broadmeadows for incipient cases, was opened for the reception of patients on 10th May, 1905. This institution was established by the Government, and is under the control of the permanent head of the Public Health Department. During the year ended 31st December, 1914, 420 patients were treated at the sanatorium, 66 of these being cases admitted during the previous year. Of this number, 212 did very well, 76 were classed as incurable, and 46 were discharged at their own request, or for special reasons (some of these being cases sent in for a short period for educational purposes). Three deaths occurred during the year. At the end of the period under review there were 83 patients remaining under care. The benefits of treatment and education that this institution affords to cases of consumption in the early stages have now been received by 2,829 patients. Of these, 1,808 had the disease arrested or their condition much improved; 441 were incurable; 33 died; 464 left of their own accord; and 83 remained at end of 1914. A most important function of the institution is the teaching of patients how to avoid communicating the disease to others. Immediately after the admission of a patient to the sanatorium, the house or room vacated is disinfected under the supervision of the municipal council of the district, a centre of infection being thus removed. There is now accommodation for the treatment of 100 patients.

Amherst and Heatherton Sanatoria. The Amherst Sanatorium, for incipient cases, is maintained by the Government and administered by the local hospital authorities under the direction of the Public Health

Department. It is for the treatment of females only. At this institution there is accommodation for 60 patients. During the year 1914, 202 patients were treated, of whom 161 were discharged, their condition being much improved; 10 left, described as incurable; 5 were discharged at their own request; 3 died; and 23 remained under treatment at the end of the year. Sanatorium treatment has now been received by 1,107 patients; of these, 1,006 were discharged cured or relieved; 26 left of their own accord; 41 were incurable; 11 died; and 23 remained on 31st December, 1914.

The additional 30 beds recently provided at Amherst have rendered the provision of sanatorium accommodation at Daylesford Hospital unnecessary. This sanatorium, which contained 12 beds, was therefore closed on 2nd November, 1912.

There is a sanatorium for intermediate and advanced cases at Heatherton, near Cheltenham Benevolent Asylum, containing provision for 92 beds. There were on 1st July, 1913, 48 persons in the institution, and the number admitted during the succeeding twelve months was 353, making a total of 401 who received treatment during the year 1913-14. Of these, 159 were discharged cured, 25 left incurable, 17 left at their own request, or on other grounds, 121 died, and 79 were under care at the end of the year.

With regard to other cases of advanced consumption, 125 beds are provided at Austin Hospital, 20 of these being specially set apart for cases nominated by the Honorable the Minister of Health.

OTHER CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

In addition to the hospitals, there are two Convalescent Homes—one for men situated at Cheltenham, and the other for women at Clayton—with accommodation for 65 inmates. The number of inmates at the beginning of the year 1913-14 was 37; 983 were admitted during the year, 986 were discharged, and 34 remained under care on 30th June, 1914. The Government grant in aid of these institutions amounted to £367; and municipal grants to £93; the revenue from private contributions was £350; from legacies, bequests, &c., £873; from Hospital Sunday collections, &c., £251; from relatives, £140; and from interest and other sources, £269—a total of £2,343. The expenditure was £197 on buildings, &c.; and £1,788 on maintenance, &c.—a total of £1,985.

Two free dispensaries furnished returns for 1914—the Collingwood and Fitzroy Free Medical Dispensary, and the Richmond General Dispensary. The individuals treated during the year ended 30th June, 1914, numbered 4,452. The visits to or by these persons numbered 14,718. The receipts amounted to £614, of which £74 was from the municipalities and £540 from other sources. The total expenditure was £699.

This hospital was established on 1st April, 1901. The original cost of the buildings was £2,200, and about £3,800 has been expended since its foundation in additions and improvements. The number of inmates on 30th June, 1913,

Convalescent
homes.

Free
dispensaries.

St. Joseph's
Foundling
Hospital,
Broadmeadows.

was 91, 123 were admitted during the year, 12 died, 115 were discharged or adopted, and 87 were under care on 30th June, 1914. The institution, which contains 95 beds, is supported chiefly by the charitably disposed public, but it has been assisted since June, 1914, by the State Government to the extent of £400 annually. It is managed by the Sisters of St. Joseph, whose aim is to protect infant life, procure suitable homes for the children, and afford shelter to destitute mothers.

The objects of the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home are the prevention of infanticide, the saving of infant life from the many evils arising from baby-farming, and the rescuing of mothers of illegitimate children from further degradation. Every child admitted must be brought by the mother or some authorized person, who must enter the child's name and the date of birth in a register kept for the purpose, and, if the child is over six months old, must undertake to contribute something towards its support. Young women are received at the institution without charge for three to six months before the birth of the infant, and can remain for six months after they return from the Women's Hospital. Those children who are naturally fed have thus every chance of surviving. While in the institution the young mothers are trained in domestic and laundry work by an efficient housekeeper, under whose supervision they do the work of the Home for the staff and inmates. On their leaving, the matron secures a situation for them, either with or without the child. In the latter case the child may be left at the Home, the mother contributing towards its support. The boarding-out system is annually on the increase, and, since foster-mothers are paid till the child reaches 14 years of age, it entails a heavy expenditure on the part of the institution. Probationers are trained as baby nurses, their course of training extending over a period of twelve months, after which they receive certificates of efficiency, provided they pass the test examination set at the close of the course. During the year ended 30th June, 1914, 223 children were in the care of the institution. Of these 20 were discharged to friends or relations, 23 were adopted, 126 were boarded out, 14 died, and 40 remained in the institution on 30th June, 1914. During that year 96 adults received treatment. Of these 49 were pre-maternity cases. The number of adults is accounted for as follows:—47 were discharged to friends, 22 went to service, and 27 remained in the home on 30th June, 1914. The ordinary and extraordinary receipts amounted to £5,888, of which £1,900 was received from the Government. The expenditure was £7,214, of which £2,043 was for boarding out, £2,584 for maintenance, and £2,587 for buildings.

During April, 1913, a purchase of a property to be utilized for a country home to be worked in connexion with the institution was effected. This property adjoins the Beaconsfield railway station. It consists of a substantially built brick house standing in well laid out grounds, and surrounded by 38 acres of arable and pastoral land watered by a

running creek. The purchase of the property absorbed all the special funds available. It cost the institution £2,750, of which the Government contributed a special grant of £1,000. The home was opened on 6th May, 1914, by Lady Stanley, and is working very well and amply justifying its acquirement. It is self-supporting in dairy and garden produce, and is beginning to furnish these commodities to the central institution. To the country home babies are drafted who, in the city, would probably succumb for lack of fresh air and other health-giving elements obtainable only away from a city.

Refuges for women.

At the present time these refuges are ten in number, and are all situated in or near large centres of population. The women while under care in the institutions are expected to work to the best of their ability, a suitable share of labour being allotted to each. Laundry work is the chief means of providing employment, whilst sewing, art needlework, embroidery, &c., also provide occupation to a limited extent. During the year ended 30th June, 1914, the Government subsidized the establishments to the extent of £3,960; £21,530 was obtained as the result of the labour of inmates, and £3,067 from other sources, making the total receipts £28,557. The expenditure amounted to £28,330—made up of £5,017 spent on buildings, and £23,313 on maintenance, &c. The following statement contains particulars of the number of inmates in the separate institutions during the year 1913-14:—

REFUGES FOR WOMEN, 1913-14.

Female Refuges.	Number Admitted.		Born in the Home.	Number Discharged.		Inmates on 30th June, 1914.	
	Women and Girls.	Infants.		Women and Girls.	Infants.	Women and Girls.	Infants.
Ballarat Refuge and Alexandra Infants' Home ...	12	...	17	8	13	23	30
Bendigo Rescue Home ...	11	1	8	11	8	8	7
Carlton Refuge ...	57	52	...	51	44	36	25
Elizabeth Fry Retreat, South Yarra ...	44	1	...	47	1	19	...
Geelong ...	1	3	...	1	6	10	6
House of Mercy, Cheltenham ...	22	...	...	20	...	22	...
Magdalen Asylum, Abbotsford ...	168	...	...	154	...	379	...
Magdalen Asylum, South Melbourne	48	...	...	54	...	154	...
South Yarra Home ...	43	...	...	46	...	25	...
Temporary Home, for Friendless and Fallen Women, Collingwood	42	16	1	38	17	13	5
Total ...	448	73	26	430	89	689	73

Salvation Army rescue homes. There are five rescue homes controlled by the Salvation Army, at Abbotsford, Ballarat, Brunswick, Fitzroy, and Geelong. The establishments contained 216 beds on 1st July, 1913, when there were under care 163 adults and 28 children. During the succeeding year 842 adults and 114 children were admitted; of the adults, 301 were placed at service or restored to friends; 476 were discharged at their own request; 57 were discharged for misconduct or otherwise; 3 died; and 29 were sent to hospitals and other institutions; of the infants, 21 died and 95 went out with their mothers. The Army received £400 from the Government, in aid of the institutions; £146, private contributions; £4,474, the proceeds of the labour of the inmates; and £373 from other sources—a total of £5,393. The total expenditure was £5,281.

Night shelter. At Dr. Singleton's Night Shelter for Women, Collingwood, 4,702 women were accommodated during the year 1913-14. The expenses were £70, which were defrayed out of the "General Charity Fund." In addition to the amount obtained from this source, there were numerous contributions in the shape of food.

Prison Association of Victoria. Since 1872 a society has been in existence for the purpose of affording assistance to discharged prisoners, and offering them inducements to return to the paths of honesty and industry. Relief is afforded by gifts of money, clothes, blankets, and other necessaries, railway passes, and various kinds of tools of trade; and those who desire it are supplied for a time with board and lodging in Melbourne, or are provided with means to go into the interior, or to leave the State. The society also takes charge of and distributes the sums earned by the prisoners whilst under detention. The work is aided by honorary correspondents in country centres. Very valuable assistance is given in connexion with the moral reformation of the young offender. The improvement of the hardened criminal is a matter of great difficulty, but the society is a valuable help to those who have not become confirmed in careers of crime and wrong-doing, and minimizes the tendencies of drifting into the criminal class of those who have formed vicious and evil habits. The number of individuals relieved in 1913-14 was 356. The receipts amounted to £743, including grants from the Government (£195) and the Penal Department (£269), and contributions from private sources; while the expenditure was £763.

St. John Ambulance Association. This association was established in Victoria in 1883. Its objects are to instruct all classes in the preliminary treatment of the sick and injured. Since the inception of the association its influence has been steadily increasing, and the number of people instructed is growing larger every day. The total number who had been trained to 30th April, 1915, was 39,014; the number of persons who are fully qualified is

21,897; 7,551 railway employés and 553 members of the police force have been specially educated in the work; and 21,897 certificates and medallions have been issued. Four motor ambulances and one horse-drawn ambulance waggon are stationed at 463 Swanston-street (Tel. 3264), and one at 33 Grosvenor-street, South Yarra (Tel. Windsor 2246). The waggons attended to 7,083 calls during the year, of which 1,994 were charity cases, the distance travelled being 60,907 miles. First aid is rendered by trained men when necessary. Ashford litters are also provided for the use of the public in cases of accident in the city. The secretary is H. Wardale Greenwood, M.A., 463 Swanston street, Melbourne.

CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY.

Charity Organization Society. This society has been established in Melbourne since 1887, its objects being:—(1) To encourage and organize charitable work and to promote co-operation therein; (2) To check imposture and professional mendicity, and to discourage indiscriminate alms-giving; (3) To inquire into all applications for assistance, with the view of ascertaining if and in what way each case can be helped; (4) To afford (where necessary) immediate relief during inquiry or pending arrangements with charitable institutions or aid from other sources; (5) To maintain a woodyard, or other labour test, so that the means of earning food or shelter shall be open to any applicant able and willing to work; (6) To establish a loan fund; (7) To keep records of all cases for the purpose of reference, and to maintain a Central Register of help given by all relieving agencies. All of these objects have been, or are being, achieved to a greater or less extent, but the philanthropic work of the State still provides an extensive field for further efforts towards organization and co-operation. The governing body of the society is an executive committee consisting of the honorary officers and twelve members elected by contributors, which is empowered to make rules and regulations for the conduct of its business. A link with practically all the charities of Melbourne is maintained through nominee members of the society, one of whom is elected by each charity. Nominee members have virtually the same voice in the conduct of the society as have contributing members. The income and outgo for the year ended 30th June, 1914, were—Administration Account (for payment of all general expenses of management as well as all charges connected with the administration of the trust and relief funds)—Receipts, £1,334; expenditure, £1,224; Trust Account (being donations for special applicants and objects)—Receipts, £865; expenditure, £964; Emergency Relief Account—Donations and refunds, £121; expenditure, £145; Woodyard—Receipts, £815; expenditure, £787. The number of separate cases dealt with during the year was 1,587, of which 882 were new cases investigated. The result of investigation into these 882 cases showed that in 724 instances distress was due to misfortune, and in 145 to misconduct;

while 13 cases come under other headings. The work of the society during the year 1913-14 included (1) continued efforts to secure the establishment of a scheme for the registration with the Charity Organization Society of all applications for assistance from the several metropolitan alms-giving agencies, and (2) activity on the part of the committee organized by the society to consider the problem of juvenile street trading. Special efforts are made to deal with applicants for alms on street and doorstep. The society claims to have prevented a large amount of imposture, to have relieved subscribers of the annoying feeling that their benevolence was often wasted on unworthy objects, and to an extent to have stimulated and wisely directed the flow of charity. Especially good work has been done in cases where employment has been found for those who, without the society's aid, might have degenerated into permanent burdens on public or private charity. During 1913-14, 911 temporary and 51 permanent positions were found, 117 unemployed persons being thereby substantially benefited. In many cases, also, relatives of indigent persons have been induced to recognise natural claims in a community where no legal obligation is entailed by relationship other than that of husband to wife and of parent to child. The woodyard is a very practical part of the society's work. It affords a test of the sincerity of men who ask help on the ground that they cannot get work, and it gives temporary work to those who really need it. Last year 541 men availed themselves of the facilities provided at the woodyard on 1,537 occasions. The society has consistently advocated the establishment of labour colonies. That at Leongatha was founded by its advice and with its assistance twenty-two years ago. It was also responsible, either alone or in co-operation with others, for the Children's Court Act and the Infant Life Protection Act, and for the inauguration in 1906 of the Victorian Provident Aid Society, and in 1909 of the Provident Loan Society of Victoria Limited. The former society lends money to deserving applicants, on personal security, in amounts not exceeding £25, and charges 6d. for every £1 lent to cover expenses. The latter lends any amount on any approved security, and charges 1 per cent. per month for the accommodation. The objective in both cases is to help people in distress to maintain their independence by removing the stigma popularly associated with charitable relief.

LABOUR COLONY, LEONGATHA.

Labour
Colony,
Leongatha.

The Labour Colony at Leongatha was established by a proclamation of 26th September, 1893, which set apart and appropriated under the *Settlement on Lands Act 1893* about 800 acres in the township. By a further proclamation of 24th April, 1903, the colony was abolished, and the land resumed by the Lands Department, although the colonists were still maintained on the land.

After the trustees of the old colony had all retired the Minister of Lands instructed the Director of Agriculture, on 13th June, 1903, to take over the farm and manage it as a Labour Establishment, virtually as a Labour Colony for the relief of destitute men in Melbourne who desired to go there. No order was given that the number admitted to the Establishment was to be reduced, and the destitute were as freely admitted as formerly, but in many instances they were not maintained there so long, orders being issued that when a man had earned £2 he should leave in search of work.

On 14th June, 1904, 462 acres of the old Labour Colony lands, including the homestead, were proclaimed a Labour Colony, and trustees were appointed to act from 1st July, 1904. Subsequently 40 acres were alienated for a gravel reserve, and 40 acres for a High School.

The present trustees are P. J. Carroll, Esq. (chairman and superintendent), J. R. Pescott, Esq., S. Whitehead, Esq., F. Johnston, Esq., and T. Keiley, Esq. Mr. W. H. Crate is the secretary, and the city address is Government Labour Bureau, corner of King and Bourke streets, Melbourne.

The object sought by its establishment was to afford temporary relief at sustenance wages to able-bodied destitute men. During the first year of its existence 1,013 men were sent to the colony, and up to the present 8,620 applicants have been afforded relief. The colonists are instructed in the general work of farming, dairying, and fruit and vegetable growing, and pig breeding is carried on extensively. The cost of maintenance, including food, wages, and management, for the last financial year, was 9s. 4d. per week per man.

When the accounts were balanced for the financial year ended 30th June, 1915, it was found that there was a credit balance of £39 in trust accounts.

The receipts from sales, &c., amounted to £1,867, as follows:—

	£
Dairy	504
Farm produce and garden	200
Pigs	734
Hides, Bones, &c.	163
Wages of men working off the place ...	130
Prizes	23
Horses	10
Rent	70
Miscellaneous	33

The following are the amounts of Government grants expended each year since the establishment of the Colony :—

	£	s.	d.
1893-4	4,213	15	2
1894-5	3,203	8	0
1895-6	2,473	13	1
1896-7	2,219	14	4
1897-8	2,729	13	2
1898-9	4,091	8	1
1899-1900	3,884	5	11
1900-1	3,000	0	0
1901-2	2,374	3	6
1902-3	3,627	7	10
1903-4	1,998	18	11
1904-5	999	19	7
1905-6	499	19	9
1906-7	496	9	10
1907-8	449	18	7
1908-9	549	19	9
1909-10	550	0	0
1910-11	550	0	0
1911-12	400	0	0
1912-13	400	0	0
1913-14	100	0	0
1914-15	500	0	0
Total	39,312	15	6

Although the profits from the farm are reduced owing to the restricted area, there will still be work in clearing and cultivation to enable men to be sent to Leongatha for several years. By the continuation of this colony no man need starve in the city. Every week applications are made by destitute unemployed men to be sent to the institution. A greater number apply in winter than in spring or summer, and without an institution of this kind it is hard to conceive what would become of these destitute individuals. In every large community there is always a great number of human derelicts without criminal tendencies; and provision (other than gaols) where men can get work that is remunerative to the State must of necessity be made.

AUSTRALIAN HEALTH SOCIETY AND ASSOCIATION FOR THE PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Health Society.

The "Australian Health Society" was established in Melbourne in 1875. It is supported by about 250 members, and is managed by a president, three vice-presidents, a treasurer, secretary, and sixteen members of council, nine of whom are ladies. Its objects are—(1) To create an educated public opinion with regard to sanitary matters in general, by the aid of the platform, the press, and other suitable means; (2) To induce and assist people, by personal influence, example and encouragement, to live in accordance with recognised laws whereby health is maintained and disease is prevented; (3) To seek the removal of all noxious influences deleterious to the public health, and to influence and facilitate legislation in that direction. To effect these objects (its methods being distinctly benevolent), the society prints and distributes freely pamphlets, tracts, and wall sheets bearing upon the preservation of health; maintains a lending library of specially selected works for the use of members; and arranges courses of public health lectures. The ladies' committee of the council organizes series of illustrated "Health Talks for Wives and Daughters" in thickly populated parts of the suburbs, thus reaching many greatly in need of sanitary enlightenment. Admission is in all cases free. In pursuance of the plan of testing the work done in the inculcation of health and temperance lessons in the State schools, an examination is held annually by the society, with the co-operation of the Education Department, of pupils of thirteen years of age and upwards. At the last examination 138 candidates presented themselves, of whom 60 passed (27 with distinction), and were awarded prizes and certificates. In the latter part of 1905 arrangements were completed by which the "Victorian Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis" and the "Women's Health Society" were amalgamated with the Australian Health Society, the view being taken that the union would avoid overlapping, tend to further the spread of hygienic knowledge, and generally promote the cause of sanitary progress. The work of educating the community in methods of preventing consumption and its spread goes on unceasingly. The society is supported by donations and subscriptions ranging from 5s. per annum upwards. The office is located in Empire Buildings, Flinders-street.

ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY OF AUSTRALASIA.

Humane Society.

The Royal Humane Society of Australasia was established in 1874 under the name of "The Victorian Humane Society." Its objects are as follows:—(1) To bestow awards on all who promptly risk their lives to save those of their fellow-creatures; (2) To provide assistance, as far as it is in the power of the society, in all cases of apparent death occurring in any part of Australasia; (3) To restore the apparently drowned or dead, and to distinguish by awards all who, through skill and perseverance, are

successful; (4) To collect and circulate information regarding the most approved methods and the best apparatus to be used for such purposes. During the year ended 30th June, 1915, 69 applications for awards were investigated, with the result that 21 certificates, 10 bronze medals, and 1 silver medal were granted. The receipts during the year amounted to £448, and the expenditure to £420. The institution has placed and maintains 343 life-buoys at various places on the coast, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs throughout all the Australian States and Fiji. Of the honorary awards distributed in 1914-15, 11 were for deeds of bravery performed in Victoria, 12 in Western Australia, 2 in Tasmania, and 7 in Queensland. The society has 156 honorary correspondents, residing as follows:—54 in Victoria, 35 in New South Wales, 25 in New Zealand, 28 in Queensland, 8 in Tasmania, 3 in South Australia, and 3 in Western Australia. Owing to the appointment of these gentlemen and as the awards made by the society appear to give complete satisfaction throughout the States, there is no necessity for forming local branches of the society in the other States.

Swimming competitions have been inaugurated in the schools of the Commonwealth, and awards of medals and certificates are made to those pupils who attain proficiency in exercises which have special reference to saving life from drowning. The society is making a special feature of the development of swimming and life saving proficiency.

The following figures show the number of persons accidentally drowned in Victoria during the past twenty years:—

Period.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1895 to 1904	1,427	282	1,709
1905 to 1914	1,129	258	1,387

A considerable reduction is shown in the last ten years, both in the actual number of persons drowned, and in the proportion to the population, the rate per 100,000 being 11 in the later decennium as against 14 in the earlier one.

Taking the ten years ended 1914, the ages of persons accidentally drowned were as follows:—

AGES OF PERSONS ACCIDENTALLY DROWNED IN VICTORIA, 1905 TO 1914.

Age.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 10 years	222	63	285
10 to 20 years	237	39	276
20 to 40 years	283	67	350
40 to 60 years	258	67	325
60 years and over	129	22	151
Total	1,129	258	1,387

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANIMALS.

**Society for
the Protection
of Animals.**

The Victorian Society for the Protection of Animals was established on 4th July, 1871. For the first 10½ years of its existence it was known as the Victorian Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and in 1895 it was incorporated. By the enforcement of the existing laws, and the procuring of such further legislation as may be deemed expedient, it seeks to prevent wanton and unnecessary cruelty. The creation of a wholesome and enlightened public opinion is also aimed at, since it is recognised that to excite and sustain such opinion regarding man's duty to the lower animals is even of greater importance than the enforcement of the law, particularly in those classes of cases where pain and suffering may actually be caused in ignorance, and where consequently a little more knowledge of animals would result in the diminution of the unconscious practice of cruelty. To this end, papers and leaflets dealing with the proper, humane, and considerate treatment of animals are widely distributed. Honorary agents have been appointed in more than 180 different centres, and these, by disinterested service, under the supervision of and in co-operation with the secretary in Melbourne, forward the work of the institution in every portion of the State. During the year ended 30th June, 1915, 1,687 cases were dealt with by the society, of which 1,268 were connected with cruelty to horses. There were 216 prosecutions in cases of deliberate cruelty, in nearly all of which the law was vindicated by the punishment of the offenders. The receipts for the year amounted to £681, and the expenditure to £625. Late in 1913 an additional inspector was appointed, and this has resulted in an extension of the work, which was greatly needed.

HOSPITAL SATURDAY AND SUNDAY.

**Hospital
Saturday and
Sunday.**

In Melbourne and suburbs, the last Saturday and Sunday of October in each year are set apart for making collections in aid of the charitable institutions. The clergy of the various denominations take an active part in the movement, preaching sermons appropriate to the occasion, and otherwise helping it forward. The church collections on this Sunday are almost entirely devoted to the charities. Sunday school superintendents, business firms, their employees, and others lend valuable assistance in making collections. The following are the amounts collected since the movement was inaugurated:—

COLLECTIONS, 1873 TO 1914.

	£		£
1873 to 1898	190,104	1908	9,146
1899	5,853	1909	9,398
1900	5,901	1910	10,555
1901	6,034	1911	11,650
1902	6,669	1912	11,806
1903	7,058	1913	12,274
1904	7,795	1914	11,686
1905	8,235		
1906	8,011	Total	£330,988
1907	8,813		

Distribution
of moneys
collected
on Hospital
Saturday and
Sunday.

The amounts distributed to the various charitable institutions, as well as the total sums collected, from the inception of the fund to 1913, and for the year 1914, are given below :—

DISTRIBUTION, 1873 TO 1914.

Institution.	Amount Distributed.		
	1873 to 1913.	1914.	Total.
	£	£	£
Melbourne Hospital	86,741	2,949	89,690
Alfred Hospital	38,761	1,268	40,029
Benevolent Asylum	25,781	604	26,385
Women's Hospital	26,909	938	27,847
Children's Hospital	36,015	1,221	37,236
Eye and Ear Hospital	15,127	441	15,568
Homeopathic Hospital	14,995	577	15,572
Victorian Homes for Aged and Infirm	8,554	100	8,654
Richmond Dispensary	1,910	50	1,960
Collingwood Dispensary	1,900	...	1,900
Austin Hospital for Incurables	19,460	948	20,408
Convalescent Home for Women	3,610	125	3,735
" " Men	3,095	125	3,220
Melbourne District Nursing Society	2,344	200	2,544
St. Vincent's Hospital	9,889	1,132	11,021
Sanatorium for Consumptives, Echuca and Macedon	3,151	...	3,151
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	2,431	189	2,620
Melbourne Dental Hospital	664	50	714
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	86	...	86
St. John Ambulance Association	803	100	903
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	609	100	709
Total distributed	302,835	11,117	313,952
Total collected	319,302	11,686	330,988

Wattle Day. In August, 1912, a movement was initiated by the ladies of Melbourne to celebrate the flowering of the wattle tree, which heralds the approach of spring, and at the same time to help children's charitable institutions in the metropolis. Ladies, attired in white costumes, sell sprays of wattle blossoms in the streets, Government offices, banking institutions, warehouses, offices, shops, and factories, leaving to the generosity of buyers the amounts placed in the collection boxes. By this means a sum of over £800 was raised in 1912, £1,935 in 1913, £2,115 in 1914, and £2,553 in 1915. More than 1,000 ladies annually take part in the campaign. In 1915 the amount collected was allotted to the children's charities. The idea is spreading in the country districts of Victoria and in other States, and Wattle Day will, doubtless, in the near future be generally observed throughout Australia.

INVALID AND OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

Federal
Invalid and
Old-age
Pensions Act.

The Federal Parliament has, by an Act passed in 1908 and amending Acts, made provision for the payment of invalid and old-age pensions throughout Australia, the maximum rate of pension being 10s. per week. The persons to whom pensions may be paid and the principal conditions attaching to their payment are as under :—

OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

This part of the Act came into force on 1st July, 1909.

Persons.—Every man who has attained the age of 65 years, or who, being permanently incapacitated for work, has attained the age of 60 years. Every woman who has attained the age of 60 years.

Conditions.—Residence in Australia when applying for pension, and also continuously for 20 years. Continuous residence in Australia is not to be deemed as interrupted (1) by occasional absences from Australia, not exceeding in the aggregate one-tenth of the total period of residence, or (2) by any absence in a territory then or now under the authority of the Commonwealth, or (3) if the applicant proves that during the period of absence his home was in Australia, and if married that his wife and family resided in Australia and were maintained by him.

Good character.

If a husband, that he has not for twelve months or upwards during five years immediately preceding his application, without just cause, deserted his wife, or without just cause failed to provide her with adequate means of maintenance, or neglected to maintain any of his children under 14 years of age; or, if a wife, that she has not for 12 months during the preceding five years, without just cause, deserted her husband or any of her children under the age of 14 years.

Net capital value of property (not including the home in which the pensioner permanently resides) must not exceed £310. From the maximum pension of £26 per annum a deduction of £1 is made for every complete £10 by which the net capital value exceeds £50. Where, however, both husband and wife are pensioners—except where they are living apart pursuant to any decree, judgment, order or deed of separation—the exemption is £25, or £50 if including a home. In that event the net capital value of the property of each is taken to be half the total net capital value of the property of both, except where the Commissioner otherwise decides. Income is similarly divided, though in special cases, where husband and wife are not living apart pursuant to any decree, judgment, order or deed of separation, the Commissioner may decide that the provision as to halving the total income of both shall not apply.

Pensioner's income, together with pension, not to be more than £52 per annum. Benefits received from friendly societies, trade unions, and other similar associations, and gifts or allowances from children, step-children, grand-children or adopted children are not considered as income.

The exemption of the pensioner's home from the amount of his property and of payments made by children, &c., from the amount of his income was provided for in an amending Act assented to on 24th December, 1912.

Any applicant who, in order to qualify for or obtain a pension, has directly or indirectly deprived himself of property or income is not eligible.

The following persons also are not qualified to receive an old-age pension :—

Aliens.

Asiatics (except those born in Australia), or aboriginal natives of Australia, Africa, the Islands of the Pacific, or New Zealand.

INVALID PENSIONS.

This part of the Act came into force by proclamation dated 18th November, 1910. Pensions not exceeding 10s. a week in any case may now be granted to the persons specified below, subject to the conditions mentioned :—

Persons.—Every person above the age of 16 years, who is permanently incapacitated for work by reason of an accident or of his being an invalid or who is permanently blind, and who is not receiving an old-age pension.

Conditions.—Residence in Australia continuously for at least five years, with the further proviso that the applicant must have become permanently incapacitated or permanently blind whilst in Australia.

That the accident or invalid state of health was not self-induced nor in any way brought about with a view to obtaining a pension.

That the applicant has no claim against any employer, company, or other person, or body to adequately maintain or compensate him on account of accident or ill-health.

That his relatives, viz., father, mother, husband, wife, or children, do not either severally or collectively adequately maintain him.

Income or property is not to exceed the limits prescribed for old-age pensions.

Any applicant who, in order to qualify for a pension, has directly or indirectly deprived himself of property or income is not eligible.

Persons disqualified for invalid pensions are :—

Aliens.

Asiatics (except those born in Australia), or aboriginal natives of Australia, Africa, the Islands of the Pacific, or New Zealand.

The number of persons in each State of Australia who were receiving old-age pensions in 1914, and in June, 1915, was as follows :—

OLD-AGE PENSIONERS IN AUSTRALIA, 1914 AND 1915.

State.	Number of Pensioners.		Pensions Granted, &c., from Inauguration of Commonwealth System to 30th June, 1915.				Claims in Course, 30th June, 1915.	Number of Old-age Pensioners, 30th June, 1915.
	30th June, 1914.	31st December, 1914.	Granted.	Rejected.	Deaths.	Cancelled.		
Victoria ...	27,150	27,381	43,093	3,230	13,040	1,688	301	28,365
New South Wales	32,165	32,611	49,293	4,561	14,260	2,129	190	32,904
Queensland ...	11,758	11,845	17,273	2,597	4,422	927	130	11,924
South Australia ...	8,396	8,727	12,814	820	3,398	398	20	9,018
Western Australia	3,909	4,060	5,518	653	1,197	168	66	4,153
Tasmania ...	4,402	4,513	6,606	479	1,797	281	92	4,528
Australia ...	87,780	89,137	134,597	12,340	38,114	5,591	799	90,892

Invalid pensions were made available in Australia from 15th December, 1910. The numbers granted, &c., since that date are as under :—

INVALID PENSIONERS IN AUSTRALIA, 30TH JUNE, 1915.

State.	From 15th December, 1910, to 30th June, 1915.				Claims in Course, 30th June, 1915.	Number of Invalid Pensioners, 30th June, 1915.
	Granted.	Rejected.	Deaths.	Cancelled.		
Victoria ...	8,093	1,957	1,766	273	158	6,054
New South Wales	10,675	2,286	1,907	630	104	8,138
Queensland ...	3,120	913	556	134	45	2,430
South Australia ...	2,020	389	434	75	9	1,511
Western Australia	1,143	339	160	48	54	935
Tasmania ...	1,788	317	338	101	87	1,349
Australia ...	26,839	6,201	5,161	1,261	457	20,417

During the financial year ended 30th June, 1915, the expenditure for invalid and old-age pensions in Australia amounted to £2,691,317, but the liability on account of the 90,892 old-age and 20,417 invalid pensioners on the registers at 30th June, 1915, is £2,807,558, or an average per individual of £25 4s. 6d. per annum.

Cost of pensions, 1914-15.

Pensioners,
1901 to
1914-15.

The State system of old-age pensions came into force on 18th January, 1901, and the highest number of pensioners was reached in November, 1901, when 16,300 were on the register. Alterations in the Act in the direction of compelling relatives, when in a position to do so, to support applicants for pensions had the effect of reducing the number to 10,732 in 1907. On 1st July, 1909, when the Federal Act came into operation, there were 12,368 old-age pensioners in Victoria. Thereafter the number rapidly increased, and on 30th June, 1915, it had reached a total of 28,365 (exclusive of invalid pensioners). The number of old-age and invalid pensioners at the end of each financial year and the amount expended each year are as under:—

OLD-AGE AND INVALID PENSIONERS IN VICTORIA,
1901 TO 1915.

Financial Year.	Number of Pensioners at end of Period.			Actual Amount Paid in Pensions.
	Old-Age.	Invalid.	Total.	
18th January to 30th June, 1901 (under State Act)	16,275	...	16,275	£ 129,338
1901-2	14,570	...	14,570	292,432
1902-3	12,417	...	12,417	215,973
1903-4	11,609	...	11,609	205,150
1904-5	11,209	...	11,209	200,464
1905-6	10,990	...	10,990	189,127
1906-7	10,732	...	10,732	187,793
1907-8	11,288	...	11,288	233,573
1908-9	12,368	...	12,368	270,827
1909-10 (under Federal Act)	20,218	...	20,218	470,656
1910-11 " "	23,722	2,272	25,994	573,699
1911-12 " "	24,449	3,162	27,611	672,593
1912-13 " "	25,434	3,918	29,352	715,924
1913-14 " "	27,150	4,844	31,994	795,449
1914-15 " "	28,365	6,054	34,419	839,718

The following table shows the estimated number of persons eligible to receive old-age pensions, viz., women aged 60 years and over and men aged 65 years and upwards, in Australia, the number receiving old-age pensions in 1915, and the proportion of the latter to the former :—

PERSONS ELIGIBLE AND THOSE RECEIVING OLD-AGE PENSIONS IN AUSTRALIA, 1915.

State.	Estimated Number of Persons Eligible to receive Old-age Pensions.			Number of Persons Receiving Old-age Pensions, on 30th June, 1915.	Percentage borne by Pensioners to those Eligible on an Age Basis.
	Women aged 60 Years and over.	Men aged 65 Years and over.	Total.		
Victoria ...	53,250	36,550	89,800	28,365	31·6
New South Wales ...	53,000	41,250	94,250	32,904	34·9
Queensland ...	16,070	14,820	30,890	11,924	38·6
South Australia ...	15,870	10,050	25,920	9,018	34·8
Western Australia ...	5,440	4,375	9,815	4,153	42·3
Tasmania ...	6,220	4,100	10,320	4,528	43·9
Australia ...	149,850	111,145	260,995	90,892	34·8

In proportion to the number of persons eligible to receive old-age pensions, the greatest number is being paid in Tasmania (44 per cent.), and the lowest number in Victoria (32 per cent.). The percentage for the whole Commonwealth is 35.

Nearly 58 per cent. of the old-age pensioners and 50 per cent. of the invalid pensioners on 30th June, 1915, were women. The numbers in each State are as under :—

SEXES OF OLD-AGE AND INVALID PENSIONERS ON 30TH JUNE, 1915.

State.	Old-age Pensioners.			Invalid Pensioners.			Total Old-age and Invalid Pensioners.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Victoria ...	11,044	17,321	28,365	2,985	3,069	6,054	34,419
New South Wales ...	14,569	18,335	32,904	4,158	3,980	8,138	41,042
Queensland ...	5,565	6,359	11,924	1,313	1,117	2,430	14,354
South Australia ...	3,434	5,584	9,018	675	836	1,511	10,529
Western Australia ...	1,954	2,199	4,153	528	407	935	5,088
Tasmania ...	1,599	2,929	4,528	632	717	1,349	5,877
Australia ...	38,165	52,727	90,892	10,291	10,126	20,417	111,309

Cost of State old-age pension schemes. Victoria was the first State to provide old-age pensions, the Act making this provision having been passed in 1900, and the system having come into operation on 1st January, 1901. The amount paid in pensions by the State to the 30th June, 1909, was £1,924,677. The New South Wales Old-age Pensions Act operated from 1st August, 1901, and the cost to the State was £3,978,770. In Queensland, the State old-age pensions became payable from 1st July, 1908, a year prior to the enactment of the Commonwealth measure—and the total sum paid was £148,827.

MATERNITY ALLOWANCE.

Maternity allowance. An Act was passed by the Federal Parliament in October, 1912, providing for the payment, on application, of £5 to the mother of every child born in the Commonwealth on and after 10th October, 1912. No additional sum is paid for twins, but payment is made in respect of still-born children, if they are viable. When the birth of a child is registered the person effecting the registration can obtain the forms of application for maternity benefit. On a claim being made and passed, a money order is sent to the mother, or to the person authorized by her in writing to receive it. No receipt is required by the Treasurer. Application must be made within three months after date of birth. The allowance is payable to women who are inhabitants of the Commonwealth, or who intend to settle therein, but not to Asiatics or aboriginal natives of Australia, Papua, or the islands of the Pacific. The penalty for false representation is a fine of £100, or one year's imprisonment. The following table shows the number of payments made in each State since 10th October, 1912. It appears that the allowance has been claimed in about 96 per cent. of the total confinements in the Commonwealth during the period stated.

MATERNITY ALLOWANCE—CLAIMS GRANTED, REJECTED, ETC., FROM 10TH OCTOBER, 1912, TO 3RD JULY, 1915.

State.	Granted.	Rejected.	Under Consideration.	Total Claims.	Amount Paid.
					£
Victoria ...	95,439	372	457	96,268	477,195
New South Wales ...	137,489	875	452	138,816	687,445
Queensland ...	52,258	300	134	52,692	261,290
South Australia ...	33,004	179	90	33,263	165,020
Western Australia ...	24,044	163	102	24,309	120,220
Tasmania ...	15,680	79	50	15,809	78,400
Australia ...	357,914	1,968	1,275	361,157	1,789,570

PENSIONS IN NEW ZEALAND.

Old-age,
widows', and
military
pensions in
New Zealand.

The Dominion of New Zealand instituted the system of old-age pensions prior to any State of the Commonwealth by an Act of Parliament which was passed on 1st November, 1898. The scope of this measure has been greatly extended by subsequent legislation, the whole of which has now been consolidated in the *Pensions Act 1913* passed in November of that year. An amendment of that Act was passed in 1914.

Particulars of the New Zealand system of pensions are given in the Year-Book for 1913-14, pages 571 to 573.

New Zealand
Pension
Statistics.

The following particulars relate to pensions payable in New Zealand in the year ended 31st March, 1915:—

OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

Number of old-age pensioners (including Maoris) ..	19,352
Annual amount payable	£475,970
Estimated number of persons in the Dominion aged 65 and upwards (at 31st March, 1914) ..	49,473
Proportion of those eligible on age basis who are in receipt of pensions	39%

From the initiation of the system in January, 1899, to the 31st March, 1915, the sum of £4,850,011 was expended on account of old-age pensions.

WIDOWS' PENSIONS.

Number of widow pensioners (including Maoris) ..	1,788
Annual amount payable	£35,000

MILITARY PENSIONS (payable to Veterans of Maori War).

Number of military pensioners (including Maoris) ..	1,388
Annual amount payable	£49,968

LUNACY DEPARTMENT.

Lunacy
Department.

The registers of the Lunacy Department do not show any material diminution in the admission rate into the various institutions. At the end of the last two years.

the numbers of insane persons known to the Department were as follows :—

INSANE PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS OF THE LUNACY DEPARTMENT, 31ST DECEMBER, 1913 AND 1914.

	On 31st December—		Increase (+) Decrease (-)
	1913.	1914.	
In State Hospitals...	5,021	5,070	+ 49
On Trial Leave from State Hospitals	472	514	+ 42
Boarded out ...	138	145	+ 7
In Licensed Houses ...	81	75	- 6
On Trial Leave from Licensed Houses	24	23	- 1
Total Number of Registered Insane ...	5,736	5,827	+ 91
In Receiving Institutions ...	61	50	- 11
Total ...	5,797	5,877	+ 80

By comparison with the previous year the numbers in the Hospitals for the Insane have increased by 98, *i.e.*, 63 less than the increment for the previous year, and the total increase of cases known to the Department for the year is 80, as against a total of 165 in 1913.

The admissions to State hospitals have been numerous during the last five years, as the following figures show :—

Year.	First Admissions.			Re-admissions.			Total Admissions.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
1910	379	328	707	43	52	95	802
1911	366	315	681	66	70	136	817
1912	411	298	709	45	52	97	806
1913	461	331	792	33	33	66	858
1914	407	306	713	38	56	94	807

The low rate of re-admissions is directly related to the large increase of those out on trial leave. It is difficult to explain the high rate of admissions, especially when it is remembered that the receiving houses and wards are successfully reducing by one-third the admissions to the State hospitals, for, of the 807 cases admitted therein, some 492 cases came on from the receiving institutions. The latter institutions received 832 patients and 289 were discharged recovered after an average residence of less than one month. In addition, 21 other cases improved to such an extent that they were able to be sent out to the care of their friends. This gives a recovery rate for the receiving institutions

of 37·26 per cent. In spite of these good receiving house results, the total number of cases admitted to the institutions of the Lunacy Department was as high as 1,147. There is very little variation year by year in the amount of work undertaken by the private licensed houses; there were 58 admissions in 1914 as against 76 in 1913, and 30 discharges recovered as against 37 in the previous year.

The proportion of insane to the population is now 1 in 243·4. This is a high ratio, equal to that of Scotland and surpassed only by that of Ireland and some of the eastern States of the United States of America.

Patients in
Hospitals for
the Insane in
Australia.

The number of patients in the Hospitals for the Insane in the different Australian States and New Zealand, and their proportion to the total population of each State on 31st December, 1913, were as follows:—

NUMBER OF INSANE PERSONS IN AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND.

State or Dominion.	Number of Insane on 31st December, 1913.	
	Total.	Per 100,000 of Population.
Victoria	5,681	399
New South Wales	6,639	362
Queensland	2,370	359
New Zealand	3,964	349
Western Australia	933	291
Tasmania	526	261
South Australia	1,082	246

The high proportion of insane persons in Victoria as compared with other States is accounted for by the much larger proportion of old persons contained in the population, and also by the more extensive use of the trial leave clause, which causes names to be retained much longer on the registers of the asylums than is the case in other parts of Australia.

The proportionate number of recoveries of patients in the Victorian Hospitals for the Insane in 1913 was below the average of the twenty-three years ended with 1913, the ratio in that year being 3,368 per 10,000 admitted, as compared with an average of 4,223 in the period stated. The

Recoveries of
insane persons
in Australia,
1913.

proportions in the various Australian States for the year 1913 were as follows:—

RECOVERIES IN 1913.

—	Recoveries per 10,000 Admissions.	—	Recoveries per 10,000 Admissions.
South Australia ...	5,735	Tasmania ...	4,058
Queensland ...	5,077	Western Australia ...	3,565
New South Wales ...	4,744	Victoria ...	3,368
New Zealand ...	4,298		

The apparent reduction in the Victorian rate in recent years is accounted for in part by the fact that many cases are now treated successfully in the Receiving Houses which were formerly dealt with in the asylums. Also the trial leave system has been extended, and it is not possible to keep an accurate account of the recoveries among patients out on leave.

The mortality of patients was higher in South Australia in 1913 than in any other State of the Commonwealth or in New Zealand. This will be seen from the following figures:—

Deaths of insane persons in Australia and New Zealand.

DEATHS IN 1913.

—	Deaths per 10,000 Resident Patients.	—	Deaths per 10,000 Resident Patients.
South Australia ...	1,020	Victoria ...	789
Western Australia ...	901	New South Wales ...	785
New Zealand ...	798	Queensland... ..	739
Tasmania ...	797		

BLIND AND DEAF AND DUMB PERSONS IN VICTORIA.

At the census of 1911 there were 1,102 blind persons (595 males and 507 females) enumerated in the State. This is an increase of 20 as compared with ten years previously.

There was 1 blind person in every 1,193 of mixed sexes, or 1 blind male in every 1,102 males, and 1 blind female in every 1,302 females. Deaf mutes numbered 535 (280 males and 255 females) in 1911, compared with 410 in 1901. There was thus 1 deaf mute in every 2,459 of the total population, or 1 in 2,341 of the males and 1 in 2,588 of the females.

Blind and deaf and dumb persons in Victoria.

NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY CHILDREN.

Neglected and reformatory children. There were at the end of 1914 three industrial and nine reformatory schools in the State. Two of these (one industrial and one reformatory school) are wholly maintained and managed by the Government, and are used merely as receiving and distributing depôts, the children being sent as soon as possible after admission thereto to foster homes or situations, or to other institutions for dealing with State wards. The other schools are under private management and receive a capitation allowance from the Government for those inmates who are wards of the Neglected Children's and Reformatory Department. Many of the inmates of the reformatories are either placed with friends or licensed out. The wards of the State on 31st December, 1914, numbered 9,339—9,149 neglected and 190 reformatory children—and there were 41 others free from legal control, who, being incapacitated, were maintained by the State. The following table shows the number of neglected and reformatory children under control at the end of each of the last five years:—

NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY CHILDREN, 1910 TO 1914.

Year.	NUMBER OF NEGLECTED CHILDREN AT THE END OF THE YEAR.					Total Neglected Children.
	Boarded Out.	Placed with friends on Probation.	Maintaining themselves at Service or Apprenticed.	In Institutions (including Hospitals).	Visiting Relatives, &c.	
1910 ...	4,875	710	715	343	13	6,656
1911 ...	5,316	694	653	344	8	7,015
1912 ...	5,969	673	613	336	6	7,597
1913 ...	6,786	675	566	328	7	8,362
1914 ...	7,486	741	539	370	13	9,149

Year.	NUMBER OF REFORMATORY CHILDREN AT THE END OF THE YEAR.					Total Reformatory Children.
	In Reformatory Schools.	Placed with Relatives.	Maintaining themselves at Service.	In Institutions (including Hospitals).	Visiting Relatives, &c.	
1910 ...	122	27	47	2	6	204
1911 ...	97	29	34	1	5	166
1912 ...	126	22	37	...	2	187
1913 ...	140	17	30	...	4	191
1914 ...	143	24	19	4	...	190

Children boarded out, &c. The welfare of the children boarded out is cared for by honorary committees, who send reports to the Department as to their general condition. The rate paid by the Government to persons accepting charge of these children is 10s. per week for children under 12 months, 7s. per week for children between 12 months and 2 years of age, and 6s. per week for children aged 2 years and over. Children from either industrial or reformatory schools may be placed with friends on probation, without wages, or at service.

Children committed to the care of the State, 1914.

The circumstances leading to the commitment of children to the care of the Department in 1914 were as follows:—

CHILDREN COMMITTED TO THE CARE OF THE STATE, 1914.

Cases in which Parents were held to be—	Number.
Blamable—Father deserted and mother poor	322
" " " " in hospital	4
" " " " an invalid	2
" " " " in a lunatic asylum	1
" " " " dead	204
" divorced and mother poor	10
" drunkard and mother poor	10
" " " " dead	3
" in gaol and mother poor	85
" " " " dead	1
" unknown and mother poor	38
" " " " in lunatic asylum	3
" " " " dead	7
Mother deserted and father poor	16
" " " " dead	2
" drunkard and father poor	6
" " " " dead	6
" immoral and father dead	3
" in gaol and father poor	2
" " " " dead	2
Both parents—	
Father drunkard and mother deserted	2
" deserted and mother of bad character	2
" unknown and mother deserted	8
" " " " drunkard	1
" " " " prostitute	1
" " " " in gaol	2
Parents bad character	3
" deserted	9
" drunkards	4
" unknown	13
Total	772
Blameless—Father dead and mother poor	688
" " " " in hospital	4
" " " " lunatic asylum	3
" poor and mother in hospital	1
" " " " an invalid	1
" " " " in lunatic asylum	7
" " " " dead	15
" in hospital and mother poor	6
" " " " imbecile	2
" " " " in lunatic asylum	1
" " " " dead	11
" an invalid and mother poor	208
" " " " dead	4
" blind and mother poor	7
" mentally weak and mother poor	2
" in lunatic asylum and mother poor	14
" " " " dead	4
Parents poor	123
" invalids	4
" dead	22
Total	1,127
Total number of children placed under control during the year	1,899

The number of children placed under care in 1914, viz., 1,899, was 38 more than in the previous year, and the largest on record. The great increase in the wards of the State during the last six years is largely due to the fact that many children were during these years taken as wards and returned to their mothers, the number of such in 1914 being 1,172, as compared with 1,231 in the previous year, 1,040 in 1912, 747 in 1911, 750 in 1910, and 668 in 1909. The total number of children boarded out with their own mothers at the end of 1914 was 4,144. It is also due in part to the operation of the Infant Life Protection Act, 190 children in 1914 having come directly under the control of the Department through this legislative act, apart from those that are supervised and inspected by the officers of the Neglected Children's Department, but are maintained by their relatives.

Cost of maintenance of neglected and reformatory children.

The Governmental expenditure for the maintenance of neglected children amounted in 1914 to £117,382, and that for reformatory school children to £3,918; the expenses of administration amounted to £7,542, making a total gross expenditure of £128,842. A sum of £6,212 was received from parents for maintenance, and £66 from other sources, making the net expenditure £122,564. The average number of neglected children under supervision during the year was 8,624; of this total, 7,156 were maintained in foster homes at an average annual cost per head to the State of £15 7s. 6d., 85 were in Government receiving depôts at £57 19s. 6d. per head, 69 were in private industrial schools at a cost of £13 18s. 3d. per head, 539 were at service earning their own living, 20 were in hospitals, 14 were on visits to friends, and 741 were with relatives and others at no cost to the State. The average number of reformatory wards under supervision during the year was 190. Of this number 133 were maintained in private schools at an average annual cost per head of £29 9s. 2d., 29 were in service earning their own living, 4 were in gaol, and 24 were with relatives at no cost to the State. The average net cost per head of neglected and reformatory school children who were maintained by the State during the year was £16 9s. 4d.

Neglected children maintained by societies or private persons.

Part VIII. of the *Neglected Children's Act* 1890 deals with the committal of neglected children to the care of private persons or institutions approved by the Governor in Council, and also provides for the wardship of the children, and for their transference if found unfitted for such care to the control of the Department for Neglected Children. The following return shows the societies and persons registered under the provisions

of this part of the Act, and gives particulars respecting the children under their care during 1914 :—

WORK OF SOCIETIES AND PERSONS REGISTERED UNDER PART VIII. OF THE "NEGLECTED CHILDREN'S ACT."

Name of Society or Person.	Number of Children under Supervision on 31.12.13.	Admissions during 1914.			Number of Children under Supervision on 31.12.14.
		Court Committals.	Transfer of Guardianship.	Voluntary Admissions.	
Burwood Boys' Home	86	2	19	3	89
Church of England Neglected Children's Aid Society	92	6	2	25	96
Clifden Home, Wedderburn ..	65	..	..	..	54
Gordon Institute, Melbourne ..	156	11	16	10	134
Methodist Boys' Training Farm, Burwood East	48	..	..	27	48
Methodist Homes for Children ..	422	8	14	61	434
Mission Rescue and Children's Home, Ballarat East	15	2	..	5	22
Presbyterian and Scots' Church Neglected Children's Aid Society	282	10	..	16	281
Presbyterian Rescue Home, Elsternwick	31	1	2	3	32
St. Joseph's Home, Surrey Hills	164	..	..	50	173
Try Society, Surrey-road, Hawksburn	37	..	..	19	22
Victorian Neglected Children's Aid Society	226	3	3	62	207
Sutherland Home	142	7	2	69	180
Total	1,766	50	71	350	1,772

The number of children who were under the guardianship of the State or maintained in public institutions or by societies on 31st December, 1914, reached the large total of 12,765, viz., 9,339 under the control of the Neglected Children's Department, 1,772 under the supervision of societies registered under Part III. of the Neglected Children's Act, and 1,654 in Orphan Asylums.

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION ACT.

Infant Life Protection Act.

With a view generally of exercising more efficient supervision over unprotected child life, and of lessening the excessive mortality amongst boarded-out children, the State Legislature passed an Act, No. 2102 (which came into force on 31st December, 1907), to amend the Infant Life Protection Act of 1890. Its principal provisions are as follows :—

The administration of the Act is removed from the Chief Commissioner of Police to the Department for Neglected Children, and power is given to establish maternity homes, infant asylums, and

cottage homes. No male person is eligible to be registered as the occupier of a registered house. Male or female inspectors are to be appointed, who may enter and inspect any house registered under the Act, inspect any infant in the house, and examine the registered occupier as to the proper care and maintenance of the infants, and give any necessary advice or directions. The age of children who may be dealt with under the Act is raised from 2 to 5 years. For refusing to admit or obstructing an inspector, or for refusing to answer or answering falsely any questions put by the inspector, a penalty of £10 may be imposed.

Any person who desires to board-out an infant must make application to the Secretary of the Department, stating what amount he or she is prepared to pay weekly for the child's maintenance. The infant must then be examined by a medical man, and, if he reports that it is free from syphilis, epilepsy, or any disease of a serious nature, the Secretary, if he is satisfied that the home is suitable, may grant the application.

No infant under the age of 12 months is to be boarded-out for less than 10s. per week, and if over 12 months old for less than 7s. per week, nor in any case for more than 40s. per week. All payments for the maintenance of infants are to be made through the Secretary, who is not to pay any registered person more than two weeks in advance, and no instalment of any payment is to be paid after the death of the infant, except for any arrears at the time of death. If the weekly payments fall into arrear for a period of four weeks, the infant *ipso facto* becomes a ward of the Department for Neglected Children.

The Secretary may cancel the registration, and take charge of children from a registered home, and if they are not removed from his care within a month they become wards of the Department; and the Secretary shall then determine, by writing, what amount, not exceeding 12s. per week, the parents or guardians are to pay towards each child's maintenance.

A penalty of £100, with or without imprisonment for any term not more than a year, may be levied for receiving or making payment for the maintenance of an infant contrary to the method prescribed in the Act.

Information as to the parentage of infants is to be treated as confidential, and is to be recorded in a book kept by the Secretary to be called the "Private Register."

Any child found to have developed syphilis, epilepsy, or any disease which the Governor in Council may, by Order published in the *Government Gazette*, declare to be of a serious nature, must be removed from a registered home, and taken charge of by the parents or guardians or committed to the care of the Department.

When a child is received in a home, notice must be sent to the Secretary, and every registered person is to keep a roll containing the name, sex, and age of each infant, and the date at which the infant was received in charge. On the removal of an infant from a registered home, the Secretary is to be notified, and entries are to be made on the roll, showing the time of such removal, the name, address, and occupation of the person removing the infant, and, if done by a married woman, the address and occupation of her husband. The penalty for neglecting to produce the roll or to keep it in proper form is a fine not exceeding £25, or imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months.

All children in registered homes are to be under the care of medical officers appointed by the Government.

Every registered person is compelled within twelve hours after the death of an infant in her care to give notice to the Secretary, and to the police. Unless a medical officer appointed pursuant to the regulations gives a certificate stating that he has personally attended or examined the infant and specifying the cause of death, and unless the coroner is satisfied that there is no cause for inquiry an inquest must be held by the coroner, who has to make a report to the Chief Secretary, with such remarks as to him seem fit.

No child dying under five years of age who at the time of death, or within two months previously, was in charge of a registered person, or, if illegitimate, who has died in the house of such a person, can be buried without the authority of a coroner or justice.

It is unlawful for a registrar of births and deaths to give an undertaker or other person a certificate of the registration of the death of a child under the age of five years, to whom the provisions of this Act apply, unless authorized by a coroner or a justice.

Certain children are exempted from the operation of most of the sections of the Act, viz., wards of the Department for Neglected Children, any infant retained by or received into any charitable institution approved by the Minister, and any child whom the Minister may exempt on the ground that he is satisfied that the guardian is a relative, or that it is unnecessary or undesirable that these sections should apply to it.

On 31st December, 1914, there were 589 children under supervision in registered homes under the provisions of the Act. The deaths during the year numbered 68. In addition, 190 children became wards of the Neglected Children's Department by the operation of Section 9 of the Act. One hundred and fifty-one cases of adoption of children were notified during the year. Five female inspectors are engaged in the work of inspection.

An examination of the vital statistics of the State shows that there is pressing need for this Act for the repression of criminal negligence in the treatment of infants. In 1914 the illegitimate births numbered 2,016, and the deaths of illegitimate children under one year were 410, being equal to a rate of 20.34 deaths for 100 births as compared with 7.09 for legitimate children under one year of age. The mortality rate of illegitimate infants was thus nearly three times as great as that of children born in wedlock, which proportion coincides with the experience of all recent years.

TRAINING SHIPS.

The *Loch Ryan*, a barque of 1,207 tons register, was purchased by the Government from the Glasgow Shipping Company for £3,000 in November, 1909, for the purpose of training boys for the Australian Navy, the mercantile marine, and kindred occupations. The name of the ship was altered to *John Murray*. The age at which boys are received is not less than 16 years, and under no circumstances are boys who have been convicted of felony or misdemeanour admitted. The sum of 10s. per week is charged for the maintenance of the boys on the ship, but the charge may be remitted by the committee in the case of parents who are unable to pay that or any lesser amount. Applications are dealt with in the order of their receipt and without regard to any consideration of payment; a parent or guardian must enter into an agreement in writing that the boy remain in the care and under the control of the committee until the expiration of the period specified in the agreement or until he attains the age of seventeen years.

An honorary committee of management numbering seven, with the Hon. J. A. Boyd as Chairman, was appointed on 23rd December, 1909, and continued to act until 3rd October, 1912, during which period 84 meetings were held. The Training Ships Act was assented to on 3rd October, 1912, and the committee of management was appointed the training ships committee, which continues to direct the institution.

The first meeting of the Committee of Management was held on 13th January, 1910, when it was decided to convert the ship from a cargo-carrier into a training ship. Estimates of the cost of conversion amounting to £6,500 were prepared, and the work was immediately proceeded with.

The ceremony of declaring the ship open for the training of boys was performed by Lady Gibson-Carmichael on 7th September, 1910. The ship has made several cruises in the bay, and has performed the

feat of sailing through the Hopetoun Channel to Geelong and back again without a tug. This has not been done by any other ship, although vessels have sailed through one way. The channel is 2 miles long and about 200 feet wide. The vessel sailed for Sydney on 8th September, 1911, her absence from the home port extending over two months. The passage from Port Phillip Heads to Sydney Heads took four and a half days, and the return journey ten days. The ship behaved well, and thoroughly proved her seaworthiness in a heavy gale experienced off Gabo Island, which lasted twenty hours.

In June, 1912, the *Dart* was purchased from the Imperial Government, to be used as a tender by the *John Murray*, and she arrived in Hobson's Bay in July, having been sailed from Sydney by a crew of trainees and instructors from the *John Murray*, in charge of the captain superintendent.

During the year ended 30th June, 1915, there were 47 admissions, 36 discharges, and 9 desertions, the number on board at the end of the year being 104. Since the inception of the institution 330 boys have been admitted to the ships, 88 have been granted full discharges, 94 have been discharged against the Committee's wish on their parents' demand, 33 deserters have not been apprehended, 3 have been dismissed, and 6 returned as unfit. Seventy boys have gone into the merchant service, and 17 into the Navy, and 34 are serving with the Expeditionary Forces. Cruising outside Port Phillip Heads was during the early part of the year restricted owing to the war, but much useful work has been done in Port Phillip Bay.

RELIEF FUNDS.

VICTORIAN MINING ACCIDENT RELIEF FUND.

**Victorian
Mining
Accident
Relief Fund.**

In December, 1882, an inrush of water in the New Australasian Company's mine, at Creswick, caused the deaths of 22 miners. Consequent on this disaster 79 persons, comprising 18 widows and 61 children, were left in destitute circumstances. Public subscriptions to the amount of £21,602 were raised throughout Victoria for the relief of the widows and orphan children of those who lost their lives. A fund was established, out of which the widows and children to a certain age were paid weekly allowances, and on 31st December, 1914, there remained six widows, who were receiving 15s. per week each. At that date the amount at credit was £15,546, of which £12,000 was the estimated value of freehold premises in Queen-street, Melbourne, £3,500 was in Government debentures, and £46 was cash in hand.

VICTORIAN COAL MINERS' ACCIDENTS RELIEF FUND.

**Victorian
Coal Miners'
Accidents
Relief Fund.**

A provision of the *Coal Mines Regulation Act 1909* (No. 2240) related to the constitution of a Fund to be called the Victorian Coal Miners' Accidents Relief Fund, to which every person employed in a coal mine is compelled to contribute 4½d. per week, the mine-owners paying an amount equal to one-half of that deducted from the miners' wages, and the Government of Victoria a sum equal to the payment by the owners. The Board held its first meeting on 4th April, 1910, and decided that the employes' contributions should commence from 2nd April, 1910. Committees were formed at the collieries (numbering 10 in 1914), their principal functions being to collect contributions, and, subject to the approval of the Board, to allot the allowances. During 1914 the contributions from employes amounted to £1,360, and the allowances paid at the mines totalled £941. For the year ended 31st December, 1914, the total revenue was £2,355—remittances from committees at the mines amounting to £823, interest to £238, and the balance coming equally from the mine-owners (£647) and the Government (£647). The expenditure included £374 paid in allowances and £305 cost of administration. The accumulated funds amounted to £7,979—£7,800 invested in 3½ per cent. Government stock, and £179 bank balance. Relief was given in 171 non-fatal cases. In respect to non-fatal accidents there are three persons on the permanently disabled list, the number of children dependent upon such persons being two. Two fatal accidents occurred during the year, and there are seven widows, two mothers and twelve children receiving aid from the fund as the result of fatalities in 1914 and previous years.

BENDIGO MINERS' ASSOCIATION—THE WATSON FUND.

**The Watson
Sustentation
Fund.**

About the middle of the year 1889 the idea suggested itself to Mr. J. B. Watson of doing something for the permanently injured miners of the Bendigo District. Immediately after the occurrence of a severe mining accident he sent a letter to the Miners' Association with an offer to contribute £1,500, at the rate of £100 per year unconditionally, or to give £150 per annum for ten years, if the Association would contribute a like amount. His proposal was brought under the notice of the Committee of Management, with the result that a Select Committee was appointed to draw up a report, and at the same time to formulate a scheme. It was thought that the sum of money was not sufficient to meet the liability that would be likely to occur. It was ultimately decided to recommend the members to accept Mr. Watson's offer of £150 for ten years, and at the same time to cover it with the sum of £200 per year, to be made by levy on all members. This scheme was laid before

Mr. Watson and the members, and accepted by both parties, and it was arranged that all gifts and donations that could be procured should be credited to a fund to be known as the Watson Sustentation Fund. It was decided that the collections of 1890 should be reserved strictly for revenue purposes, and that the benefits should not come into full operation until 1891, so as to give the fund a good start, and place it on a sure foundation. Payments were accordingly first made in 1891, at the rate of 5s. per week, and this rate was maintained for about two years, when the sick pay was increased to 7s. 6d. per week. Further changes were afterwards made, as necessity arose. In 1914, the Government subsidized the fund to the amount of £941.

The following return shows the receipts and expenditure, from the inception of the fund :—

PERSONS RELIEVED, RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE :
WATSON SUSTENTATION FUND.

Year.	Relieved during the Year.	On Funds at end of Year.	Deaths during the Year.	Receipts.		
				From the Founder, J. B. Watson.	Other Receipts.	Total Receipts.
				£	£	£
1890 ...	...	...	...	150	1,467	1,617
1891 ...	*	11	*	150	56	206
1892 ...	*	26	*	150	503	653
1893 ...	*	44	*	150	452	602
1894 ...	*	43	*	150	790	940
1895 ...	43	38	5	150	734	884
1896 ...	57	48	9	150	543	693
1897 ...	56	52	4	150	1,680	1,830
1898 ...	57	48	9	150	944	1,094
1899 ...	56	41	15	150	524	674
1900 ...	54	47	7	...	641	641
1901 ...	66	48	18	...	591	591
1902 ...	52	41	11	...	549	549
1903 ...	50	43	7	...	742	742
1904 ...	58	48	10	...	1,049	1,049
1905 ...	60	40	20	...	875	875
1906 ...	76	40	36	...	1,235	1,235
1907 ...	68	35	33	...	1,131	1,131
1908 ...	56	40	16	...	735	735
1909 ...	50	35	15	...	1,065	1,065
1910 ...	66	42	24	...	911	911
1911 ...	80	48	32	...	652	652
1912 ...	67	43	24	...	1,674	1,674
1913 ...	89	51	21	...	1,488	1,488
1914 ...	110	58	25	...	1,896 †	1,896 †
Total ...	...	...	341	1,500	22,927	24,427

* Particulars not available.

† Including £941 from the Government.

PERSONS RELIEVED, RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE: WATSON
SUSTENTATION FUND—*continued.*

Expenditure.					
Year.	Sick Pay.	Donations to Members and Wives and Families of Deceased Members.	Administration.	Total Expenditure.	Balance at End of Year.
	£	£	£	£	£
1890 ...	...	...	...	...	1,617
1891 ...	104	87	6	197	1,626
1892 ...	330	150	3	488	1,791
1893 ...	571	116	9	696	1,997
1894 ...	578	64	6	648	1,989
1895 ...	777	98	7	882	1,991
1896 ...	845	107	34	986	1,698
1897 ...	946	121	17	1,084	2,444
1898 ...	917	99	10	1,026	2,512
1899 ...	873	61	7	941	2,245
1900 ...	973	65	11	1,049	1,837
1901 ...	765	140	9	914	1,514
1902 ...	842	28	11	881	1,182
1903 ...	827	39	20	886	1,038
1904 ...	854	114	24	992	1,095
1905 ...	822	80	43	945	1,025
1906 ...	767	97	29	893	1,367
1907 ...	715	96	27	838	1,660
1908 ...	716	135	20	871	1,524
1909 ...	768	129	27	924	1,665
1910 ...	811	80	92	983	1,593
1911 ...	744	32	31	807	1,438
1912 ...	899	98	21	1,018	2,094
1913 ...	1,162	192	31	1,385	2,197
1914 ...	1,535	303	24	1,862	2,231
Total ...	19,141	2,531	524	22,196	—

QUEEN'S FUND.

Queen's Fund. This fund was inaugurated in 1887 by Lady Loch to commemorate the Jubilee of the late Queen Victoria. It is for the relief of women in distress, and it is arranged that only the interest on the capital shall be expended yearly. The number of women relieved during 1914-15 was 90, to whom £577 was allotted either by way of grant or loan, and the cost of management was £75. In addition to the ordinary receipts of the fund (£630) an amount of £625 was received from the trustees of the Walter and Elizabeth Hall Trust for distribution to governesses, nurses, and ladies in similar

positions who from age or infirmity were unable to earn their living. A sum of £507 was distributed in this manner, £5 was expended on management, and £243 remained in the bank at the date of balancing. The accumulated fund on 15th June, 1915, was £14,811, an increase of £104 during the year, due to donations to the capital account.

IMMIGRATION AND LABOUR BUREAU.

Immigration
Bureau.

The Immigration and Labour Bureau is attached to the Department of Lands and Survey. It deals with the whole matter of immigration and overseas advertising, prepares pamphlets, booklets, posters, guides, and lectures; supplies lantern slides, photographs, &c.; arranges displays at exhibitions; and generally advertises the State and its resources. It is authorized to make arrangements with persons in Victoria to nominate friends and relations in Great Britain for reduced passages costing £10 for each adult, and for children half that amount. In special family cases the fares may be only £4 per adult and proportionately less for children. It principally seeks from Great Britain and other countries agriculturists and rural workers, and it assists in finding employment for the latter as well as in placing British lads on approved farms. Farmers and experienced farm labourers from Great Britain are charged £8 for third-class passages: in the former case a further reduction in the charge of £2 per adult is made in the form of a refund to the settler who takes up land from the Crown within twelve months of arrival in the State. Inexperienced farm labourers obtain passages at a fare of £10. Domestic servants are also being sought, and these are placed in situations by the Bureau on arrival. Third-class passages are granted to domestic servants for £3. Officers of the Immigration Bureau (including a matron) meet every boat which conveys assisted passengers, and advise new arrivals, in some cases arranging for temporary accommodation and providing facilities for the inspection of lands available for settlement.

In the following steam-ship lines reduced third-class passages are obtainable from the United Kingdom to Melbourne at the rates mentioned below:—

- Aberdeen Line, *viâ* the Cape, from London or Plymouth.
- P. and O. Branch Service Line, *viâ* the Cape, from London.
- Orient Royal Mail Line, *viâ* the Suez Canal, from London (few berths only).
- Commonwealth and Dominion Line, *viâ* the Cape, from London.

More than four berths in cabin, £14 per adult.

Berth in four-berth cabin, £16 per adult.

Berth in two-berth cabin, £17 per adult.

Should a berth of more than the above values be required, the amount in excess must be paid at the time of application.

In the case of nominated passages from the United Kingdom, the adult passage money is £14, and, except where the nominated passengers are the wife and children of the nominator, a deposit of at least £6 has to be lodged by the nominator. The balance is payable in monthly instalments extending over twelve months. After the immigrant has satisfied the Minister that he or she is a permanent resident of the State, a rebate may be made, which will make the portion of the fare payable by the nominator £10 per adult (children *pro rāta*). Where the nominees are the wife and child of the nominator a rebate may be allowed, which will make the net fares for adult males £8, adult females £4, and children £2 each (both sexes).

Mr. F. T. A. Fricke, late Officer in Charge of the Lands Department Inquiry Office, Melbourne, has been appointed to represent Victoria as Land Settlement Agent in North America. His address is 687 Market-street, San Francisco, U.S.A. He exercises supervision and control over the American agents who have been appointed in San Francisco, and in Vancouver, British Columbia. Arrangements have also been made for assisted passages between these countries and Victoria, *per* the Union Steam-ship Company of New Zealand and the Oceanic Steam-ship Coy. Ltd. American and Canadian immigrants may be granted an allowance of £6 per adult passage, with proportionate contribution for children, on settling as farmers on the Crown lands or on taking up farming employment in Victoria. Nominated passages may, subject to approval, be obtained from America and Canada under *residence* conditions similar to those which relate to such passages from the United Kingdom. The deposit necessary is a sum equal to the full fare less the amount of the Government contribution, in these cases £5 per adult fare and a proportionate amount for children.

Nomination and guarantee forms in all cases must be filled in and forwarded to the Immigration Bureau, 555 Flinders-street, Melbourne, with the necessary deposit, after which all arrangements are made by the Bureau for the passages. Communications should be addressed to "The Officer in Charge, Immigration and Labour Bureau, 555 Flinders-street, Melbourne."
