

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 other Universities. 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 (now incorporated in the *University Act* 1915) 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. These amounted to £16,500 in 1917-18. Since 1853, the amount received from the Government has been £1,151,866—£222,922 for building and apparatus, £704,500 endowment under "Special Appropriation Act," 16 Vic. 34, and £224,444 additional endowment by annual votes of the Legislature. In addition to grants from the Government 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, the fees are as for single subjects, and amount to about £45 for the three years' course.

For the degree of Bachelor of Science, £22 per annum.

For the degree of Bachelor of Laws, the fees are as for single subjects, and amount to about £78 for the four years' course.

For the degree of Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery, £23 per annum.

For the degrees of Bachelor of Civil Engineering, Bachelor of Electrical Engineering, Bachelor of Mining Engineering, and Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering, £22 for each of the 1st and 2nd years, and £25 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, £22 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. The system of junior and senior public and commercial examination was superseded, in December, 1917, by examinations for Intermediate and School Leaving Certificates. Under the regulations the rights of all candidates who had passed any subject at any previous public examination are reserved. The appended table gives the results of the public examinations conducted by the University during 1918:—

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS CONDUCTED BY THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1918.

Examination—	Number who attempted to Pass fully.	Number who Passed fully.	
		Total.	Percentage.
Junior, Public	46	27	58·69
Senior, Public	93	54	58·06
Intermediate	3,532	1,551	43·91
School Leaving	1,328	597	44·95

Degrees. The number of degrees taken in 1918 was 295, all of which were direct, as against a total of 1,481 for the preceding five years, or an average of 296 per annum for that period. During those five years 1,467 persons obtained direct and 14 *ad eundem* degrees. Of the total number of 6,916 degrees granted

since the establishment of the University, 785 have been conferred on women, 779 of which were direct and 6 *ad eundem*. These were apportioned as follows:—358 Bachelor of Arts, 151 Master of Arts, 79 Bachelor of Medicine, 6 Doctor of Medicine, 77 Bachelor of Surgery, 12 Bachelor of Laws, 2 Master of Laws, 4 Doctor of Science, 51 Bachelor of Science, 22 Master of Science, 15 Bachelor of Music, 7 Bachelor of Dental Science, and 1 Bachelor of Agricultural Science. The following table shows the number of degrees conferred at the University between the date of its first opening and the end of 1918—the particulars for the years 1917 and 1918 being given separately:—

DEGREES CONFERRED.

Degrees.	Prior to 1917.			During 1917.			During 1918.			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 ...	1270	118	1388	50	...	50	66	...	66	1386	118	1504
Master of Arts ...	635	184	819	22	...	22	*21	...	21	678	184	862
Doctor of Letters ...	5	1	6	...	...	...	*2	...	2	7	1	8
Bachelor of Medicine	1217	15	1232	54	...	54	68	...	68	1339	15	1354
Doctor of Medicine	205	107	312	2	...	2	2	...	2	209	107	316
Bachelor of Surgery	1147	4	1151	55	...	55	68	...	68	1270	4	1274
Master of Surgery ...	26	...	26	1	...	1	2	...	2	29	...	29
Bachelor of Laws ...	472	12	484	5	...	5	9	...	9	486	12	498
Master of Laws ...	84	3	87	3	...	3	5	...	5	92	3	95
Doctor of Laws ...	16	23	39	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	23	39
Bachelor of Civil Engineering ...	199	2	201	4	...	4	5	...	5	208	2	210
Bachelor of Mining Engineering ...	35	1	36	3	...	3	4	...	4	42	1	43
Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering ...	2	...	2	1	...	1	1	...	1	4	...	4
Bachelor of Electrical Engineering ...	4	...	4	1	...	1	2	...	2	7	...	7
Master of Engineering	79	...	79	1	...	1	2	...	2	82	...	82
Bachelor of Science	161	5	166	7	...	7	13	...	13	181	5	186
Master of Science	70	2	72	6	...	6	3	...	3	79	2	81
Doctor of Science ...	23	20	43	1	...	1	1	...	1	25	20	45
Bachelor of Music ...	16	2	18	7	...	7	2	...	2	25	2	27
Doctor of Music ...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Bachelor of Dental Science ...	126	...	126	10	...	10	11	...	11	147	...	147
Doctor of Dental Science ...	11	...	11	2	...	2	...	...	...	13	...	13
Bachelor of Veterinary Science ...	49	...	49	4	...	4	7	...	7	60	...	60
Doctor of Veterinary Science ...	7	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	7
Bachelor of Agricultural Science ...	20	...	20	2	...	2	1	...	1	23	...	23
Total ...	5879	501	6380	241	...	241	295	...	295	6415	501	6916

* Including 1 by special grace.

Students attending lectures, and undergraduates admitted.

The number of persons attending lectures has greatly increased during the past ten years, the total in 1918 having been 1,448 as compared with 1,057 in 1908, thus showing an advance of 37 per cent. A great improvement is also shown in the admission of undergraduates, the number having increased by 113 per cent. in the period mentioned.

PERSONS ADMITTED AS UNDERGRADUATES AND STUDENTS ATTENDING LECTURES, 1914 TO 1918.

Year.	Number of Persons Matriculated and Admitted as Undergraduates.			Number of Students Attending Lectures.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1914 ..	283	81	364	1,089	300	1,389
1915 ..	234	82	316	955	396	1,351
1916 ..	264	100	364	852	445	1,297
1917 ..	237	136	373	842	490	1,332
1918 ..	297	133	430	910	538	1,448

Of the number attending lectures in 1918—1,448—484 were students in Arts and Education, 48 in Laws, 59 in Engineering, 528 in Medicine, 89 in Science, 129 in Music, 57 in Dentistry, 5 in Agriculture, 26 in Veterinary Science, and 20 in Architecture, and 3 were doing Science Research Work.

University finance.

A statement of receipts and expenditure for the year 1918 is given below :—

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1918.

—	General Account.	Other Accounts.	All Departments.
	£	£	£
Receipts—			
Government Grants ..	21,300	7,867	29,167
Lecture, Degree, Examination, and other Fees ..	34,525	8,778	43,303
Other sources ..	2,061	7,862	9,923
Total ..	57,886	24,507	82,393
Expenditure ..	54,668	21,280	75,948

In addition, the University received the sum of £65 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, Methodist, and Roman Catholic 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. 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.

Information relating to the foundation and progress of Trinity, Ormond, and Queen's Colleges is given in the *Year-Book* for 1917-18 on pages 319 to 321.

**Trinity
College.**

This college, which was established by the Anglican Church, is open to students of all religious denominations, and the same remark applies to the Trinity College Hostel. The latter was established for the benefit of women students of Trinity College, and is an integral part of that college. The college buildings consist of a chapel, dining hall, chemical and biological laboratories, lecture-room, libraries, billiard-room, and students' common-room, in addition to apartments for the Warden, tutors, and students.

The Warden of the college is J. C. V. Behan, M.A., LL.B. (Melb.), M.A., B.C.L. (Oxon.)—first Rhodes Scholar for the State of Victoria, formerly Stowell Civil Law Fellow and Dean of University College, Oxford—who is assisted by a staff of tutors and lecturers. The college holds annually, in the month of November, an examination for open scholarships and exhibitions. Prospectuses may be obtained on application to the Warden.

**Ormond
College.**

This institution, which was established by the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, is a residential college for students of the University of Melbourne (without restriction as to religious denomination). It has a staff of lecturers and tutors from whom the students receive all the assistance they require in their University work; non-resident students are also admitted to the college classes. The work of the Theological Hall of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria is carried on in the Victoria Wing; there is an independent staff of professors and lecturers for this work. Theological students may reside in the college if they are matriculated students of the University.

The College has recently benefited by two War Memorials, viz., (1) A Bursary Fund instituted in memory of Captain Mervyn Bournes Higgins, late of Ormond College and of Balliol College, Oxford, who was killed at El Magdhaba on the Sinai Peninsula, 23rd December, 1916; (2) A Resident Scholarship, instituted by Mr. William Harper in memory of his son, Lieutenant H. W. Harper, late of Scotch College and Ormond College, who was killed at Broodseinde Ridge, 4th October, 1917: for a pupil of Scotch College coming into residence in Ormond College. Mrs. Robert Harper has presented a large number of volumes from the libraries of Mr. Robert Harper and her late father, Dr. Adam Cairns. The number of students in attendance at the College in 1919 is a record in the history of the College. There are 100 in residence, of whom 35 are men who have been overseas on war service; and 60 non-resident.

The Ormond Roll of Service—of men engaged in one or other of the services of war, at some time during the war—showed a total of 425 names in May, 1919, 56 of men who have given their lives.

The master of the College is Professor D. K. Picken, M.A. (Camb. and Glasg.), Professor of Pure and Applied Mathematics in Victoria University College, Wellington, N.Z.

Queen's College. The college was founded by the Methodist Church of Victoria and its lectures are open to non-resident as well as resident students. It is capable of accommodating about 70 students in residence. The buildings comprise fully equipped lecture-rooms, laboratories, library, reading-rooms, and apartments for the master, tutors, and students. During the war period over 200 members of the college went to the front on active service and 30 fell at the post of duty. The master is the Rev. E. H. Sugden, M.A., B.Sc., Litt.D.

Newman College. Newman College is built in the section of the University Reserve granted by the Government of Victoria to the Roman Catholic Church in the Act of Incorporation of 2nd October, 1882. The foundation-stone was laid by the late Archbishop of Melbourne (the Most Reverend Thomas Joseph Carr, D.D.), on 11th June, 1916. It was founded by the generosity of the Roman Catholic people of the State of Victoria, stimulated by the princely gift of £30,000 for Bursaries from Thomas Donovan, Esquire, of Edgecliffe, Sydney, New South Wales, and cost nearly £70,000. It forms the first portion (complete in itself) of a comprehensive plan, which will, in the future, surround the ten acres and twelve perches of the grant. The Archbishop Carr Memorial Chapel, to be erected at a cost of £20,000, will be a striking addition to the College. A separate study and a bedroom are provided for each student. Hot and cold water are laid on to each bedroom, over a fixed basin connected with the Metropolitan sewerage system. The rooms are heated by hot-water radiators, and electric light is installed throughout. There is elaborate provision of hot

and cold shower and plunge baths, a large covered-in swimming bath, a gymnasium, and billiard and recreation rooms. The library, which consists of more than 10,000 volumes, comprises the valuable collections of W. L. Bowditch, the Rev. Patrick O'Reilly, the Rev. E. J. Kelly, D.D., and John McMahon. Quite recently the splendid collection of Australian books of the late Dr. Bevan has been purchased and added to the library. Lectures, demonstrations and private tuition are given in the College with the special object of assisting students in their University work. Women students as well as men extern students are admitted to all college lectures. Students of the college enjoy the advantage of residence, instruction in the doctrine and discipline of the Roman Catholic Church, and tuition supplementary to University lectures.

All applications for information, &c., should be made to the Rector. The present rector is the Very Rev. Albert Power, S.J., M.A. He is assisted by the Rev. Dominic Kelly, S.J., M.A., the Rev. Wilfred Ryan, S.J., F.G.S., and a staff of competent lecturers and tutors.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

University extension.

The nature of the work carried on under this system is shown in the *Year-Book* for 1917-18, page 321.

Tutorial Classes have been organized by a Joint Committee consisting of representatives from the Extension Board and the Workers' Educational Association respectively. The Government grants a sum of £1,200 annually for the development of Tutorial Class work. Professor Meredith Atkinson is Director of Tutorial Classes.

The Honorary Secretary of the Extension Board and the Joint Committee for Tutorial Classes is Dr. J. McKellar Stewart, The University, Melbourne.

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, and is now, with its amendments, incorporated in the *Education Act* 1915, No. 2644. 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, not 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 those 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 of which are to be before, and two 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, and 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.

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 eleven who reside between 2½ and 3 miles from the nearest school, or 4d. per day for children over six and under fourteen who reside 4 miles or over from the nearest school.

School Committees.

Under Act No. 2301 Boards of Advice were abolished and a School Committee of not more than seven persons for each school or group of schools was substituted. The members of School Committees 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 the sanitary services of the school; (e) to visit the school from time to time; (f) to use every endeavour to induce parents to send their children to school; and (g) to arrange, where necessary, for suitable board and lodging at reasonable rates for the accommodation of teachers (especially women teachers) appointed to the 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 a large number of teachers have taken the course at the Teachers' College and the Melbourne University, and, in addition, 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.

There were, on 30th June, 1918, 62 woodwork centres in operation, having an attendance of 9,382 boys; and 57 cookery centres, with an attendance of 5,535 girls, also two laundry centres, with 253 girls in attendance.

Drill,
swimming,
school
gardens, &c.

Four Schools of Domestic Arts, attended by about 920 girls, have been established. In these schools girls over twelve years of age are given during the last two years of their school life a training in the subjects of a comprehensive domestic arts course. At the same time their general education is continued. In addition to the instruction given in the woodwork centres woodwork is being taught in 62 country schools by the head teachers as one of the ordinary subjects. 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. The Victorian State Schools Horticultural Society, founded in 1913, assists teachers in obtaining the best seeds, seedlings, ornamental trees, and flowering shrubs. It has a nursery of its own at Oakleigh, maintained partly by members' subscriptions (2s. 6d. yearly), partly by a Government grant. Most of the State schools are affiliated with the Society, which sent out last year at reduced rates to its members 20,000 packets of seeds, half a million seedlings, 10,000 rooted roses, 7,500 dahlias, 5,000 chrysanthemums, 10,000 mixed plants, and 50,000 trees and shrubs.

**Special
days.**

In addition to Arbor Day (to which reference has been made), four other special days—Anzac Day, Empire Day, Flower Day, and Bird Day—call for mention. The landing of the Australians and New Zealanders on the Gallipoli Peninsula on the 25th April, 1915, has been commemorated in the schools each year since by the holding of a special service, consisting of hymns and addresses together with the saluting of the flag. The schools of Victoria held a celebration of Empire Day in 1905, being among the first of the oversea Dominions to recognise the day, and have since enthusiastically kept it in remembrance year by year. Bird Day 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 61,000 of the older school children have joined the "Gould League of Bird Lovers," which was established for the protection of bird life. Flower Day was instituted in the spring of 1916 to augment the War Relief Fund. On the day fixed in that year the children in Melbourne and throughout the State held floral displays and sold nosegays, pot plants, and other home-grown produce for the benefit of the soldiers. The *fête* was repeated in 1917 and 1918, the profits in successive years being £32,000; £32,000; and £50,000.

**Patriotic
Fund.**

The teachers and children in the State schools, with the aid of departmental officers, school committees and parents, have been instrumental in raising a sum of £410,000 for the Department's war relief fund. In addition to assisting our own kin, portion of the sum raised has been forwarded to the sufferers in France,

Belgium, Serbia, Poland, Montenegro, Italy, Armenia, and Russia. Towards the erection, equipment, and maintenance of the military hospital at Caulfield £10,500 was allotted. To the British Red Cross, £30,000 was given; to the Australian and Victorian Red Cross, £47,090; to the Australian Comforts Fund, £30,159; and to the Brigade Rest Homes, £23,579; also a sum of £75,985 was allotted to Repatriation Funds. In addition to the contributions in money, 400,000 articles of comfort, in the shape of warm garments, hospital foods, sick-room aids, materials for games and amusements, books, magazines, writing tablets and the like have been sent oversea and to the front. The various school districts have grouped themselves for the purpose of supplying, month about, a store of fresh fruit and vegetables, eggs, poultry, home-made jams and jellies, and the like, to supplement the dietary of the patients at the Caulfield Military Hospital and other similar institutions in Melbourne. Regular and ample supplies have been sent and concerts and entertainments have been arranged for the convalescents. A wide field for juvenile effort was thrown open by the creation of the "Young Workers' Patriotic Guild," the members of which are pledged to personal labour for the War Relief Fund. The boys and girls may select what payable hobby they choose, and he or she who earns £1 by "personal productive effort" is rewarded with a handsome certificate in colors, signed by the Minister and the Director of Education. There are now 79,000 members of this Guild, and 18,970 certificates have been issued.

It is intended that the general fund shall close in 1919; but the Young Workers' Guild and the organization to help the Military Hospitals will be continued.

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. Two of these went abroad during the war period, and were engaged on war service. The inspectors 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. 2713 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, under the provisions of Act No. 2993, those for females, excluding junior teachers and sewing mistresses, range from £96 to £316. 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 1917.

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 sixteen years ended 1916-17; the reference is to 31st December and the years ended on that date respectively for all previous returns, also for the latest return (1917) :—

STATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE
1872 TO 1917.

Year.	Number of Schools at end of year.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Scholars.		
			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	4,689	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
1914-15 ...	2,227	6,085	250,264	160,885	218,427
1915-16 ...	2,225	6,194	257,726	161,632	221,777
1916-17 ...	2,202	6,275	254,033	161,034	221,202
1917 (31st Dec.) ...	2,236	6,455*	+214,048	+161,574	+186,523

* In addition to these teachers, 477 were temporarily employed on 30th June, 1918.

† These are the figures for the six months ended 31st December, 1917; hence the apparent falling off in "number enrolled" as compared with the number for the preceding year. Had the figures been compiled to June, 1918, probably the new number would be greater, not less, than that of the previous year. An increase at the same ratio as the increase in average attendance would fix the number at 255,280.

Children's
attendance
at school
1872 and 1915.

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 children attending State schools, below, at, and above

the school age (6 and under 14), during the half-year ended 31st December, 1917 :—

AGES OF STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS.

Ages.	Gross Enrolment of Children Attending—					
	Day Schools.		Night Schools.		Total.	
	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.
Under 6 years ...	10,698	5·0	...	...	10,698	5·0
6 to 14 ,, ...	187,218	87·5	...	...	187,218	87·5
14 years and upwards ...	16,046	7·5	86	100·0	16,132	7·5
Total ...	213,962	100·0	86	100·0	214,048	100·0

Children of school age receiving instruction. The estimated number of children in the State at school age (6 to 14 years) on 31st December, 1917,* was 228,566, and of these 227,066 were being instructed in State and private schools. The number of children not being instructed in schools was, therefore, 1,500, 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 very small.

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 latest statistics published by the Education Department of Victoria, (*vide* "Report of the Minister of Public Instruction for the year 1917-18") are for the period ended 31st December, 1917. Up to the 30th June, 1917, this information was published for the financial year. As, however, the school year now coincides with the calendar year, it has been decided to publish statistics on the latter basis.

Registered
schools, 1872
to 1917-18.

The number of registered schools, instructors in same, and individual scholars in attendance for 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 1917-18.

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
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
1914-15	509	1,879	52,638
1915-16	495	1,909	57,400
1916-17	495	1,970	56,193
1917-18	499	2,002	58,366

* 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 20 per cent. of the scholars during 1917 attended registered schools, and the balance, 80 per cent., attended State primary and secondary schools.

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, also 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 Leaving Certificate 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.

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 Intermediate 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 Intermediate 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 the course, who pass all the tests in Theory and Practice, are awarded the Trained Kindergarten and Infant Teachers' 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 one year in practical teaching; and is open on payment of a fee of £10 10s. per annum to any non-Departmental student who is seventeen 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, and for managing and teaching a rural 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 17 years of age, have passed the Intermediate examination and wish to be registered under the Council of Education, but who do not desire to have the Trained Primary Teachers' Certificate.

The third course—for Secondary Teachers—is open to any young teachers of the Education Department who have passed the Leaving Certificate examination, and have taught for at least one year in a school, or to candidates who have won Government senior scholarships or 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.

Certificates are granted at the end of these courses according to the standards set by the Council of Education for teachers of 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. At the end of their course the Department will classify them and immediately find them positions. A selection

Committee meets at the beginning 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 is granted to all students who, having gained the Trained Infant Teachers' certificate and having taught for some four or five years afterwards, spend four years further in the study of Kindergarten and Infant Room methods. It is hoped that this course, which is open to State and private students, 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, English, Drawing, and 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 £200, and for females from £120 to £160 a year; or, if they hold the Secondary Teacher's Certificate, they may be appointed at higher salaries to High Schools or Elementary High Schools. During 1918 there were in all 409 students in training at the Teachers' College or in classes connected with it, of whom 64 were taking a portion of their work at the University. Sixty-four of the students are in residence.

DISTRICT 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 the University. A further important function of these institutions is to give the necessary preliminary education to boys and girls intending to take up teaching. 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 studies. Any pupil who has satisfactorily completed the work of grade VI. in an elementary school

is qualified for admission to a high school. The course of study lasts for six years in the case of pupils who enter from the sixth grade of the elementary school after obtaining the qualifying certificate, or for four or five years in the case of those who enter from the eighth grade after completing the course of the elementary school. 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. Ten of the District High Schools are specially equipped for the teaching of agriculture in addition to providing other courses of secondary education. There are district high schools at Ararat, Bairnsdale, Ballarat,* Benalla, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Coburg, Colac,* Echuca, Essendon, Geelong, Hamilton, Horsham, Kyneton, Leongatha,* Mansfield,* Maryborough, Melbourne (two), Mildura,* Sale,* Shepparton,* St. Arnaud, Stawell, University (Carlton), Wangaratta,* Warragul,* Warrnambool,* and Williamstown. The schools the names of which are asterisked are equipped with farms.

During the term ended 31st December, 1917, there were in attendance at these schools 5,686 pupils, of whom 2,956 were boys and 2,730 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.

**University
High School.**

For the practical part of the work of training secondary teachers the institution now known as the University High School was opened in 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. In its management of the school the Department is aided by an advisory committee from the Faculty of Arts of the University.

HIGHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

**Higher
Elementary
Schools and
Classes.**

There are now nineteen higher elementary schools—at Beechworth, Bright, Casterton, Charlton, Clunes, Corryong, Daylesford, Dean, Donald, Inglewood, Kerang, Kyabram, Nhill, Orbost, Portland, Rutherglen, Traralgon, Warracknabeal and Yarram. During the term ended 31st December, 1917, there were in attendance at these schools 1,322 pupils, of whom 656 were boys and 666 were girls. Education in the higher elementary

schools is free throughout the course, which extends over two or four years.

There are also seven schools—four in the metropolitan area and three in urban centres—known as “Central” schools—in which a preparatory course of secondary education is provided, and these were attended by 819 pupils in 1917.

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 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.

SCHOLARSHIPS.

The Minister of Public Instruction may annually award scholarships as under :—

No. and Kind.	Age Requirement of Candidate.	Period of Tenure.	Annual Value.
100 Junior	Under 14½ years	4 years ..	Free tuition at a district high school and £4 for school requisites, or £12 for tuition and school requisites at an approved registered secondary school; also, in certain cases, up to £26 for board or up to £5 for transit
40 Senior..	Under 18½ years	4-6 years	£40 annually towards expense of any course at the University
50 Junior Technical	Under 14 years	2 years ..	Free tuition at a junior technical school, or, in the industrial course at an approved district high or higher elementary school and £4 for school requisites, also, in certain cases, up to £26 for board or up to £5 for transit
55 Senior Technical	.. ..	3-5 years	Free tuition for full length of approved courses at approved technical schools; also £30 for day students or £10 for night students
40 Teaching	14-17 years ..	3 years	As for “Junior”
20 nominated course	.. ..	4-6 years	Free tuition in agriculture, mining or veterinary science at the University; also, in certain cases, a subsistence allowance up to £26

In addition, free tuition and allowances for school requisites up to £2 per annum and for maintenance up to £26 per annum or for transit up to £5 per annum may be granted in the cases of pupils of State

technical and secondary schools who show special aptitude and promise and whose parents are in necessitous circumstances.

STANDARD OF EDUCATION.

The number of marriages celebrated in 1918 was 9,156, and there were only 16 men and 11 women who showed their want of elementary education by signing the marriage register with a mark instead of in writing. This indicates a very high elementary standard of education in this State, which in this respect occupies the highest position in Australasia.

Signing with marks.

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

Technical schools.

The whole of the technical schools in the State, prior to 1910, were under the control of local councils. Act 2301, passed in that year, provided for the schools being under the control of the Minister of Public Instruction. The Education Department, in all cases, 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 number of technical schools receiving aid from the State on 31st December, 1917, was 24.

The former lack of organized method for preparing pupils for courses in technical schools largely neutralized the efforts of the instructors in these institutions. In order to overcome this difficulty, junior or preparatory technical schools have been established in connexion with all the higher technical schools. These schools offer a course of two or three 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 their syllabuses. Trade courses correspond to the period of apprenticeship, which extends over five years.

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 in 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 schools for women's industries are the College of Domestic Economy and the girls' junior technical departments in the Swinburne and Ballarat Schools.

The fees per term range from 10s. 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. The expenditure in 1917-18 was greater than that for any year since technical schools were established. —

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON SCHOOLS OF MINES AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, 1913-14 TO 1917-18.

Name.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.
	£	£	£	£	£
Bairnsdale	2,019	1,280	1,276	1,179	1,796.
Ballarat	6,019	10,847	8,393	8,383	10,800
Beechworth	689	711	864	723	1,480
Bendigo	7,605	5,061	5,033	5,396	6,814
Brighton .. .. .	..	..	..	..	757
Brunswick .. .. .	..	132	9,850	5,216	4,043
Castlemaine	3,358	1,428	1,758	2,100	5,305
College of Domestic Economy ..	901	970	904	795	973
Collingwood	3,662	3,092	5,571	4,353	4,993
Daylesford	900	2,238	850	1,028	950
Echuca	861	449	475	600	1,136
Footscray .. .. .	..	..	8,288	4,906	8,342
Geelong (Gordon Tech. Col.) ..	5,865	3,594	3,898	8,291	5,585
Glenferrie (Swinburne Tech. Col.)	4,244	6,458	8,443	11,338	16,579
Horsham	555	487	425	475	475
Kyneton	252	250	225	..	..
Maryborough	1,076	1,054	1,190	1,386	1,415
Melbourne (Working Men's Col.)	19,148	23,402	14,578	18,324	21,909
Melbourne Junior Tech. School	7,073	6,929	6,573	6,780	7,589
Nhill	254	265	199	..	..
Prahran	213	1,756	4,926	3,914	4,444
Sale	455	400	400	410	475
South Melbourne (not yet opened)	..	..	5	5	11,033
Stawell (with Ararat Branch) ..	1,349	1,272	1,205	1,211	1,759
Sunshine	2,167	1,778	1,664	1,818	1,689
Warrnambool	2,557	1,439	1,892	2,860	4,464
Miscellaneous	2,432	2,560	1,315	1,514	1,592
Total	73,654	77,852	90,200	93,005	126,397

Particulars relating to the Australian College of Dentistry and the Melbourne College of Pharmacy are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 516 to 519.

THE 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.	
					£	s.
Preliminary Year for Diploma Courses	...	...	...	...	3	0 per term
Diploma Courses—Mechanical, Electrical, Municipal, Marine, and Mining Engineering—						
First year	...	...	...	...	3	10 „
Second year	...	...	...	...	4	0 „
Third year	...	...	...	...	4	10 „
Diploma Course—Metallurgy—						
First year	...	...	...	...	3	10 „
Second year	...	...	...	...	4	0 „
Third year	...	...	...	...	4	10 „
Diploma Courses—Applied Chemistry—						
First year	...	...	...	...	3	10 „
Second year	...	...	...	...	4	0 „
Third year (Inorganic Diploma)	...	...	...	...	4	10 „
Fourth year (Organic Diploma)	...	...	...	...	5	0 „
Woolsorting	...	...	...	...	5	0 „
Art Course, Full	...	...	...	...	1	10 „
„ „ Half-Day	...	...	...	...	1	0 „

Evening Classes.

Arithmetic	Various amounts ranging from 5s. upwards per term.
Algebra	...	...	...	...
Geometry	...	...	...	...
Trigonometry	...	...	...	...
Practical Geometry	...	...	...	...
Dressmaking	...	...	...	...
Millinery	...	...	...	...
Applied Mechanics	...	...	...	...
Applied Electricity	...	...	...	...
Architecture	...	...	...	...
Building Construction	...	...	...	...
Surveying	...	...	...	...
Hydraulics	...	...	...	...
Chemistry	...	...	...	...
Assaying	...	...	...	...
Metallurgy	...	...	...	...
Engineering Drawing	...	...	...	...
Telephone Mechanics	...	...	...	...
Science, Trade, Commercial, and Mining, and numerous other Subjects	...	...	...	...
Evening Art Courses (Drawing, Design, Modelling)	10s. per term.
Preliminary Year for Courses for Experts' Certificates	15s. per term.
Evening Courses for Experts' Certificates	From 18s. per term.

Special prizes are awarded to students annually. There is a prize to the best student in each year of the day courses, and to the best student in each of the evening classes. The Magee prize, of the annual value of £3, 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, which is of an annual value equal to the interest on the amount of the donor's endowment of £210, 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 Royal Victorian Institute of Architects awards prizes in the architecture and building construction classes, and the Wiley Russell Manufacturing Company awards a set of stocks and dies to the best student in fitting and turning.

The Beazley Bequest Scholarships, of which there are twenty-eight of the value of £810, are awarded annually for trade subjects. The following scholarships cover four years' free instruction in the day courses :—The Danks (2), The Arnot, The Lady Gillott, and The Colin Thompson.

The receipts from the Government, in 1918, amounted to £20,964.

Over 170 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) Municipal Engineering, (4) Marine Engineering, (5) Mining Engineering, (6) Metallurgy, and (7) 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 Applied Art School classes are held in the following subjects :—Drawing, Design, Modelling, Architecture, Building Construction, Geometrical Drawing, Practical Plane and Solid Geometry, Perspective, Blackboard Drawing, Still Life Painting, Anatomy, Figure Drawing, Figure Composition, Book Illustration, Lettering, Illuminating, Stencilling, Leather Embossing, Decorative Metalwork, Silver-smithing, Jewellery, Engraving, Die Sinking, Lead Glazing, Stained Glass, Plaster Casting, Signwriting, Ticket Writing, Lithography, Process Engraving, Weaving, Dressmaking, Millinery, and Plain and Decorative Needlework.

In the evening school the following courses for certificates are in operation :—Assayers, geologists, electrical engineers (municipal and

hydraulic), civil and mechanical engineers, marine engineers, land surveyors, telephone artificers, mechanical draughtsmen, public analysts, architects, carpenters, printers, signwriters and house decorators, plumbers, coach builders, and motor car body makers. There are also courses for naval artificers, both fitters and wood workers. The following figures give an indication of the comparative amount of work done at the College during the years 1914 to 1918 :—

STUDENTS AT WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, 1914 TO 1918.

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.
Students enrolled—					
Average per term	2,318	2,360	2,312	2,483	2,566
Males over 21	614	497	424	390	503
„ under 21—Apprentices ..	734	818	878	754	730
„ „ Others	739	768	708	937	991
Females	231	277	302	402	342
Fees received during the year ..	7,315	7,547	7,167	7,985	7,928
Average fee per student	63s. 0d.	63s. 4d.	61s. 0d.	64s. 8d.	62s. 0d.
Number of classes	163	164	168	172	175
„ instructors	86	87	89	95	103
Salaries paid instructors	13,499	14,853	15,206	16,411	16,864

LIBRARIES.

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF VICTORIA.

The buildings of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of Victoria cost £325,346. The funds were provided by the Government, as also were further moneys expended on maintenance (including salaries) and amounting, with the sum just named, to a total of £1,576,278 at the end of 1918. The Library consists of three distinct sections, viz. :—the Reference Library, the Lending Library, and the Country Lending Library. In regard to the Reference Library, the librarian reports that 5,832 volumes were purchased, 2,268 volumes presented, 327 volumes obtained under the "Copyright Act," and 41,480 newspapers added to the Library during the year 1918. At the end of that year the Reference Library contained 259,531 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 1918 by about 450,000 persons. The Lending Branch, which is also free to the public, issued 133,051 volumes during

Public
Library of
Victoria.

1918, the number of persons to whom the books were lent being 8,255. The number of volumes in the Lending Library at the end of the year mentioned was 36,325, of which 1,954 were added during the year.

National Gallery. The National Gallery at the end of 1918 contained 19,409 works of art, viz., 585 oil paintings, 4,693 objects of art, statuary, &c., and 14,131 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 3 male and 14 female students, and the school of drawing by 27 male and 36 female students. 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. At the end of 1918, it contained nearly 9,000 exhibits.

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 1918 the expenditure on specimens, furniture, materials, &c., was £510.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

Patent Office Library. There is a free library attached to the Commonwealth Department of Patents, which contains over 10,000 volumes, including the Patents Acts and official Gazettes of the principal countries of the world. 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.

OTHER LIBRARIES.

Free Libraries. Most of the suburban and country libraries receive Government aid—the amount granted in 1918 being £3,140. Of these libraries 472 furnished returns in 1918, which show that they possessed 909,449 volumes, and received £52,994 in revenue, that the total expenditure was £48,665—£7,723 on books, &c., and £40,942 on maintenance—and that 2,511,367 visits were paid to the 412 institutions which keep records of the attendances of visitors.

EXHIBITION BUILDINGS.

Exhibition Buildings, Aquarium, and Museum. The Exhibition Buildings, which are situated in the Carlton Gardens, Melbourne, when first opened for the purpose of an exhibition, in October, 1880, occupied a total space of 907,400 square feet. The original cost of the permanent structure, temporary annexes, &c., was £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 that occasion a further sum of £262,954 was expended. At the close of the exhibition there was realized from the sale of various materials, including temporary annexes, a sum of £56,904.

The receipts for the twelve months ended 30th June, 1918, amounted to £5,613, consisting of rents, £2,711, and aquarium and other receipts, £2,902. The expenditure totalled £5,091, viz.:—£1,884, expenses of the aquarium; and £3,207 for maintenance, improvements of the buildings and gardens, insurance and sundry expenses. The deposits and balances in banks to the credit of the trust amount to £1,686.

THE MELBOURNE BOTANIC GARDEN.

Botanic Garden. The Melbourne Botanic Garden, which has now had an existence of over 70 years, 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.

Mr. J. Cronin has been curator of the gardens since 1910.

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.

ROYAL ZOOLOGICAL AND ACCLIMATISATION SOCIETY.

**Royal
Zoological
and Accli-
matisation
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 trams starting every few minutes from the lower end of Elizabeth-street, or by rail to Royal Park Station. 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 hippopotamus, giraffe, 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. W. H. D. Le Souëf, C.M.Z.S., &c., &c.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA.

A brief statement of the history of this society and of the work carried on by it appears in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 528 and 529. The membership subscription is 10s. per annum. Two shows are held each year, one in the autumn and one in spring. The members' monthly meeting is held on the second Thursday of each month.

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 sixteen members (eight amateurs and eight professionals), the administrative work being conducted by the secretary at "Kioa," 57 Pakington-street, Kew.

**Other
societies.**

There are about 40 other horticultural societies in the State, situated at Ballarat, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Kyneton, Mildura, Terang, Traralgon, and other centres.

PUBLIC RESERVES.

**Public
reserves.**

Greater Melbourne is amply supplied with public reserves and parks, the total area devoted to such purposes having been 6,192 acres in 1918. A list of these reserves, together with a statement of their respective areas, appears in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 529 to 533.

A further statement showing the number and area of reserves in 17 of the largest towns outside Melbourne is given on page 533 of the same volume.

At the end of 1918 there were in the State 3,137 regular churches and chapels, and 1,873 other buildings where religious services were held—a total of 5,010 places of public worship—and these were attended by 2,063 regular clergymen. The following statement contains particulars in regard to the different denominations :—

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS, 1918.

Denominations.	Number of Clergy, Ministers, &c.	Buildings used for Public Worship.		
		Churches and Chapels.	Other Buildings.	Total.
Protestant Churches—				
Church of England ...	417	714	594	1,308
Presbyterian Church of Victoria ...	275	587	457	1,044
Free Presbyterian ...	3	9	2	11
Methodist ...	274	843	438	1,281
Independent or Congrega- tional ...	75	80	9	89
Baptist ...	67	100	66	166
Lutheran ...	23	49	16	65
Salvation Army ...	488	115	50	165
Church of Christ ...	75	82	10	92
Church for Deaf Mutes ...	1	1	...	1
Other Protestant ...	19	22	25	47
Roman Catholic Church ...	335	522	199	721
New Church (or Sweden- borgian) ...	1	2	...	2
Catholic Apostolic Church ...	2	1	...	1
Greek Orthodox Church ...	1	1	...	1
Jews ...	5	6	3	9
Re-organized Church of Latter- Day Saints ...	2	3	4	7
Total ...	2,063	3,137	1,873	5,010

The Sunday Schools of the various religious bodies numbered 2,931, and the teachers 24,180; the number of scholars on the rolls was 227,188—102,617 males and 124,571 females.

Religions of
the people.

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	225,601	225,486	451,087	35.14
Protestant so stated	13,376	10,740	24,116	1.88
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 Catholic	385	88	473	.04
Jews	3,214	3,056	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	..

Religions per
cent. of
population,
1861 to 1911.

The next table shows the principal religious 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	16.67	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	72.93	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."

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

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 should 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 with rates of contribution which afterwards proved to be, in almost every instance, inadequate. 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 barrister of not less than seven years' standing 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 not more than three-pence per member, the result being that, although it is competent for the societies to employ outside valuers, should they so desire, 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, eleven have assets whose ratio to liabilities exceeds, or closely approximates to, 20s. in the £1, and only one society (whose membership is under 500) has a lower ratio than 18s. 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 authorize the utilization of the whole or a portion of such surplus for the purposes of the same or any other fund.

The *Friendly Societies Act* 1915 consolidates all Acts passed up to 1914 inclusive. An Act passed in 1915—the *Friendly Societies Act* 1915 (No. 2)—gave power to societies to reinsure with the Government or with an approved life assurance company their liabilities to

members who were engaged on active naval or military service in connexion with the war. The arrangement in regard to reinsurance will cease on peace being officially proclaimed, after which 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.

Up to the date of the armistice 12 societies had taken advantage of the reinsurance scheme. The number of enlisted members in these societies at the date mentioned was about 15,120.

The societies decided at an early stage of the war to pay all contributions necessary to keep good on the books those of their members who had enlisted. The amount of such contributions which had been paid up to August, 1919, was about £140,000.

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. 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 is extended to any securities on which a trustee is under any Act authorized to invest any trust funds in his hands. 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 on mortgage 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. The amount invested in the stock at the end of 1918 was £374,415. 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 sickness benefits are 20s. per week during the first six months of sickness, 10s. per week during the second six months, and 5s. per week thereafter so long as the sickness continues. 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 death of member on payment of medical fees.

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 total membership of Victorian friendly societies increased from 130,048 in 1908 to 149,558 at the close of 1918—an increase during the ten years of 19,510 members.

There was a slight decline in the membership between the ends of the years 1914 and 1917 due to deaths of members while on active service and to the absence from Victoria of many young men who might otherwise have joined the societies. A marked decrease in the membership of nearly all societies occurred in 1918—the decrease being 7,004 in male and 1,619 in female societies. This numerical decrease was principally due to a dispute between the British Medical Association and the societies which led to the resignation of nearly all the medical officers as from 1st February, 1918.

The funds increased during the ten-year period, 1908–18, from £1,887,891 to £3,073,083—an addition of £1,185,192. These are well invested, the return from the sick and funeral fund for the year 1918 averaging slightly over 4½ per cent. There is a number of female societies, the particulars for which are included above. At the end of 1918 these had a membership of 11,556 and funds amounting to £67,179.

A table is appended showing the membership, revenue, expenditure, and total funds of friendly societies in Victoria during the years 1914-1918 :—

Year.			Membership.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Funds.
				£	£	£
1914	...	...	159,741	620,765	467,506	2,644,216
1915	...	...	157,750	634,649	503,078	2,775,787
1916	...	...	157,889	672,650	536,259	2,912,178
1917	...	...	158,181	653,055	547,730	3,017,503
1918	...	...	149,558	658,435	602,855	3,073,083

The statement which follows contains further information in regard to the societies for the five years, 1914 to 1918 :—

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES, 1914 TO 1918.

(Including Female Societies.)

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.
Number of societies ...	46	45	46	46	46
Number of branches ...	1,524	1,533	1,522	1,516	1,496
Average number of members	158,511	158,746	157,819	158,035	153,870
Number of members sick	29,014	28,784	28,189	26,468	28,326
Weeks for which sick pay was allowed	230,979	239,134	261,077	275,388	306,054
Deaths of members ...	1,348	1,703	1,909	2,479	2,525
Deaths of registered wives	495	472	502	478	473
	£	£	£	£	£
Income of sick and funeral fund	342,294	347,795	361,380	357,525	352,973
Income of incidental fund	253,341	257,880	282,955	264,710	275,022
Other Income ...	25,130	28,974	28,315	30,820	30,440
Total Income ...	620,765	634,649	672,650	653,055	658,435
Expenditure of sick and funeral fund	194,873	213,775	246,712	251,250	308,804
Expenditure of incidental fund	250,199	259,713	265,508	268,647	265,954
Other Expenditure ...	22,434	29,590	24,039	27,833	28,097
Total Expenditure...	467,506	503,078	536,259	547,730	602,855
Amount to credit of sick and funeral fund	2,485,586	2,619,606	2,734,274	2,840,549	2,884,718
Amount to credit of incidental fund	93,153	91,320	108,767	104,830	113,898
Amount invested—sick and funeral fund	2,407,557	2,532,817	2,650,796	2,762,036	2,802,057
Amount invested—incidental fund	83,635	84,143	98,299	93,519	105,329
Amount invested—other funds	61,521	61,859	64,786	67,916	71,047
Total invested ...	2,552,713	2,678,819	2,813,881	2,923,471	2,984,433
„ funds ...	2,644,216	2,775,787	2,912,178	3,017,503	3,073,083

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

Secessions and expenses.

Societies lost 7·5 per cent. of their members in 1918 through secession. This rate was a substantial increase on that for 1917 (6 per cent.). The increase was due mainly to the dispute between the British Medical Association and the societies, which is referred to in a previous paragraph. As a rule, most of the secessions are those of new members who allow their membership to lapse before they have time to appreciate its value. Expenses of management absorbed 17·7 per cent. of the contributions to all funds during 1918. This ratio does not differ much from that which prevails in well-managed life assurance companies, and is considerably below the rate in industrial assurance business. When it is remembered that the benefits and contributions are usually payable fortnightly and that this entails a great deal of administrative work, it will be seen 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 1903-7. This relates to male lives only. Tables containing rates of sickness and mortality obtained by the investigation are given in the *Year-Book* for 1913-14.

Sickness and mortality experience, 1914-18.

The following statement shows the number of weeks' sickness experienced by male members of ordinary friendly societies and the number per effective member in respect of which claims for sick pay were received in 1914 (the last year unaffected by the war), 1917 and 1918, also the number of deaths of male members of such societies in those years and the number per 1,000 effective members :—

Year.	Weeks of Sickness.			Deaths.	
	Number.	Number per Effective Member.		Number.	Number per 1,000 Effective Members.
	Weeks.	Weeks.	Days.		
1914 ..	216,520	1	4	1,263	10 03
1917 ..	257,847	2	0	2,409	18·68
1918 ..	288,088	2	2	2,457	19·55

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 a factory. The same Act defined "factory" to be a place where not fewer 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, and

guarding of machinery, and regulating the conditions of work generally to a much greater extent than formerly, 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 1896 by Sir Alexander Peacock. 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 by 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 six 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 four new Special Boards (the Cement Board, the Cement Articles Board, the Manufacturing Chemists Board and the Musical Instruments Board), were carried in both Houses of the Legislature during 1918.

The powers conferred on the Rubber Trade Board, the Painters Board and the Woodworkers Board were during the year re-defined in new resolutions passed by Parliament. The Governor in Council, under the powers in that behalf conferred upon him, appointed the Engineers and Brassworkers Skilled and Unskilled Boards in lieu of the Brassworkers and Engineering Boards, and also extended the scope of the powers of the Country Woodworkers and the Hotel Employees Board.

On 31st December, 1918, there were 153 Special Boards existent or authorized, affecting about 150,000 employees. Two of these Boards have not been constituted, viz., the Slaughtering for Export Board and the Felt Hatters Board.

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

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Aerated Water Trade | 21. Builders' Labourers |
| 2. Aerated Water Carters | 22. Butchers |
| 3. Agricultural Implements | 23. Butchers (Country) |
| 4. Agricultural Implements (Country) | 24. Butchers (Provincial) |
| 5. Asphalters | 25. Butter |
| 6. Bagmakers | 26. Candlemakers |
| 7. Bedsteadmakers | 27. Cardboard Box Trade |
| 8. Bill Posters | 28. Carpenters |
| 9. Biscuit | 29. Carriage |
| 10. Boiler Makers | 30. Carters |
| 11. Boot | 31. Cement |
| 12. Boot Dealers | 32. Cement Articles |
| 13. Bread | 33. Chaffcutters |
| 14. Bread (Country) | 34. Chemists (Manufacturing) |
| 15. Bread (Provincial) | 35. Chemists' Shops |
| 16. Bread Carters | 36. Cigar Trade |
| 17. Brewers | 37. Clerks (Commercial) |
| 18. Bricklayers | 38. Clothing (Manufacturing Men's) |
| 19. Brick Trade | 39. Clothing (Waterproof) |
| 20. Brushmakers | 40. Coal and Coke |

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 41. Confectioners | 87. Lift |
| 42. Coopers | 88. Livery Stable |
| 43. Cordage | 89. Malt |
| 44. Cycle Trade | 90. Manure (Animal) |
| 45. Dispensaries | 91. Manure (Artificial) |
| 46. Drapers | 92. Marine Store |
| 47. Dressmakers | 93. Meat Preservers |
| 48. Dyers and Clothes Cleaners | 94. Men's Clothing |
| 49. Electrical Installation | 95. Millet Broom |
| 50. Electrical Supply | 96. Miners (Coal) |
| 51. Electroplaters | 97. Miners (Gold) |
| 52. Engine-drivers (Factory) | 98. Motor Drivers |
| 53. Engine-drivers (Mining) | 99. Musical Instruments |
| 54. Engineering and Brass-workers (skilled) | 100. Nailmakers |
| 55. Engineering and Brass-workers (unskilled) | 101. Night Watchmen's |
| 56. Engravers | 102. Office Cleaners |
| 57. Farriers | 103. Opticians |
| 58. Fellmongers | 104. Organ |
| 59. Fish and Poultry | 105. Ovenmakers |
| 60. Flour | 106. Painters |
| 61. Flour (Country) | 107. Paper |
| 62. Fuel and Fodder | 108. Paper Bag Trade |
| 63. Fuel and Fodder (Country) | 109. Pastrycooks |
| 64. Furniture | 110. Perambulator |
| 65. Furniture Dealers | 111. Photographers |
| 66. Gardeners | 112. Picture Frame |
| 67. Gas Meter | 113. Plasterers |
| 68. Glass Workers | 114. Plasterers (Fibrous) |
| 69. Grocers | 115. Plate Glass |
| 70. Grocers' Sundries | 116. Plumbers |
| 71. Grocers (Wholesale) | 117. Polish |
| 72. Hairdressers | 118. Pottery Trade |
| 73. Ham and Bacon Curers | 119. Printers |
| 74. Hardware | 120. Printers (Country) |
| 75. Hats (Straw) | 121. Printers (Provincial) |
| 76. Hatters (Felt) | 122. Process Engravers |
| 77. *Headwear | 123. Quarry |
| 78. Horsehair | 124. Rubber Trade |
| 79. Hospital Attendants | 125. Saddlery |
| 80. Hotel Employees | 126. Saddlery (Country) |
| 81. Ice | 127. Sewer Builders |
| 82. Ironmoulders | 128. Shirt |
| 83. Jam Trade | 129. Shop Assistants (Country) |
| 84. Jewellers | 130. Slaters and Tilers |
| 85. Knitters | 131. Slaughtering for Export |
| 86. Leather Goods | 132. Soap and Soda |
| | 133. Starch |
| | 134. Stationery |

* Formerly the Milliners' Board.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 135. Stone Cutters | 144. Tramway |
| 136. Storemen, Packers, and Sorters | 145. Tuckpointers |
| 137. Tanners | 146. Underclothing |
| 138. Tea Packing | 147. Undertakers |
| 139. Tentmakers | 148. Watchmakers |
| 140. Tiemakers | 149. Wicker |
| 141. Tilelayers | 150. Wireworkers |
| 142. Timber Fellers | 151. Woodworkers |
| 143. Tinsmiths | 152. Woodworkers (Country) |
| | 153. Woollen Trade |

A Wages Board, having been constituted, meets (until the first Determination is made) as often as it chooses, usually once a week, at the Factories Office. An officer of the Department of Labour acts as secretary. The members of the Board are paid 10s. a sitting, with the addition of necessary out-of-pocket expenses. Members are paid for not more than seven meetings when making a new Determination and not more than four meetings when revising an existing Determination. 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 Department of Labour 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 Department of Labour, 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 employer 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.

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 thirty-three 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. Mr. Justice F. W. Mann 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 decision decides every reference to the Court. Since its re-constitution in 1915 the Court has dealt with sixteen cases.

During the year 1918 Determinations made by 143 Boards appointed under the Act were in force. The figures, taken from the annual report of the Chief Inspector of Factories, show in most cases a considerable increase in average earnings consequent thereon. Some instances of the increases are given below :—

Trade.	Average Weekly Wage Paid to all Employes.		Increase.
	Before First Determination was made.	In 1918.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Aerated Water ..	1 6 7	2 6 4	0 19 9
Agricultural Implements ..	1 19 5	2 18 9	0 19 4
Asphalters ..	2 2 10	3 3 3	1 0 5
Bedsteadmakers ..	1 12 2	2 16 10	1 4 8
Boot ..	1 3 2	2 8 7	1 5 5
Boot Dealers ..	1 6 11	2 2 6	0 15 7
Bread ..	1 12 6	3 10 0	1 17 6
Brewers ..	1 14 4	3 3 3	1 8 11
Brushmakers ..	1 3 1	2 5 4	1 2 3
Butchers ..	1 17 8	3 2 10	1 5 2
Candlemakers ..	1 4 8	2 13 8	1 9 0
Carpenters ..	2 7 6	3 13 8	1 6 2
Clothing ..	1 0 0	1 13 6	0 13 6
„ Waterproof ..	1 2 3	2 1 3	0 19 0
Commercial Clerks ..	1 10 7	2 12 9	1 2 2
Coopers ..	1 15 7	4 0 4	2 4 9
Engravers ..	1 16 11	2 6 2	0 9 3
Farriers ..	1 15 2	3 1 8	1 6 6
Furniture Trade—			
(a) European (Cabinet making &c.) ..	1 9 1	2 14 0	1 4 11
(b) European (Mantelpieces) ..	1 13 6	3 0 3	1 6 9
Glassworkers ..	1 14 11	3 11 1	1 16 2
Grocers ..	1 7 4	2 10 4	1 3 0
Hairdressers ..	1 2 9	2 6 6	1 3 9
Ice ..	2 10 3	4 6 2	1 15 11
Jewellers ..	1 13 10	2 15 5	1 1 7
Lift Attendants ..	1 5 0	2 14 6	1 9 6
Malt ..	2 1 1	3 6 0	1 4 11
Marine Store ..	1 5 7	2 17 6	1 11 11
Men's Clothing ..	1 18 4	2 18 1	0 19 9
Millet Broom ..	1 7 11	2 13 3	1 5 4
Painters ..	2 0 9	3 7 4	1 6 7
Picture Frame ..	1 3 11	2 8 5	1 4 6
Plate Glass ..	1 7 6	3 0 0	1 12 6
Plumbers ..	1 12 8	3 6 4	1 13 8
Pottery ..	1 8 1	2 12 11	1 4 10
Saddlery ..	1 7 1	2 13 4	1 6 3
„ Country ..	1 10 7	2 5 1	0 14 6
Slaters and Tilers ..	2 0 8	3 16 8	1 16 0
Starch ..	1 0 9	2 5 7	1 4 10
Stonecutters ..	1 15 11	3 5 9	1 9 10
Tanners ..	1 11 9	2 19 3	1 7 6
Watchmakers ..	1 14 2	3 2 7	1 8 5
Wicker ..	1 2 11	2 12 2	1 9 3
Woodworkers ..	1 13 2	3 2 5	1 9 3
„ Country ..	2 9 0	3 6 9	0 17 9

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 Department of Labour 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 1915 by the *Factories and Shops Act* 1915, No. 2650. No changes were effected in the law by this measure. The existing Acts were merely consolidated.

On 20th October, 1914, the *Apprentices Act* 1914, No. 2540, came into operation, and it 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*.

Shops, Metropolitan District. Shortly stated, in the Metropolitan District, as defined in the *Factories and Shops Act* 1915, the hours for closing shops are as follows:—Hairdressers' shops must be closed on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 7 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 7 p.m., and may be kept open until 8 p.m. on Friday; if it be closed at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, it may be kept open till 8 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 the Governor in Council is given power to make Regulations for their closing.

The following are the only cases where such Regulations have been made :—

—	Regulation Gazetted.	Sun.	Mon.	Tu.	Wed.	Th.	F.	Saturday.
Chemists' Shops ..	3rd May, 1916	P.M. 8	P.M. 8	P.M. 8	P.M. 8	P.M. 8	P.M. 10	P.M. 1 re-open, 6 to 8
Cooked Meat (other than tinned meat)..	25th August, 1914	..	8	8	8	8	10	11
Fruit and Vegetable (May to September inclusive only) ..	16th October. 1918	..	7	7	7	7	..	..

Under the provisions of the *Factories and Shops Act* 1915 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 employees.

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, passed in November, 1914, 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. During the year 1918 25,920 shops employing 27,520 persons were registered.

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. 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 1918 the figures were 7,994 factories with 104,242 employees.

GOVERNMENT LABOUR EXCHANGE.

**Government
Labour
Exchange.**

Prior to 1st October, 1900, two labour bureaux 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 an exchange under the control of the Labour 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. The Exchange 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 exchange for the year 1918 in respect to registrations and applicants sent to employment :—

GOVERNMENT LABOUR EXCHANGE.

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.
1918—January	550	422
February	387	416
March	347	484
April	409	487
May	301	631
June	410	327
July	323	237
August	344	232
September	239	439
October	196	413
November	200	453
December	242	266

In the next table particulars are given of the operations of the exchange during the last five years :—

Year.	Registrations Effected.		Engagements Effected.
	In the City.	In the Country.	
1914	33,878	11,274	8,302
1915	26,369	7,914	7,884
1916	13,483	2,847	3,956
1917	10,448	2,127	3,885
1918	8,743	1,729	4,807

Regarding the number of distinct individuals included in the registrations and engagements effected, the officer in charge of the Exchange states that the number of men who are regular applicants at the Exchange is very considerable, especially amongst unskilled labourers, and consequently a large allowance must be made for duplication of registrations. 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. Also in connexion with the engagements effected in the course of a year allowance must 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 1918 the number of railway tickets advanced was 2,048, valued at £1,647, of which £1,423 has been refunded. During the past eighteen years 31,120 railway tickets have been advanced, of the value of £22,740, of which £14,500 has been refunded.

REPATRIATION—VICTORIA.

On 8th April, 1918, Repatriation became an Australian national undertaking. On that date the Department of Repatriation, with Senator the Hon. E. D. Millen, as first Minister, was established. Its objects are to find employment for the fit, to re-establish the disabled, to provide for the dependents of those who have died, or of those who are no longer able to support themselves, and to supply medical and surgical treatment for disabilities due to, or aggravated by war service.

The policy of the Department is based upon four main principles :—

- (a) To secure the re-establishment of returned soldiers in the industrial life of the community to the fullest extent that circumstances permit ;
- (b) To sustain these soldiers until an opportunity for such re-establishment is assured ;
- (c) To provide for the care of the dependents of soldiers who, on account of injuries sustained, are unable to provide for those usually dependent on them ; and
- (d) To provide post-war medical treatment for returned soldiers who are suffering from disabilities caused or aggravated by war services.

To give effect to these principles the Department undertakes :—

- (1) To provide suitable employment for those who are able to follow their pre-war occupation or one similar to it, and pay sustenance until such opportunities are presented ;
- (2) To restore to the fullest degree of efficiency possible, by means of vocational training, those who, on account of war service, are unable to follow their pre-war occupations, and during the period of such training to assure trainees adequate sustenance ;

- (3) To maintain totally and permanently incapacitated soldiers and their dependents and soldiers' widows with children ;
- (4) To provide *gratis* all necessary medical treatment, surgical aids, and medicaments ; all hospital fees and transport expenses thereto and therefrom, with sustenance for the period of treatment. Where hospital treatment is not feasible the same may be given in the home or wherever else may be approved.

The activities of the Department are classified under five sections—Employment, Vocational Training, Land Settlement, Housing, and Assistance. Under Assistance a wide variety of benefits is extended, including the provision of surgical aids, medical treatment, establishment in small businesses, furniture loans and grants, relief from onerous mortgages, educational grants, and equipment with tools of trade. In co-operation with the State Governments a land settlement scheme has been devised, whereby the Federal Government loans the States money to provide the required holdings and to construct railways or other works necessary to their successful operation. Under this scheme the Commonwealth Government will also make available capital up to £625 per settler. This will afford every soldier possessing the natural aptitude and fitness an opportunity of ultimately owning his own farm.

Under the provisions of the housing scheme a nurse, a returned soldier, a munition or war worker, a soldier's widow or his dependents are entitled to a maximum advance of £700 for the purpose of acquiring a dwelling. The period of re-payment will vary according to the material of the house. Principal and interest are repayable as rent, at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum.

Discharged nurses, sailors and soldiers are entitled to free medical treatment, surgical aids, drugs, and necessary medicines. The expenses of unavoidable travel for any medical or surgical purposes are undertaken by the Department, which likewise defrays any necessary expenses in a hospital or other approved place. While undergoing such treatment, and upon the certificate of a Departmental Medical Officer, a married soldier receives sustenance at the fixed rate of £2 12s. per week (inclusive of pension), with 3s. 6d. per week added for each child. In a like situation a soldier without dependents receives sustenance at the rate of £2 2s. per week. By arrangement with the Pharmaceutical Society, upon the production of the Medical Officer's prescription to any pharmacist, such medicines, lotions or dressings as may be required will be immediately supplied free to the soldier.

The sustenance rate that may be granted to applicants awaiting fulfilment by the Department of certain specified obligations is:—

- (a) To a soldier without dependents a weekly income, inclusive of pension, of £2 2s.
- (b) To a soldier with a wife a weekly income, inclusive of their combined pensions, of £2 12s.

An additional allowance of 3s. 6d. per week is made for each child up to four, the maximum sum payable being £3 6s. per week.

The following is a summary of the work of the Department in Victoria from its inauguration, 8th April, 1918, to 30th September, 1919 :—

Employment—Number of applications received ..	21,775
,, positions filled	17,788
Assistance other than vocational training and employment—	
Number of applications received	53,251
,, approved	45,585
Assistance granted—	
Sustenance Value ..	£451,666
Other assistance „ ..	354,211
Total	<u>£805,877</u>

**Workers'
Compensation
Act.**

The principal provisions of this Act are outlined in the *Year-Book* for 1916–17, pages 552 to 558.

STATE ACCIDENT INSURANCE OFFICE.

A State Accident Insurance Office was established shortly after the passing of the Workers' Compensation 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.

For the financial year 1918–19 the premiums paid and outstanding, less reinsurance premiums and refunds, amounted to £28,650 4s. 1d., as compared with £27,426 1s. in the previous year. The number of claims settled and in course of settlement was 1,599, and a sum of £14,408 1s. 2d. had actually been paid away in settlement of claims and progress payments, this being the net sum after deduction of an amount for which provision had been made in the accounts of the previous year. It was estimated that a further sum of £3,159 13s. would be required to provide for the outstanding liability in respect of the unsettled claims.

As a result of the operations of the office to the 30th June, 1919, there was at that date a credit balance of £29,986 1s. 6d., of which £23,000 represented a general reserve fund and £6,986 1s. 6d. was set aside as a special provision for bonuses.

The Revenue Account and Profit and Loss Account of the office for the year ended 30th June, 1919, and the balance-sheet as at that date, are given on a subsequent page.

In spite of the various reductions in rates made by the Department, in accordance with the experience gained, the net premium income is the largest amount secured since the office was established. The expense rate shows a decrease as compared with the year 1917-18.

The following table contains a statement of the premium income, the claims paid, and the accumulated funds for each year since the establishment of the office :—

PREMIUMS RECEIVED, CLAIMS PAID, AND ACCUMULATED FUNDS OF THE STATE ACCIDENT INSURANCE OFFICE, 1914-15 TO 1918-19.

Year.	Premiums received, less Reinsurances. Rebates, &c.	Claims (including those outstanding).	Accumulated Funds.	
			General Reserve.	Bonus Reserve.
	£	£	£	£
1914-15* ..	27,502	3,006	2,750	1,494
1915-16 ..	25,647	12,370	9,750	5,459
1916-17 ..	26,249	13,977	14,750	†7,506
1917-18 ..	27,426	14,250	19,000	3,824
1918-19 ..	28,650	17,567	23,000	6,986

* Refers to a period of eight months only (7th November, 1914, to 30th June, 1915). Insurance was not compulsory until 7th May, 1915.

† Bonus distributed amongst policy holders.

Compulsory Insurance. It is obligatory on 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 30th June, 1919, was 49. One of the conditions of approval was that the company should deposit with the Treasurer a sum of not less than £6,000 (except in the case of subsidiary or acquired companies, where provision has been made for a smaller deposit), 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 £284,000.

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. Up to the present (October, 1919) one scheme of compensation has been certified by a Judge of County Courts in accordance with Section 13 of the Act.

STATE ACCIDENT INSURANCE OFFICE.

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1919.

	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Claims ..	17,505	1 11				
Less claims recovered ..	73	15 4				
and provision for unadjusted claims as at 30th June, 1918 ..	3,023	5 5				
			3,097	0 9		
					14,408	1 2
Provision for unearned premiums ..					13,659	11 5
Provision for unadjusted claims ..					3,159	13 0
Net Revenue, carried down ..					11,193	1 5
Total ..					£42,420	7 0

	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Premiums for year ..	30,354	12 0		
Less reinsurances and rebates ..	4,701	7 11		
			28,650	4 1
Provision for unearned premiums, 30th June, 1918 ..			13,770	2 11
Total ..			£42,420	7 0

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1919.

	£	s. d.
Administration Expenses ..	410	0 0
Agents' Expenses and Commission ..	1,110	14 1
Expenses of Management, including Salaries ..	3,509	5 7
Net Profit ..	7,161	16 8
Total ..	£12,191	16 4

	£	s. d.
Net Revenue, brought down ..	11,193	1 5
Interest on funds at Treasury ..	998	14 11
Total ..	£12,191	16 4

BALANCE-SHEET AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1919.

Liabilities.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Unearned Premiums ..			13,659	11 5
Outstanding Claims ..			3,159	13 0
Sundry Accounts unpaid—				
On Account Agents ..	124	11 7		
Other ..	16	11 6		
			141	3 1
Bonus Distribution Account, 1917—Amounts unclaimed ..			360	15 3
Bonus Reserve ..			8,824	5 10
General Reserve ..			19,000	0 0
Balance of Profit appropriated—				
General Reserve ..	4,000	0 0		
Bonus Reserve ..	3,161	16 8		
			7,161	16 8
Total ..			£47,807	5 3

Assets.	£	s. d.
Amount of Funds at Treasury ..	23,691	15 7
Premiums due ..	118	16 7
Treasury Interest Accrued ..	250	17 11
Stamps on Hand ..	51	14 1
Bonus Reserve Distribution Fund 1917—Balance at Bank ..	360	15 3
General Reserve Fund ..	19,000	0 0
Bonus Reserve Fund ..	3,824	5 10
Total ..	£47,807	5 3

Social Condition.

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.

Charitable and reformatory institutions, &c.

The total number of organizations throughout the State which administered relief to persons in necessitous circumstances or were of a reformatory character, and which forwarded returns to the Government Statist for the year 1918, was 231. The total receipts of all the organizations were £2,231,151, of which £1,765,342 was contributed by the Government and £465,809 was received from all other sources. The total expenditure was £2,195,666. The daily average number under care indoors throughout the year in charitable and reformatory institutions was 15,345, and there were no less than 159,242 distinct cases of out-door relief. With regard to the out-door 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.

The following table gives in summarized form full particulars of all these charitable and reformatory institutions, and shows the number in each class, the daily average number of persons under care in the institutions, and the total number of distinct cases receiving out-door relief, together with the receipts and expenditure:—

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS, ETC.— INMATES, RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, 1917-18.

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Daily Average In-door Patients.	Out-door Relief Distinct Cases.	Receipts.			Expenditure (including Building Expenses for Year).
				From Government.	From Other Sources.	Total.	
				£	£	£	£
HOSPITALS.							
General Hospitals	52	2,153	60,222	62,664	192,043	254,707	234,061
Women's Hospital	1	159	2,848	2,112	14,085	16,197	20,923
Children's Hospital	1	160	12,757	2,125	25,033	27,158	21,678
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children ..	1	30	2,967	362	2,730	3,092	2,970
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	1	55	..	3,817	515	4,332	4,332
Heatherton Sanatorium	1	83	..	3,500	3,698	7,198	5,396
Convalescent Homes	2	35	..	296	2,395	2,691	2,273
Deaf and Dumb, Blind, and Eye and Ear Institutions ..	4	318	9,717	3,018	20,262	23,280	16,204
Hospitals for Insane, Idiot Asylum, and Receiving House ..	12	5,931	..	229,371	29,939	259,310	259,310
Foundling Hospitals	2	293	..	3,471	5,253	8,724	8,551
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	1	325	..	14,582	31,231	45,863	44,997
Total	78	9,542	88,511	325,318	327,234	652,552	620,695

**CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS, ETC.—INMATES,
RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, 1917-18—continued.**

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Daily Average in-door Patients.	Out-door Relief Distinct Cases.	Receipts.			Expenditure (including Building Expenses for Year).
				From Government.	From Other Sources.	Total.	
				£	£	£	£
BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS AND SOCIETIES.							
Benevolent Asylums ..	8	1,878	507	21,028	29,218	50,246	48,157
Old Colonists' Association ..	1	71	..	..	4,810	4,810	3,025
Freemasons' Homes ..	1	18	..	..	1,729	1,729	1,015
Benevolent Societies ..	84	..	11,362	10,335	21,477	31,812	29,910
Orphan Asylums	10	1,675	..	4,517	29,718	34,235	35,464
Total	104	3,642	11,869	25,880	88,952	122,832	117,571
REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.							
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools ..	13	530	10,715	174,910	9,540	184,450	184,450
Lara Inebriates' Institution ..	1	26	..	1,464	1,203	2,667	2,667
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	1	22	..	321	1,496	1,817	1,793
Female Refuges	9	687	..	2,509	25,689	28,198	22,687
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	4	150	..	340	5,918	6,258	6,111
Prison Association of Victoria	1	..	392	380	504	884	871
Gaols and Penal Establishments	15	652	..	55,027	..	55,027	55,027
Total	44	2,067	11,107	234,951	44,350	279,301	280,606
MISCELLANEOUS.							
Old-age and Invalid Pensioners ..	..	..	38,060	1,168,498	..	1,168,498	1,168,498
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	1	94	..	595	4,097	4,692	5,097
Night Shelter (Dr. Singleton's)	1	..	4,243	..	2	2	32
Charity Organization Society	1	..	502	..	2,381	2,381	2,399
Free Dispensaries	2	..	4,950	100	793	893	768
Total	5	94	47,755	1,169,193	7,273	1,176,466	1,176,794
Grand Total..	231	15,345	159,242	1,765,342	465,809	2,231,151	2,195,666

**Charitable
Institutions—
receipts and
expenditure.**

The receipts of all charitable institutions for the year 1917-18 amounted to £1,007,626, of which £541,817, or 54 per cent., was contributed by Government, and the expenditure amounted to £972,141. Of the Government contribution, £413,062 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 Sanatoria for Consumptives, and the Lara Inebriates' Institution, which are Government institutions.

**Charitable
Institutions—
receipts and
expenditure,
1909-1918.**

The expenditure of charitable institutions has considerably increased during the past ten years. In 1909 it was £676,675, and it had increased to £972,141 in 1918. This is equivalent to an advance of about 44 per cent. The aid from Government increased by 43 per cent., and that from other sources by 72 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, 1909 TO 1918.

Year ended 30th June.	Receipts.			Expenditure.			
	Government aid.	Other.	Total.	Building and extraordinary Repairs.	Main-tenance.	Other.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
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	668,084	4,484	852,082
1914 ..	485,018	347,053	832,071	154,565	705,768	6,529	866,862
1915 ..	541,668	349,421	891,089	137,589	774,873	6,685	919,147
1916 ..	525,682	418,050	943,732	89,904	846,339	8,863	945,106
1917 ..	543,225	502,598	1,045,823	132,601	850,357	10,619	993,577
1918 ..	541,817	465,809	1,007,626	67,254	895,919	8,968	972,141

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, 1917-18.

Description of Institution.	Daily average Number of Inmates.	Total Cost of Maintenance.	Average cost of each Inmate.
		£	£ s. d.
General Hospitals	2,153	211,153	98 1 6
Women's Hospital	159	18,124	113 19 9
Children's Hospital	160	17,622	110 2 9
Eye and Ear Hospital	59	7,346	124 10 2
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	30	2,884	96 2 8
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	325	30,125	92 13 10
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows) ...	113	2,008	17 15 5
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	180	5,466	30 7 4
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	55	4,280	77 16 4
Heatherton Sanatorium	83	5,396	65 0 3
Receiving Houses for the Insane	5,931	247,585	41 14 11
Hospitals for the Insane			
Idiot Asylum			
Benevolent Asylums	1,878	46,431	24 14 6
Convalescent Homes	35	1,974	56 8 0
Blind Asylums	164	4,624	28 3 11
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	95	3,822	40 4 8
Orphan Asylums	1,675	28,282	16 17 8
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	11,245	181,014	16 1 11
Female Refuges	687	27,294	39 14 7
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	150	5,126	34 3 6
Old Colonists' Association	71	2,964	41 14 11
Lara Inebriates' Institution	26	2,667	102 11 6
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	22	1,793	81 10 0
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	94	3,111	33 1 11
Freemasons' Home	18	848	47 2 3
Total	25,408	861,939	33 18 6

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 Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, the Orphan Asylums, 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 somewhat higher. The average cost per inmate of the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home, Female Refugees, 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.

Of the total income of charitable institutions in 1917-18 more than half was contributed by the Government, and 11½ per cent. was collected from patients. The receipts of hospitals and other charitable institutions in the State under various headings are shown hereunder :—

SOURCES OF INCOME OF CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS IN VICTORIA, 1917-18.

Receipts.	General Hospitals.	Women's Hospital.	Children's Hospital.	Eye and Ear Hospital.	Queen's Memorial Hospital.	Other Hospitals.	Other Institutions.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Government Aid	62,864	2,112	2,125	808	14,582	3,833	455,693	541,817
Municipal Grants	8,585	371	405	295	18,878	248	6,876	35,658
Private Contributions ..	31,304	1,965	6,637	542	..	1,752	41,758	83,958
Proceeds of Entertainments ..	19,789	21	215	..	..	95	6,962	27,082
Legacies, Bequests, Special Donations and Proceeds of Intestate Estates	57,176	4,058	11,446	1,515	1	2,132	18,205	94,533
Hospital Sunday and Church Donations	16,097	1,524	2,371	930	..	487	2,628	24,037
Contributions of Indoor Patients ..	31,762	4,001	1,461	1,073	..	1,450	62,351	102,098
Out-patients' Fees	10,886	280	1,614	1,610	..	613	..	15,003
Proceeds of Inmates' Labour ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26,834	26,834
Interest or Rent	11,209	90	585	500	44	78	13,645	26,151
Other Receipts	5,235	1,775	299	659	12,358	1,128	9,001	30,455
Total	254,707	16,197	27,158	7,932	45,863	11,816	643,953	1,007,626

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, 1918, 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 1918. Of the general hospitals, six are in Melbourne, and the remainder in country towns, seven of the latter being also benevolent asylums. The accommodation available for indoor patients was as follows :—

AMOUNT OF ACCOMMODATION, 1917-18.

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 ...	52	434	4,804,725	3,562	1,349
Women's Hospital ...	1	27	229,970	201	1,144
Children's Hospital ...	1	17	151,855	142	1,069
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	1	4	25,730	30	858
Eye and Ear Hospital ...	1	16	89,248	92	970
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	1	51	500,000	526*	951
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows)	1	7	50,165	129	389
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	1	5	26,208	130	202
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	1	13	58,582	90	651
Heatherton Sanatorium ...	1	13	99,728	92	1,084
Receiving Houses for the Insane	2	22	63,782	73	874
Hospitals for the Insane ...	9	1,413	3,614,938	4,880	741
Idiot Asylum ...	1	20	114,288	312	366
Benevolent Asylums ...	8	187	1,980,350	2,395	827
Convalescent Homes ...	2	24	68,790	61	1,128
Blind Asylums ...	2	13	97,200	98	992
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ...	1	4	87,604	90	973
Orphan Asylums ...	10	87	891,944	1,756	508
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	13	58	271,420	604	449
Female Refugees ...	9	168	602,303	797	756
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	4	20	103,258	209	494
Lara Inebriates' Institution	1	11	46,796	50	936
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	1	39	46,151	55	839
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	1	22	70,669	92	768
Total ...	125	2,675	14,095,704	16,466	856

* Including Cots.

**Charitable
Institutions
— inmates
and deaths.**

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

INMATES AND DEATHS, 1917-18.

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	30,129	2,153	2,799	9·3
Women's Hospital	4,441	159	93	2·1
Children's Hospital	2,586	160	241	9·3
Eye and Ear Hospital	1,263	59	7	·6
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	354	30	6	1·7
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	4,195	325	137	3·3
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows)	226	113	...	...
Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	245	180	1	·4
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	269	55	4	1·5
Heatherton Sanatorium	275	83	83	30·2
Receiving Houses for the Insane ...	788	54	12	1·5
Hospitals for the Insane	6,476	5,542	369	5·7
Idiot Asylum	380	335	24	6·3
Benevolent Asylums	3,131	1,878	438	13·9
Convalescent Homes	876	35	...	...
Blind Asylums	194	164	...	...
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	114	95	...	...
Orphan Asylums	2,138	1,675	6	·3
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	12,976	11,245	110	·9
Female Refuges	1,074	687	19	1·8
Salvation Army Rescue Homes ...	473	150	2	·4
Old Colonists' Association	84	71	10	11·9
Lara Inebriates' Institution	162	26	1	·6
Brightside Inebriates' Institution ...	68	22	1	1·5
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	122	94	1	·8
Freemasons' Home	22	18	4	18·2
Total	73,061	25,408	4,363	6·0

In addition to the inmates shown in the above table, there were 73 mothers of infants in the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home, 119 infants in the Female Refuges, and 183 infants in Salvation Army Homes during the year.

**Patients
treated, etc.,
in hospitals.**

The following statement contains particulars as to the number of beds, the number of patients treated, and the deaths which occurred in general hospitals during the year 1917-18. The receipts, distinguishing moneys received from the

Government and other sources, and the expenditure per head for maintenance are also shown :—

**NUMBER OF PATIENTS TREATED IN GENERAL HOSPITALS;
ALSO DEATHS, TOTAL RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE
PER HEAD FOR MAINTENANCE, 1917-18.**

Hospital.	Number of Beds.	Total Indoor Patients treated during Year.	Average Daily Number of Indoor Patients treated.	Number of Deaths.	Receipts.			Expenditure per Head for Maintenance.	
					From Government.	Other.	Total.		
					£	£	£	£	s. d.
Amherst ..	122	370	65·3	10	3,000	624	3,624	46	9 7
Ararat ..	70	424	36·5	30	1,148	1,747	2,895	69	1 11
Ballarat ..	170	1,053	70·4	95	1,955	4,791	6,746	96	4 2
Beechworth ..	95	234	25·5	18	755	1,263	2,018	96	16 6
Bendigo ..	222	2,085	128·7	170	2,382	9,144	11,526	99	17 2
Castlemaine ..	75	377	29·0	34	680	2,084	2,764	79	1 6
Daylesford ..	52	143	16·1	19	362	855	1,217	83	17 0
Geelong ..	217	1,290	133·0	78	1,913	6,830	8,743	64	8 0
Hamilton ..	91	444	39·2	34	938	1,786	2,724	74	6 3
Kyneton ..	54	261	18·0	17	447	1,660	2,107	110	1 1
Maryborough ..	95	368	22·4	30	787	1,071	1,858	93	8 9
Melbourne ..	325	6,646	357·0	832	17,425	38,606	56,031	131	14 11
Alfred ..	168	2,544	153·0	294	4,922	29,876	34,798	132	10 9
Austin ..	290	494	218·1	191	4,923	10,429	15,352	69	17 10
Homœopathic ..	98	1,327	77·3	92	1,725	8,457	10,182	107	14 2
St. Vincent's ..	138	2,456	128·6	165	3,985	21,258	25,243	122	0 5
Mooroopna ..	104	1,211	64·2	75	1,540	4,721	6,261	69	16 11
Sale ..	72	651	44·1	35	808	6,766	7,574	96	4 3
Stawell ..	66	301	21·7	24	785	2,724	3,509	81	4 11
Swan Hill ..	52	349	26·2	40	505	1,400	1,905	97	8 10
Wangaratta ..	65	547	33·1	34	872	2,299	3,171	76	19 0
Warrnambool ..	89	512	47·7	31	745	1,932	2,677	71	9 9
Other Hospital ..	832	6,042	397·9	451	10,062	31,770	41,832	97	6 11
Total ..	3,562	30,129	2153·0	2,799	62,664	192,043	254,707	98	1 6

The origin of this institution belongs to the very earliest days of Melbourne. The *Year-Books* for 1915-16 and 1916-17 contain a statement of the circumstances associated with the foundation of the hospital in 1846, and a reference to its rebuilding in recent years.

It has always been the principal general hospital of Victoria, and the chief medical training school for University students. The wards now contain 329 beds, in which 6,646 in-patients were treated in 1917-18. In the out-patients' and casualty departments 29,938 persons were treated in that year. The aggregate number of attendances of out-patients was 143,838.

The usefulness of the Melbourne Hospital since its inauguration may be judged from the work carried out. The in-patients treated to 30th June, 1918, numbered 264,457; the out-patients, 1,118,809.

In 1917-18 the Government grant for maintenance amounted to £17,425; the revenue derived from municipal grants was £707; private

contributions amounted to £7,402; bequests to £9,995; Hospital Sunday collections to £4,814; payments and contributions by in-door patients to £6,240; and out-patients' fees to £4,239; interest yielded a revenue of £3,511; and £1,698 was received from all other sources. The receipts for the twelve months reached a total of £56,031, and the expenditure was £48,254.

Other Hospitals, &c. Statements showing the nature of the work performed by other hospitals, societies, &c., are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 568 to 582, and 586.

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, 1918, 222 patients were treated at the sanatorium, 40 of these being cases admitted during the previous year. Of this number, 116 did very well, 53 were classed as incurable, and 10 were discharged at their own request, of 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 40 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 3,935 patients. Of these, 2,653 had the disease arrested or their condition much improved; 719 were incurable; 59 died; 464 left of their own accord; and 40 remained at end of 1918. 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 1918 162 patients were treated, of whom 102 were discharged, their condition being much improved; 11 left, described as incurable; 4 died; and 45 remained under treatment at the end of the year. Sanatorium treatment has now been received by 1,532 patients. Of these, 1,309 were discharged cured or relieved; 21 left of their own accord; 133 were incurable; 24 died; and 45 remained on 31st December, 1918.

There is a sanatorium for intermediate and advanced cases at Heatherton, near Cheltenham Benevolent Asylum, containing 95

beds. There were on 1st January, 1918, 79 persons in the institution, and the number admitted during the succeeding twelve months was 194, making a total of 273 who received treatment during the year 1918. Of these, 95 were discharged, 92 died, and 86 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.

The work carried on by this Association is referred to in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 582. Full information in regard to the formation of classes may be obtained from the secretary, Mr. J. Harold Lord, 217 Lonsdale-street, Melbourne. (Telephone Central 121.)

This service, which is associated with St. John Ambulance Association, attended to 8,312 calls, of which 1,139 were accidents, during the year ended 30th April, 1919, and the mileage travelled was 68,895. In 1,890 cases no fee was paid. Country trips, to the number of 58 (46 of over 50 miles and 12 of over 100 miles), were undertaken during the year.

In addition to the ordinary work of the service an infectious service was organized for the conveyance of influenza patients. This special service conveyed 9,500 cases and travelled a distance of over 93,000 miles during a period of four months. The registered office and head depôt is situated at 217 Lonsdale-street, Melbourne. (Telephone Central 121.)

A statement of the objects of this society appears in the *Year-Book* 1916-17, page 583.

The income and outgo for the year ended 30th June, 1918, 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, £1,193; expenditure, £1,244; Trust Account (being donations for special applicants and objects)—Receipts, £1,079; expenditure, £1,039; Emergency Relief Account—Donations and refunds, £108; expenditure, £115. The number of separate cases dealt with during the year was 1,482, of which 719 were new cases investigated. About 58 per cent. of these new cases concerned returned soldiers or soldiers' dependents who came under the notice of the society through various patriotic organizations, and not as normal cases. Since the outbreak of war in 1914, the Society has been called upon to investigate considerably more than 6,000 of this class of case for different patriotic organizations.

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 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. 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 object sought by its establishment was to afford temporary relief at sustenance wages to able-bodied destitute men. During its existence 9,300 persons were afforded relief. These were instructed in the general work of farming, dairying, and fruit and vegetable growing. Pig breeding was carried on extensively. The amount of the Government grant expended during the year ended 30th June, 1919, was £350, making the total expenditure by the Government from the establishment of the Colony in 1893, £40,912.

The Labour Colony Farm was resumed by the Government in the interests of the repatriation of returned soldiers and ceased to exist as a Labour Colony on 31st May, 1919. The trustees were authorized by the Hon. F. G. Clarke, Minister for Lands, to sell the stock, plant, and surplus buildings, and a very successful clearing sale was held on the farm on 29th May, 1919, realizing the sum of £4,334. After discharging all liabilities incurred for the maintenance of the colony, the net proceeds, which amounted to £2,600, were paid into the State Treasury.

ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY OF AUSTRALASIA.

Humane Society. The Royal Humane Society of Australasia was established in 1874 under the name of "The Victoria 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, 1919, 104 applications for awards were investigated, with the result that 20 certificates, 21 bronze medals, and 7 silver medals were granted. The receipts during 1918-19 amounted to £411, and the expenditure to £412. 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 1918-19; 29 were for deeds of bravery performed in Victoria, 2 in New South Wales, 9 in Western Australia, 3 in Tasmania, 4 in Queensland, and 1 in South Australia. 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.

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 makes a special feature of the development of swimming and life saving proficiency.

ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY.

**Royal Life
Saving
Society.**

With a desire to minimize the great loss of life from drowning a society was established in Melbourne in 1904 entitled the "Royal Life Saving Society." Its objects are :—(1) To promote technical education in life saving and resuscitation of the apparently drowned; (2) To stimulate public opinion in favour of the general adoption of swimming and life saving as a branch of instruction in schools, colleges, &c.; (3) To encourage floating, diving, plunging, and such other swimming arts as would be of assistance to a person endeavouring to save life; (4) To arrange and promote public lectures, demonstrations and competitions, and to form classes of instruction, so as to bring about a widespread and thorough knowledge of the principles which underlie the art of natation.

The work done by the society has increased greatly since its inauguration, and in 1918-19 the awards granted totalled 839. Life saving classes are to be formed in connexion with the Victorian police, and the consent of the authorities has been obtained to allow members of the force who obtain awards to wear the official badge of the society on their arms. The whole of the State schools in Victoria have become affiliated to the society, and it is expected that the awards will be considerably increased as the result of this connexion.

**Society for
the Protection
of Animals.**

The objects of the society are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 589. During the year ended 30th June, 1918, 1,862 cases were dealt with by the society, of which 1,439 were connected with cruelty to horses. There were 92 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 £700 and the expenditure to £810.

**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 following amounts were collected in each of the last five years :—1914, £11,686; 1915, £15,911; 1916, £18,525; 1917, £19,020; and 1918, £22,447.

The total amount which has been collected since the movement was inaugurated in 1873 is £406,891.

The amounts distributed to the various charitable institutions in 1918 are given below. The amount collected in that year was £22,447 :—

	£
Melbourne Hospital	5,170
Children's Hospital	2,547
Alfred Hospital	2,617
St. Vincent's Hospital	1,982
Women's Hospital	2,414
Benevolent Asylum	610
Austin Hospital	1,753
Homœopathic Hospital	1,184
Eye and Ear Hospital	1,108
St. John Ambulance Association ..	600
Melbourne District Nursing Society	600
Queen Victoria Hospital	437
Other Institutions	890
Total distributed	21,912

Wattle Day.

On a day fixed, about the beginning of September in each year, ladies attired in white costumes sell sprigs of wattle blossom in the streets and elsewhere, and the amounts obtained are usually allotted to the children's charities. The sums which have been raised each year during the last six years are as follows :—1914, £2,115; 1915, £2,553; 1916, £8,604; 1917, £7,000; and 1918, £7,238.

INVALID AND OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

Federal Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act.

These pensions are payable by the Commonwealth Government under an Act passed in 1908 and Amending Acts. The *Year Book* for 1916-17 contains, on pages 591 to 597, information relating to the amounts of pensions payable and the persons entitled to receive them.

Amendments were made during 1917 which affected the payments to dependents of members of the Commonwealth naval and military forces.

The maximum pension, whether old-age or invalid, is 12s. 6d. per week, and the commencing age for old-age pensions is 65 years in the case of men (60 years where a man is permanently incapacitated for work) and 60 years in the case of women. The maximum pension was increased to 15s. per week by an Act passed in October, 1919. The increase will be payable from 1st January, 1920.

Invalid pensions are, subject to conditions set forth in the Act, payable to 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.

The number of old-age and invalid pensioners in Victoria on 30th June, 1919, was as follows:—Old-age pensioners—men, 10,989; women, 18,190; total, 29,179. Invalid pensioners—men, 4,491; women, 4,846; total, 9,337.

Of the persons living in Victoria at or above the ages at which old-age pensions commence, 31 per cent. were receiving pensions on 30th June, 1919.

**Pensioners,
1901 to
1918-19.**

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, 1919, it had reached a total of 29,179 (exclusive of invalid pensioners). The number of old-age and invalid pensioners at the end of each financial year from the inception of the system and the amount expended each year are shown in the following statement:—

OLD-AGE AND INVALID PENSIONERS IN VICTORIA, 1901 TO 1919.

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
1915-16	28,446	6,869	35,315	908,159
1916-17	29,064	7,921	36,985	1,070,386
1917-18	29,159	8,901	38,060	1,168,498
1918-19	29,179	9,337	38,516	1,199,787

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. The number of claims granted in Victoria to 30th June, 1919, was 228,223 and the total of the allowances paid in the State to that date was £1,141,115.

For the year ended 30th June, 1919, the number of claims granted was 31,797, and the amount paid in allowances £158,985.

War Pensions. The number of war pensions in force in Victoria on 30th June, 1919, was 59,486, and the annual liability of the Commonwealth Government in connexion therewith was £1,720,472.

LUNACY DEPARTMENT.

Lunacy Department. The subjoined table sets forth the numbers under the care of the Department for the years 1917 and 1918 :—

INSANE PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS OF THE LUNACY DEPARTMENT, 31ST DECEMBER, 1917 AND 1918.

	On 31st December—		Increase(+). Decrease(-).
	1917.	1918.	
In State Hospitals...	5,133	5,199	+ 66
On Trial Leave from State Hospitals	571	593	+ 22
Boarded out ...	129	123	- 6
In Licensed Houses ...	71	72	+ 1
On Trial Leave from Licensed Houses	15	13	- 2
Total Number of Registered Insane ...	5,919	6,000	+ 81
In Receiving Institutions ...	52	60	+ 8
Total ...	5,971	6,060	+ 89
Voluntary boarders ..	34	54	+ 20
Cases of Mental disorder in returned soldiers	84	110	+ 26

(Not included in other statistics).

Although the actual numbers admitted to the Hospitals for the Insane in the years 1917 and 1918 were exactly the same, the resulting numbers show an increase of 66; but it is wholly a female increase, there being a decrease of 2 amongst the males at the end of the year. Still the incidence of freshly-occurring insanity in the population of Victoria is not rising materially; there is a fractional fall in the ratio of insane to sane.

The number of military cases is steadily rising, as one would naturally expect in accordance with the return of our soldiers from Europe,

but it is a striking fact that the number of such mental cases is wonderfully low considering the great strain to which our men have been subjected. These cases do not figure in the ordinary lunacy statistics, as the great majority of them are in special wards in general military hospitals.

There is an increasing tendency to the use of the Voluntary Boarder Clauses—no less than 163 patients being admitted under that method during the year; neither these figures nor those of persons admitted to Receiving Houses come under the statistical returns of the registered insane, that is of course until they are certified.

The number of admissions to Hospitals for the Insane for each of the years 1910 to 1918 is given below:—

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
1915	371	315	686	63	75	138	824
1916	342	317	659	61	52	113	772
1917	363	325	688	39	35	74	762
1918	305	356	661	41	60	101	762

Voluntary Boarders (not included in above figures)—

1915 (admissions)	..	90
1916	..	136
1917	..	140
1918	..	163

The proportion of insane to the total population is 1 in 238·5.

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, as 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.

NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY CHILDREN.

Neglected and reformatory children.

There were at the end of 1918 three industrial and six 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 reformatory schools are either placed with friends or licensed out. The wards of the State on 31st December, 1918, numbered 11,347—11,167 neglected and 180 reformatory children—and there were 42 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, 1914 TO 1918.

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.	
1914 ...	7,486	741	539	370	13	9,149
1915 ...	8,040	911	625	401	7	9,984
1916 ...	8,801	788	625	365	6	10,585
1917 ...	9,130	848	532	444	12	10,966
1918 ...	9,305	909	493	454	6	11,167

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.	
1914 ...	143	24	19	4	...	190
1915 ...	120	29	43	...	...	192
1916 ...	129	28	35	3	...	195
1917 ...	120	26	27	4	...	177
1918 ...	110	40	25	5	...	180

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, 1918. The circumstances leading to the commitment of children to the care of the Department in 1918 were as follows :—

CHILDREN COMMITTED TO THE CARE OF THE STATE, 1918.

Cases in which Parents were held to be—				Number.
Blamable—One Parent—				
Father, bad character and mother poor	..	..	..	4
“ deserted and mother an invalid	..	..	..	5
“ “ “ dead	..	..	..	12
“ “ “ mentally weak	..	..	..	1
“ “ “ poor	..	..	..	534
“ divorced and mother poor	..	..	..	4
“ drunkard “ poor	..	..	..	2
“ “ “ dead	..	..	..	2
“ in gaol and mother poor	..	..	..	77
“ on active service and mother poor	..	..	..	14
“ unknown and mother an invalid	..	..	..	2
“ “ “ dead	..	..	..	7
“ “ “ in hospital	..	..	..	2
“ “ “ lunatic asylum	..	..	..	2
“ “ “ mentally weak	..	..	..	1
“ “ “ poor	..	..	..	19
Mother deserted and father an invalid	..	..	..	1
“ “ “ dead	..	..	..	3
“ “ “ on active service	..	..	..	2
“ doubtful character and father dead	..	..	..	4
“ drunkard and father dead	..	..	..	5
“ “ “ on active service	..	..	..	9
“ immoral and father on active service	..	..	..	2
“ of bad character and father poor	..	..	..	1
Both Parents—				
Father drunkard and mother deserted	..	..	..	8
“ deserted and mother of bad character	..	..	..	2
“ “ “ in gaol	..	..	..	2
“ unknown and mother deserted	..	..	..	4
Parents deserted	..	..	..	7
“ drunkards	..	..	..	5
“ of doubtful character	..	..	..	2
“ unknown	..	..	..	10
Total	..	..	..	755

CHILDREN COMMITTED TO THE CARE OF THE STATE, 1918—*continued*.

Cases in which Parents were held to be—	Number.
Blameless—Both Parents—	
Father an invalid and mother dead	2
" " " " poor	248
" blind and mother poor	6
" cripple " " " "	2
" dead and mother poor	518
" in hospital and mother poor	18
" in lunatic asylum and mother poor	59
" on active service and mother in lunatic asylum	4
" poor and mother dead	14
" " " " in lunatic asylum	1
Parents poor	117
" dead	30
Total	1,019
Total number of children placed under control during the year..	1,774

The number of children placed under care in 1918, viz., 1,774, was 33 less than in the previous year. The great increase in the wards of the State during the last ten 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 1918 being 1,106, as compared with 1,161 in 1917, 1,154 in 1916, 1,475 in 1915, 1,172 in 1914, 1,231 in 1913, 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 1918 was 5,324. It is also due in part to the operation of the Infant Life Protection Act, 143 children in 1918 having come directly under the control of the Department through this legislative act, apart from those who are supervised and inspected by the officers of the Neglected Children's Department, but are maintained by their relatives.

The Governmental expenditure for the maintenance of neglected children amounted in 1918 to £170,321, and that for reformatory school children to £3,659; the expenses of administration amounted to £7,034, making a total gross expenditure of £181,014. A sum of £9,489 was received from parents

Cost of
maintenance
of neglected
and reforma-
tory children.

for maintenance, and £51 from other sources, making the net expenditure £171,474. The number of neglected children under supervision on 31st December, 1918, was 11,167; of this total, 3,981 were maintained in foster homes, 5,324 were boarded out with their mothers; 113 were in Government receiving dépôts, 33 were in private industrial schools, 270 were in other institutions, 493 were at service earning their own living, 35 were in hospitals, 6 were on visits to friends, 3 were in gaol, and 909 were with relatives and others at no cost to the State. The number of reformatory wards under supervision on 31st December, 1918, was 180. Of this number 110 were maintained in private schools, 25 were in service earning their own living, 3 were in hospital, 2 were in gaol, and 40 were with relatives at no cost to the State. The expenditure for the maintenance of neglected children has increased greatly during the past ten years, as is shown by the following tabulation :—

NET COST TO THE STATE OF NEGLECTED AND
REFORMATORY SCHOOL CHILDREN, 1909 TO 1918.

Year.			Net Expenditure.	Year.			Net Expenditure.
			£				£
1909	..	..	76,457	1914	..	..	122,564
1910	..	..	86,160	1915	..	..	149,324
1911	..	..	93,781	1916	..	..	159,929
1912	..	..	103,092	1917	..	..	167,214
1913	..	..	114,264	1918	..	..	171,474

Neglected
children
maintained
by societies
or private
persons.

Part VIII. of the *Neglected Children's Act* 1915 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 there be sufficient cause, 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 1918 :—

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 31.12.17.	Admissions during 1918.			Number of Children under Supervision on 31.12.18.
		Court Committals.	Transfer of Guardianship.	Voluntary Admissions.	
Burwood Boys' Home ..	70	3	22	8	47
Church of England Neglected Children's Aid Society ..	129	1	3	16	127
Children Home, Wedderburn ..	16	..	..	..	16
Gordon Institute, Melbourne ..	132	6	4	22	134
Methodist Boys' Training Farm, Burwood East ..	65	1	..	27	62
Methodist Homes for Children	418	3	6	36	421
Mission Rescue and Children's Home, Ballarat East ..	15	..	..	9	23
Presbyterian and Scots' Church Neglected Children's Aid Society ..	291	6	16	30	285
Presbyterian Rescue Home, Elsternwick ..	35	..	8	1	37
St. Joseph's Home, Surrey Hills	139	7	..	72	200
Try Society, Surrey-road, Hawksburn ..	36	..	..	70	40
Victorian Neglected Children's Aid Society ..	160	1	..	56	136
Sutherland Home ..	193	3	8	69	201
Total ..	1,699	31	67	416	1,729

Total number of neglected and orphan children. The number of children who were under the guardianship of the State or maintained in public institutions or by societies on 31st December, 1918, reached the large total of 15,129, viz., 11,389 (11,347 state wards and 42 incapacitated) under the control of the Neglected Children's Department. 1,729 under the supervision of societies registered under Part VIII. of the Neglected Children's Act, 316 in Foundling Hospitals, and 1,695 in Orphan Asylums.

Infant Life Protection Act. With the 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. These Acts are now incorporated in the Infant Life Protection Act 1915 (No. 2670).

On 31st December, 1918, there were 598 children under supervision in registered homes under the provisions of this Act. The

deaths during the year numbered 31. In addition, 143 children became wards of the Neglected Children's Department by the operation of sections 15 and 17 of the Act. Two hundred and thirty-two cases of adoption of children were notified during the year. Five female inspectors are engaged in the work of inspection.

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, 1918, there remained six widows, who were receiving 15s. per week each. At that date the amount at credit was £17,614, of which £12,000 was the estimated value of freehold premises in Queen-street, Melbourne, £5,607 was in Government inscribed stock and debentures, and £7 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)—now the *Coal Mines Regulation Act* 1915 (No. 2630)—related to the constitution of a Fund to be called the Victorian Coal Miners' Accident 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 employers' contributions should commence from 2nd April, 1910. Committees were formed at the collieries (numbering 8 in 1918), their principal functions being to collect contributions and, subject to the approval of the Board, to allot the allowances.

During 1918 the contributions from employees amounted to £1,353, and the allowances paid at the mines totalled £823. For the year ended 31st December, 1918, the total revenue was £2,384—remittances from committees at the mines amounting to £597, interest to £447, and the balance coming equally from the mine-owners (£670) and the Government (£670). The expenditure included £944 paid in allowances and £332 cost of administration. The accumulated

funds amounted to £12,363—£8,700 invested in $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Government stock, £3,225 in Commonwealth war loans, and £438 bank balance. Relief was given in 333 non-fatal cases. In respect to non-fatal accidents there are 12 persons on the permanently disabled list, the number of children dependent upon such persons being 15. Four fatal accidents occurred during the year, and there are 10 widows, 2 mothers, and 21 children receiving aid from the fund as the result of fatalities in 1918 and previous years.

WATSON SUSTENTATION FUND.

**The Watson
Sustentation
Fund.**

The circumstances under which this fund was inaugurated are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 612. Payments to beneficiaries were 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.

The following are the particulars of members relieved, &c., and of receipts and expenditure :—From the inception of the fund in 1891 to the end of 1918 the total expenditure was £31,285, of which £27,669 represented sick pay and £3,044 donations to members and wives and families of deceased members. During 1918, 130 members were relieved and 24 died, and 79 were on the funds at the end of the year. The receipts for the year were £1,974. Sick pay for 1918 amounted to £2,006, donations to members and wives and families of deceased members to £28, and expenses of administration to £9; the total expenditure being £2,043. The balance in hand at the end of the year 1917 was £1,106, and at the end of 1918 £1,037.

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 1918-19 was 69, to whom £540 was allotted either by way of grant or loan, and the cost of management was £103. The accumulated fund on 30th June, 1919, was £15,106. In addition to the ordinary receipts of the Fund for that year (£692) an amount of £304 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, misfortune, or infirmity were unable to earn their living. A sum of £407 was distributed in this manner, £1 was expended on management, and £124 remained in the bank at the date of balancing.

PATRIOTIC FUNDS.

Patriotic Funds. The public contributions to Patriotic Funds throughout Australia during the war period amounted to a very large sum, probably more than £11,000,000. An endeavour has been made in the following statement to show the collections in money and the value of the goods contributed in the State of Victoria to the various Funds from the outbreak of hostilities to the 31st December, 1918. The total amount for this State is shown to have been £3,985,623 to the end of 1918, and, as some of the Funds continued raising money in 1919, the total of all contributions may be taken as well over £4,000,000. Details of the receipts and expenditure of each Fund up to 31st December, 1918, and of the balances in hand at that date, are given hereunder :—

**AMOUNTS CONTRIBUTED IN THE STATE OF VICTORIA
TO THE VARIOUS PATRIOTIC FUNDS TO 31st
DECEMBER, 1918.**

Name of Fund.	Total Receipts (including transfers).	Total Expenditure (including transfers).	Balance in hand, 31st December, 1918.
	£	£	£
Australian Patriotic Fund	195,640	222,964	—27,324
" Comforts Fund	189,778	146,694	43,084
Y.M.C.A. National Appeal	216,000	189,000	27,000
Victorian Division Red Cross Society (including British Red Cross Society)	854,283	613,604	240,679
French Red Cross Society	207,233	205,708	1,525
" Société Maternelle Fund	20,832	20,439	393
Belgian Relief Fund	327,095	314,486	12,609
Serbian	29,090	28,709	381
Polish	7,557	7,450	107
Syrian	3,969	14	3,955
Russian	8,670	8,670	..
Armenian	7,278	7,278	..
Italian Red Cross Society	22,218	21,692	526
State War Council Fund	200,000*	132,726*	67,274†
Anzac Club and Buffet—Ada Reeves appeal	7,282	7,282	..
" " A.N.A. appeal	737	737	..
Salvation Army War Relief Fund	15,056	12,074	2,982
Union Jack Rest Rooms	3,752	2,647	1,105
Church of England League of Soldiers' Friends	12,416	10,903	1,513
St. Andrew's Soldiers' Club	896	893	3
Australian Women's National League War Fund	24,584	23,072	1,512
Commonwealth Button Fund	226,378	219,175	7,203
" Service Patriotic Fund	7,120	6,333	787
State Service Patriotic Fund	34,476	21,091	13,385
Railway Department Patriotic Fund	38,186	35,753	2,433
Education Department Patriotic Fund	390,337	262,661	127,676

* Approximate.——† As at 31st March, 1919.

AMOUNTS CONTRIBUTED IN THE STATE OF VICTORIA TO THE VARIOUS
PATRIOTIC FUNDS TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1918—*continued.*

Name of Fund.	Total Receipts (including transfers).	Total Expenditure (including transfers).	Balance in hand, 31st December, 1918.
	£	£	£
Victorian Racing Club Patriotic Fund ..	84,614	68,614	16,000
Victoria Amateur Turf Club's Patriotic Fund ..	49,209	49,209	..
Williamstown Racing Club's Patriotic Fund..	14,780	14,780	..
Repatriation Fund Race Meeting and Donations	22,405	..	22,405
Edith Cavell Fund	9,420*	..	9,420
Purple Cross Fund	8,393	6,658	1,735
Overseas Club—Appeal for tobacco for troops	16,132	16,132	..
Belgian Nun's Fund	4,992	4,992	..
" Meat Fund	3,850	3,850	..
Other Funds	29,615	29,615	..
Total contributions in money ..	3,294,273	2,715,905	578,368
Less transfers to other Funds and receipts from other States ..	450,000†	..	..
Net Total of money contributed..	2,844,273	..	..

Goods Contributed to the—	Estimated Value.
	£
Australian Red Cross Society (Victorian Division)	759,734
Australian Comforts Fund.. .. .	260,596
Education Department's Patriotic Fund ..	60,000
Australian Women's National League War Fund	5,000
French Société Maternelle Fund	6,000
Italian Red Cross Society	20
French Red Cross Society	50,000
Total estimated value of goods ..	1,141,350
Net Receipts of Patriotic Funds (including value of goods contributed)	3,985,623

* In addition to this amount £17,777 was contributed in response to a special appeal from March to October, 1919.——† Approximate.

IMMIGRATION AND LABOUR BUREAU.

**Immigration
Bureau.**

The Immigration Bureau, which is now a branch of the Labour Department, deals with the subject of assisted immigration, and generally conducts overseas advertising.

Prior to the war, Victoria followed an active policy of encouraging immigration by propaganda in Great Britain and other countries; by the arrangement of cheap fares from Great Britain and America, with substantial monetary assistance towards fares, and by providing facilities in this State for settlement on the land, or by obtaining employment for new arrivals.

The general aim was to induce the immigration of persons with capital and otherwise qualified to undertake for themselves settlement on the land, or of men or lads desirous of engaging in agricultural employment; also to bring to Victoria women qualified and prepared to accept domestic employment.

Under the conditions which have existed during the last few years, however, operations have been reduced to a limited system of nominated passages under which specially reduced fares are being provided to enable chiefly the wives and families or other near relatives of persons resident here to rejoin them, though even in such cases there is, at present, a difficulty in obtaining passports and berthage accommodation from the United Kingdom.

The Government is now chiefly occupied and concerned, so far as land settlement goes, with the repatriation of Australian soldiers, and all the resources of the State are being called into requisition to satisfactorily provide for the establishment on the land of Australian or British soldiers as they are discharged. The Act of the Victorian Parliament, under which this land settlement is being carried on, places ex-soldiers of the British Army on a footing similar to that accorded to discharged Australian soldiers. The Victorian Government, therefore, in the disposal of Crown lands, or in the subdivision of areas, which are being repurchased by the State from private owners, is giving first claim and preference to returned soldiers as against all other applicants.

Subject to these conditions, the Government, through the Bureau and in other ways, affords all advice and assistance possible to prospective settlers arriving from overseas, whether desiring to undertake land settlement or to obtain employment.

Nomination forms and all particulars as to rates, &c., may be obtained on application to the Officer in Charge, Immigration Bureau, 555 Flinders-street, Melbourne, and inquiries in Great Britain should be addressed to the Emigration Commissioner, care of the Agent-General for Victoria, Melbourne-place, Strand, London, W.C., No. 2.
