

INTERCHANGE.

COMMERCE.

Customs and Excise. By the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act (section 51) the power to make laws with respect to trade and commerce with other countries and among the States was conferred on the Federal Parliament, and by the same Act (section 86) the collection and control of duties of Customs and Excise passed to the Executive Government of the Commonwealth on 1st January, 1901. The first Commonwealth Customs Tariff was assented to on 16th September, 1902, and was made retrospective to 8th October, 1901. Uniform rates of duty were imposed in all the States, and all restrictions on trade between the States were removed with the exception of the right of Western Australia, under the Commonwealth Constitution Act, to levy duty on goods from other States during the first five years after the imposition of uniform duties. In 1906 certain amendments of the Tariff took place. In 1908 there was a revision of the Tariff, which was made retrospective to 8th August, 1907. Amendments of some rates of duty were provided for by Customs Tariffs Acts passed in 1910, 1911, 1917, and 1919.

Up to the end of 1902 each State published statistical information regarding its trade, showing countries from and to which articles were imported and exported. Under this arrangement there occurred material differences in the classification of the goods, making it practically impossible to institute accurate comparisons. Arrangements were accordingly made by the Federal Government for uniform tabulation of trade returns in each State, and the information so tabulated was issued for the first time in 1903, and maintained until 1910. On the 13th September of the latter year the Federal Government abandoned the collecting and recording of Inter-State imports and exports, and consequently the trade particulars since available relate exclusively to oversea imports and exports, *i.e.*, direct imports from and exports to countries outside Australia. A further curtailment of particulars in regard to exports took place in 1911, as the distinction that had

previously been made between Victorian produce and Australian produce was not then observed, and it has not been made since that year.

**Regulation of
Trade during
the War.**

On 23rd October, 1914, the Commonwealth Parliament passed the *Trading with the Enemy Act*, which declares that any person trading with the enemy is guilty of an offence. The *Customs Act* 1914 (No. 19 of 1914) amends the *Customs Act* 1901-10 by giving the Governor-General authority to prohibit the exportation of goods in time of war. By virtue of the latter Act, proclamations prohibiting or controlling exports from the Commonwealth have been issued from time to time.

**Oversea
Imports and
Exports.**

The total values and the values per head of population of imports from and exports to oversea countries for each of the last ten years are set forth hereunder :—

**VALUE OF OVERSEA IMPORTS AND EXPORTS,
1909 TO 1918-19.**

Year.	Imports Oversea.		Exports Oversea.	
	Total.	Per Head of Population.	Total.	Per Head of Population.
	£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
1909	16,531,981	12 18 1	17,842,876	13 18 6
1910	20,002,606	15 7 11	18,188,236	14 0 0
1911	21,850,963	16 10 9	18,915,716	14 6 4
1912	25,081,074	18 10 5	19,113,121	14 2 3
1913	24,387,073	17 10 10	17,835,395	12 16 7
1914-15	20,997,294	14 13 6	12,335,779	8 12 6
1915-16	26,782,893	18 17 10	14,744,135	10 8 0
1916-17	25,465,464	18 3 10	19,029,502	13 11 11
1917-18*	20,697,721	14 13 5	18,716,019	13 5 3
1918-19*	34,822,019	24 6 9	27,824,479	19 9 0

* Excluding gold.

Excluding gold, the oversea trade for 1919 amounted to £62,646,498. There was a large increase, both in imports and exports, as compared with any previous year. This was partly attributable to the high prices which prevailed and the large number of ships which were made available after the date of the armistice.

**Combined
oversea and
inter-state
trade.**

Tables showing the combined oversea and inter-state trade, also the trade between Australian States for the years 1900 and 1909—the latest year for which inter-state records are available—are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pp. 619 and 636.

Principal Imports.

The principal articles (excluding gold) imported from oversea countries into Victoria, during the year ended 30th June, 1919, are shown in the subjoined statement :—

VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM OVERSEA COUNTRIES INTO VICTORIA, 1918-19.

Articles.	Value.	Articles.	Value.
	£		£
Acids	82,373	Gloves	271,328
Ale, Beer, and Porter (spirituous) ..	14,666	Grain—	
Aluminium and manufactures of ..	24,227	Maize	25,700
Ammonium—Nitrate	13,473	Rice	101,829
Apparel and Attire	1,313,841	Other—Prepared and Un-	
Arms, Ammunition, and Explosives	333,768	prepared	15,523
Bags and Sacks	1,550,789	Grass, Straw, &c.—Straw Plait ..	88,890
Bags, Purses, N.E.I., Wallets, Baskets, Boxes, Trunks, &c. ..	41,282	Greases	16,560
Bark (Tanning)	22,534	Gums and Resins	109,514
Belting,—Composition Leather, and Rubber	27,512	Hats, Caps, and Bonnets	114,658
Boots, Shoes, and Goloshes, &c. ..	68,379	Hops	16,649
Brass—Pipes and tubes, sheet, plate, &c.	38,269	Incandescent Mantles	19,380
Brushware	59,645	Insecticides and Disinfectants, &c.	46,472
Buttons, Buckles, &c.	84,793	Instruments—Musical, and parts thereof—	
Calcium	60,450	Pianos	81,062
Caramel, Caramel Paste, &c.	52,875	Other	41,183
Chemicals, N.E.I.	70,602	Instruments—	
China, Porcelain and Porcelain Ware ..	85,937	Surgical and Dental	82,462
Cocoa Beans, Shells, &c., and Cocoa and Chocolate	206,216	Talking Machines, &c.	20,300
Coffee, and Coffee and Chicory ..	42,498	Other	64,716
Combs (Toilet) and Shaving Sets	17,546	Iron and Steel—	
Copper—Pipes and tubes, sheet, and plate	51,018	Bar, Rod, Angle, and Tee	135,511
Cordage and Twines	181,504	Girders, Beams, Joists, &c. ..	26,465
Corks, Bunges, &c.	17,872	Hoop	67,692
Corsets	140,011	Plate and Sheet	679,173
Cosies, Cushions, D'Oyleys, &c. ..	85,020	Other	2,896
Cream of Tartar	166,079	Jewellery and Imitation Jewellery, &c.	57,103
Curtains and Blinds	21,038	Lamps and Lampware	49,455
Cutlery	103,651	Leaf and Foil of any Metal	18,328
Drugs and Medicinal Preparations	212,020	Leather	223,181
Dyes	145,056	Leather manufactures	66,427
Earthenware, Brownware, &c. ..	75,128	Liquorice	11,572
Electrical and Gas Appliances	201,755	Machines and Machinery—	
Electrical Articles and Materials ..	293,377	Agricultural	240,398
Essences, Bitters, &c.	12,989	Electrical	232,805
Fancy Goods	139,092	Machine Tools	188,282
Feathers, Dressed and Undressed ..	14,607	Mining	37,654
Fertilizers	190,578	Motive Power	106,948
Fibres—		Sewing	110,066
Cotton—Raw, Waste	48,964	Other	348,231
Flax and Hemp	175,600	Matches and Vestas	111,333
Jute	30,568	Metals, Manufactures of—	
Kapk	41,245	Bolts and Nuts	45,446
Oakum and Tow	12,405	Nails	123,918
Other	17,675	Pipes and Tubes	257,543
Fish	86,359	Wire (including Copper Wire) ..	335,146
Floor Coverings—		Other	578,513
Carpets and Carpeting	237,698	Milk and Cream	30,029
Linoleums, oilcloths, &c.	119,848	Nuts, Edible	50,188
Mats	34,556	Oilmen's Stores	22,306
Furniture	15,795	Oils, Bottled and in bulk—	
Furs and other Skins (Dressed) ..	78,306	Essential	52,486
Gelatine and Glue	29,518	Kerosene	190,758
Ginger	12,214	Lubricating (Mineral)	250,196
Glass and Glassware	274,482	Petroleum Spirit, including Benzene, Benzoline, &c. ..	497,288
		Turpentine	39,153
		Other	79,206
		Packings	13,377
		Paints and Colours	186,539

VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM OVERSEA
COUNTRIES INTO VICTORIA, 1918-19—*continued*.

Articles.	Value.	Articles.	Value.
	£		£
Paper—		Spices	66,630
Paperhangings	48,644	Spirits (Beverages)—	
Printing	747,293	Brandy	15,522
Wrapping	213,880	Gin and Schnapps	27,490
Writing and Typewriting	461,186	Whisky	217,098
Other, including Millboard, Strawboard, and Manufactures of	370,211	Other (including Wine)	19,202
Perfumery, &c. (non-spirituous)	63,018	Stationery—	
Perfumed Spirits and Bay Rum	17,002	Books (printed)	228,623
Personal and Household Effects, &c.	30,273	Other	148,402
Pickles and Sauces	14,950	Stone (including Marble and Slate)	15,817
Picture Frames (other than wood)	10,677	Sugar (produce of Cane)	516,392
Piece Goods—		Sulphur (Brimstone)	117,669
Canvas and Duck	556,810	Tea	732,463
Cotton and Linen	5,457,048	Textile Articles N.E.I.	76,915
Hessians, &c.	204,244	Tiles	10,483
Lace for Attire, &c.	431,605	Telephones and Appliances	20,513
Silks	1,301,775	Timber	508,531
Velvets and Velveteens	221,481	Timepieces	97,905
Woolens	1,121,928	Tinned Plates and Sheets (plain)	817,337
Other	263,192	Tobacco, Cigars, &c., and Snuff	516,657
Pipes, Smoking	60,174	Tools of Trade (not being machines)	217,708
Potassium	52,261	Trimnings and Ornaments	496,833
Quilts, Counterpanes, &c.	72,852	Varnishes	17,506
Rennet	13,363	Vehicles and parts thereof—	
Roofing—Asphalt or Composition	16,931	Motor Bodies and Chassis	354,753
Rubber and Rubber Manufactures	764,969	Other	272,870
Sago and Tapioca	22,989	Vessels imported from abroad	26,000
Sausage Casings	23,924	Waxes	115,716
Seeds	138,244	Wicker, Bamboo, and Cane	10,612
Sewing Silks, Twists, &c.	436,366	Wood Manufactures	83,160
Skins and Hides	336,479	Yarns	860,405
Soap	15,445	All other Articles	459,950
Sodium Salts (excl. nitrate)	205,002	Total	34,822,019

The principal articles (excluding gold) exported to overseas countries from Victoria, during the year ended 30th June, 1919, were as shown hereunder :—

VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES EXPORTED TO OVERSEA
COUNTRIES FROM VICTORIA, 1918-19.

Articles.	Value.	Articles.	Value.
	£		£
Acids	18,069	Fodders (including Hay and Chaff)	18,272
Ale, Beer, and Porter	21,487	Fruit Juices	11,534
Animals—		Fruits and Vegetables—Fresh, Dried and Preserved	421,867
Horses	32,199	Gelatine and Glue of all kinds	25,429
Sheep	12,827	Glycerine	27,590
Apparel and Attire	42,234	Grain, &c.—	
Biscuits	90,241	Barley (unprepared)	47,399
Boots, Shoes, and Slippers	168,070	Beans and Peas	56,197
Butter	1,860,415	Oats	28,811
Cheese	40,052	Wheat	3,923,715
Cocoa and Chocolate	25,392	Flour	1,440,137
Concentrates—Zinc	14,373	Oatmeal, Wheatmeal	28,069
Confectionery	41,455	Rice	11,804
Copper	63,459	Other, Prepared and Unprepared	184,133
Cordage and Twines	126,438	Honey	84,184
Drugs and Chemicals—Other	74,482	Hops	13,639
Earthenware, Glass, Stoneware, &c.	14,006	Infants and Invalids' Food	22,087
Explosives	37,257		
Fertilizers	172,492		

VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES EXPORTED TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES
FROM VICTORIA, 1918-19—continued.

Articles.	Value.	Articles.	Value.
	£		£
Insecticides, Sheepwashes, &c. ..	20,015	Photographic Goods	22,536
Iron and Steel	62,472	Pickles and Sauces	19,669
Jams and Jellies	829,791	Piece Goods	76,199
Jewellery and Precious Stones ..	74,541	Platinum	27,144
Lard and Refined Animal		Potatoes	22,949
Fats	83,875	Rags	23,362
Lead—		Rubber Manufactures	118,792
Fig	27,861	Salt	14,623
Sheet and Piping	16,073	Seeds	16,543
Leather, &c.	805,445	Silver	268,454
Machines and Machinery—		Skins and Hides	1,078,163
Agricultural	24,472	Soap	30,843
Mining	119,841	Spirits	83,936
Other	68,419	Starch	18,393
Medicines	11,266	Stearine	18,668
Meats—		Sugar, Golden Syrups, &c. ..	22,160
Bacon and Hams	11,101	Tallow—Unrefined	467,529
Mutton and Lamb (Frozen) ..	745,893	Tea	46,996
Rabbits and Hares (Frozen) ..	87,333	Timber, &c.	24,392
Potted or Concentrated	32,638	Tin Ingots	23,650
Preserved in Tins, &c. ..	798,645	Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes	126,585
Sausage Casings	54,178	Vessels, Transferred abroad ..	146,000
Other	58,399	Wine	36,001
Metals, Manufactures of	127,897	Wool—	
Milk and Cream	339,893	Greasy	8,353,543
Oilmen's Stores	22,168	Scoured and Washed	2,578,555
Oils—Bottled and in bulk ..	101,173	Tops	36,553
Onions	11,988	Zinc (Spelter)	17,845
Ores, Clays, and Mineral Earths	51,264	All other Articles	233,033
Paints and Colours	11,173		
Paper, Books, Stationery	68,679	Total	27,824,479

A list of the principal articles of trade between Victoria and overseas countries during the last five years is as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND
EXPORTED TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES, 1914-15 TO 1918-19.

Articles.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.*	1919.*
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Imported into Victoria from Oversea Countries.</i>					
Piece Goods	3,416,251	4,928,975	5,392,184	5,063,100	9,558,083
Paper, Paperhangings, &c. ..	642,444	704,541	1,278,969	813,407	1,841,214
Bags and Sacks	413,146	684,283	756,624	1,006,557	1,550,789
Metal Manufactures	1,016,106	1,064,508	908,296	726,624	1,340,566
Apparel and Attire	718,669	941,752	1,047,672	823,698	1,313,841
Machines and Machinery	1,040,024	1,074,487	964,596	766,877	1,264,384
Oils	537,921	751,535	879,378	770,985	1,109,087
Iron and Steel	1,037,485	1,115,866	801,065	455,243	911,737
Yarns	192,707	492,856	663,422	395,268	860,405
Tinned Plates and Sheets (Plain)	198,457	299,902	606,613	240,940	817,337
Rubber and Rubber Manufactures	384,940	601,239	441,781	558,090	764,969
Tea	596,737	744,077	617,485	546,121	732,463
Vehicles and Parts	579,778	761,291	583,818	407,182	627,623
Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes	303,734	253,165	433,090	193,144	516,657
Timber	700,719	647,024	360,487	445,154	508,531
Trimmings and Ornaments ..	200,320	200,079	224,749	200,096	496,833
Sewing and Embroidery Silks, &c.	156,749	184,545	255,672	249,834	436,366
Gold—Bullion	131,176	54,638	248	—	—
All Other Articles	8,729,931	11,278,130	9,249,315	7,235,401	10,171,134
Total	20,997,294	26,782,893	25,465,464	20,697,721	34,822,019

* Excluding gold.

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED
TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES, 1914-15 TO 1918-19—*continued.*

Articles.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.*	1919.*
<i>Exported from Victoria to Oversea Countries.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Wool	5,251,177	6,203,565	6,149,212	6,820,006	10,968,651
Wheat and Flour	351,856	3,420,589	5,391,477	4,306,424	5,363,902
Butter	800,385	719,653	2,189,025	1,664,299	1,860,415
Meats	2,075,196	169,318	700,704	886,024	1,788,187
Skins and Hides	885,075	534,440	548,736	478,236	1,078,163
Jams and Jellies	36,625	196,979	371,753	643,765	829,791
Leather (excluding Belting)	495,801	492,751	439,706	228,906	766,920
Tallow, Unrefined	192,400	45,214	246,091	133,577	467,529
Fruits (fresh, dried, and preserved)	43,625	368,218	264,943	333,064	421,867
Milk and Cream	77,503	15,053	311,213	595,192	339,893
Tobacco, Cigars and Cigarettes	69,450	117,489	95,073	128,998	126,585
Rubber Manufactures	79,061	103,115	95,064	125,314	118,792
Tin Ingots	109,337	224,598	114,635	66,939	28,650
Gold—Specie	400,120	217,871	643	—	—
All Other Articles	1,468,168	1,915,282	2,111,227	2,305,275	3,665,134
Total	12,335,779	14,744,135	19,029,502	18,716,019	27,824,479

* Excluding gold.

On the average of the past five years, the value of imports of merchandise exceeded that of exports by £7,309,610. The former were composed mainly of manufactured goods, and contained a greater variety of articles than in the case of exports. The latter consisted largely of agricultural and pastoral products. During the period mentioned the value of wool, wheat, and flour exported exceeded that of the six principal items included in the imports. The varied nature of the imports is shown by the fact that the thirteen principal articles represented only 58 per cent. of the total value of merchandise for the five year period—piece goods (including hessians, canvas and duck) with apparel and attire being responsible for 25½ per cent. In the case of exports, wool accounted for 38 per cent., and the thirteen items specified (excluding gold) for 88½ per cent. of the total value.

The value of Victorian trade, exclusive of gold, with various oversea countries and the surplus of imports or exports in each case, during the year ended 30th June, 1919, were as follows :—

Imports from
and exports to
principal
countries.

IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES,
1918-19.

Country.	Value of Imports into Victoria from each Country.	Value of Exports from Victoria to each Country.	Victorian excess of Imports (+) Exports (-).
	£	£	£
BRITISH.			
United Kingdom	14,929,950	15,961,300	- 1,031,350
Canada	645,717	353,610	+ 292,107
Ceylon	638,294	364,196	+ 274,098
Egypt	24,868	1,908,920	- 1,884,052
Hong Kong	94,996	129,932	- 34,936
India	2,237,680	945,287	+ 1,292,393
Mauritius	65,657	30,279	+ 35,378
Newfoundland	57,543	..	+ 57,543
New Zealand	746,337	1,734,659	- 988,322
Pacific Islands	127,610	60,630	+ 66,980
South African Union	110,542	632,003	- 521,461
Straits Settlements	336,306	270,719	+ 65,587
West Indies	63	40,850	- 40,787
Other British Possessions	16,813	4,988	+ 11,825
FOREIGN.			
Azores .. .. .	..	43,272	- 43,272
Chile	30,718	441	+ 30,277
China	132,270	81,816	+ 50,454
Cochin-China	77,096	3,506	+ 73,590
East Indies—Billiton Island .. .. .	..	16,841	- 16,841
Borneo (Dutch)	95,440	30,485	+ 64,955
Celebes	8,127	44,139	- 36,012
Java	853,788	1,031,594	- 177,806
Sumatra	140,950	101,457	+ 39,493
France	39,385	436,009	- 396,624
Greece	3	67,861	- 67,858
Italy	55,915	732,956	- 677,041
Japan	3,143,697	381,590	+ 2,762,107
Norway	332,672	111,578	+ 221,094
Pacific Islands	110,288	25,989	+ 84,299
Peru .. .. .	..	43,173	- 43,173
Philippine Islands	45,493	105,785	- 60,292
Senegal .. .. .	..	87,299	- 87,299
Sweden	179,562	379,284	- 199,722
Switzerland	42,997	17	+ 42,980
United States of America	9,483,892	1,633,796	+ 7,850,096
Other Foreign Countries	17,350	28,218	- 10,868
Total	34,822,019	27,824,479	+ 6,997,540

The oversea trade in 1919 shows an excess in the value of imports amounting to £6,997,540. The excess in favour of exports

to British countries was £2,404,997, there being a balance of imports to the amount of £2,084,086 as regards Canada, Ceylon, India, Mauritius, Newfoundland, Pacific Islands, and Straits Settlements; and a balance of exports amounting to £4,489,083 in respect of the remaining British countries. As regards foreign countries, the values of the imports from the United States and Japan were greater by £7,850,096 and £2,762,107 respectively than the values of the exports thereto; while, on the other hand, exports to Italy and France showed surpluses over imports of £677,041 and £396,624 respectively. The value of all goods sent to other foreign countries exceeded that of goods received therefrom by the sum of £136,001.

The value of the trade with the leading countries of the world in each of the last five years was as specified hereunder :—

IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES,
1914-15 TO 1918-19.

Countries.	Year ended 30th June.				
	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.†	1919.‡
	Imports (Oversea).				
From—	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	12,395,553	14,204,562	13,624,806	8,823,857	14,929,950
Canada ..	286,959	379,322	428,214	424,686	645,717
India and Ceylon..	1,372,249	1,828,469	1,807,974	2,169,778	2,875,974
New Zealand ..	786,601	952,157	582,762	623,379	746,337
South African Union	71,071	156,389	113,562	90,051	110,542
Straits Settlements	206,435	248,104	285,828	260,166	336,306
Other British Possessions ..	401,451	380,018	391,738	475,777	387,550
Belgium ..	154,708	397	5,964	..	..
East Indies ..	339,935	771,578	583,853	446,109	1,098,776
France ..	84,348	110,376	52,432	35,627	39,385
Germany ..	474,410*	6,365†	16,955†	..	..
Italy ..	126,718	181,282	80,453	124,949	55,915
Japan ..	540,316	1,242,383	1,338,578	1,770,872	3,143,697
United States of America ..	2,668,565	4,808,234	5,013,064	4,692,387	9,483,892
Other Foreign Countries ..	1,087,975	1,513,257	1,139,281	760,083	967,978
Total ..	20,997,294	26,782,893	25,465,464	20,697,721	34,822,019

* Approximately one month's trade. † On account of interned vessels.

‡ Excluding gold.

IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES, 1914-15
TO 1918-19—*continued*.

Countries.	Year ended 30th June.				
	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.†	1919.†
Exports (Oversea).					
To—	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	8,346,832	7,176,338	12,391,919	8,600,762	15,961,300
Canada ..	17,707	26,793	55,516	433,450	353,610
India and Ceylon..	298,039	286,219	329,590	897,873	1,309,483
New Zealand ..	912,471	1,121,227	873,145	1,780,435	1,734,659
South African Union	399,416	675,436	451,589	364,376	632,003
Straits Settlements	114,729	111,196	200,077	106,491	270,719
Other British Possessions ..	199,345	158,244	886,182	929,855	2,175,599
Belgium ..	14,911*	..	..	..	..
East Indies ..	197,346	280,728	442,047	506,045	1,227,479
France ..	248,640	565,865	1,448,482	1,028,030	436,009
Germany ..	36,552*	..	..	..	..
Italy ..	106,329	784,008	1,124,090	574,157	732,956
Japan ..	83,557	126,125	48,417	165,921	381,590
United States of America ..	1,162,825	2,099,476	197,622	2,883,272	1,633,796
Other Foreign Countries ..	197,080	1,332,480	580,826	445,352	975,276
Total ..	12,335,779	14,744,135	19,029,502	18,716,019	27,824,479

* Approximately one month's trade.

† Excluding gold.

In 1909, the last year for which such information is available, Victoria's trade with the other Australian States represented 41 per cent. of the total imports and 40 per cent. of the total exports, and the exports to such States exceeded the imports therefrom by £435,182. In each of the last five years exports were of greater value than imports in the trade with New Zealand, South Africa, France, and Italy (with the exception of the year 1915); but, in trade with India and Ceylon, Straits Settlements, Japan, and the United States of America, the value of the imports was greater than that of exports. There was an excess of exports in trade with Canada in 1918, and with the United Kingdom in 1919; but in other years there was an excess of imports from those countries. The overseas trade with the East Indies increased from £537,281 in 1915 to £2,326,255 in 1919; there was an excess of exports thereto in each of the years 1918 and 1919. The large amount of exports to "other British possessions" in 1919, as shown in the table, is mainly due to goods sent to Egypt, which were valued at £1,908,920. Prior to the war trade with Germany showed an excess of imports, and that with Belgium an excess of exports.

Origin of imports. The value of the imports from different countries does not represent the value of the produce of such countries received by Victoria. In the next table the country of shipment is contrasted with the country of origin of the overseas imports for the year ended 30th June, 1919.

OVERSEA IMPORTS, 1918-19—COUNTRY OF SHIPMENT AND COUNTRY OF ORIGIN.

Country.	Value of Oversea Imports.*		Percentage of Oversea Imports.	
	Imported from each Country.	Produced in each Country.	Imported from each Country.	Produced in each Country.
	£	£		
United Kingdom	14,929,950	13,258,768	42·87	38·08
Canada	645,717	907,568	1·85	2·61
Ceylon	638,294	538,411	1·83	1·55
Hong Kong	94,996	59	·27	—
India (including Burmah)	2,237,680	2,325,509	6·42	6·68
New Zealand	746,337	712,055	2·14	2·04
South African Union ..	110,542	105,819	·32	·30
Straits Settlements ..	336,306	228,890	·97	·66
West Indies (British) ..	63	63,455	—	·18
Other British Countries ..	292,491	315,455	·84	·91
Brazil	2,807	164,935	·01	·47
China	132,270	303,718	·38	·87
Cuba	1,196	32,187	—	·09
East Indies	1,098,776	1,193,078	3·15	3·43
France	39,385	743,073	·11	2·13
Holland (Netherlands) ..	6,290	86,640	·02	·25
Italy	55,915	197,946	·16	·57
Japan (including Formosa)	3,143,697	3,072,342	9·03	8·82
Norway	332,672	346,960	·99	1·00
Spain	898	16,772	—	·05
Switzerland	42,997	575,400	·12	1·65
United States of America ..	9,483,892	9,085,545	27·23	26·09
Other Foreign Countries ..	448,848	547,434	1·29	1·57
Total	34,822,019	34,822,019	100·00	100·00

* Excluding gold.

Trade with United Kingdom. In trade between Victoria and the United Kingdom the value of imports exceeded that of exports in each of the years 1913 to 1918, but in 1919 the value of exports was greater than that of imports by £1,031,350. The principal articles

imported from and exported to the United Kingdom in the last six years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1913 TO 1918-19.

Articles.	Value in Year—					
	1913.	Ended 30th June.				
		1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.*	1919.*
<i>Imported into Victoria from United Kingdom.</i>						
Piece Goods—	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cotton and Linen ..	1,478,876	1,480,357	1,862,562	2,059,112	2,120,021	4,227,160
Woolen ..	715,566	620,488	1,119,191	1,219,272	765,972	1,104,021
Velvets, and Lace for Attire ..	346,383	259,365	340,170	453,386	407,218	575,355
Silk ..	292,338	370,653	389,952	371,764	306,969	396,021
Canvas and Duck ..	101,963	102,022	243,380	231,631	110,063	310,292
Other ..	107,671	110,482	270,842	207,734	167,894	202,333
Tinned Plates and Sheets (plain) ..	185,775	198,457	288,180	566,656	239,093	813,775
Yarns ..	218,356	182,464	469,088	654,130	374,109	781,349
Apparel and Attire ..	757,876	617,580	681,540	656,826	434,911	594,748
Machines and Machinery ..	533,447	552,109	489,529	319,992	157,129	423,622
Trimmings and Ornaments ..	171,162	192,848	190,886	217,465	194,843	420,166
Sewing and Embroidery Silks, &c.	131,078	143,800	167,758	230,526	211,873	364,436
Floor Coverings ..	306,005	250,825	292,227	263,290	195,107	281,262
Spirits ..	229,930	232,718	209,741	334,397	251,262	250,673
Iron and Steel ..	925,224	790,151	738,741	297,090	88,611	221,803
Rubber and Rubber Goods ..	249,236	195,256	332,524	183,559	188,391	205,299
Paper, Paperhangings, &c.	396,333	359,246	351,165	501,690	180,893	194,499
Books ..	229,853	197,098	195,874	192,567	104,456	191,277
Vehicles and Parts ..	457,529	323,723	230,318	159,119	48,339	106,876
Vessels (Ships) ..	705,000	132,000	211,143	420,000	—	—
All other Articles ..	5,556,520	5,033,911	5,129,751	4,084,600	2,216,703	3,264,983
Total	14,096,121	12,395,553	14,204,562	13,624,806	8,823,857	14,929,950
<i>Exported from Victoria to United Kingdom.</i>						
Wool	2,701,688	3,901,335	3,469,079	5,722,261	3,984,871	9,301,607
Butter	1,520,499	645,728	522,568	1,938,206	1,411,013	1,377,259
Hides and Skins ..	622,899	575,345	377,783	405,419	349,613	999,558
Wheat and Flour ..	1,291,836	35,768	865,352	1,558,777	1,592,071	865,520
Meats—						
Beef, Mutton and Lamb ..	1,387,961	1,618,931	47,348	515,373	34,946	711,798
Preserved in tins ..	28,897	104,542	4,674	44,461	112,052	475,890
Rabbits and Hares ..	104,723	127,506	90,588	111,632	263,512	73,043
Leather	157,068	422,970	374,278	258,617	81,558	483,400
Jams and Jellies ..	46	28,102	184,869	343,789	233,402	326,246
Tallow, unrefined ..	172,547	163,594	29,327	206,950	103,950	321,668
Fruits—preserved in liquid ..	81	99	672	18,612	11,667	219,370
Copper	—	63,000	2,040	5,880	—	57,004
Tin Ingots	186,478	92,482	189,717	94,454	3,190	14,438
Gold (Bullion and Specie) ..	58,000	1,029	1,395	643	—	—
All other Articles ..	862,606	566,401	1,026,648	1,166,845	418,917	734,489
Total	9,095,329	8,346,832	7,176,338	12,391,919	8,600,762	15,961,300

* Excluding gold.

Imports from the United Kingdom are chiefly made up of manufactures, while exports thereto from Victoria consist almost entirely of agricultural, pastoral, and mineral products. It will be observed from the figures for 1919 that piece goods and apparel and attire represent 49½ per cent. of the total imports, also that wool is responsible for 58 per cent. of the total exports. If the value of butter, meats,

wheat and flour, and skins exported be added to that of wool; about 86½ per cent. of the total is accounted for.

Trade with India (including Burmah) and Ceylon, which amounted to nearly 7 per cent. of the Victorian overseas trade in 1919, was greater by £1,117,806 in that year than in 1918, the values of the imports and exports having increased by £706,196 and £411,610 respectively. The principal articles interchanged during the last six years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO INDIA AND CEYLON, 1913 TO 1918-19.

Articles.	Value in Year—					
	1913.	Ended 30th June.				
		1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.*	1919.*
<i>Imported into Victoria from India and Ceylon.</i>	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bags and Sacks ..	588,270	410,679	682,514	750,879	1,003,606	1,546,026
Tea ..	451,389	486,645	627,494	503,545	502,395	616,294
Hessians ..	87,520	100,932	98,027	137,790	103,997	194,429
Skins and Hides ..	7,506	10,966	12,721	56,570	111,957	78,374
Cordage and Twines ..	18	71	..	3,818	13,446	60,073
Fibres ..	23,985	14,666	13,236	24,272	41,180	48,214
Seeds ..	6,959	6,225	10,903	10,415	11,193	43,894
Cocoa Beans ..	982	3,389	8,070	16,732	25,066	42,248
Waxes ..	12,936	10,639	8,459	12,503	34,432	26,473
Rubber and Rubber Goods ..	66,904	72,093	115,325	48,075	98,418	26,371
Coffee ..	22,904	17,485	22,956	26,912	7,064	22,987
Gums and Resins ..	88	269	72	488	506	22,845
Nuts ..	14,509	12,127	17,172	20,521	14,244	19,650
Rice ..	89,245	86,159	75,178	50,481	60,314	16,783
Oils in Bulk ..	5,780	9,501	14,871	10,389	18,668	16,326
Pig Iron ..	24,155	47,368	39,731	50,756	3,648	..
All other Articles ..	50,908	83,035	81,740	83,828	119,644	94,987
Total ..	1,459,058	1,372,249	1,828,469	1,807,974	2,169,778	2,875,974
<i>Exported from Victoria to India and Ceylon.</i>						
Gold (Bullion and Specie)	144,087	45,314	100,712	..	—	—
Wheat, Flour, and Oatmeal ..	19,728	17,441	2,099	2,017	86,720	511,523
Meats ..	711	2,027	496	13,527	147,994	162,216
Jams and Jellies ..	2,113	4,930	7,792	19,180	154,611	66,414
Wool ..	23,886	28,127	32,442	87,860	66,780	64,005
Leather ..	3,484	2,669	18,839	4,265	33,737	42,405
Milk and Cream ..	415	1,108	902	35,784	103,520	40,687
Fruits (preserved in liquid) ..	3,651	2,609	4,378	22,979	62,727	34,438
Horses ..	37,769	97,449	16,578	55,694	117,318	15,427
Biscuits ..	7,904	8,098	28,289	24,758	7,113	6,389
Hay and Chaff ..	14,333	36,818	15,008	12,704	7,803	3,247
Soap ..	11,709	7,933	14,219	7,277	1,444	119
All other Articles ..	60,780	43,516	44,465	43,545	108,106	362,613
Total ..	330,570	298,039	286,219	329,590	897,873	1,309,483

* Excluding gold.

The import trade from India and Ceylon in 1919 was largely made up of jute goods, tea, and skins, whose value formed about 85 per cent. of the total. In return, grain, meats, silver bullion (£261,700), jams

and jellies, and wool were in that year the leading items of exchange, all other exports being responsible for only 19 per cent. of the total.

The trade with New Zealand for the year ended 30th June, 1919, amounted to £2,480,996. The exports thereto amounted to £1,734,659, and represented 6 per cent. of the total oversea exports. The principal articles imported and exported during the last six years were as follows :—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO NEW ZEALAND, 1913 TO 1918-19.

Articles.	Value in Year—					
	1913.	Ended 30th June.				
		1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.*	1919.*
<i>Imported into Victoria from New Zealand.</i>	£	£	£	£	£	£
Timber	160,720	134,515	190,779	166,219	256,706	243,711
Skins and Hides	76,485	78,190	212,743	122,475	52,642	176,709
Flax and Hemp	62,531	28,218	124,790	123,618	146,952	103,768
Gold—Bullion	238,613	130,951	54,314	—	—	—
Seeds	12,582	26,506	8,724	9,591	35,357	55,183
Milk and Cream	—	8,979	16,939	11,617	31,555	30,027
Fish	17,254	21,204	29,039	19,713	14,088	14,846
Hops	4,949	2,882	1,367	244	—	13,871
Oakum and Tow	7,056	6,826	14,565	19,133	19,252	11,586
Machines and Machinery	4,111	5,453	3,009	6,216	3,317	7,785
Animals (horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs)	30,567	7,646	19,984	6,622	9,031	6,126
Books	3,545	4,597	1,894	2,155	1,844	2,988
Meat, preserved in tins	1,251	2,217	6,683	6,956	5,098	1,125
All other Articles	152,530	328,417	267,327	88,203	47,537	78,662
Total	772,194	786,601	952,157	582,762	623,379	746,337
<i>Exported from Victoria to New Zealand.</i>						
Gold—Specie	250,000	275,000	202,000	—	—	—
Boots and Shoes	911	3,965	9,257	14,588	68,229	159,020
Tobacco, manufactured	66,652	66,357	104,434	87,504	118,075	114,726
Rubber manufactures	71,846	77,362	100,745	85,405	119,687	105,495
Spirits	2,719	4,059	10,740	2,317	56,089	67,342
Manures	42,265	48,265	80,619	56,548	110,787	55,627
Metal manufactures	6,304	11,706	26,571	27,743	67,034	48,402
Tea	27,289	42,623	43,085	36,446	50,080	46,350
Piece Goods	9,892	15,114	18,165	22,871	40,922	43,123
Leather	15,058	13,716	26,324	24,063	52,361	34,572
Machinery	27,527	26,614	26,725	23,896	42,717	30,579
Fruits—Dried	7,775	20,205	57,207	40,141	67,932	29,814
Books	33,711	28,325	36,714	22,959	34,851	27,518
Milk and Cream	24	4,508	3,105	12,885	30,484	18,993
Grain and Pulse—						
Barley	137	—	11,630	18,412	27,757	17,264
Oats	214	1	29,877	28,510	36,500	11,666
Rice and Rice Meal	18,673	25,869	18,943	10,122	28,460	11,389
Flour	11,854	18,301	8,734	37,232	19,838	1,880
All other Articles	241,503	230,481	306,352	321,503	808,582	910,899
Total	834,354	912,471	1,121,227	873,145	1,780,435	1,734,659

* Excluding gold.

Leaving gold out of consideration, it will be observed that the value of the imports from New Zealand for 1919 was £87,694 more

than the annual average of the preceding five-year period, and the value of the exports thereto exceeded the annual average by £775,733, or 81 per cent. If to the values of the items specified in the exports for 1919 be added £346,134 for wheat exported in that year, 67 per cent. of the total is accounted for.

Imports from Belgium increased by 102 per cent. between 1909 and 1913, but exports thereto increased by only 3 per cent. in the same period. That country accounted for about 3 per cent. of Victoria's oversea trade in the years immediately preceding 1915. The trade was suspended in 1918, and for the two preceding years consisted of imports only, which amounted to £397 in 1916 and £5,964 in 1917. The principal articles of trade with Belgium in each of the five years ended 30th June, 1915, were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO BELGIUM, 1910 TO 1914-15.

Articles.	Value in Year—				
	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	Ended 30th June, 1915.
<i>Imported into Victoria from Belgium.</i>					
	£	£	£	£	£
Iron and Steel	121,098	168,073	127,968	205,932	39,960
Glass and Glassware	39,671	52,672	52,521	54,718	11,232
Confectionery	968	5,359	22,951	22,122	6,719
Vehicles, and parts	16,771	30,205	63,854	25,910	6,597
Cameos and Precious Stones	34,858	59,419	31,596	26,947	5,800
Paper, Paperhangings, &c.	20,748	24,722	25,290	25,052	5,354
Piece Goods	16,506	19,552	20,794	20,700	4,628
Wire and Wire Netting	20,868	23,028	24,342	24,272	4,350
Copper	9,748	3,802	21,361	28,872	3,741
Wine	7,554	20,656	17,778	15,779	1,238
All other Articles	129,929	201,403	206,100	232,779	65,089
Total	418,719	608,891	613,955	683,083	154,708
<i>Exported from Victoria to Belgium.</i>					
Hides and Skins	241,635	194,814	233,806	280,705	11,577
Wool	381,183	365,026	442,832	387,793	1,924
Tallow	18,993	55,650	24,358	40,085	..
Wheat	105,239	78,800	59,362	30,945	..
Cameos and Precious Stones	1,791	3,132	17,393	9,085	605
Leather	23,397	9,050	11,119	6,010	..
Ores—Silver, Lead, &c.	23,342	22,098	16,370	120	..
All other Articles	14,029	26,536	7,434	13,006	805
Total	809,609	755,106	812,674	767,749	14,911

During the five years ended 1913 exports to Belgium exceeded imports therefrom. In exports the principal articles were wool and hides and skins, together representing 82 per cent. of the total; if to these be added the other five articles specified in the above table, less than 2 per cent. is unaccounted for.

Trade with
France.

With France there has, on account of the war, been considerable interruption in trade in the last five years.

The export figures for 1917 and 1918, however, showed an improvement as compared with the two preceding years, due principally to the wheat and flour exported, the value of which was responsible for 84 per cent. of the total exports. The great bulk of the trade is represented by exports. These amounted in 1913—the year immediately preceding the war—to £2,563,201, as against imports of £215,475. The increase in the total trade in the five years ended 1913 was £671,687, viz., exports £608,653, and imports £63,034. The principal articles imported from and exported to France in the years 1913 to 1919 were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO FRANCE, 1913 TO 1918-19.

Articles.	Value in Year—					
	1913.	Ended 30th June.				
		1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
<i>Imported into Victoria from France.</i>						
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Rubber Manufactures	15,899	5,601	17,290	5,607	3,494	12,791
Cream of Tartar	47,463	13,871	14,905	5,291	1,645	4,799
Piece Goods	34,330	14,252	15,330	12,285	3,340	1,736
Corks, Cork Mats, &c. ..	3,148	1,232	3,048	1,228	1,243	914
Wine	17,021	3,281	3,870	2,790	313	483
Cameos and Precious Stones	5,128	1,896	3,162	218	649	408
Vehicles, and parts	9,678	4,330	454	..	..	91
Gelatine, &c.	4,040	1,500	2,278	907	..	45
Acids	1,822	2,317	1,749	..	..	..
All other Articles	76,946	36,068	48,290	24,106	24,943	18,118
Total	215,475	84,348	110,376	52,432	35,627	39,385
<i>Exported from Victoria to France.</i>						
Wool	1,792,625	42,334	205,078	97,402	185,249	167,941
Jams and Jellies .. ..	..	..	..	..	721	103,773
Leather	41	96	..	2,982	..	81,717
Tallow (unrefined)	40,122	670	6,774	..	..	56,054
Wheat	43,545	1,699	234,069	1,124,829	582,440	..
Flour .. ..	..	..	38,397	130,927	256,711	..
Hides and Skins	675,689	194,992	76,909	74,978	..	..
All other Articles	11,179	8,849	4,638	17,364	2,909	26,524
Total	2,563,201	248,640	565,865	1,448,482	1,028,030	436,009

Imports direct from France in 1919 did not indicate the extent to which articles produced in France were received in Victoria, as goods of French origin to the extent of £743,073 were imported in that year. The value of exports in 1913 was practically covered by that of wool and hides and skins, as all other items accounted for less than 4 per cent. of the total.

Trade with
Germany.

The trade with Germany, which amounted to $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the total with oversea countries in 1913, was discontinued early in the year 1914-15 owing to the outbreak of war and the passing of the *Trading with the Enemy Act* 1914. The principal articles interchanged with Germany during the six years 1908 to 1913 are shown in the subjoined table:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO GERMANY, 1908 TO 1913.

Articles.	Value in Year—					
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.
<i>Imported into Victoria from Germany.</i>	£	£	£	£	£	£
Rubber and Rubber Manufactures ..	57,777	95,373	60,279	110,029	109,123	147,570
Machines, Tools, and Implements ..	89,810	70,191	84,557	127,718	123,100	127,781
Pianos ..	78,784	69,753	81,523	119,392	140,602	110,658
Apparel and Attire ..	46,009	62,059	74,351	82,381	95,703	98,354
Wire and Wire Netting ..	131,718	112,284	136,739	125,627	97,436	98,080
Vehicles, and parts ..	27,557	23,777	16,523	24,533	60,972	82,383
Piece Goods ..	68,819	53,956	65,851	60,900	80,851	76,352
Paper, Paperhangings, &c. ..	110,103	56,024	77,494	91,416	83,719	66,609
Glass and Glassware ..	34,673	26,758	33,523	39,973	58,259	58,740
Iron and Steel ..	24,213	31,662	61,167	39,174	78,205	48,267
All other Articles ..	636,139	603,522	646,605	810,312	950,073	823,884
Total ..	1,305,602	1,205,359	1,338,612	1,631,455	1,878,043	1,738,678
<i>Exported from Victoria to Germany.</i>						
Wool ..	533,050	792,840	952,760	688,166	934,723	716,127
Tin Ingots ..	1,250		5,542	10,842	33,397	79,659
Apples—Fresh ..	9,630	17,405	14,080	17,213	28,149	63,544
Wheat ..		9,003	39,089	11,931	16,873	39,945
Ores ..	2,958	1,436	3,770	3,072	16,146	36,817
Sausage Casings ..	11,698	10,596	12,431	13,400	15,170	14,471
Hides and Skins ..	31,961	17,733	9,908	7,711	4,465	11,468
Tallow ..	59	940	11,100	15,803	3,282	6,478
Gold—Specie ..	1,410,000				200,000	
All other Articles ..	14,930	22,508	22,711	33,164	35,335	60,924
Total ..	2,015,536	872,461	1,071,391	801,302	1,287,540	1,029,433

The articles imported from Germany were very varied in character, as may be seen from the fact that only half their total value was accounted for in the ten leading items shown above. In exchange for the imports, 59 per cent. of their value was returned in merchandise in 1913. Of the exports for that year 70 per cent. consisted of wool.

Trade with Japan (including Formosa) consists mainly of imports, which have increased considerably since 1915.

The value of goods received from Japan represented 2·6 per cent. of the total oversea imports into Victoria in 1915, 4·6 per cent. in 1916, 5·3 per cent. in 1917, 8·6 per cent. in 1918, and 9 per cent. in 1919. The principal articles interchanged during the last five years were as follows:—

**VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND
EXPORTED TO JAPAN, 1914-15 TO 1918-19.**

Articles.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
<i>Imported into Victoria from Japan.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Piece Goods ..	191,035	312,874	344,467	747,301	1,594,320
Apparel and Attire ..	20,419	87,216	155,818	63,914	135,014
Sulphur—Brimstone ..	48,809	46,905	101,474	185,831	114,747
Metal Manufactures ..	3,401	13,484	22,921	38,770	81,494
Electrical Cable and Wire (covered) ..	..	1	533	11,549	79,608
Glass and Glassware ..	9,159	31,454	42,382	48,978	78,163
Matches and Vestas ..	2,776	27,388	8,208	24,913	71,323
Fancy Goods ..	8,005	24,053	34,721	54,204	67,136
China ware ..	2,649	15,687	27,270	26,936	62,912
Floor Coverings ..	6,041	9,327	13,495	35,353	53,992
Calcium—Carbide of ..	..	..	153	28,928	50,428
Gloves ..	..	92	6,707	29,031	45,700
Yarns ..	1	305	61	3,315	44,408
Fibres ..	3,957	2,503	7,168	15,938	35,621
Grass Straw, &c. ..	..	11,525	21,805	54,345	32,406
Hats, Bonnets, and Caps	15,791	24,830	27,762	23,725	28,828
Cosies, Cushions, Counterpanes, &c. ..	12,953	26,107	36,755	24,574	27,508
Brushware ..	6,712	16,373	22,867	17,896	27,428
Earthenware, Brown- ware, &c. ..	4,106	19,408	23,481	22,101	27,033
Buttons, Buckles, &c. ..	11,962	23,301	26,283	34,126	25,663
Textiles N.E.I. ..	285	1,383	12,479	16,009	20,150
Timber ..	13,060	29,205	60,824	6,756	17,232
Sugar—Produce of Cane	..	271,826	127,173	..	..
All other Articles ..	179,154	247,136	213,771	256,379	422,583
Total ..	540,316	1,242,383	1,338,578	1,770,872	3,143,697
<i>Exported from Victoria to Japan.</i>					
Grain and Pulse ..	18	146	..	88,408	196,347
Wool ..	51,397	77,421	..	..	37,275
Tallow (unrefined) ..	5,952	..	12,026	7,127	28,015
Milk and Cream ..	2,450	..	524	25,066	18,435
Tallow Oil ..	4,623	8,053	12,214	17,240	11,453
All other Articles ..	19,117	40,505	23,653	28,080	90,065
Total ..	83,557	126,125	48,417	165,921	381,590

For the year 1919, the articles specified accounted for 86½ per cent. of the total imports, whilst the items piece goods and apparel and attire formed 55 per cent. thereof. On page 536 it is shown that the articles produced in Japan and received in Victoria during the year ended 30th June, 1919, amounted in value to £3,072,342.

Wool was the chief item of export up to 1916; but in 1919 foodstuffs represented 56 per cent. in value of the total exports.

Trade with United States. Trade with the United States in 1919 amounted to £11,117,688, or about 18 per cent. of the Victorian oversea

trade. As compared with the year 1918 this trade had increased by £3,542,029, there having been an increase in imports of £4,791,505, and a decrease in exports of £1,249,476. The principal articles included in the trade with the United States in the last six years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO THE UNITED STATES, 1913 TO 1918-19.

Articles.	Value in Year—					
	1913.	Ended 30th June.				
		1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
<i>Imported into Victoria from the United States.</i>	£	£	£	£	£	£
Paper	33,962	80,299	146,419	228,212	266,695	976,220
Piece Goods	38,086	79,920	162,771	260,738	241,623	844,930
Metal Manufactures ..	201,740	200,700	356,097	313,075	441,997	825,210
Machines and Machinery	399,448	386,172	487,331	561,632	456,759	755,531
Oils	228,975	237,423	469,490	574,646	461,785	704,404
Iron and Steel	161,038	140,919	326,906	420,189	348,779	686,113
Apparel and Attire ..	18,852	110,439	244,744	222,919	118,450	576,028
Vehicles, and parts ..	116,658	143,289	429,023	305,686	310,895	449,394
Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes	230,504	120,865	186,324	355,481	123,985	408,683
Timber	316,223	213,873	235,805	96,365	157,866	223,108
Rubber and Rubber Goods	31,069	28,319	70,304	66,076	68,012	216,770
Leather, &c.	124,232	106,441	154,337	327,264	210,969	197,807
Electrical and Gas Appliances, Electrical Articles and Materials	10,865	29,205	63,301	74,770	67,000	179,532
Glass and Glassware ..	7,796	18,168	56,810	67,071	48,681	159,970
Tools of Trade	93,423	67,527	61,362	68,658	57,885	129,238
Arms, Ammunition, and Explosives	14,957	18,959	42,163	14,932	67,034	124,339
Gloves	1,570	2,663	5,407	9,300	38,924	107,220
Cocoa, and Cocoa and Chocolate	2,800	3,830	10,432	5,785	26,452	106,527
Instruments—Musical	13,781	10,626	46,609	68,106	74,467	96,198
Paints and Colours ..	8,468	10,533	21,158	35,665	49,903	86,278
Cream of Tartar	11	3,970	10,558	11,820	15,503	85,389
Sodium Salts	409	374	14,851	16,022	21,392	76,886
Corsets	12,981	28,663	34,080	48,486	44,772	73,187
Waxes	6,125	4,852	26,396	18,023	15,771	64,418
Sewing and Embroidery Silks, &c.	15,192	12,653	15,589	24,007	37,517	55,809
All other Articles ..	491,197	607,883	1,129,967	818,136	919,271	1,274,203
Total	2,580,362	2,668,565	4,808,234	5,013,064	4,692,387	9,483,892
<i>Exported from Victoria to the United States.</i>						
Wool	500,202	1,066,144	2,008,725	..	1,623,663	925,908
Wheat .. ..	..	..	..	42,860	757,819	387,921
Jams and Jellies .. ..	..	..	..	..	99,276	158,263
Sausage Casings .. ..	..	416	7,940	1,267	29,098	52,015
Flour .. ..	..	..	..	2,708	234,774	44,373
Hides and Skins	89,530	75,389	60,849	51,833	69,137	37,726
All other Articles ..	43,264	20,876	21,962	98,954	69,505	27,590
Total	632,996	1,162,825	2,099,476	197,622	2,883,272	1,633,796

The goods received from the United States in 1919 amounted in value to 27 per cent. of the oversea imports, and covered a wide range of articles. The 25 items specified above accounted for 87 per cent. of the total. Wool is the principal article exported; its value was 71 per cent. of the total for the last six years.

**Australian
produce
exported.**

Leaving gold out of consideration, an examination of the various articles of Australian produce exported from Victoria to overseas countries in 1919 reveals the fact that 92 per cent. of the total was covered by the twenty articles specified below. Under the heading "Australian Produce" are included articles which were partly or entirely manufactured in Australia from imported materials.

**VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE
EXPORTED FROM VICTORIA TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES,
1914-15 TO 1918-19.**

Principal Articles.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.*	1919.*
Gold (Bullion, Ore, and Specie)	£ 446,788	£ 320,995	£ 643	£ —	£ —
Wool	5,237,304	6,203,565	6,149,212	6,820,096	10,968,651
Grain and Pulse—					
Wheat	160,642	2,767,099	4,177,726	2,776,635	3,923,715
Flour	191,214	653,490	1,213,751	1,529,789	1,440,187
Other	40,182	70,238	120,948	197,818	347,837
Butter	798,569	653,115	2,154,673	1,664,299	1,860,415
Meats—					
Preserved in tins, &c.	213,525	12,258	61,937	328,288	798,645
Mutton and Lamb	1,248,085	47,348	394,044	187,733	745,893
Other (frozen) ..	531,867	92,807	236,450	291,188	145,404
Skins and Hides ..	884,997	534,396	548,725	478,236	1,078,151
Jams and Jellies ..	36,625	196,979	371,753	643,765	829,791
Leather and manu- factures of, &c. ..	494,418	491,933	438,870	235,375	800,626
Tallow and Tallow Oil	205,362	60,912	262,819	155,855	493,881
Fruits (Fresh, Dried, and Preserved) ..	42,339	367,806	264,850	332,996	419,764
Milk and Cream ..	77,388	14,847	305,738	594,390	339,883
Machines and Machinery	66,036	85,753	55,971	75,436	182,525
Fertilizers	84,132	121,800	94,377	162,839	172,492
Boots and Shoes ..	3,108	8,786	14,889	70,549	168,070
Cordage and Twines	1,382	3,838	35,533	62,569	125,928
Tobacco, manufac- tured	68,127	110,254	88,397	123,876	120,329
Rubber Manufactures	69,925	101,499	85,199	122,927	115,378
Biscuits	39,313	74,813	79,121	75,159	90,241
Lead	144,734	338,083	501,775	57,145	43,934
Horses	106,054	25,410	62,948	117,318	32,199
Tin Ingots	109,337	224,598	114,635	66,939	28,650
All other Articles ..	708,044	696,860	833,585	1,099,043	2,142,121
Total	12,009,497	14,279,482	18,668,569	18,270,173	27,414,710
Per Head of Popula- tion	£ s. d. 8 7 11	£ s. d. 10 1 3	£ s. d. 13 6 11	£ s. d. 12 19 0	£ s. d. 19 3 3
Percentage of Total Overseas Exports ..	97·35	96·85	98·10	97·62	98·53

* Excluding gold.

Those articles of Australian produce exported overseas which are not specified in the above table, but are grouped under the heading

"All other articles," represented 6 per cent. of the total in 1915, 5 per cent. in 1916, $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in 1917, 6 per cent. in 1918, and 8 per cent. in 1919.

The subjoined table shows the destination under general headings of Australian produce exported from Victoria to oversea countries in each of the past five years:—

EXPORTS OF AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE, 1914-15 TO 1918-19.

Destination.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.*	1919.*
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ..	8,281,709	7,074,914	12,359,067	8,597,363	15,936,033
Other British Countries ..	1,692,457	2,101,525	2,521,613	4,114,349	6,161,173
Foreign Countries ..	2,035,331	5,103,043	3,787,889	5,558,461	5,317,504
Total ..	12,009,497	14,279,482	18,668,569	18,270,173	27,414,710

* Excluding gold.

Of the Australian produce exported oversea during the last five years, about 58 per cent. was sent to the United Kingdom, 18 per cent. to other British countries, and 24 per cent. to foreign countries.

The following are the net amounts of Customs and Excise duty collected in Victoria in each of the last five years, the principal items being shown separately:—

REVENUE OF CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT, 1914-15 TO 1918-19.

Heads of Revenue.	1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.
Import Duty—	£	£	£	£	£
Alcoholic Liquors ..	687,599	574,690	422,693	300,406	363,663
Narcotics ..	434,447	476,721	497,662	423,456	471,268
Sugar ..	11,957	249,220	112,753	13,971	7,588
All other Articles ..	2,395,549	2,901,721	2,799,442	2,222,806	3,147,217
Total ..	3,529,552	4,202,352	3,832,550	2,960,639	3,989,736
Excise Duty—					
Spirits ..	129,821	139,437	124,083	142,978	273,057
Beer ..	401,041	494,161	458,430	556,327	891,491
Tobacco ..	282,412	290,365	303,307	301,864	462,219
Sugar ..	1,481	350	..	..	..
Total ..	814,755	924,313	885,820	1,001,169	1,626,767
Miscellaneous ..	12,522	13,553	14,652	11,952	24,626
Grand Total ..	4,356,829	5,140,218	4,733,022	3,973,760	5,641,129

These figures have been furnished by the Customs Department, and the amounts shown are exclusive of drawbacks and refunds. No

record is kept of goods which were imported into or manufactured in the State, and afterwards passed into another State for consumption, and consequently no adjustment of duties paid has been possible between the States concerned.

Inter-State Commission. This Commission was appointed on 5th August, 1913, and its principal functions are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 638.

SHIPPING.

Victorian shipping as dealt with in the succeeding tables refers to vessels trading with other States and overseas countries. Vessels trading on the Victorian coast and on the River Murray have not been taken into consideration, except in the particulars of the shipping of the port of Melbourne given on page 551, where Victorian coastal shipping is included.

The number of vessels entered and cleared, their total tonnage, and the number of men forming their crews in each of the last five years were as follows :—

SHIPPING INWARD AND OUTWARD, 1914-15 TO 1918-19.

	Year ended 30th June—				
	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
Vessels Entered—					
Number	2,324	2,392	1,962	1,721	1,730
Tons	5,290,063	4,935,129	4,042,819	2,871,343	2,870,974
Average tonnage ..	2,276	2,063	2,061	1,668	1,660
Crews	157,209	142,885	119,200	80,199	82,214
Vessels Cleared—					
Number	2,329	2,385	1,967	1,724	1,709
Tons	5,308,817	4,902,245	4,050,095	2,873,770	2,815,938
Average tonnage ..	2,279	2,055	2,059	1,667	1,648
Crews	157,745	141,698	118,360	80,196	81,181

The figures in the above table for the years 1918 and 1919 show a large decrease in the tonnage and crews of vessels as compared with the average of the five-year period 1912-17. The reduction in the tonnage of vessels which entered and cleared Victorian ports during the last four years was due to conditions arising out of the war. For the twelve months ended 30th June, 1919, steamers numbered 1,508 of the vessels entered, and 1,495 of the vessels cleared, their tonnage aggregating 2,734,895 and 2,694,746 respectively.

Shipping in ballast. The inward shipping of 1919 included 122 vessels in ballast, of an aggregate tonnage of 401,298, whilst the outward shipping included 380 vessels in ballast, having an aggregate tonnage of 584,357.

Shipping with
principal
countries.

The more important of the countries having shipping communication with Victoria in 1918-19 are set out in the following statement :—

SHIPPING WITH PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES, 1918-19.

Countries.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
Australian States	1,239	1,393,549	1,369	1,874,484
United Kingdom	129	623,908	79	342,617
New Zealand	65	87,391	50	73,642
Other British	105	321,924	105	286,019
Total British Countries	1,538	2,426,772	1,603	2,576,762
Japan	43	110,321	23	68,786
Java	11	33,960	13	33,058
United States.. ..	90	176,868	22	39,018
Other Foreign	48	123,053	48	98,314
Total Foreign Countries ..	192	444,202	106	239,176
Total	1,730	2,870,974	1,709	2,815,938

Nationality of
vessels.

The nationality of vessels entered and cleared at Victorian ports for the year 1918-19 was as shown hereunder :—

NATIONALITY OF SHIPPING, 1918-19.

Nationality.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
British—				
Australian	1,157	1,184,951	1,154	1,171,385
United Kingdom	293	1,256,001	286	1,238,730
Canadian .. ..	..	..	1	800
New Zealand	128	106,544	127	105,236
South African	5	5,070	5	5,070
Total British	1,583	2,552,566	1,573	2,521,221
Foreign—				
Chilian	1	1,179	1	1,179
Danish	1	3,004	1	3,004
Dutch	17	45,594	15	40,337
French	8	17,446	6	13,167
Italian	1	2,786	1	2,786
Japanese	44	112,275	44	112,275
Norwegian	29	62,900	24	51,815
Portuguese	1	5,034	1	5,034
Russian	7	11,790	6	10,164
Swedish	11	24,349	9	20,937
United States	27	32,051	28	34,019
Total Foreign	147	318,408	136	294,717
Total	1,730	2,870,974	1,709	2,815,938

In the next table further details are given of the nationality of the shipping for each of the last five years.

NATIONALITY OF VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED, 1914-15
TO 1918-19.

Year.	Number of Vessels.				Tonnage of Vessels.			
	Aus- tralian.	Other British.	Foreign.	Total.	Australian.	Other British.	Foreign.	Total.
Entered.								
1914-15	1,480	709	135	2,324	2,294,137	2,633,365	362,561	5,290,063
1915-16	1,499	714	179	2,392	2,044,398	2,519,317	371,414	4,935,129
1916-17	1,253	586	123	1,962	1,713,714	2,035,346	293,759	4,042,819
1917-18	1,266	312	143	1,721	1,485,665	1,058,144	327,534	2,871,343
1918-19	1,157	426	147	1,730	1,184,951	1,367,615	318,408	2,870,974
Cleared.								
1914-15	1,484	712	133	2,329	2,303,739	2,645,617	359,461	5,308,817
1915-16	1,498	709	178	2,385	2,034,655	2,494,320	373,270	4,902,245
1916-17	1,255	587	125	1,967	1,713,914	2,038,346	297,839	4,050,095
1917-18	1,272	309	143	1,724	1,481,732	1,063,466	328,572	2,873,770
1918-19	1,154	419	136	1,709	1,171,385	1,349,836	294,717	2,815,938

The proportions of the shipping of each nationality, as tabulated, to the total entered and cleared for the respective years in their proper sequence from 1915 to 1919 are :—Australian vessels, 64, 63, 64, 74, and 67 per cent. ; Australian tonnage, 43, 41, 43, 52, and 41 per cent. ; other British vessels, 30, 30, 30, 18, and 25 per cent. ; other British tonnage, 50, 51, 50, 37, and 48 per cent. ; foreign vessels, 6, 7, 6, 8, and 8 per cent. ; and foreign tonnage, 7, 8, 7, 11, and 11 per cent.

The vessels on the Victorian register on 31st December, 1918, were as follows, the ports of registration and net tonnage being distinguished :—

VESSELS ON THE VICTORIAN REGISTER, 1918.

Port of Registration.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	Number.	Net Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Net Tonnage.
Melbourne	202	126,197	150	33,776	352	159,973
Geelong	2	419	5	360	7	779
Port Fairy	3	621	..	..	3	621
Total	207	127,237	155	34,136	362	161,373

During 1918 there were added to the register 8 steamers with net tonnage of 864, and 3 sailing vessels with a tonnage of 1,632 ;

whilst 11 steamers having net tonnage of 3,992, and 16 sailing vessels having a tonnage of 3,736, were taken off the register.

Vessels on Australasian registers. The following statement, compiled by the Marine Underwriters' and Salvage Association of Victoria, shows the number and net tonnage of vessels on the registers of all the Australian States and New Zealand on 30th June, 1919 :—

VESSELS OWNED IN AUSTRALASIA, 1919.

States, &c.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.*		Total.	
	Number.	Net Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Net Tonnage.
Victoria	176	125,400	184	35,474	360	160,874
New South Wales ..	508	95,768	543	34,258	1,051	130,026
Queensland	82	16,695	182	6,393	264	23,088
South Australia ..	111	46,278	182	15,235	293	61,513
Western Australia ..	29	22,545	391	12,387	420	34,932
Tasmania	61	13,647	134	4,431	195	18,078
Total Australia ..	967	320,333	1,616	108,178	2,583	428,511
Fiji	4	347	6	871	10	1,218
New Guinea .. ..	..	..	13	250	13	250
New Zealand	245	62,029	310	24,578	555	86,607
Total	1,216	382,709	1,945	133,877	3,161	516,586

* Including auxiliary power vessels.

Compared with 1918, vessels owned in Australia decreased by 68 in number, and by 15,418 in tonnage.

PORT OF MELBOURNE.

Port of Melbourne. The port of Melbourne is under the control of the Melbourne Harbor Trust, which has 10·39 miles of wharfs, piers, and jetties in the River Yarra, Victoria Dock, and Hobson's Bay. The area of these wharfs is 65 acres, of which 20 acres are under sheds. An outline of some of the Trust's activities is given below.

Works undertaken by Trust in River and Victoria Dock. The river has been widened from Queen's Bridge to the Bay from about 140 to 300 feet, and three swinging basins have been provided, one just below Queen's Bridge, 500 feet wide, one three-quarters of a mile further down the river, 700 feet wide, and one at the entrance to the Victoria Dock, 660

feet wide. The depth of the river has been gradually increased, until at the present time it is 27 feet at low water for all but the upper half-mile, where the depth is from 24 feet upwards, but is being increased to 27 feet. As regards the wharfage available for shipping, there is a berthing space of 49,010 feet, the whole of which has a good depth of water—7,780 feet at Williamstown, 9,150 feet at Port Melbourne, 20,320 feet in the River Yarra, and 11,760 feet in the Victoria Dock.

This dock, which is 4 miles from the river entrance, was **Victoria Dock** opened in 1892, and has a free water area of 82 acres, not including the entrance, and a depth of from 27 to 29 feet of water at low tide. The entrance to the dock is 160 feet wide, and on the 8,500 feet of wharfage, excluding the Central Pier, there are six closed and seven open sheds, all 53 feet in width, but now being widened to 80 feet, and two open and two closed sheds 60 feet in width, the total length of these sheds being 4,870 feet. On the pier in this dock, which is 1,631 feet in length and 250 feet in width, six new sheds have been completed, each 480 feet long by 60 feet wide. Two new sheds 480 feet long by 80 feet wide are being erected on the Pitt-street side of the dock.

This canal, which was constructed across the flats below **Goode Canal**. Fisherman's Bend, had the effect of reducing the distance from Queen's Bridge to the river entrance from 7 miles to $5\frac{3}{4}$ miles. Its length is 2,002 yards, its total width 487 feet, its width at low water 430 feet, its bottom width 264 feet, and its depth at low water 27 feet.

The material dredged and disposed of during 1918 **Dredging.** amounted to 3,157,922 cubic yards, viz., 2,429,048 cubic yards from the Bay within the Harbor Trust boundary, and 728,874 cubic yards from the River Yarra and Victoria Dock. Since the establishment of the Trust the river dredgings have amounted to 34,615,692, and the Bay dredgings to 29,195,652 cubic yards, making a total of 63,811,344 cubic yards. Of the dredgings 50,455,704 cubic yards were deposited in deep water and 13,355,640 cubic yards were landed and deposited for reclamation work. The average cost of dredging, towing, and depositing in 1918 was 7·85d. per cubic yard.

The floating plant of the Trust consists of 6 dredgers, 2 **Plant.** steam tugs, 9 steam hopper barges, 10 iron dumb hopper barges, 3 steam launches, 3 motor launches, 1 Lobnitz rock-breaker, 1 grab crane, 2 coal hulks, 2 derrick punts, and diving equipment.

Since the inception of the Trust, in the year 1877, the **Trade of the Port.** trade of the port has greatly increased. In the year 1918 vessels to the number of 4,445, comprising 3,527 steamers, 20 ships, 29 barques, 20 barquentines, 294 ketches, 123 schooners, and 432 lighters, with registered gross tonnage aggregating 5,271,000, berthed within the port. The tonnage of imports in 1918 was 2,544,000, and that of exports 1,175,000.

The trade of the port for the past five years was as follows :—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.		Net Registered Tonnage.
	Oversea.	Inter-State (including New Zealand).	Oversea.	Inter-State (including New Zealand).	
	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.	
1914.. ..	1,313,000	1,663,000	576,000	740,000	6,934,000
1915.. ..	1,299,000	1,683,000	239,000	730,000	5,994,000
1916.. ..	982,000	1,652,000	655,000	703,000	5,555,000
					Gross
1917.. ..	754,000	1,384,000	638,000	593,000	6,920,000
1918.. ..	874,000	1,670,000	507,000	668,000	5,271,000

The abnormal conditions arising out of the war are responsible for the decrease of vessels' tonnage in 1918.

Coal forms a great part of the above Inter-State imports, the particulars being as follows :—

COAL IMPORTED FROM OTHER STATES.

(Exclusive of Coal transhipped.)

	Tons.		Tons.
1913	831,219	1916.. ..	809,209
1914	906,962	1917.. ..	771,953
1915	846,980	1918.. ..	1,105,543

Port Improvement.

A new railway pier at Port Melbourne has been completed, its length being 1,902 feet, and its width 186 feet. The total cost of the pier and superstructures is £214,118. Dredging has been completed to 37 feet, to provide for four berths for vessels drawing 35 feet. Two shelter sheds are provided, which are connected with vessels by movable gangways bridging the railway lines. Passengers are thus enabled to board and disembark from vessels clear of the railway traffic.

The construction of the new Central Pier at the Victoria Dock has been completed. A bed for the centre roadway on this pier has been formed by the insertion of reinforced concrete plates on which wood blocks have been laid. The expenditure on the pier to 31st December, 1918, including the erection of six cargo sheds, was £186,418.

The widening of the swinging basin on the south side of the river is practically completed. This work makes the width of the river at the basin 700 feet for a length of 1,000 feet. The other works being carried out in this connexion are :—Erection of timber wharf around the swinging basin ; construction of reinforced concrete sheet piling ; erection of wharf in front of sheet piling ; and the demolition of the old wharf and sheet piling, &c. It is proposed to dredge the swinging basin to 27 feet O.L.W. The cost of these works to 31st December last was £96,037 ; the estimated total cost is £341,158.

The following statement shows the berthage accommodation and depth of water at the wharfs and piers within the Port of Melbourne :—

BERTHAGE ACCOMMODATION AND DEPTH OF WATER.

Name of Wharf, Pier, &c.	Berthing Space, in Feet.	Depth, in Feet O.L.W.
Breakwater Pier, Williamstown	920	28 to 30
Railway Pier, Williamstown (old)	2,500	28 to 30
Railway Pier, Williamstown (new)	1,200	28 to 30
Graving Dock Pier, Williamstown	860	25 to 28
Reid-street Pier, Williamstown	1,000	20 to 24
Ann-street Pier, Williamstown	800	17 to 22
Gem Pier, Williamstown	500	8 to 10
New Railway Pier, Port Melbourne	2,650	37
Railway Pier, Port Melbourne	3,000	28 to 30
Town Pier, Port Melbourne	3,500	27 to 30
Newport Wharf (river)	400	27
Footscray Wharf (river)	700	13 to 14
Queen's Wharf (river)	1,800	17 to 26
Prince's Wharf (river)	2,050	17 to 24
Australian Wharf (river)	7,620	24 to 26
South Wharf (river)	7,750	23 to 26
Victoria Dock (river)	11,760	27 to 29
	49,010	

NOTE.—For rise of spring tides throughout harbor, 2 ft. 8 in. to be added to all depths; for rise of neap tides, 2 feet to be added. The depth at Victoria Dock is limited by that of the river channel, which is maintained at from 26 to 27 feet.

At the various piers and wharfs are the following cranes :—

One steam crane, to lift 75 tons.

One hydraulic crane, to lift 35 tons.

One hydraulic crane, to lift 15 tons.

Seven hand cranes, to lift from 1 to 10 tons.

POSTS, TELEGRAPHS, AND TELEPHONES.

The Department of Posts and Telegraphs was transferred to the Federal Government by proclamation on 1st March, 1901.

The following are the principal postal charges within the Commonwealth. In addition to the charges mentioned there is a war postage of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for each letter, letter-card, post-card, packet, and newspaper. Thus the postage on letters is

Rates of postage.

1½d. for the first half ounce and 1d. for each additional half ounce, and similarly with the other articles specified below:—

Letters	1d. per half ounce
Letter-cards	Single, 1½d. each
Post-cards	Single, 1d. each
Printed papers (other than newspapers)	½d. per 2 ounces
Books printed in Australia	½d. per 8 ounces
Books printed outside Australia	½d. per 4 ounces
Magazines printed and published in Australia .. each	½d. per 8 ounces
Magazines printed and published outside Australia .. each	½d. per 4 ounces
Commercial papers, patterns, samples, and merchandise as prescribed	1d. per 2 ounces
Newspapers printed and published in Australia .. each	½d. per 10 ounces
Newspapers printed and published outside Australia .. each	½d. per 4 ounces

The rate of postage on letters from the Commonwealth to the United Kingdom and the Oversea Dominions and British colonies and protectorates is now 1d. for the first half ounce and 1d. for each additional half ounce, plus ½d. war tax.

Cable rates. The ordinary rate for cabling to the United Kingdom is 3s. per word, and the deferred rate is 1s. 6d. per word. Deferred cablegrams are transmitted only after the despatch of non-urgent private cablegrams and press cablegrams. In January, 1913, the Pacific Cable Board instituted a tariff for week-end cable letters available between Australia and the United Kingdom. The rate is 9d. per word, with a minimum charge of 15s. A scheme exists under which week-end messages may be lodged up to midnight on Saturday, and are deliverable on Tuesday morning, or if practicable on Monday. This has, however, been temporarily suspended, as an arrangement has been made for the transmission of messages to soldiers, which are chargeable at the rate of 9d. per word without a minimum.

Postal returns. The following table shows the postal business transacted in Victoria during the last five years. Registered letters and articles, which numbered 1,718,858 in 1918-19, are included:—

POSTAL RETURNS, 1914 TO 1918-19.

—	1914.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.
Posted and Received—					
Letters and Postcards	188,440,698	191,427,078	201,093,447	197,830,163	188,526,047
Newspapers	40,737,663	40,246,088	43,175,024	36,695,699	34,982,384
Packets ..	16,464,556	11,146,357	11,490,795	10,884,630	10,495,445
Parcels ..	961,755	1,163,140	1,283,949	1,363,044	1,399,114
Total ..	246,604,672	243,982,663	257,043,215	246,773,536	235,402,990

The total number of letters, newspapers, packets, and parcels passing through the post-office in 1918-19 was the lowest since 1912. A clear idea of the magnitude of the postal matter dealt with will be obtained when it is stated that during the last year the letters posted and received represented 128 and the newspapers, packets, and parcels, 32 per head of the population.

The next table gives in three groups the destination of letters, newspapers, packets, and parcels posted, whether for delivery inland, in other

States, or in countries outside the Commonwealth, and shows whence those received came, whether from other States or from outside countries.

POSTAL SERVICE—INLAND, INTER-STATE AND
INTERNATIONAL: 1914 TO 1918-19.

Service.	1914.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.
LETTERS AND POSTCARDS.					
Posted for delivery inland ..	139,043,933	134,212,538	133,312,357	128,839,592	127,757,271
Posted for delivery in other States ..	16,234,172	16,267,863	16,366,285	18,196,539	19,515,019
Posted for delivery outside the States ..	6,760,903	13,944,397	15,935,748	13,707,895	9,834,996
Total ..	162,039,008	164,424,798	165,614,390	160,744,026	157,107,286
Received from other States ..	16,220,068	16,481,811	17,529,247	20,524,168	18,608,892
Received from outside the States ..	10,181,622	10,520,469	17,949,810	16,561,969	12,809,869
Total ..	26,401,690	27,002,280	35,479,057	37,086,137	31,418,761
NEWSPAPERS.					
Posted for delivery inland ..	13,526,750	14,410,719	19,871,312	18,353,029	18,474,884
Posted for delivery in other States ..	15,962,880	14,823,566	12,830,757	10,670,456	10,366,521
Posted for delivery outside the States ..	2,793,660	3,955,133	2,987,080	3,504,111	2,899,892
Total ..	32,283,290	33,189,418	35,689,149	32,527,596	31,741,297
Received from other States ..	5,212,038	4,685,452	4,776,097	2,579,897	2,015,766
Received from outside the States ..	3,242,335	2,371,218	2,709,778	1,588,206	1,225,321
Total ..	8,454,373	7,056,670	7,485,875	4,168,103	3,241,087
PACKETS.					
Posted for delivery inland ..	9,783,256	6,136,500	6,060,216	5,919,199	5,610,195
Posted for delivery in other States ..	4,051,319	2,495,132	2,737,515	2,584,613	2,989,384
Posted for delivery outside the States ..	750,184	922,389	881,171	955,558	807,525
Total ..	14,584,759	9,554,021	9,678,902	9,459,370	9,407,104
Received from other States ..	1,232,022	1,039,866	1,080,527	978,878	754,510
Received from outside the States ..	647,775	552,470	731,366	446,382	333,831
Total ..	1,879,797	1,592,336	1,811,893	1,425,260	1,088,341
PARCELS.					
Posted for delivery inland ..	577,585	593,895	520,785	547,179	539,328
Posted for delivery in other States ..	210,404	243,655	227,773	252,014	296,469
Posted for delivery outside the States ..	17,658	145,907	357,689	357,458	279,065
Total ..	805,647	983,457	1,106,247	1,156,651	1,114,862
Received from other States ..	107,327	118,626	115,307	126,105	132,838
Received from outside the States ..	48,781	61,057	62,395	80,288	151,414
Total ..	156,108	179,683	177,702	206,393	284,252

There are 534 money order offices in the State, which, in 1918-19, issued 461,164 orders for £2,712,512. Of these 411,996 (for £2,566,643) were Commonwealth, 7,200 (for £25,160) New Zealand, and 41,968 (for £120,709) international orders. The orders paid in the same year numbered 476,543, and were for an aggregate amount of £2,702,292, the Commonwealth being 445,407 (for £2,597,350), the New Zealand 17,031 (for £50,459), and the international 14,105 (for £54,483). The postal notes sold totalled 2,888,387 (for £912,938), the inland postal notes paid 2,100,515 (for £698,606), and the notes of other States paid in Victoria 330,390 (for £120,167). The following is a comparative statement of the business done since 1913 :—

MONEY ORDERS AND POSTAL NOTES, 1914 TO 1918-19.

	1914.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19†
Money Orders issued—					
Number	381,671	654,324	420,347	438,897	461,164
Amount .. £	1,714,513	2,646,488	2,046,113	2,297,313	2,712,512
Money Orders Paid—					
Number	405,841	676,062	461,477	475,306	476,543
Amount .. £	1,928,550	2,800,880	2,213,594	2,524,316	2,702,292
Postal Notes—					
Issued .. £	1,064,255	918,600	884,586	896,753	912,938
Victorian—Paid in Victoria .. £	849,888	731,044	689,222	681,955	698,606
Of Other States—					
Paid in Victoria £	171,414	132,429	127,684	123,709	120,167

The number and value of money orders issued and paid in 1918-19 exceeded the totals of the preceding two years. The number dealt with in 1915-16 was large, owing to the system then in operation of paying military allotments by money orders.

The total value of the postal notes paid in the State during 1918-19 was greater than in the preceding year by £13,109; the Victorian notes showed an increase of £16,651 and those of other States a decrease of £3,542. The postal notes issued in Victoria during 1918-19 exceeded those of the previous year by 27,379 in number and £16,185 in value.

**Telegraphs
and
telegrams.**

There are 1,671 telegraph offices in the State, 150 of which are attached to the railway service. The number of telegrams sent from Victorian offices, and the number received from outside the State, in each of the last five years, were as follows:—

TELEGRAMS DESPATCHED AND RECEIVED, 1914 TO 1918-19.

—	1914.	1915-18.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.
Telegrams despatched—					
Inland ..	2,217,361	2,189,333	2,258,435	2,296,097	2,538,632
Inter-State ..	948,497	1,012,605	1,038,411	1,098,575	1,132,989
International ..	101,337	133,088	132,025	137,758	132,613
Total ..	3,267,195	3,335,026	3,428,871	3,532,430	3,804,234
Telegrams received—					
Inter-State ..	1,009,362	1,061,206	1,059,334	1,116,361	1,175,771
International ..	95,489	150,951	160,497	169,047	158,111
Total ..	1,104,851	1,212,157	1,219,831	1,285,408	1,333,882

The total telegrams despatched show a gradual improvement annually in the five-year period, the number for 1918-19 exceeding that for the previous year by 271,804. Compared with 1914 the telegrams despatched during the last year showed an increase of 537,039, of which 321,271 were inland, 184,492 inter-state, and 31,276 international. Telegrams received from outside the State have increased by 229,031 since 1914.

Telephones. The telephone exchanges were worked by a private company until September, 1887, in which month the business, buildings, and plant were purchased by the Government. There were 684 exchanges in Victoria on 30th June, 1919, and the actual number of subscribers' lines was 44,035, with 60,376 telephones connected which represented 4·12 to every 100 persons in the State. Telephone bureaux for the use of the public are placed in prominent positions in or near public buildings, post-offices, railway stations, &c. The number of these at 30th June, 1919, was 1,368.

RAILWAYS.

**Victorian
Railways,
length and
cost.**

All railways in Victoria available for general traffic are, with the two exceptions referred to on page 565, the property of the State, and are under the management of three Commissioners appointed by the Government.

The succeeding tables relate to the State railways, the motive power of which is steam, with the exception of about $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles of Electric Street Railway and two suburban lines (Sandringham to Essendon and Melbourne to St. Kilda), on which electric trains are run for the conveyance of passengers. The gauge of the lines is 5 ft. 3 in., with the exception of 121·9 miles of single lines, of which the gauge is 2 ft. 6 in. and 2·41 miles (2·22 miles double and ·19 mile single) of electric street railway, of which the gauge is 4 ft. $8\frac{1}{2}$ in. The following table shows the length of double and single lines, the cost of construction, and the average cost per mile at the close of each of the last five years :—

RAILWAYS, LENGTH AND COST OF CONSTRUCTION, 30TH
JUNE, 1915, TO 30TH JUNE, 1919.

—	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
Length of Lines on 30th June—					
Double Lines (miles)	325·71	328·19	328·19	328·19	330·41
Single Lines (miles)	3,602·47	3,825·33	3,847·57	3,876·57	3,914·64
Total ..	3,928·18	4,153·52	4,175·76	4,204·76	4,245·05
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost of Construction	36,411,149	37,906,057	38,305,630	38,652,751	38,945,068
Average Cost per mile	9,269	9,126	9,173	9,193	9,174

In addition to the lines embraced in this table, the following were in course of construction on 30th June, 1919 :—

5 ft. 3 in. Gauge.	Miles.
Beetomba to Cudgewa	9·91
Cavendish to Balmoral	25·29
Koo-wee-rup to McDonald's Track	30·75
Mityack to Kulwin	8·43
Manangatang to Bryden's Tank	14·25
Piangil to Pine Tank	15·75
	<hr/> 104·38

and the following lines had been authorized, but their construction had not been commenced :—

5 ft. 3 in. Gauge.	Miles.
Merbein to Yelta	10·00
Alberton to Won Wron	12·25
Bittern to Red Hill	10·00
	<hr/> 32·25

**Electrification
of suburban
lines.**

Parliament sanctioned the electrification of the Melbourne Suburban Railways in the year 1912, and it is expected that the work will be completed by the end of 1921. The progress of the scheme has been greatly retarded owing to conditions produced by the war. The running of electric passenger trains was commenced on the Sandringham-Essendon line on 28th May, 1919, and on the Melbourne-St. Kilda line shortly afterwards. The average schedule speed between Melbourne and Essendon was, in September, 1919, about 21 miles per hour, and it is expected that when the full electrical equipment has been installed the travelling time will be reduced by about 30 per cent. as compared with that occupied under steam service.

On the St. Kilda line the complete electric time-table was introduced at the outset, and the high speed, increased frequency of trains, superior lighting, and more comfortable conditions generally rendered possible by electrical working have insured the popularity of the service. On this line, with steam traction, 8 locomotives, 16 enginemen and 6 guards, and 6 trains were required during the busy hours of the day. Electric traction has enabled the Department to dispense with 8 locomotives and to perform the service with 5 motormen, 5 guards and 5 trains and at the same time to largely increase the number of trains throughout the day. Economies are being effected in other directions. The actual cost of coal for producing power for the electric service is much less per ton-mile than for steam trains. Also there is a considerable saving in power and cost owing to the size of trains being reduced during the hours when the traffic is comparatively light. Units are detached from trains at those times, and are restored when longer trains are again required.

The total capital expenditure on the Electrification Scheme during the seven years 1912-19, exclusive of the cost of constructing new carriages and the structural alterations to existing suburban rolling-stock, was £2,923,660.

**Cost of
railways and
equipment.** The capital cost of lines opened, works, rolling-stock and equipment at 30th June in each of the last five years was as follows:—

**CAPITAL COST OF RAILWAYS AND EQUIPMENT,
1915 TO 1919.**

30th June—				£
1915	..	..	..	51,620,187
1916	..	..	..	54,560,106
1917	..	..	..	55,808,163
1918	..	..	..	56,694,141
1919	..	..	..	57,658,557

The cost given is the actual cost of construction, exclusive of expenses of floating loans, &c. Of the capital expended to 30th June,

1919, £3,917,029 was derived from the general revenue, and the balance (£53,741,528) from loans. The latter liability is represented by debentures and stock outstanding to the nominal amount of £55,482,881, on which the annual interest payable is £2,144,413, or at the average rate of 3·865 per cent. The nominal amount of loans, however, was reduced by £1,741,353—the cost of flotation, together with the discount at time of flotation. It has been computed that, whilst the nominal rate of interest on loans outstanding on 30th June, 1919, was 3·865 per cent., the real interest on the net proceeds available for railway construction was 3·99 per cent.

The capital expenditure incurred in respect of lines now closed for traffic was approximately £383,863, and for surveys of lines not constructed £369,000.

**Railway
traffic.**

The mileage and the traffic of the railways since 30th June, 1914, are given in the following table :—

RAILWAYS—MILEAGE AND TRAFFIC, 1914-15 TO 1918-19.

	Year ended 30th June.				
	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
Miles Constructed ..	3,928·18	4,153·52	4,175·76	4,204·76	4,245·05
„ Dismantled ..	18·03	18·03	18·03	36·13	36·13
„ Closed to Traffic	29·93	29·93	29·93	11·83	11·83
„ Open for Traffic	3,880·22	4,105·56	4,127·80	4,156·80	4,197·09
Train Mileage ..	15,880,677	14,424,357	14,594,775	14,147,896	13,587,968
Passengers carried ..	119,978,898	118,898,222	111,791,982	109,607,750	117,467,159
Goods and Live Stock Carried (Tons) ..	5,410,045	5,829,835	5,962,602	6,231,093	6,515,470

The mileage given in the above tables relates to lines of railway, irrespective of the number of tracks, the actual length of which open for traffic on 30th June, 1919, was 4,557·72 miles of main tracks, and 848·16 miles of sidings.

The passenger traffic of 1918-19 was greater than in either of the two preceding years. In 1914-15 this traffic was the heaviest experienced by the Railway Department, passenger journeys exceeding those of the second heaviest year—1913-14—by 976,501, and those of 1915-16, the next in volume, by 1,080,676. Of the passenger journeys in 1918-19, 109,249,745 were made by metropolitan-suburban, and 8,217,414 by country passengers, the former being an increase of 7,984,218, and the latter a decrease of 124,809, as compared with the corresponding journeys for the previous year. The tonnage of goods and live stock carried in 1918-19 was the highest recorded, and exceeded that for 1917-18, which now stands second in importance, by 284,377. The items of goods carried in 1918-19 showing greatest tonnage were :—Wheat, 1,314,004 tons ; stone, gravel, and sand, 669,357 tons ; firewood,

538,863 tons; minerals (including coal, coke, ores, &c.), 437,136 tons; flour, bran, sharps and pollard, 333,260 tons; hay, straw, and chaff, 332,499 tons; and timber, 332,249 tons. Live stock carried in the same year had an aggregate weight of 488,853 tons, and comprised 35,147 horses, 405,073 cattle; 7,241,670 sheep, and 346,435 pigs. Comparing 1918-19 with 1914-15, the goods and live stock carried had increased by 1,105,425 tons, or by 20 per cent., whilst the passenger traffic was less by 2,511,739 passengers, or by 2 per cent., and the number of train miles run showed a reduction of 2,292,709, or of 14 per cent.

Railway receipts and expenditure. The receipts and working expenses of the Railway Department during the last five financial years were as follows:—

**RAILWAY RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE,
1914-15 TO 1918-19.**

	Year ended 30th June.				
	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
Receipts—	£	£	£	£	£
Passenger Fares ..	2,481,621	2,667,289	2,606,339	2,924,115	2,938,136
Freight on Goods and Live Stock	2,289,482	2,628,487	2,951,513	3,156,761	2,977,069
Sundries ..	412,584	434,967	422,786	512,997	560,868
Total ..	5,183,687	5,730,743	5,980,638	6,593,873	6,476,076
Working Expenses—	£	£	£	£	£
Way and Works ..	1,200,298	1,128,286	1,100,192	1,209,360	1,028,871
Rolling-stock ..	1,724,358	1,676,395	1,838,605	1,909,658	1,889,360
Transportation ..	1,090,796	1,094,877	1,105,741	1,228,950	1,260,362
General Charges* ..	242,864	242,030	261,420	255,937	296,178
Total ..	4,258,316	4,141,588	4,305,958	4,603,905	4,474,771
Net Receipts ..	925,371	1,589,155	1,674,680	1,989,968	2,001,305
Percentage of Expenses to Receipts	82·15	72·27	72·00	69·82	69·10

* Including pensions and gratuities.

The railway receipts for 1918-19 were £117,797 below those for 1917-18, but were more than those for any other previous year, exceeding the receipts for 1916-17, which are the third highest recorded,

by £495,438, or by more than 8 per cent. The amount received in passenger fares in 1918-19 was greater by £67,947 in the case of country, but less by £53,923 in the case of metropolitan-suburban passengers than that received in 1917-18. The most notable features in receipts from goods in 1918-19 as compared with the previous year were increases of £21,604 for the carriage of wool, and £10,657 for the carriage of timber, and a decrease in the amount received for the carriage of wheat of £336,442. The freight on live stock in 1918-19 was in excess of that for the previous year by £61,180. There has been an increase in working expenses in recent years, chiefly on account of the increased cost of coal due to the shortage of shipping, the higher cost of materials, &c., and the better conditions which have been provided for the staff. Abnormal expenditure for the purpose of meeting adverse conditions occasioned by the war, alterations connected with electrification, the relaying of lines with heavier rails, and the allowances to the staff owing to the increased cost of living, amounted to £268,874 in 1918-19, and is included in the working expenses for that year.

Railway
interest
charges
compared with
net revenue.

The amount of interest on current loans allocated to railways, together with the expenditure incurred by the Treasury in connexion with the payment of such interest, is compared with the net revenue of the Department for the last five years in the following statement :—

RAILWAY INTEREST CHARGES AND EXPENSES AND NET REVENUE, 1914-15 TO 1918-19.

Year.				Interest, &c.	Net Revenue.
				£	£
1914-15	..	..	..	1,767,807	925,371
1915-16	..	..	..	1,927,107	1,589,155
1916-17	..	..	..	2,012,447	1,674,680
1917-18	..	..	..	2,126,906	1,989,968
1918-19	..	..	..	2,164,902	2,001,305

The figures show that in each of the last five years there was a deficit after payment of working expenses, pensions and gratuities, special expenditure and interest charges and expenses. The deficit in 1914-15 was largely the result of the drought of 1914, and the deficits in the last four years were due mainly to special expenditure arising from conditions created by the war, including increased cost of stores and materials and higher average payments to the staff.

Railway earnings and expenses per mile. The earnings, expenses, and net profits per mile of railway open for each of the last five years were as follows :—

**RAILWAY RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE PER TRAIN
MILE, 1914-15 TO 1918-19.**

—	1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.
Average Number of Miles Open for Traffic	3,853	3,960	4,109	4,144	4,165
	£	£	£	£	£
Gross Earnings per Mile	1,345	1,447	1,456	1,591	1,555
Expenses per Mile	1,105	1,046	1,048	1,111	1,074
Net Profits per Mile	240	401	408	480	481

This table excludes all consideration of the interest payable on railway loans and expenses of paying the same, which are given in the preceding table.

Railway Rolling-stock. The inventory of the rolling-stock at 30th June, 1919, showed that there were at that time 798 locomotives, 1,663 carriages, 19,481 trucks, and 946 vans and sundry stock, of which 17 locomotives, 40 carriages, 243 trucks, and 5 luggage vans were narrow-gauge stock. During the year 1918-19 the following new stock built at the Newport workshops was put into service :— 12 locomotives, 15 carriages, 118 trucks, and 5 electric tram cars. The capital cost of the broad-gauge stock was £11,138,170, of the narrow-gauge £105,587, and of the electric railway stock £49,233.

Railway staff. The number of officers and employees in the railway service and the amount of salaries and wages (excluding travelling and incidental expenses) paid in each of the last five financial years were as set forth below :—

RAILWAY STAFF—NUMBERS, SALARIES, ETC.

Year.	Number of Employees at end of Year.	Amount of Salaries and Wages Paid during Year.
		£
1914-15	26,577	3,667,251
1915-16	21,819	3,558,893
1916-17	19,591	3,228,336
1917-18	19,323	3,150,437
1918-19	19,926	3,284,779

Figures relating to the Commissioners, the Railway Construction Branch, the State Coal Mine, and co-operative labour parties are not included in the above statement, but particulars of the staff on the St. Kilda to Brighton and Sandringham to Black Rock Electric Street Railways are included. The number of employees excludes members of the staff who were absent on service in connexion with the war.

The amounts paid on account of compensation, damages, claims, costs, &c., in each of the last ten years and the number of persons killed or injured in the same years, also the yearly averages for the period, are as follows:—

AMOUNTS PAID IN DAMAGES, CLAIMS, ETC., AND PERSONS KILLED OR INJURED ON
VICTORIAN RAILWAYS: 1909-10 TO 1918-19.

Year ended 30th June.	Amount Paid on Account of Compensation, Damages, Claims, Costs, &c.	Passengers.				Employees whilst in the execution of their duty.				Employees proceeding to or from duty; Persons at Crossings; Trespassers, and Others.		Total.	
		Due to Causes beyond their own Control.		Due wholly or partly to their own Action or Negligence.		Due to Causes beyond their own Control.		Due wholly or partly to their own Action or Negligence.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.				
	£												
1910	8,528	..	11	2	101	..	7	6	205	13	29	21	353
1911*	146,135	10	526	8	99	..	31	5	148	26	25	49	829
1912	23,100	..	13	9	117	..	44	23	146	35	42	67	362
1913†	66,694	2	441	5	131	1	15	5	189	23	36	36	812
1914	13,567	..	33	8	199	1	61	11	233	25	38	45	564
1915	14,359	..	40	6	185	2	36	8	253	32	44	48	558
1916	20,766	..	29	11	198	2	28	10	242	31	37	54	534
1917	15,556	..	46	5	133	1	35	4	225	22	26	32	465
1918	18,221	..	33	4	197	2	46	9	246	29	39	44	561
1919	18,303	..	41	6	174	1	31	7	222	38	42	52	510
Yearly Average ..	34,523	1·2	121·3	6·4	153·4	1·0	33·4	8·8	210·9	27·4	35·8	44·8	554·8

*Including Richmond accident.

† Including West Melbourne accident.

With regard to the payments referred to in the above table, it should be pointed out that they not only cover cases of passengers where the accidents causing death or injury were "due to causes beyond their own control"; but they also include compensation paid on account of injuries sustained by employees whilst on duty, such payments being £4,669 in 1909-10, £7,021 in 1910-11, £9,178 in 1911-12, £4,670 in 1912-13, £5,903 in 1913-14, £7,008 in 1914-15, £17,143 in 1915-16, £12,925 in 1916-17, £11,480 in 1917-18, and £13,035 in 1918-19.

Municipal railway. A railway between Kerang and Koondrook, owned and worked by the municipality of the Shire of Kerang, is open for general traffic. This railway, which has a 5 ft. 3 in. gauge, is 13 miles 75 chains in length, and, up to the end of 1918, cost £39,859 for construction and equipment. For the year 1918, the gross receipts were £3,829, and the working expenses £2,620. The train mileage for the same year was 20,440 and the passengers carried numbered 17,124.

Private railway. Another railway in Victoria not belonging to the State system is one of 3-ft. gauge and 12 miles in length between Yarra Junction and Powelltown. It was constructed principally for private use, but, in addition to serving its immediate purpose, it is engaged in the general business of transportation of passengers and goods. Up to 30th September, 1918, the cost of construction was £47,535, and for the year ended on the same date the receipts and working expenses were £5,976 and £3,786 respectively.

Freights on Victorian railways. A statement of freights, operative on 1st July, 1919, in respect of commodities affecting rural producers, has been supplied by the General Passenger and Freight Agent of the Victorian Railways, and is appended hereto :—

VICTORIAN RAILWAY GOODS RATES.

Commodities.	50 miles.	100 miles.	150 miles.	200 miles.	250 miles.	300 miles.	350 miles.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Rate per ton.							
Agricultural Produce, in truck loads of 6 tons*	5 10	9 2	10 10	12 2	13 2	14 0	15 0
Dairy Produce, consisting of Butter, Milk, Cream, Cheese (boxed), Hams and Bacon (minimum, 1 ton) and Eggs†	10 0	18 4	24 10	31 2	35 8	40 0	44 4
Fresh Fruit†	6 6	11 10	15 6	19 0	21 10	24 6	27 2
Fresh Meat, in 5-ton lots: Fencing Wire, in lots of 10 tons and upwards: Wool-racks and Cornsacks, in truck loads of 6 tons	8 8	15 8	20 6	25 4	29 0	32 6	35 2
Poultry (living)†	13 10	25 6	34 6	43 4	49 6	55 6	61 6
Wool (greasy)†	18 0	35 3	45 3	51 7	58 6	65 0	71 6
Agricultural Machinery and Implements, Binder Twine†	19 3	37 6	56 0	69 9	83 6	92 9	102 0
Fencing Wire, in truck loads of 6 tons	12 3	23 6	34 3	42 6	50 9	54 9	58 9
Wire Netting, in truck loads of 6 tons	4 6	8 0	11 0	12 10	15 0	16 8	18 2
Manures, in 6-ton lots	3 0	4 6	5 8	6 8	7 8	8 10	9 4
Rate per truck.							
Live Stock	42 6	82 0	96 6	126 0	157 6	187 6	218 6

* Agricultural Produce includes Wheat, Oats, Barley, Maize, Beet, Onions, Hay, Straw, Chaff, compressed Fodder, Flour, Bran, Pollard, Peas, Potatoes, Sharps, Molasses and Treacle for cattle food (on declaration), Figs' Food, unrefined Salt, and Malt, also Wine, Fruit, Jams, Jellies, Sauces, and Pickles if produced in the Commonwealth and consigned direct for export.

† These commodities are subject to the Tariff for "Smalls," and, when consigned in lots up to 3 cwt., the charges are slightly higher than *pro rata* of the tonnage rates.

Fares on
Victorian
railways.

A summary of passenger fares, operative on 1st July, 1919, has also been obtained from the same source and is given below.

VICTORIAN RAILWAY PASSENGER FARES.

Distance.	Single.		Return.			
	1st Class.	2nd Class.	1st Class.	2nd Class.	1st Class Holiday Excursion.	2nd Class Holiday Excursion.
Miles.	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
50	8 6	5 8	13 10	9 4	11 4	7 6
100	16 8	11 2	27 8	18 6	22 6	15 4
150	25 0	16 8	41 6	27 6	33 8	22 6
200	33 2	22 2	55 2	36 10	44 6	29 10
250	41 6	27 8	69 0	46 2	55 10	37 2
300	49 4	32 10	81 10	54 8	67 0	44 6
350	56 10	37 10	94 4	63 0	78 0	52 2

Cheap excursion tickets, at the rate of 2d. per mile for first class return and 1½d. per mile for second class return, are issued to and from Melbourne and the various country stations as may be advertised from time to time.

From the 1st November to the 30th April each year return tickets are issued to the various seaside and mountainous district resorts from all stations throughout Victoria at holiday excursion fares, and are available for two months from date of issue.

TRAMWAYS.

The various tramway systems in the State comprise 45·927 miles of cable lines, double track; 87·337 miles of electric lines, of which 51·007 miles are double, and 36·33 miles single track; 625 of a mile of horse-line, double track; and a steam tramway of 1 mile, double track.

The towns other than the metropolis having tramway systems which are represented in these figures are:—Ballarat, with 13·85 miles of electric lines; Bendigo, with 8·113 miles of electric lines; Geelong, with 4·9 miles of electric lines; and Sorrento, with 1 mile of steam tramway.

The electric street railways, St. Kilda to Brighton and Sandringham to Black Rock, under the management of the Victorian Railways Commissioners, are not referred to in this connexion, being included under the heading "Railways."

The subjoined table contains a summary of particulars relating to all tramways in Victoria :—

VICTORIAN TRAMWAYS, 1914-15 TO 1918-19.

Financial Year.	Tram Mileage.	Passengers Carried.	Traffic Receipts.	Working Expenses.	Rolling Stock.	Persons Employed.
			£	£		
1914-15	15,852,348	116,118,517	948,543	607,761	1,217	2,709
1915-16	16,188,674	127,550,994	1,037,681	626,306	1,247	2,958
1916-17	17,900,697	148,484,311	1,154,998	689,888	1,267	3,157
1917-18	19,057,702	167,462,689	1,272,511	780,461	1,320	3,367
1918-19	19,726,450	177,417,313	1,367,995	895,742	1,354	3,557

On 7th January, 1919, the Royal Assent was given to the Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Act, which is administered by a Board consisting of seven members appointed by the Governor-in-Council. The Chairman holds office for a period of five years and the remaining members for a period of three years. The new Board, on 1st November, 1919, assumed control of the Melbourne Cable Tramways and Royal Park Horse Tramway.

On 2nd February, 1920, the following Tramway systems will also be vested in the Board :—

Prahran and Malvern Tramways Trust, Electric Tramways.

Hawthorn Tramways Trust, Electric Tramways.

Melbourne Brunswick and Coburg Tramways Trust, Electric Tramways.

Fitzroy Northcote and Preston Tramways Trust, Electric Tramways.

Footscray Tramways Trust, Electric Tramways.

Northcote Council, Cable Tramway.

Authority is also given to acquire the Electric Tramways of the North Melbourne Electric Tramway and Lighting Company Limited (Essendon), by agreement or by compulsory acquisition.

The whole of the officers and servants exclusively employed by the various undertakings and the liabilities and assets will be taken over by the new Board at the date the respective tramways are vested in the Board.

The Board is empowered to borrow up to £750,000 by the issue of stock or debentures secured upon the revenues and undertakings of the Board, this being in addition to the transferred liabilities attaching to the tramways vested in it. Power is given to incur an overdraft not exceeding £100,000.

As soon as practicable the Board will prepare a general scheme for the future development of tramways in the metropolis. This scheme is to be reported upon by the Railways Standing Committee, and subsequently submitted to Parliament. Should it be approved by Parliament, the Board may construct any portion of the tramways included in the general scheme upon obtaining an Order-in-Council relating thereto. Authority is given the Board to construct certain tramways already approved by the Governor-in-Council or Parliament without further formalities.

The Act permits the Board, subject to certain procedure, to generate electricity for use on its tramways, and to provide public parks and places of recreation.

The Act provides that the Board shall pay to the Consolidated Revenue each year an amount equivalent to the Government's contributions to the Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital, the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board and the Municipal Licences Equivalent, which for the year 1918 amounted to about £70,000. The surplus on the operations of any year, after transferring not less than 4 per cent. nor more than 6 per cent. upon the capital cost of the undertaking to Reserve Funds and carrying to the credit of the succeeding year such sum, not exceeding £10,000, as the Board thinks fit, shall be distributed amongst 28 constituent Metropolitan Councils in accordance with a scheme of distribution to be adopted by the Board, but any sum received by a municipality in pursuance of this arrangement shall be applied only to such purposes as the Governor-in-Council shall approve.

In the event of there being a deficit arising from the operation of the tramways, the Board may meet same from Reserve Funds or levy a rate upon the rateable property of the metropolis.

Employees have the right of appeal against fines, dismissals, &c., to an Appeal Board, consisting of three members, one representative each nominated by the Board and by the employees, and a Chairman appointed by the Governor-in-Council, whose decision shall be final.

It was estimated that, when the Tramway Board formed under the *Tramway Board Act 1915* ceased to exist on 31st October, 1919, the

available accumulated funds lodged at the State Savings Bank would amount to about £827,000, which was to be transferred to the Consolidated Revenue to the credit of "The Melbourne and Metropolitan Municipal Loans Redemption Fund" and applied by the State Treasurer in reduction of the indebtedness of the various metropolitan municipalities to the Government under the Municipal Loans Extension Acts. The actual amount of the Fund did not, however, reach the sum estimated, which necessitated further legislation to make up the shortage of £62,000.

**Melbourne
Cable and
Horse
tramways.**

The sub-surface cable tramways were held by the Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company under lease, which expired on 1st July, 1916, and were constructed by the Melbourne Tramways Trust under authority of Parliament, Act No. 47 Vict. No. 765. The Trust was composed of representatives of all the municipalities in the streets of which tramways were authorized to be constructed under the Act referred to. On the security of the municipal properties and revenues and of the tramways the Trust issued debentures, at 4½ per cent., for £1,650,000, for which it received £1,705,794 in cash. The obligations of the company which leased the tramways were to provide its own rolling-stock, keep the tramways in repair and hand the same over to the Trust at the expiration of the lease, pay the interest on the money borrowed by the Trust, and contribute to a sinking fund for the extinction of the Trust's loan. On 1st July, 1914, £1,200,000 of the Trust's debentures fell due and were redeemed, leaving a balance of £450,000, which matured and was paid off on 1st July, 1916.

Under authority of the Tramway Board Acts, the Melbourne Tramways Trust was dissolved on 1st March, 1916, and a Board created, consisting of five members nominated by the Government, to take over and operate the undertaking from 1st July, 1916, to 31st October, 1919, or such earlier date as might be proclaimed by the Governor-in-Council. This Board was, on 1st November, 1919, superseded by the present Board appointed under authority of the *Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Act 1918*. The Tramway Board was authorized to borrow up to £500,000 for the purposes of the Act, and to pay for the property, car houses, cars, &c., of the Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company Limited which are used in the undertaking. The amount of the compensation to be given for the assets acquired by the Board was fixed at £335,000 by His Honor Mr. Justice Cussen, who had been appointed arbitrator by the Governor-in-Council. Surplus profits, which were paid to the State Savings Bank, have been used to meet the aforementioned compensation, and the balance (with the exception of £100,000 retained by the Board as a Renewals Reserve Fund) was paid to the Melbourne and Metropolitan Municipal Loans Redemption Fund.

The following table has been compiled from information furnished by the secretary of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board :—

MELBOURNE CABLE AND HORSE TRAMWAYS, 1909-10 TO 1918-19.

Year ended 30th June.				Tram Mileage.	Passengers Carried.	Traffic Receipts.
						£
1910	..	..	..	10,010,975	68,695,853	581,390
1911	..	..	..	10,636,440	76,295,825	644,187
1912	..	..	..	11,313,212	84,926,712	715,524
1913	..	..	..	11,839,473	89,359,248	751,092
1914	..	..	..	12,056,510	91,438,777	766,426
1915	..	..	..	11,887,462	87,707,934	734,177
1916	..	..	..	11,977,916	96,290,131	807,356
1917	..	..	..	12,423,929	103,118,377	841,784
1918	..	..	..	12,833,029	113,034,157	901,474
1919	..	..	..	13,149,637	118,302,781	944,269

The length of lines open on 30th June, 1919, comprised 43·677 miles of double track cable tramway, and ·625 of a mile of double track horse tramway. The cables are driven by steam power generated at eleven engine houses situated at various points upon the routes, and an average of about 5,000 horse-power is in daily use. The average speed of cars between termini, including stops, is 8·986 miles per hour and the average speed of the ropes is 11·78 miles per hour. The rolling-stock consists of 1,086 dummies and trailers, which are housed at fifteen car depôts. The traffic of 1918-19 eclipsed that of any former year and, compared with 1917-18, showed increases of 316,608 in tram mileage, 5,268,624 in number of passengers carried, and £42,795 in traffic receipts.

In addition to the lines at present controlled by the Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board, there are within or on the fringe of the metropolitan area 60·474 miles of electric tramways (47·022 miles being double track and 13·452 miles single track), and 2½ miles of cable tramways (double track). These tramways and their mileage are as follows :— The North Melbourne-Essendon electric lines, 7·117 miles; the Prahran and Malvern electric lines, 35·152 miles; the Hawthorn electric lines, 11·175 miles; the Brunswick and Coburg electric lines, 7·03 miles;

Other
metropolitan
tramways.

and the Northcote Municipal cable line, $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles. Particulars of their traffic are given in the following statement :—

OTHER METROPOLITAN TRAMWAYS.

Financial Year.	Miles of Track.	Tram Mileage.	Passengers Carried.	Traffic Receipts.
				£
1914-15	40·9	2,644,574	21,841,246	151,806
1915-16	51·358	2,993,379	25,222,802	172,399
1916-17	58·693	4,280,404	39,296,747	253,907
1917-18	59·629	5,068,363	48,262,747	311,353
1918-19	62·724	5,432,735	52,856,083	362,095

In 1919 there were in country towns 26·863 miles of electric tramways and 1 mile of steam tramway, the traffic particulars of which for the last five financial years are given below :—

Country
tramways.

TRAMWAYS IN COUNTRY TOWNS.

Financial Year.	Miles of Track.	Tram Mileage.	Passengers Carried.	Traffic Receipts.
				£
1914-15	27·863	1,320,312	6,569,337	62,560
1915-16	27·863	1,217,379	6,038,061	57,926
1916-17	27·863	1,196,364	6,069,187	59,307
1917-18	27·863	1,156,310	6,165,785	59,684
1918-19	27·863	1,144,078	6,258,449	61,631

LICENSED VEHICLES.

Licensed
vehicles in
Melbourne.

The licensing of vehicles plying, kept, or let out for hire within the city of Melbourne or for a distance of 8 miles beyond the city boundaries is controlled by the Melbourne

City Council. The appended statement gives details of vehicles and drivers licensed annually during the last five years :—

LICENSED VEHICLES IN MELBOURNE, 1914 TO 1918.

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.
<i>For Passenger Traffic.</i>					
Cabs (4 wheel)	537	577	527	515	458
„ (Hansoms)	231	211	178	173	149
Omnibuses	18	6	9	..	..
Tram Cars	432	432	407	434	443
„ Dummies	389	389	414	441	442
Motor Cars	57	212	232	182	173
„ Omnibuses	63	69	33	19	..
„ Chars-a-bancs .. ..	..	..	..	..	25
Total	1,727	1,896	1,800	1,764	1,690
<i>For Conveyance of Goods.</i>					
Drivers licensed	2,522	2,199	2,373	2,755	2,719

Motor cars, &c. The use of motor cars and motor cycles in Victoria is regulated by Act No. 2702, under the provisions of which every motor car and motor cycle must be registered with the Chief Commissioner of Police, and the registration renewed annually. On 31st December, 1918, the number of motor cars registered was 15,158, on which fees were fixed at the following annual rates :—134 at six guineas each, 862 at five guineas each, 9,627 at four guineas each, 3,183 at three guineas each, 1,157 at two guineas each, and 195 at one guinea each. On the same date, 9,928 motor cycles, which are subject to an annual fee of 5s. each, and 300 traction engines were registered. No person may drive a motor car or motor cycle upon any public highway without having been licensed for that purpose. On 31st December, 1918, the number of drivers of motor cars and motor cycles licensed by the Chief Commissioner was 27,423. There were also 54 dealers registered.