

PART IX.

SOCIAL CONDITION.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.

The
University of
Melbourne.

The University of Melbourne was incorporated and endowed by an Act of the Governor and the Legislative Council of Victoria, the Royal assent having been given on 22nd January, 1853. The University consists of a Council of 32 members and a Convocation consisting of all graduates. The University buildings, together with those of the affiliated residential colleges, are situated on 106 acres of land in the southern part of Carlton.

Payment to the University of an annual endowment of £45,000 from 1st July, 1923, was provided for in the *University Act 1923*. Under its provisions, as amended by the *University (Grant) Act 1933*, a further grant of £6,000 for research in Science and University extension was made payable annually. Other annual statutory grants are £6,500 for a School of Agriculture, £7,900 for a Veterinary School, and £2,500 for a Chair of Obstetrics. For the financial year 1944-45 the additional appropriations included in the Budget amounted to £61,700, bringing the total Government grant to £129,600. In addition to grants from the Government, the Council derives income from fees paid by students for lectures, examinations, certificates, and diplomas. Further income is derived from endowments of various kinds.

By Act of Parliament in 1923, a University Students' Loan Fund was established and a transfer of £10,000 thereto from the Assurance Fund under the *Transfer of Land Act* was authorized. In addition, a grant of £10,000 was made to the fund from the Consolidated Revenue. The fund is administered by a special committee. Each student applying for a loan must satisfy the committee that he is possessed of ability and that, without assistance from the fund, he will be unable to continue the University course. It is provided that interest at rates of 4 to 5 per cent. per annum shall be charged on all advances, and that the amount lent to any student in any year shall not exceed £100. No interest is charged during the student's course, provided he makes satisfactory progress.

Scholarships, exhibitions, and prizes are provided in all the principal subjects, the cost being defrayed partly out of University funds and partly by private bequests. Investments (the result of private benefactions) amounted to £1,107,230 at 31st December, 1945. The total amount received by way of private benefaction in 1945 was £77,523.

The University, through a Schools' Board (on which **Public Examinations.** the Education Department, the registered secondary schools, the University teaching staff, and the business community are represented), conducts examinations each year for the School Intermediate and the School Leaving Certificates. The appended tables give the results of the examinations held 1944-45 and 1945-46, when the entrants numbered 14,173 and 14,646 respectively.

VICTORIA—PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS 1944-45 AND 1945-46.

Examination.	Number who Attempted to Pass Fully.	Number who Passed Fully.	
		Total.	Percentage.
School Intermediate—			%
1944-45	8,245	4,663	51·56
1945-46	9,013	5,165	57·31
School Leaving—			
1944-45	4,970	2,768	55·69
1945-46	5,378	3,375	62·76

NOTE.—Examinations are held in December of each year and Supplementary Examinations in February of the succeeding year.

Of the successful candidates 2,825 in 1944-45 and 3,015 in 1945-46 satisfied the requirements of the School Intermediate examination by submitting a Headmaster's certificate from an approved school. Corresponding figures for the School Leaving examination were 1,006 and 1,174 respectively.

Until 1944, the University's matriculation qualification **Matriculation Examination 1944 and 1945.** had been gained by the passing of the School Leaving Examination in a prescribed manner. Then, a new Matriculation Examination, to which the obtaining of the School Leaving Certificate is pre-requisite, was introduced, and the

matriculation qualification is now gained at this Examination. Statistics of the Matriculation Examination 1944 and 1945 are as follows :—

—	1944.	1945.
Total Entries	1,451	2,357
Number who attempted to pass fully ..	969	1,560
Number who passed fully	619	842
Percentage who passed fully	63·88	53·97

The figures for 1945 include 25 ex-service candidates who were allowed to take a special Matriculation Examination in February, 1946.

Candidates for degrees must matriculate as prescribed by the regulations before being admitted as undergraduates. The number of undergraduates admitted during each of the six years 1940-45 was as follows :—1940, 979; 1941, 929; 1942, 742; 1943, 804; 1944, 953; and 1945, 1,238. The number of degrees taken during those years was 482, 496, 484, 397, 454, and 494 respectively. Of the total of 17,163 degrees granted since the establishment of the University, 3,848 have been conferred on women.

Under-graduates admitted and Degrees Conferred.

There were 3,983 students enrolled in 1944 (2,122 being full time, 1,388 part time, and 473 external students). In 1945, 4,656 were enrolled (2,419 full time, 1,741 part time, and 496 external students). Courses taken were as follows (those during 1945 shown in parenthesis) :—Agriculture 58 (79); architecture 46 (53); arts 1,189 (1,280); commerce 369 (439); dental science 147 (174); education 110 (123); engineering 297 (313); journalism 5 (33); law 126 (195); medicine 573 (619); * post-graduate medical diplomas 18 (46); music 269 (344); physical education 46 (49); public administration 13 (21); science 618 (752); research 29 (76); veterinary science 9 (9); social studies 57 (53); languages 33 (44). The number of women students included in these figures was 1,520 (1,641).

Students enrolled 1944 and 1945.

* Not included in numbers of students enrolled.

University Finance. A statement of receipts and expenditure for the years ended 31st December, 1944, and 1945, are given below :—

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1944 AND 1945.

	Year Ended 31st December.	
	1944.	1945.
<i>Receipts.</i>		
State Government Grants—	£	£
General Account	94,867	94,200
Other	29,000	32,100
Commonwealth Grants (Research, &c.)	15,437	20,599
Bequests and Donations	69,950	72,613
Fees—		
Lecture	74,934	84,698
Examination, &c.	50,928	53,304
Interest and Dividends	41,177	43,642
Other receipts	19,513	21,604
Total Receipts	395,806	422,760
<i>Expenditure.</i>		
Salaries	210,215	245,678
Examiners' fees	13,330	13,090
Examination expenses	6,880	7,920
Fellowships, Scholarships, &c.	6,205	10,282
Apparatus	18,088	27,533
Books and periodicals	4,852	5,297
Printing and stationery	6,655	7,386
Buildings and grounds	14,325	25,464
Other	36,832	50,155
Total Expenditure	317,382	392,805

Affiliated Colleges. There are five residential colleges affiliated with the University. Trinity, Ormond, Queen's, and Newman Colleges were established by the Church of England, the Presbyterian, the Methodist, and the Roman Catholic Churches respectively; the University Women's College (not a Church foundation) was affiliated during 1937. Information relating to the foundation and progress of the colleges is given in previous issues of the *Year-Book*.

College of Dentistry. In 1906, the Australian College of Dentistry was formally affiliated with the University, which obtained certain rights of supervision and control and, in return, undertook to recognize the professional teaching of the College in connexion with

the Degree of Bachelor of Dental Science. Particulars relating to the establishment of this College were published in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 516 and 517.

University Extension. Tutorial and lecture classes, and study circles are organized and maintained by the University Extension Board in co-operation with the Workers' Educational Association. These classes are held in the city and suburbs and in a number of country towns. The Board also provides an extensive series of public lectures in the larger country towns, maintains reading and discussion circles in the smaller towns, and is the means through which persons seeking advice or information from the University may be served. The Board's work is cultural and educational in the broadest sense. Its courses are not intended for those proceeding to degrees, but for the ordinary citizen of the State.

Rehabilitation of Servicemen. During the recent war, the University conducted, in co-operation with the education authorities of the Services, a scheme of correspondence tuition whereby students serving in the Forces were able to receive instruction and take examinations in certain subjects. The number of students so enrolled was 769 in 1944 and 872 in 1945.

As the war drew to a close, and discharges from the Services proceeded, the University prepared to admit large numbers of ex-Service students. Nearly all of these students receive financial assistance under the Reconstruction Training Scheme established by the Commonwealth Government during 1944. In 1945, there were 393 Reconstruction Trainees at the University, and in 1946 there were 2,612.

Special facilities such as refresher courses, student guidance, and additional tutorials are being made available for ex-servicemen.

VICTORIAN COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.

The Victorian College of Pharmacy, formerly known as the Melbourne College of Pharmacy, was established in 1880. It provides instruction in the subjects of the Apprenticeship Course of Studies set out in the Pharmacy Regulations, under Part III. of the Medical Act. The College is under the control of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria and is recognized by the Pharmacy Board of Victoria as a School of Pharmacy providing instruction in accordance with Part III. of the Medical Act for persons seeking to qualify as pharmaceutical chemists. It is the only institution providing such a course.

Information in regard to enrolment of students and subjects of the Pharmacy Course included in the curriculum were published in the *Year-Book* 1942-43, page 226.

Until 1921, an annual grant was made by the State Government for the purpose of carrying on the work of the College. Since then the institution has been self-supporting, revenue being from students' fees, examination fees, &c. Substantial amounts have been voluntarily contributed by members of the Pharmaceutical Society from time to time for the purpose of additions and alterations to the College building.

The number of students attending the College from 1942 to 1946 is shown hereunder:—

Course.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
Pharmacy	223	243	272	369	421
Medical	95	93	101	95	145
Post Graduate (Pharmacy) ..	14	21	26	25	15
Total ..	332	357	399	489	581

Principal items of receipts and expenditure from 1942 to 1946 were:—

RECEIPTS.

	Year Ended 31st December—				
	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
	£	£	£	£	£
Lecture Fees	4,960	5,242	5,729	7,716	9,990
Examination Fees	201	287	252	273	331

PAYMENTS.

	Year Ended 31st December—				
	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
	£	£	£	£	£
Salaries and fees to lecturers ..	2,608	2,570	2,966	3,571	4,184
Drugs and Chemicals	436	455	537	574	708
Administration and other Ex- penses	2,497	2,574	2,892	3,454	4,130

THE STATE EDUCATION SYSTEM.

The educational system of Victoria.

The present system of education came into operation on 1st January, 1873, the Act which introduced it having been passed in the previous year.

Under the *Education Act* 1872, education to all willing to accept it was made "free, compulsory and secular"—free, because fees were not to be charged; compulsory, in the sense that, whether the children attend or do not attend State Schools, evidence must be produced that they are educated up to a certain standard; and secular, for the reason that no teacher is allowed to give other than secular instruction in any State School building. Facilities are, however, afforded to persons other than State school teachers to give religious instruction, on one or two days each week, to the children of those parents who desire that their children shall receive such instruction. In each school four hours at least are set apart during each school day for secular instruction, two of which must be before, and two after, mid-day. In practice the actual hours of instruction in the smaller primary schools are from 9.15 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. with one hour for lunch, and in the larger primary schools from 9.15 a.m. to 4 p.m. with 1½ hours for lunch.

The *Education Act* 1910 marked a distinctive epoch in the history of education in Victoria, in that it laid the foundation of a complete national system from the infants' school to the highest educational institutions in the State.

Free subjects.

The subjects in which instruction is free, are contained in a statement published in the *Year-Book* 1943-44, page 434. There were no amendment or additions thereto during 1945.

Compulsory attendance.

In accordance with the provisions of the *Education Act* 1928, parents or guardians of children of not less than six nor more than fourteen years of age are required to cause such children to attend school on every school half-day in each week unless there is a reasonable excuse within the meaning of section 25 (3) of the Act for non-attendance. Failure to comply with these provisions renders a parent or guardian liable to a fine up to two pounds (£2) for a first offence and not less than two pounds (£2) nor more than five pounds (£5) for a second or subsequent offence, or, in default,

imprisonment for a term of not more than fourteen days. Attendance officers are appointed for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the compulsory attendance provisions of the Education Act. The school leaving age is to be raised to fifteen years on a day to be proclaimed.

Conveyance allowance. An allowance for conveyance of sixpence per day for each day's attendance at a State or registered primary school is granted to children between the ages of six and fourteen years whose residence is more than three miles distant from the nearest existing State school. In special cases the allowance is granted for the conveyance of children over fourteen years of age.

Correspondence tuition. In May, 1914, there was inaugurated in Victoria the system of correspondence tuition for children in remote districts. Sets of graded exercises are sent out fortnightly and subsequently returned to the Correspondence school for correction. The total number of children enrolled for correspondence tuition on 30th June, 1945, was 1,488 (Primary 878, Secondary 610).

School Committees. Under Act No. 2301, now incorporated in the *Education Act* 1928 (No. 3671), provision was made for the appointment of a School Committee for each school. A statement of the main duties of these committees was published in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, page 199.

Special schools. Special schools have been established for those children whose disabilities make the ordinary schools unsuitable or undesirable. Such special schools include the Talbot School for Epileptics, the school for the blind, the school for the deaf and dumb, five schools for the feeble-minded (three residential), a school for child inmates of the Austin Hospital for Cancer and Chronic Diseases, a school for the inmates of the Convalescent Home of the Children's Hospital, and the schools in connexion with the institutions under the Children's Welfare Department. Two special schools for youthful prisoners have been provided (one in Pentridge Gaol and one in Castle-maine Reformatory). A school for young constables has also been established at the Police Depot.

**Woodwork
and Cookery
Centres.**

On 30th June, 1945, there were in operation 106 woodwork centres, having an attendance of 10,291 boys, and 75 cookery centres (apart from those at Girls' Schools) with an attendance of 4,651 girls.

**School Savings
Banks.**

At 30th June, 1945, there were 2,764 School Savings Banks and 218,043 depositors with £439,161 to their credit.

**War Relief
Fund.**

The Victorian State Schools' War Relief Depot began operations on the 18th June, 1940, and continued to despatch large quantities of wool and other material to schools to be made up into articles for the Australian Comforts Fund and the Australian Red Cross Society. To 30th June, 1945, the amount of money raised was £427,728, and the total number of articles supplied was 457,576.

**Free
Kindergarten
Union.**

At 30th June, 1945, there were 40 kindergartens and nursery schools affiliated with the Free Kindergarten Union of Victoria at which 2,310 children below school age were enrolled. There were also two holiday homes. The movement receives from the Government an annual subsidy which in 1944-45 amounted to £7,856.

**School
forestry and
horticulture.**

A scheme for the establishment of school endowment plantations was inaugurated in 1923 with the co-operation of the Lands and State Forests Departments. Areas in the vicinity of State schools have been reserved for the purpose. At 30th June, 1945, there were established 353 of these plantations. During the past planting season approximately 26,000 trees were planted. To date, 32 schools have benefited to the extent of £4,545 from the sale of timber from these plantations. The Victorian State Schools Horticultural Society, founded in 1913, renders much assistance to pupils and teachers. The Society has established a nursery from which seedlings, shrubs, and many thousands of packets of seeds are distributed annually to the schools throughout the State.

**Young
Farmers'
Clubs.**

These have been established to interest pupils and young people generally in the agricultural life of the community. They are controlled by local committees of experts under the leadership of the head teacher of the school concerned. The

movement is controlled by the Young Farmers' Clubs Association, on which body the Education Department, the Department of Agriculture, the Railways Department, the Royal Agricultural Society, and the Rotary Club of Victoria are represented. Four full-time supervisors are employed. On the 30th June, 1945, there were 385 affiliated clubs in operation.

School Medical and Dental Services. From the 1st July, 1944, school medical and dental services which had previously functioned under the Education Department were transferred to the Maternal and Child Hygiene Branch of the Health Department. Details of these services will be found on page 443 of this issue.

Teachers' colleges. Student teachers are trained at the Melbourne, Ballarat, and Bendigo Teachers' Colleges. Those student teachers who have passed in five subjects, including English, of the School Leaving examination and in Arithmetic for the School Intermediate Certificate, or their equivalents, may be admitted to a college provided that they are at least eighteen years of age and that their teaching abilities have been satisfactorily reported on by their Inspectors. In special cases, student teachers without the School Leaving Certificate may be admitted, provided that they have suitable service and teaching ability.

In the first year at college, all students pursue a common course which leads to the Trained Primary Teacher's Certificate.

All extended courses are conducted at the Melbourne Teachers' College. Such courses are a preparation for secondary schools, infant departments or special schools.

Central schools (post-primary). Twenty-one central schools (post-primary) have been established in the metropolitan area, and five central classes in country centres.

These schools have been provided for children who have completed the primary course, and who have not gained admission to a secondary school or a junior technical school. The course of study is an extension of the primary school course and is arranged to assist pupils who desire to attend subsequently a secondary or a junior technical school. The course also aims at providing a general training for pupils who do not intend to enter secondary or junior technical schools, to fit them for semi-skilled and unskilled trades and occupations.

The following table shows the progress as regards State Primary Schools, teachers, and scholars since 1880.

VICTORIA—STATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, 1880 TO 1945.

Year.	Number of Schools at end of Year.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Scholars.		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In Average Attendance.	Estimated Net Enrolment.
1880	1,810	4,215	229,723	119,520	195,736
1890	2,170	4,708	250,097	133,768	213,886
1900	1,948	4,977	243,667	147,020	218,240
1909-10	2,036	4,957	235,042	145,968	206,263
1920 (31st December) ..	2,333	6,637	247,337	158,554	213,738
1930	2,598	7,665	260,319	184,228	228,756
1931	2,590	7,613	261,673	187,443	232,286
1932	2,613	7,461	262,417	189,101	232,586
1933	2,609	7,371	264,697	190,977	234,174
1934	2,617	7,397	259,750	185,082	230,470
1935	2,606	7,353	256,564	182,442	226,728
1936	2,600	7,314	250,070	179,420	219,645
1937	2,589	7,394	234,228	153,381	209,043
1938	2,591	7,242	227,233	159,022	201,457
1939	2,585	7,316	221,219	155,441	194,725
1940	2,569	7,271	217,941	151,674	189,807
1941	2,542	7,222	211,434	150,517	183,987
1942	2,480	6,940	198,909	137,204	171,124
1943	2,458	6,953	191,138	139,037	173,054
1944	2,360	7,279*	185,645	138,356	168,195
1945	2,318	6,212*	179,438	136,496	162,900

* Exclusive of teachers temporarily employed, the number of whom was 1,154 on 31st December, 1944, and 968 on 31st December, 1945.

VICTORIA—STATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, YEARS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1944, AND 1945.

Class of School.	Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils.		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In Average Attendance.	Estimated Net Enrolment.
Central Schools* and Classes ..	1944	44	7,927	6,629	7,856
	1945	41	7,927	6,591	7,787
Higher Elementary Schools* ..	1944	48	5,788	4,788	5,710
	1945	48	5,224	4,279	5,170
Girls' Schools	1944	13	4,654	3,689	4,632
	1945	14	4,785	3,768	4,745
Junior Technical Schools† ..	1944	28	11,550	9,602	11,464
	1945	28	10,857	9,030	10,789
District High Schools ..	1944	37	18,018	15,610	17,835
	1945	44	19,783	16,863	19,553
Total	1944	170	47,937	40,318	47,497
	1945	175	48,576	40,531	48,044

* Central Schools and Higher Elementary Schools are not independent establishments. They are worked in conjunction with Primary Schools.

† Junior Technical Schools are worked in conjunction with Technical Schools.

Tuition by correspondence. In addition to the foregoing, there were 1,238 pupils enrolled during 1944 for tuition by correspondence in primary and secondary courses, with a net enrolment of 1,055. Corresponding figures for 1945 were 1,159 and 951.

Ages of State school scholars. The following table shows the number of pupils attending State Schools (Senior Technical Schools excepted) below, at, and above the school age (from 6 to 14 years), during the years ended 31st December, 1944 and 1945:—

VICTORIA—AGES OF STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS,
1944 AND 1945.

Class of School.	Year.	Under Six Years.	From Six to Fourteen Years.	Over Fourteen Years.	Total.
Primary	{ 1944	11,972	149,612	6,611	168,195
	{ 1945	8,018	149,202	5,680	162,900
Central Schools (Post-primary)*	{ 1944	..	1,281	768	2,049
	{ 1945	..	1,460	853	2,313
Central Schools (Secondary) ..	{ 1944	..	4,355	1,452	5,807
	{ 1945	..	4,182	1,292	5,474
Higher Elementary Schools ..	{ 1944	..	2,906	2,804	5,710
	{ 1945	..	2,797	2,373	5,170
Girls' Schools	{ 1944	..	2,367	2,265	4,632
	{ 1945	..	2,371	2,374	4,745
Junior Technical Schools ..	{ 1944	..	4,518	6,946	11,464
	{ 1945	..	4,001	6,788	10,789
District High Schools ..	{ 1944	..	6,286	11,549	17,835
	{ 1945	..	7,129	12,424	19,553
Pupils receiving tuition by correspondence	{ 1944	47	921	87	1,055
	{ 1945	57	801	93	951
Total	{ 1944	12,019	172,246	32,482	216,747
	{ 1945	8,075	171,943	31,877	211,895
Estimated number after making allowance for duplicate enrol- ments between the various types of schools	{ 1944	11,911	170,051	32,023	213,985
	{ 1945	8,027	169,635	31,470	209,132

* Previously included with Central Schools.

Council of Public Education. The Council of Public Education is appointed under Section 83 of the *Education Act* 1928. Its chief functions relate to the registration of teachers and schools under Part VI. of the Act, and to ensuring that schools under this part are registered and properly staffed, and that only persons employed therein are registered as teachers or have been granted temporary permission to teach.

Part VI. of the Act relates to schools other than State schools. "School" is defined as "An assembly at appointed times of three or more persons between the ages of six years and eighteen years for the purpose of their being instructed by a teacher or teachers in all or any of the undermentioned subjects, namely:—

Reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, English or other language, mathematics, history, any natural or experimental or applied science, bookkeeping, shorthand, accountancy;

but 'school' does not include the University of Melbourne or any college affiliated therewith or any assembly of persons, all of whom are members of not more than two families, or any State school, or any school aided by the State, or any school in any part of Victoria declared by the Governor in Council to be a sparsely populated district for the purposes of this Act".

A person may not teach in a school any of the subjects named above unless he is registered or has obtained the express permission of the Council to teach temporarily.

Registered schools, teachers and pupils, 1945.

Statistical information relating to registered schools is obtained from the annual return made by each school to the Council of Public Education. Particulars of the registered schools (excluding commercial colleges) are shown in the following tables:—

VICTORIA—REGISTERED SCHOOLS—ENROLMENT (IN AGE GROUPS) IN DENOMINATIONAL AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS, 1945.

	Number of Schools.	Number of Teachers.	Gross Enrolment.			Net Enrolment.		
			Under 6 Years.	Between 6 and 14 Years.	Over 14 Years.	Under 6 Years.	Between 6 and 14 Years.	Over 14 Years.
Denominational—								
Catholic ..	339	1,676	5,761	44,455	8,129	5,630	41,840	7,921
Church of England ..	35	479	936	5,053	3,712	905	4,765	3,641
Presbyterian ..	15	203	344	2,181	1,889	332	2,134	1,886
Methodist ..	4	118	112	1,340	1,180	112	1,328	1,177
Other ..	14	60	148	791	255	148	765	255
Undenominational	66	291	2,121	3,326	863	2,065	3,152	836
Total ..	473	2,827	9,422	57,146	16,028	9,192	53,984	15,716

VICTORIA—REGISTERED SCHOOLS—GROSS ENROLMENT AND SECONDARY EDUCATION, 1945.

	Gross Enrolment.			Estimated Number of Pupils Receiving Secondary Education.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Denominational—						
Catholic	28,828	29,517	58,345	4,430	4,610	9,040
Church of England	4,800	4,901	9,701	2,564	2,516	5,080
Presbyterian	2,598	1,816	4,414	1,768	993	2,761
Methodist	857	1,775	2,632	554	1,083	1,637
Other	677	517	1,194	213	128	341
Undenominational	2,043	4,267	6,310	208	1,082	1,290
Total	39,803	42,793	82,596	9,737	10,412	20,149

State and registered schools, 1945.

The gross and net enrolments of State and registered schools (excluding commercial colleges) in sexes and age groups together with pupils receiving secondary education are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—STATE AND REGISTERED SCHOOLS, 1945.

	Gross Enrolment.			Net Enrolment.			Estimated Number of Pupils Receiving Secondary Education.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Under 6 Years.	Between 6 and 14 Years.	Over 14 Years.	
State Schools ..	120,832	108,341	229,173	8,075	171,943	31,877	46,728
Registered Schools	39,803	42,793	82,596	9,192	53,984	15,716	20,149
Total ..	160,635	151,134	311,769	17,267	225,927	47,593	66,877

NOTE.—State Senior Technical Schools, which are not included in above table, had a gross enrolment of 24,548 males and 9,357 females.

VICTORIA—COMMERCIAL COLLEGES, 1945.

In 1945 there were 22 commercial colleges with 143 teachers registered with the Council of Public Education. Particulars of these colleges are shown in the following statement:—

	Gross Enrolment.			Net Enrolment.			Estimated Number of Pupils Receiving Secondary Education.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Under 6 Years.	Between 6 and 14 Years.	Over 14 Years.	
Commercial Colleges	1,293	2,932	4,225	..	17	4,020	337

STATE SECONDARY EDUCATION.

The purpose of the higher elementary school and of the district high school is to provide the essentials of a good general education for pupils who have completed the work of the sixth grade in primary schools, and who are likely to profit by a further course of study, and to give them, in the third and fourth years at secondary schools, a specialized training which will help to prepare them for their chosen careers in life. A statement in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, page 204 and 205, shows the nature of these schools.

Higher elementary schools. There are 48 higher elementary schools. During the term ended 31st December, 1944, there was an average attendance at these schools of 4,788 pupils, of whom 2,258 were boys and 2,530 were girls. During the corresponding term in 1945, the attendance was 4,279, consisting of 2,058 boys and 2,221 girls. In the higher elementary schools a four-years' course up to School Intermediate Certificate is provided.

Central schools and classes (Secondary). In central schools in the metropolitan area and in schools with central classes in country centres a two-years' preparatory course of secondary education is provided. This course was attended by 6,629 pupils in 1944 and by 6,591 in 1945. Pupils from these schools have priority of admission to district high schools.

Girls' schools. There are fourteen girls' schools, of which eleven are in the Metropolitan Area of Melbourne, and one each in Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong. During the term ended 31st December, 1945, there were 3,768 girls in attendance at these schools, compared with 3,689 during the corresponding term in 1944. A three-years' course is provided which leads to the certificate of proficiency in home arts and crafts at the age of fifteen years.

District high schools. There are 44 district high schools. In these schools, a six-years' course is provided. At the end of the fifth year pupils may obtain the School Leaving Certificate, and at the end of the sixth year may qualify for matriculation. During the term ended 31st December, 1944, there were in attendance at these schools 15,610 pupils, of whom 8,050 were boys and 7,560 were girls. During the corresponding term in 1945, the attendance was 16,863, comprising 8,565 boys and 8,298 girls.

University High School. For the practical part of the work of training secondary teachers, the institution now known as the University High School was opened in 1910. This is the official practising school for the work of the first year of the course for Bachelor of Education of the University of Melbourne.

At the beginning of 1945 scholarships were awarded as under :—
SCHOLARSHIPS AND ALLOWANCES TO PUPILS.

Number and Kind.	Age Requirements of Candidates.	Period of Tenure.	Annual Value.
850 Junior Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Not over 14½ years on 1st January, 1945	4 years	Free tuition at a State secondary school and £4 p.a. for school requisites, or £19 p.a. towards tuition fees and school requisites at an approved registered secondary school; also in certain cases up to £39 p.a. for maintenance
650 Free Places at State secondary schools open to candidates attending State schools	Not over 14½ years on 1st January, 1945	4 years	Free tuition at a State secondary school and £4 p.a. for school requisites; also in certain cases up to £39 p.a. for maintenance
150 Teaching Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Between 14½ years and 16½ years on 1st January, 1945	3 years	As for Junior Scholarships
100 Junior Technical Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Not over 12½ years on 1st January, 1945	3 years	Free tuition at a junior technical school or approved State secondary school and £4 p.a. for school requisites, or £19 p.a. towards tuition fees and school requisites at an approved registered secondary school; also in certain cases up to £39 p.a. for maintenance
150 Intermediate Technical Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Not over 14½ years on 1st January, 1945	1 year	Free tuition at a junior technical school and £10 p.a.; also in certain cases up to £39 p.a. for maintenance
235 Senior Technical Scholarships open to candidates attending State, technical and registered schools	No age limit	Up to 5 years	Free tuition at senior technical schools; also £30 p.a. in case of day scholars and £10 p.a. or £5 p.a. in case of evening scholars; also in certain cases up to £143 p.a. for maintenance
64 Senior Scholarships open to candidates attending State, registered and technical schools	Not over 18½ years on 1st January, 1945	Up to 6 years	£40 p.a. towards expense of course at University; also in certain cases up to £143 p.a.
70 Free Places at University of Melbourne open to Student Teachers and candidates attending State, registered, and technical schools	No age limit	Up to 6 years	Exemption from payment of fees for lectures and examinations in an approved course at University; also in certain cases up to £143 p.a.
5 Free Places at University of Melbourne open to officers (other than teachers) of the Government of Victoria	Not over 25 years on 1st January, 1945	Up to 4 years	Exemption from payment of fees for lectures and examinations in an approved course at the University. Leave on full pay to attend lectures and examinations
15 Free Places at University of Melbourne open to teachers of Education Department	No age limit	Up to 4 years	Exemption from payment of fees for lectures and examinations in an approved course at the University

In addition to these scholarships, there is a scheme whereby free tuition and allowances for school requisites up to £2 per annum and for maintenance up to £26 per annum may be granted to enable pupils who show special aptitude and promise and whose parents are in necessitous circumstances to attend State secondary and technical schools. Free tuition is granted to children of deceased or totally and permanently incapacitated sailors and soldiers, attending State secondary or technical schools.

School orchestras. East Camberwell Girls' School has a small string orchestra, and five high schools, MacRobertson Girls', Essendon, Northcote, Melbourne Boys', University, and Brunswick Technical School have full orchestras.

School bands. There are 13 brass bands and 25 drum and fife bands in schools.

Music and speech training. There are eleven members on the music and speech training staff. One member is attached to the Teachers' Colleges, three are in the provincial centres—Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong—one is engaged mainly in speech training and six work in schools in the metropolitan area.

Student teacher classes in music and speech training are held in seven metropolitan centres and three in the provincial centres of Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong. Correspondence lessons in speech are provided for country student teachers, and an advanced class to enable teachers to qualify for Singing Teachers' Primary Certificate is held at a metropolitan centre.

There is a weekly broadcast lesson in music for both junior and post-primary grades and a weekly lesson in speech training. The latter is given during the correspondence Session.

Visual education. A Visual Education Centre has been established to produce and distribute filmstrips and wall charts for use in schools and to maintain a motion picture film library. A comprehensive sound film library is now being built up. A mobile unit operates a 16 mm. sound projector on circuit in the Melbourne suburban area. State schools equipped with projectors numbered 450. A Visual Education Committee ensures that all films used by schools are suitable and worth while.

Physical education. School programmes normally provide a daily period for such activities as gymnastics, games, sports, swimming and life-saving and for folk dancing. A remedial centre has been established for children with physical defects: it caters for a limited number of children from a few surrounding schools and is conducted under medical observation by a qualified physical educationist.

The organization of physical education is in charge of an organizer with a staff of 14 male and 27 female assistants all of whom work in metropolitan districts and large provincial centres. The training of teachers for physical education is carried on by members of the staff at the teachers' colleges in Melbourne and in Bendigo, in vacation schools, refresher classes in country centres and special classes of instruction for student teachers.

**Conveyance
of post-
primary
pupils.**

The Education Department is firmly convinced that the system of conveyance of groups of children from outlying districts to large educational centres is preferable to the establishment of small State secondary and Technical schools. For this reason, at the beginning of 1944, it was decided to provide a number of bus services and to defray the full cost of the transport of the pupils conveyed.

During the year 1944-45 there were 196 school buses in operation and 6,200 pupils were conveyed to State and registered secondary schools. The cost of these services was £139,000.

The Department is also meeting the cost of the fares of students who are taking secondary school courses at State secondary and registered secondary schools and who are unable to travel on the school bus services established by the Department. Fares are paid only when the school attended is outside a radius of three miles from the student's home and is the nearest one providing the required standard of education.

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

The technical schools in the State were originally under the control of local school councils. In 1910, however, legislation was enacted which provided for all schools established after that year to be under the control of the Minister of Public Instruction. The number of technical schools receiving aid from the State on 30th June, 1945, was 31, of which seventeen have been established since the passing of the *Education Act* 1910. The gross enrolment for the year 1944 comprised 11,550 junior and 31,533 senior students and, for the year 1945, 10,857 junior and 33,905 senior students.

Victorian technical schools provide practical laboratory and workshop training, together with instruction in the principles of science and art, as applied to industries. They also give instruction in subjects connected with or preparatory to industrial, commercial, agricultural, mining, and domestic pursuits.

Full-time day and evening professional courses are provided in the various branches of engineering, mining, metallurgy, architecture, applied chemistry, applied physics, agriculture, textiles, art and applied art, commercial work, foremanship work, and institutional management. Full-time and part-time day and evening trade

courses are also available in trades connected with electrical and mechanical engineering, motor, building, furniture, printing, bootmaking, food trades, and women's industries.

Associated with every technical school, with the exception of the Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy, the Melbourne Technical College, and the William Angliss Food Trades School, is a full-time day junior technical or preparatory section, which provides for a three years' course of study.

Pupils who have completed either the sixth or seventh grade course in a primary school are eligible for admission to Form I. in a Junior Technical School. Entrance is by recommendation from the primary school. Where there is a shortage of accommodation, an entrance examination, which is open to all schools, both State and private, may be held.

Those who fail to attain entry may do so after further study in a primary school or in special post-primary classes. Primary school pupils who complete the eighth grade course may be admitted to Form II.

The junior school course is of four years' duration. After the satisfactory completion of Form III., pupils are eligible for the award of the Junior Technical Certificate and, after an additional year's satisfactory work, the Intermediate Technical Certificate.

The Junior Technical Certificate is the recognized pre-requisite for apprenticeship to most trades. Apprentices in proclaimed trades under the Apprenticeship Commission attend Senior Technical Schools for part-time day and evening instruction throughout their training which is, in general, of four years' duration.

The Intermediate Technical Certificate provides the entrance standard for admission to professional part-time and full-time courses.

There are two private technical schools in Melbourne and these are approved for instruction to the junior technical certificate stage and are open to inspection by departmental officers.

Senior technical schools, such as the Melbourne Technical College (formerly Working Men's College), the Swinburne Technical College (Glenferrie), the Gordon Institute of Technology (Geelong), the Ballarat School of Mines, the Bendigo School of Mines, and the Footscray Technical School, are general purpose technical schools providing generally full day and evening professional courses and full-time and part-time day and evening trade and commercial courses. Specialized instruction is given at provincial centres, such as at Geelong, in wool-classing and sorting and architecture, and at Ballarat and Bendigo in chemistry and mining. The smaller country schools have

full-time or part-time farm utility courses specially adapted to the needs of the local district, in addition to the junior preparatory and certain full-time and part-time senior courses associated with engineering, building, commerce, and art and applied art.

The technical schools for women's industries are the Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy, the Box Hill Technical School, and women's sections at Ballarat, Brighton, Castlemaine, Maryborough, Prahran, Sale, Sunshine, Warrnambool, and Wonthaggi technical schools, the Swinburne Technical College (Glenferrie), and the Gordon Institute of Technology (Geelong).

The fees per term range from 10s. per subject to £8 per course of subjects.

Government expenditure on each technical school during each of the five years ended 1944-45 is shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, 1940-41 TO 1944-45.

School.	Year ended 30th June—				
	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
	£	£	£	£	£
Bairnsdale	4,292	4,202	4,735	5,677	6,590
Ballarat	16,756	18,279	18,194	21,185	22,262
Bendigo	13,218	14,380	14,708	16,664	19,240
Box Hill			37,253	18,757	16,507
Box Hill (Girls)	6,328	27,405	7,109	8,207	8,561
Brighton	17,719	17,871	17,970	19,491	35,496
Brunswick	21,001	20,618	18,229	18,636	16,430
Castlemaine	8,773	10,365	9,149	9,076	9,141
Caulfield	15,631	15,851	16,073	20,275	19,789
Collingwood	22,959	23,602	23,616	27,454	42,451
Daylesford	3,464	3,678	3,481	3,672	4,361
Echuca	5,611	6,191	6,597	12,445	8,364
Essendon	13,407	14,437	14,654	15,839	15,485
Footscray	27,197	37,047	46,797	43,248	37,391
Geelong (Gordon Institute of Technology)	20,240	25,112	22,087	34,803	59,957
Maryborough	9,952	9,252	10,055	10,294	11,712
Melbourne—					
Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy	10,273	11,532	12,162	14,163	15,068
Swinburne Technical College	31,065	31,717	32,995	34,742	34,175
Technical College	52,871	66,968	67,168	67,152	54,020
William Angliss Food Trades	11,479	5,632	4,184	4,473	5,974
Oakleigh					22,955
Prahran	14,667	15,276	14,557	14,773	15,456
Preston	16,439	13,676	13,546	15,210	17,000
Richmond	13,549	13,223	14,510	18,909	16,683
Sale	6,379	6,742	7,120	13,392	14,561
South Melbourne	13,073	13,594	12,931	16,177	15,500
Stawell	4,120	4,737	4,977	5,567	8,207
Sunshine	9,356	10,334	11,293	13,109	15,550
Wangaratta	6,058	6,120	7,003	8,144	8,202
Warrnambool	7,240	7,649	10,360	9,173	11,623
Wonthaggi	7,743	7,446	7,196	7,792	8,010
Yallourn	7,086	13,846	10,064	9,680	10,863
Other Votes for Technical Schools	12,168	16,989	18,774	26,682	40,888
Miscellaneous	6,357	4,019	3,715	3,912	4,445
Total	436,471	497,790	523,262	568,773	652,917†

† Excludes Pay-Roll Tax.

STATE EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION.

During 1944-45, expenditure by and on behalf of the Education Department of Victoria, as published in the Report of the Minister of Public Instruction, together with the payment by the Treasury to the University (less that for Bacteriological Laboratory Services) totalled £4,204,276. This amount includes expenditure from loan moneys and the cost of pensions and gratuities, but excludes the interest paid by the State on loans for educational purposes (particulars of which are not available), payroll tax, and superannuation paid on behalf of officers in the Defence Forces. Comparative figures for each of the years 1940-41 to 1944-45 were as follows:—

VICTORIA—STATE EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION,
1940-41 TO 1944-45.

Expenditure on—	Year ended 30th June—				
	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Education, Primary, Intermediate, and Secondary—	£	£	£	£	£
Primary (including Special Subjects)	1,971,294	1,966,892	2,001,879	2,131,489	2,199,494
Intermediate	127,013	130,520	141,924	165,108	189,982
Secondary	309,652	321,301	328,607	374,227	475,786
Buildings and Land	233,876	185,779	177,167	150,058	205,750
Technical Education—					
Junior and Senior Schools	401,770	423,732	442,825	496,394	535,820
Buildings and Land	34,984	69,743	74,821	66,318	117,077
Training of Teachers	18,210	33,329	36,767	46,423	76,239
Administration	77,663	82,012	94,281	98,096	104,342
Pensions	172,885	170,600	171,116	170,523	165,910
Miscellaneous	62	94	198	2,042	2,656
University—					
Special Appropriations, &c.*	76,500	98,500	108,500	120,000	122,000
Scholarships	7,610	7,962	7,088	7,484	6,259
Other (Subsidies) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2,961
Total*	3,431,519	3,490,464†	3,585,173†	3,828,162†	4,204,276†
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Per head of Population	1 16 2	1 15 9	1 16 4	1 18 4	2 1 9

* Excluding expenditure on Bacteriological Laboratory Services, viz.:—£4,000 during each year 1940-41 to 1944-45.

† Excluding (a) pay-roll tax, £52,856 in 1941-42, £63,767 in 1942-43, £69,318 in 1943-44, and £76,872 in 1944-45; and (b) superannuation paid on behalf of officers in Defence Forces, £19,110 in 1942-43, £20,477 in 1943-44, and £21,878 in 1944-45.

In addition to the expenditure shown in the preceding table, fees, donations, &c., amounting to £87,932 in 1940-41, £91,520 in 1941-42, £80,619 in 1942-43, £101,682 in 1943-44, and £114,915 in 1944-45 were retained and expended by the various technical school councils.

In the following statement the expenditure shown has been confined to that relating to primary, intermediate, and secondary education in State schools, i.e., excluding amount expended on

technical education. No attempt has been made to apportion general expenditure items such as "Training of Teachers, Administration, &c."

VICTORIA—EXPENDITURE ON PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION—STATE SCHOOLS (EXCLUDING TECHNICAL SCHOOLS), 1940-41 TO 1944-45.

Expenditure—	Year ended 30th June—				
	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
	£	£	£	£	£
Primary Education—					
Day Schools, including Central Schools	1,899,765	1,892,209	1,917,587	2,042,698	2,135,883
Schools for Deaf Mutes and Blind and Feeble-minded Children	29,671	29,203	30,857	35,518	37,677
Subsidized Schools	107	64	12	..	..
Free Kindergarten Union	2,500	4,500	6,000	..	..
Special Subjects—					
Physical Training	10,179	9,946	9,524	12,076	12,671
Dressmaking and Needlework	5,743	5,574	5,779	6,386	7,044
School Gardening and Plantations	2,668	2,618	2,695	2,905	2,731
Music	4,206	4,652	3,720	4,554	3,488
Medical Inspection	16,455	18,126	25,705	27,352	(a)
Total Primary	1,971,294	1,966,892	2,001,879	2,131,489	2,199,494
Intermediate Education—					
Higher Elementary Schools	68,877	70,567	77,358	95,705	118,877
Evening Continuation Classes	52	..	..	..	..
Girls' Schools (Schools of Domestic Arts)	58,084	59,953	64,566	69,403	71,106
Total Intermediate	127,013	130,520	141,924	165,108	189,983
Secondary Education—					
High Schools	290,044	296,517	314,272	354,218	446,347
Scholarships	19,608	24,783	14,335	18,513	24,502
Other .. .. .	..	..	..	1,496	4,937
Total Secondary	309,652	321,300	328,607	374,227	475,786
Training of Teachers	18,210	33,329	36,767	46,423	76,239
Administration	77,663	82,012	94,281	98,097	104,342
Miscellaneous	62	94	198	2,042	2,656
Buildings—					
Primary Schools	188,502	137,992	136,107	119,387	167,781
Rents	3,950	3,758	3,145	3,204	6,769
Higher Elementary Schools	110	2,145	11,273	4,667	4,828
Girls' Schools (Domestic Arts Schools, &c.)	10	3,380	3,534	2,489	1,946
High Schools	41,304	13,335	10,187	11,692	9,469
Teachers' College .. .. .	..	25,170	12,921	8,619	14,957
Total Buildings	233,876	185,780	177,167	150,058	205,750
Pensions	172,885	170,600	171,116	170,523	165,910
Grand Total	2,910,655	2,890,527	2,951,939	3,137,967	3,420,160

(a) From 1st July, 1944, administration of school medical and dental services was taken over by the Health department. Details will be found on page 443 of this issue.

Melbourne Technical College.

The Melbourne Technical College, as the Working Men's College, was founded in 1887 by the late Hon. Francis Ormond. It is open to both sexes, and supplies higher technical instruction. Its revenue is obtained from students' fees, supplemented by a Government grant. There are both day and evening courses.

Scholarships and Prizes.

The College Council awards scholarships annually to students of Junior Technical Schools. Various other scholarships which have been donated by manufacturers, commercial associations, and other bodies are available to senior students of the College. Several valuable prizes are also given annually by employers and others interested in technical education.

Day Courses and Fees.

All fees are payable in advance. The year is divided into three terms. The day courses and the scale of fees per term for the year 1945 are shown in the following table:—

MELBOURNE TECHNICAL COLLEGE—COURSES AND FEES.

Diploma Courses.	Fee per Term.	Other Day Courses.	Fee per Term.
			£ s. d.
Applied Chemistry	£5 10s. for the first, second, and third years and £6 10s. thereafter	Commercial—	
Chemical Engineering		Full Day ..	5 0 0
Metallurgy		Five Half-days ..	3 0 0
Metallurgical Engineering		Engineering Machine Shop—	
Mining Engineering		Special Full Day ..	3 0 0
Applied Science		Electrical Trades—	
Mechanical Engineering		Special Full Day ..	3 0 0
Electrical Engineering		Art Course—	
Civil Engineering		Full Time ..	4 0 0
Municipal Engineering		Five Half-days ..	3 0 0
Communication Engineering	Wool-sorting—		
Automotive Engineering	Full Courses ..	8 0 0	
Aeronautical Engineering	Special Course ..	1 15 0	
	£ s. d.		
Architecture	5 10 0	Photography—	
Advertising Art	4 0 0	Full Day ..	6 0 0
Painting		Motor Mechanics—	
Industrial Design		Trade Course ..	5 0 0
Modelling and Sculpture		Farm Mechanics ..	5 0 0

Evening Courses and Classes.

In the evening school, the following courses for certificates are in operation:—Assayers; geologists; aero, civil, electrical, mechanical, and structural engineers; communication and production engineering; land surveyors; mechanical draught-men; public analysts; art; architects; industrial chemists; heat treatment; mine managers; mine surveying; primary and

secondary metallurgy; building and printing trades. Evening courses for the diploma of chemistry, applied science, mechanical, electrical, and civil engineering, metallurgy and accountancy are also in operation. The fees for evening tuition range from £1 10s. per term to £4 10s. per term according to the course taken.

The evening classes are also open to students who, instead of undertaking a full course, receive instruction in any one or more subjects of any course. Tuition is also given by correspondence.

During 1945 the College accommodated 1,542 Defence trainees from the R.A.A.F., the Army, the Navy, the Department of Aircraft Production and the Factory Board, and 236 Reconstruction Trainees.

Details relating to the College during the years 1941 to 1945 are shown in the following table:—

MELBOURNE TECHNICAL COLLEGE, 1941 TO 1945.

	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Individual students enrolled ..	9,516	8,386	9,599	11,294	12,332
Males	7,981	7,007	7,776	9,334	10,420
Females	1,535	1,379	1,823	1,960	1,912
Number of classes	398	399	399	401	552
Number of Instructors	384	359	413	488	626
Salaries paid to Instructors £	53,779	52,235	58,952	58,152	73,190
Government grant .. £	51,032	52,800	52,800	45,600	48,000
Fees received during the year* £	39,012	33,743	42,480	50,544	58,779
Average fee per student per year	82s. 0d.	80s. 6d.	88s. 6d.	89s. 6d.	95s. 4d.

* Not including fees for correspondence courses, which amounted to £1,988 in 1941, £4,373 in 1942, £9,344 in 1943, £8,605 in 1944, and £6,444 in 1945. The subjects taught by correspondence are those included in the college curriculum.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

The Library consists of three distinct sections, viz.:—
Public Library of Victoria. the Reference Library, the Lending Library, and the Country Lending and Travelling Library. During 1945 the reckoning of statistics was changed from the calendar to the fiscal year and figures given hereafter are, therefore, for the eighteen months from 1st January, 1945, to 30th June, 1946.

In regard to the Reference Library, the Librarian reports that in the period under review 6,300 volumes were purchased, 2,078 volumes presented, 715 volumes deposited under the Libraries Act, and 62,103 newspapers added to the Library. At 30th June, 1946, the Reference Library contained 551,242 volumes and 88,518 pamphlets. The Lending Branch, which is also free to the public, issued 199,833 volumes during the eighteen months, the number of persons to whom the books were lent being 16,387, an increase of 1,390 on the previous registration period of 1943-44.

The number of volumes in the Lending Library at 30th June, 1946, was 70,263, this representing a considerable decrease on previous totals due to a heavy weeding-out of worn and out-dated books. Books totalling 5,419 were added.

The Travelling Libraries contained 13,739 volumes, an increase of 1,739 since the end of 1944.

The following table shows the principal libraries in the State and the number of volumes as at 31st December, 1945. Libraries controlled by municipalities are shown with an asterisk (*).

VICTORIA—PUBLIC LIBRARIES, 1945.

Municipality.	Volumes at 31st December, 1945 in—				
	Reference Branch.	Ordinary Lending Branch.	Country Lending Branch.	Children's Branch.	Total.
METROPOLITAN.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Brighton*	133	7,246	..	907	8,286
Brunswick Free Library ..	2,911	7,629	..	1,247	11,787
Collingwood* ..	2,400	3,250	..	..	5,650
Fitzroy* ..	3,400	3,230	..	..	6,630
Footscray Free Library ..	..	18,000	..	..	18,000(a)
Hawthorn* ..	172	9,609	..	2,125	11,906(b)
Heidelberg Public Library ..	..	4,600	..	..	4,600
Kew* Children's Library ..	..	..	..	5,000	5,000
Melbourne—	..	8,451	..	4,702	13,153
Kensington ..	..	3,492	..	2,948	6,440
North Melbourne ..	1,250	8,242	..	12,000	21,492(c)
The Public Library of Victoria ..	551,242	70,263	13,739	..	635,244(c)
Moorabbin—	..	700	..	..	700
Cheltenham Free Library ..	..	1,200	..	..	1,200
Mordialloc-Mentone Public Library ..	..	3,800	..	400	4,200
Northcote* (" Carnegie ") ..	500	15,400	..	1,100	17,000
Oakleigh* ..	540	2,905	..	..	3,445
Port Melbourne* ..	2,000	12,000	..	..	14,000
Prahran* ..	15,300	20,400	..	7,800	43,500
Free Library ..	..	11,000	..	..	11,000
Preston ..	..	5,700	..	2,000	7,700(d)
Richmond* ..	2,476	4,903	..	..	7,379
Richmond South* ..	4,010	1,795	..	..	5,805
South Melbourne* ..	250	11,069	..	3,611	14,930
Williamstown Free Library ..	800	7,500	..	1,000	9,300
Total ..	587,384	242,384	13,739	44,840	888,347

(a) Volumes not classified.

(b) At 30th September, 1945.

(c) At 30th June, 1946.

(d) At 30th September, 1946.

VICTORIA—PUBLIC LIBRARIES, 1945—*continued.*

Municipality.	Volumes at 31st December, 1945 in—				
	Reference Branch.	Ordinary Lending Branch.	Country Lending Branch.	Children's Branch.	Total.
PROVINCIAL.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Ballarat (4)	11,466	46,910	..	3,369	61,745
Bendigo (e) (5)	12,680	12,875	..	..	25,555
Geelong (f) (5)	349	23,576	..	7,060	30,985
Mildura* ("Carnegie") (1)	727	13,765	..	2,715	17,207
Warrnambool	4,556	6,362	..	494	11,412
Total	29,778	103,488	..	13,638	146,904

(e) Includes library at School of Mines. (f) There were 13,999 volumes in the Geelong City municipal library and 5,650 in the Chilwell municipal library.

Other Public Libraries. Prior to their suspension in 1942, library statistics were collected from libraries in the metropolitan area and provincial centres in the State. It is hoped to completely restore this collection in the 1946-47 *Year Book*.

National Gallery. The National Gallery at the 30th June, 1946* contained 30,131 works of art viz. 1,044 oil paintings, 7,595 objects of art, statuary, &c., and 21,492 water colour drawings, engravings, photographs, &c. During the eighteen months under review £34,521 14s. 5d. was expended on works of art, the Trustees of the Felton Bequest providing £30,382 18s. of that amount.

The school of painting in connexion with the Institution was attended during the year 1945 by 35 students and the school of drawing by 183 students.

National Museum. The National Museum of Victoria is housed in the eastern section of the Public Library block. Its collections, which amount to several million specimens, comprise natural history, geology, and ethnology. Included among the collections are the famous Baldwin Spencer collection of central and northern Australian ethnology, the Lyell collection of Australian Butterflies and Moths, the H. L. White collection of Australian birds' skins and eggs, the Bassett Hull collection of Chitons, and the Gatliff collection of Australian Marine Mollusca.

On exhibition are to be seen several dioramas illustrating Australian aborigines and Australian natural history studies.

* From 1st. January 1945 to 30th. June 1946.

**Museum of
Applied
Science.**

The Museum of Applied Science of Victoria is housed in the Queen's Hall of the Public Library block.

The exhibits, which comprised 22,274 separate items on the 31st December, 1945, cover applied and economic aspects of all branches of science.

Worthy of special mention are the Askew Bequest of clocks, the ship and aircraft models, the arms collection, the sectionized engines (many of which may be operated by visitors), the timber specimens, the biological wax model collection, and numerous industrial displays.

THE MELBOURNE BOTANIC GARDEN.

The Melbourne Botanic Garden, which was established in 1896, is situated on the south side of the River Yarra. The area of the garden proper is 102 acres, and includes lakes, lawns, groups, plantations, conservatories, &c. Adjoining the Botanic Garden are the grounds of Government House, the Shrine, the Domain, the Observatory, the Alexandra Park and Gardens, and the Queen Victoria Gardens. The whole reservation, probably the most valuable asset of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere, embraces an area of approximately 320 acres.

ZOOLOGICAL BOARD OF VICTORIA.

The gardens of the Zoological Board of Victoria are situated in Royal Park, on the northern side of the city of Melbourne. The ground enclosed contains 50 acres, rather more than half of which is laid out as a zoological garden, and the rest in deer paddocks and spacious lawns for the convenience of visitors. Most of the large animals of the world are represented there, as well as many native animals.

PUBLIC RESERVES IN GREATER MELBOURNE.

Statistics relating to Public Reserves are compiled from information furnished triennially by municipalities in Greater Melbourne.

On 1st October, 1946, the total area of such reserves was 9,875 acres of which 3,456 acres were acquired by the municipalities at a total cost of £1,000,573.

Certain particulars relating to the Public Reserves, &c., in the metropolis are shown in the table hereafter and further details are available at the office of the Government Statist.

**GREATER MELBOURNE—PUBLIC RESERVES, ETC., AS AT
OCTOBER, 1946.**

	Total Area of Municipality.	Area Devoted to—						Total Area of Public Reserves, &c.
		Parks, Gardens, Children's Playgrounds Sporting Grounds and Public Reserves (other than Ornamental).		Street Plantations and Ornamental Public Reserves, Public Squares.		Other Public Land (Cemeteries, Vacant Land, &c.)		
		Crown Land.	Freehold Land.	Crown Land.	Freehold Land.	Crown Land.	Freehold Land.	
acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	
Cities—								
Box Hill ..	5,120	171	84	7	24	53	18	357
Brighton ..	3,308	103	247	..	2	..	3	355
Brunswick ..	2,719	..	65	1	..	3	11	81
Camberwell ..	8,352	8	322	..	..	..	227	557
Caulfield ..	5,600	211	57	25	41	29	6	369
Chelsea ..	3,040	80	20	1	..	..	..	101
Coburg ..	4,800	19	193	..	..	21	..	233
Collingwood ..	1,139	63	13	21	2	..	1	100
Essendon ..	4,000	105	235	1	..	..	8	349
Fitzroy ..	923	34	8	5	..	..	..	47
Footscray ..	3,982	83	91	..	..	23	8	205
Hawthorn ..	2,402	6	77	10	28	..	10	131
Heidelberg (exclud- ing Greens- borough Ward) ..	8,800	355	250	..	..	8	..	613
Kew ..	3,523	300	80	..	3	31	..	414
Malvern ..	3,996	21	294	8	..	..	35	358
Melbourne ..	7,740	1,771	23	86	..	141	39	2,060
Moorabbin ..	13,360	89	81	..	..	10	..	180
Mordialloc ..	3,351	116	25	4	..	4	24	173
Northcote ..	2,850	44	70	2	..	1	103	220
Oakleigh ..	2,658	55	21	5	..	6	3	90
Port Melbourne ..	2,366	63	..	18	..	200	..	281
Prahran ..	2,320	3	69	4	..	..	..	76
Preston ..	8,800	1	255	..	..	24	18	298
Richmond ..	1,430	191	2	..	..	1	2	196
Sandringham ..	3,740	211	207	..	2	22	..	442
South Melbourne ..	2,303	500	..	22	..	..	..	522
St. Kilda ..	2,049	267	1	35	..	20	..	323
Williamstown ..	2,775	128	16	..	..	389	..	533
Shire—								
Braybrook (exclud- ing Western Riding) ..	8,480	156	24	24	7	..	..	211
Total ..	125,926	5,154	2,830	279	110	986	516	9,875

HOUSING COMMISSION.

The history of events leading up to the appointment of the Housing Commission, together with an epitome of the provisions of the *Housing Act 1937* and the *Slum Reclamation and Housing Act 1938*, will be found in the *Year-Book* for 1937-38, pages 224 and 225. The initial operations of the Commission are summarized in the *Year-Book* for 1938-39.

The Commission's activities are spread over both metropolitan and country centres. The present policy of the Commission is that one-third of all houses erected shall be built in country centres and that particular attention shall be paid to the needs of centres in which industry has been established under the Government's decentralization plans.

Country municipalities in which housing estates are being developed include—

- Cities* .. Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong West, Mildura, Warrnambool.
- Towns* .. Ararat, Hamilton, Newtown and Chilwell.
- Boroughs* .. Castlemaine, Colac, Eaglehawk, Shepparton, Swan Hill, Wangaratta.
- Shires* .. Mildura, Morwell, Traralgon.

Since its inception 69 estates, including 35 in the country, have been developed by the Commission and 3,099 houses provided thereon. In addition 2,068 houses are in various stages of construction.

In accordance with the agreement made between the Commonwealth and State Governments, the quota of Government sponsored housing allocated to Victoria from 1st April, 1944, to 30th June, 1946, was 5,395 homes.

To 30th June, 1946, projects have been determined for the construction of 4,383 houses for Victoria's quota allocated as follows :—

Houses.	Metropolitan.	Country.
	No.	No.
Completed	1,265	319
Under construction	1,372	696
Plans in preparation	254	477
Total	2,891	1,492

In its normal house programme to 30th June, 1946, the Commission has expended £4,236,973.

Gross revenue for rents for the year ended 30th June, 1946, amounted to £161,646, against which £3,147 was allowed for rental rebates.

During the year a further 751 sub-standard houses were dealt with. Repairs were ordered in respect of 419 houses. The balance of 332 houses were considered beyond repair and were ordered to be demolished, but, because of house shortage, the majority will be deferred until a more appropriate time.

Apart from the direct improvement to houses occasioned by the Commission's orders for repairs, the regulations have effected indirect improvement in the general condition of rented houses.

CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING SOCIETIES.

The law relating to co-operative housing societies is contained in the *Co-operative Housing Societies Act 1944*, which is the first Victorian legislation dealing with the financing of home building on a purely co-operative basis. The Act, which was brought into operation on 5th September, 1945, authorizes such societies to raise loans and to make advances to members for the purchase of land and the erection of homes thereon or for the erection of homes on land already owned by them. An amending Act (No. 5118 of 1946) makes provision for the registration in the registry of equitable mortgages given as security for moneys raised on loan by societies.

A co-operative housing society is a corporate body with limited liability formed and registered under the Act. It is a terminating society, i.e., one formed by a group of persons each having the specific purpose of obtaining an advance to build a home; when all members have obtained an advance and the society has discharged its external liabilities, it is wound up.

Provision is made to safeguard the funds and financial interests of societies; the issue of shares and the disposition of the funds are regulated; the power to raise loans is limited and the accounts of societies are subject to inspection and audit.

Societies secure financial accommodation from outside sources such as banks, friendly societies or other approved bodies. The Government assists societies to obtain the requisite funds by guaranteeing the repayment of loans made to them by such bodies. The Government also affords assistance to societies in the making of advances to members by undertaking, in certain circumstances, to indemnify societies against loss directly attributable to the fact that the amount advanced exceeded 80 per cent. but did not exceed 90 per cent. of the value of the security. The indemnity expires when the amount owing to the society by the member, reduced by the value of his share capital, is not more than 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. of the value of his security.

Model rules for societies have been prescribed under the Act; these embody tables of payments appropriate to societies operating for terms of 14 $\frac{3}{4}$, 22 $\frac{2}{3}$, or 30 $\frac{2}{3}$ years, with notional interest at 4 per

cent. On joining a society, the member takes up shares of nominal value equivalent to the advance required and pays subscriptions thereon at a certain rate until he receives an advance, when the rate of his contributions is increased. The rates of payments are as follows :—

Notional Term of Society.	Advance per Share.	Amounts Payable per Share.	
		Before Advance.	After Advance.
	£	s. d.	s. d.
14½ years ..	52	2 0 per fortnight ..	3 8 per fortnight
22½ years ..	55	2 6 per calendar month..	6 2 per calendar month
30½ years ..	54	1 6 per calendar month..	5 2 per calendar month

In addition, the member pays a small charge to meet management costs.

All "before advance" payments accrue from the commencement of the society, so that a member who joins a society at any time after the first "pay" has been fixed must make up the back payments. In the event of sickness, unemployment, or other misfortune, payments may be wholly or partially deferred. Deferred payments may be overtaken without hardship to the member concerned and without loss to other members. All payments are calculated actuarially and are inter-dependent. The essence of the payments is that the burden and the benefit are the same to all members, irrespective of when they take up their shares or their advances and whether they withdraw before or after taking up their advances.

Powers of supervision are vested in the Registrar of Co-operative Housing Societies who, with the approval of the Treasurer of Victoria, registers societies and their rules and issues certificates of incorporation under the Act and who may inspect the books and accounts of societies.

An Advisory Committee of three members, comprising the Registrar (ex officio, Chairman), an officer of the Treasury nominated by the Treasurer, and a person appointed by the Governor in Council, has been constituted under the Act to submit recommendations to the Treasurer with respect to regulations and model rules and other action for promoting the formation and improving the operations of societies.

The first registration of a society after the proclamation of the Act was on 15th October, 1945. At 30th June, 1946, there were 63 societies on the register of which 54 had adopted the 22½ years term and 9 the 30½ years term.

The following statement shows various particulars relating to membership and operations of societies at 30th June, 1946:—

Number of Societies Registered	63
Aggregate Number of Members	6,174
Aggregate Number of Shares Subscribed for	117,459
Aggregate Nominal Share Capital Subscribed for	£6,438,800
Number of Advances Approved	586
Aggregate Amount of Advances Approved	£641,953
Number of Indemnities Given and Subsisting	32
Aggregate Amount of Indemnities Subsisting	£1,873
Average Amount of Advance where Indemnity is Required	£1,126
Number of Government Guarantees Executed	39
Aggregate Amount of Government Guarantees Executed	£4,800,000
Number of Equitable Mortgages Registered (Act 5118, 1946)	49
Number of Dwelling Houses Completed	14
Number in Course of Erection	170

VICTORIA—RELIGIONS OF THE PEOPLE.

A statement showing the number of adherents to the various religious denominations and sects, as ascertained at the Census of 4th April, 1921, and of 30th June, 1933, was published in the *Year-Book* for 1937-38, page 226.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

The principal legislative provisions relating to friendly societies are contained in the *Friendly Societies Act* 1928, a summary of which was published in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29 (pages 383-387). Amending Acts were passed in 1934, 1938, and 1939. The main provisions of the first of these amending Acts were published in the *Year-Book* for 1934-35, page 213, and those of the remaining two amending Acts in the *Year-Book* for 1938-39, page 237. The provisions of the amending Act of 1939 with regard to the sum of money payable at the death of a member have been affected, to some extent, by a Commonwealth National Security Regulation made in 1941. The objects of this Regulation are given under "Legislation," in the *Year-Book* for 1940-41, page 261.

The legislative supervision exercised over friendly societies has had a very beneficial effect. There are 30 friendly societies in Victoria which are required by the statute to have made a quinquennial valuation of their assets and liabilities by an actuary. The latest valuation reports show that there were only five societies with a ratio of assets to liabilities of less than 20s. in the £1; three of these were societies of small membership.

Since the year 1908, all the actuarial valuations of the assets and liabilities of societies have been made by the Government Statist, who is required by statute to be a fully qualified actuary.

The following table shows the number and classification of members of Victorian Friendly Societies at 30th June, 1945 :—

Members Contributing for—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Sick and funeral benefits	185,912	20,615	206,527
Medical benefits only (including widows) ..	14,778	17,956	32,734
No benefits (honorary)	2,641	2,058	4,699
Grand Total	203,331	40,629	243,960

During the five years ended June, 1945, there was a net increase of 14,663 in the number of members contributing for sick and funeral benefits; this increase was nearly 8 per cent. of the number of such members at the beginning of the period.

The total funds, exclusive of those of dispensaries, increased during the period of five years ended June, 1945, by £918,062, or slightly more than 14 per cent. The funds at the end of the period amounted to £7,377,593. The funds are well invested, the average rate of interest obtained on the sick and funeral funds during 1944-45 being 4·05 per cent. Since 1940-41 there has been a fall of 0·39 per cent. in the rate of interest; this is due mainly to a decrease in mortgage investments and a corresponding increase in investments in Stock and Debentures.

The total assets of the dispensaries at the end of 1944-45 amounted to £287,159.

Separate funds to provide for payments to hospitals for treatment received by members and their dependants have been established by all societies with the exception of a few small societies, dividing societies and societies of a special nature. The benefit payments made from these funds in 1944-45 amounted to £22,208.

The statement which follows contains information (exclusive of that relating to dispensaries) in regard to Friendly Societies in Victoria for the five years 1940-41 to 1944-45.

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

VICTORIAN FRIENDLY SOCIETIES—MEMBERSHIP, RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURE, AND FUNDS, 1940-41 TO 1944-45.

	Year ended 30th June—				
	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Number of societies	83	84	89	92	102
Number of branches	1,471	1,457	1,462	1,458	1,459
Number of members contributing at end of year for sick and funeral benefits	195,902	200,179	202,643	205,003	206,527
Number of members (including widows) contributing at end of year for medical benefits only	27,974	29,836	31,248	32,039	32,734
Number of members who received sick pay	54,320	48,288	48,746	49,228	46,658
Weeks for which sick pay was allowed	519,086	493,657	477,751	479,632	478,971
Death of members contributing for sick and funeral benefits	2,203	2,358	2,466	2,490	2,375
Deaths of wives entitled to funeral benefits	626	683	659	672	674
Receipts—	£	£	£	£	£
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds	514,337	508,556	505,021	512,766	515,855
Medical and Management Funds	467,942	474,646	470,286	484,060	502,851
Other Funds	198,486	170,100	202,143	234,228	241,781
Less inter-fund transfers	— 98,761	— 55,431	— 71,443	— 81,336	— 68,379
Total receipts	1,082,004	1,097,871	1,106,007	1,149,718	1,192,108
Expenditure—					
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds	414,075	364,143	373,537	376,473	364,511
Medical and Management Funds	452,877	460,155	451,745	458,311	478,507
Other Funds	146,782	162,812	176,913	194,592	209,563
Less inter-fund transfers	— 98,761	— 55,431	— 71,443	— 81,336	— 68,379
Total Expenditure	914,973	931,679	930,752	948,040	984,202
Excess of Receipts over Expenditure	167,031	166,192	175,255	201,678	207,906
Amount of Funds—					
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds	5,337,417	5,481,830	5,613,314	5,749,607	5,900,951
Medical and Management Funds	264,907	279,398	297,939	323,688	348,032
Other Funds	1,024,238	1,031,526	1,056,756	1,096,392	1,128,610
Total Funds	6,626,562	6,792,754	6,968,009	7,169,687	7,377,593
Disposal of Funds—					
Amounts Invested—					
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds	5,322,740	5,465,491	5,595,424	5,738,267	5,886,638
Medical and Management Funds	257,651	270,868	287,700	312,198	335,708
Other Funds	1,003,769	1,008,473	1,033,683	1,075,497	1,102,166
Amounts uninvested—					
All Funds	42,402	47,922	51,202	43,725	53,081

NOTE.—The figures given above for "Other Funds" include all monetary transactions of societies other than ordinary friendly societies.

Secessions and Expenses. During the twelve months ended June, 1945, the societies lost by secession 8,515 sick and funeral benefit members; this was equal to about 4·2 per cent. of the membership at the beginning of that period. The corresponding rates of secession in 1940-41, 1941-42, 1942-43, and 1943-44 were 5·1, 4·7, 4·2, and 3·7 respectively. As a rule, most of the secessions were those of new members who allowed their membership to lapse before they had time to appreciate its value. The cost of management per member in the year 1944-45 was 14s. 7d. This was 6d. more than the cost in the year 1943-44.

Sickness and mortality experience. The following statement shows in regard to members of societies (other than dividing societies and societies of a special nature) the average number of effective members, and the number of weeks of sickness in respect of which claims for sick-pay were granted for the years 1925-26, 1930-31, 1935-36, and for each year of the last five years. The statement also shows the number of weeks of sickness per effective member, the number of deaths of members, and the number of deaths per 1,000 effective members.

VICTORIAN FRIENDLY SOCIETIES—SICKNESS AND MORTALITY EXPERIENCE.

Year.	Average Number of Effective Members.*	Weeks of Sickness.		Deaths.	
		Number.	Per Average Effective Member.*	Number.	Per 1,000 Average Effective Members.*
<i>Male Societies.†</i>					
1925-26	124,925	259,208	2 0	1,325	10·61
1930-31	129,596	345,687	2 4	1,331	10·27
1935-36	134,336	432,467	3 1	1,671	12·44
1940-41	149,733	467,680	3 1	2,000	13·36
1941-42	153,154	443,433	2 5	2,106	13·75
1942-43	155,818	425,761	2 4	2,215	14·22
1943-44	157,676	423,158	2 4	2,218	14·07
1944-45	158,563	421,570	2 4	2,128	13·42
<i>Female Sections and a Female Society.</i>					
1925-26	9,494	15,461	1 4	43	4·53
1930-31	10,897	22,250	2 0	51	4·68
1935-36	12,761	30,553	2 2	56	4·39
1940-41	15,342	37,293	2 3	84	5·48
1941-42	15,527	35,119	2 2	90	5·80
1942-43	15,717	34,436	2 1	101	6·43
1943-44	16,217	34,928	2 1	87	5·36
1944-45	16,454	35,476	2 1	87	5·29

* Effective members are those entitled to claim sick and funeral benefits.

† Under this sub-heading are included particulars relating to female members of societies which have not separate sick funds for female members.

The average period of sickness per effective male member increased from two weeks in 1925-26 to two weeks four days in 1930-31. During the ten years 1931-32 to 1940-41 the average period varied from three weeks to three weeks two days per annum. There was a fall in 1941-42 to two weeks five days whilst, in each of the three years 1942-43 to 1944-45, the average period has remained stable at two weeks four days. It is believed that the fall since June, 1941, is associated with the war effort.

The trend of sickness per average effective female member followed closely that of male members during the corresponding period.

Friendly Societies' Dispensaries. At the end of 1944-45 there were 33 United Friendly Societies' Dispensaries registered, under the Friendly Societies Acts of Victoria, as separate friendly societies. There was also one society consisting of these registered friendly societies' dispensaries. The chief object for which the dispensaries are established is to provide the societies with a means of supplying medicine and medical and surgical appliances to their members and to persons claiming through members. The number of members connected with the dispensaries at the end of 1944-45 was 148,489. As the greater portion of the receipts and expenditure of the dispensaries are interwoven with those of the medical and management funds of the ordinary friendly societies, they are not given here.

The assets and liabilities of the dispensaries at the end of 1944-45 amounted to £287,159 and £11,195 respectively. The assets consisted of freehold property, £135,844; stock, fittings, and sundry debtors, £91,049; cash, £38,238; and securities, £22,028. The liabilities consisted of sundry creditors, £10,040; bank overdrafts, £605; and mortgages, £550.

CONDITIONS OF LABOUR IN FACTORIES AND SHOPS.

Labour legislation. The earliest attempt at regulating the conditions of labour in Victoria was made by the passing of an Act dated 11th November, 1873, forbidding the employment of any female in a factory for more than eight hours in any day. This Act defined "factory" to be a place where not fewer than ten persons were working. Since 1873 the definition of "factory" has been broadened until now it includes any place in which mechanical power exceeding one-half horse power is in use or in which four or more persons are engaged in any handicraft or in preparing articles for trade or sale. In some circumstances, notably where bread or pastry is baked for trade or sale, or where a process involving the use of a compound of lead is employed, one or more persons constitutes a factory even where no mechanical power is used. The general recognition of the necessity of securing the health, comfort, and safety of the workers has been expressed in many further legislative enactments.

**Number of
Factories.** At December, 1944, there were 12,091 factories registered, in which 229,397 persons were employed and, in 1945, 12,371 factories employing 231,984 persons.

The industrial legislation included in the Factories and Shops Acts has been revised and amended from time to time and the most important of the amendments have been noted in earlier editions of the *Year-Book*.

The *Factories and Shops Act* 1941, No. 4874, however, deserves special mention here because it is fairly recent and because of its far-reaching provisions. The legislation is based on unanimous recommendations of a Board of Inquiry set up by the Government in 1940, and makes material changes in the working of the Wages Board system. The main provisions of the measure are summarized here :—

Section 2 (1) provides that Wages Boards shall consist of a maximum of six representatives instead of ten. Section 2 (2) directs the appointment of Wages Boards for nurserymen and market gardeners to be operative within a radius of forty miles from Melbourne. The appointment of such Boards to include country districts within the forty-mile radius was not possible under earlier legislation.

Sections 3 to 10 make important alterations in the qualifications of representatives on Wages Boards and in the manner of their appointment.

Section 11 alters the system of appointing Wages Board Chairmen by providing for the appointment by the Governor-in-Council of a panel of two permanent salaried chairmen to perform this work exclusively.

Sections 17 to 29 deal with the appointment and functions of an Industrial Appeals Court.

The new Court has three main duties as follows :—

- (i) to decide appeals against determinations of Wages Boards (in this respect it supersedes the Court of Industrial Appeals as constituted under the Principal Act);
- (ii) to deal with proceedings ordered to be transferred to it from a Court of Petty Sessions in cases where the defendant alleges that the relationship of employer and employee does not exist (in this respect it supersedes the Trade Tribunals set up under the provisions of an earlier Act);
- (iii) to hear appeals against convictions or orders of the Metropolitan Industrial Court or any Court of Petty Sessions for offences under the Factories and Shops Acts, or against any refusal to make an order.

The constitution of the Industrial Appeals Court differs from that of the Court of Industrial Appeals which it superseded in that its members are appointed permanently and not for each individual case. The President of the Court shall be a judge of county courts having experience in industrial matters and, of the two other members, one shall be a person having industrial experience appointed to represent employers and one with similar qualifications appointed to represent employees. The appointments are for a period of five years and provision is made for the appointment of deputies to act in the event of the inability of the President or members to do so.

Closing Hours of Shops. The hours for closing of shops in both metropolitan and country districts, as defined in the Factories and Shops Acts, are as set out hereafter.

VICTORIA—CLOSING HOURS FOR ALL SHOPS SITUATED WITHIN THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT.

Class of Shop.	Hours of Closing.						Effect of Closing Shop for the whole of a Public Holiday which falls on any Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday or Saturday.														
	Mon.	Tu.	Wed.	Th.	Fri.	Sat.															
	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.															
1. Booksellers and Newsagents*	8	8	8	8	9.30	1 Can re-open 4 p.m. to 10 p.m.	May remain open on half-holiday														
2. Butchers	5	5	5	5	5	12 noon.	No effect														
3. Bread, Confectionery. and Pastry	Closing hours not fixed by law. The shopkeeper may therefore decide for himself when his shop shall close						No effect														
4. Cooked Meat (other than tinned meat)*	6	6	6	6	9	1	Same as No. 1														
5. Fish and Oyster*	7	7	7	No effect														
6. Flower	Same as No. 3						No effect														
7. Fruit and Vegetable * †	<table border="0"> <tr> <td rowspan="2"> { During June, August, September, and October Other months .. </td> <td>7</td> <td>7</td> <td>7</td> <td>7</td> <td>..</td> <td>1</td> <td>No effect</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>7</td> <td>7</td> <td>7</td> <td>..</td> <td>7</td> <td>No effect</td> </tr> </table>						{ During June, August, September, and October Other months ..	7	7	7	7	..	1	No effect	7	7	7	7	..	7	No effect
{ During June, August, September, and October Other months ..	7	7	7	7	..	1		No effect													
	7	7	7	7	..	7	No effect														
8. Hairdressers and Tobacconists	7	7	7	7	7	1	No effect														
9. Motor oil, motor spirit and accessories	6	6	6	6	6	1	No effect														
10. All shops of any kind not mentioned above	6	6	6	6	6	1	No effect														

* These hours were fixed by Regulation under section 84.

† Regulation not applicable to central portion of City of Melbourne.

VICTORIA—CLOSING HOURS FOR ALL SHOPS OUTSIDE THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT.

Class of Shop.	Hours of Closing.						Effect of Closing Shop for the whole of a Public Holiday which falls on any Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, or Saturday.
	Mon.	Tu.	Wed.	Th.	Fri.	Sat.	
1. Booksellers and Newsagents	Closing hours not fixed by law. The shopkeeper may therefore decide for himself when his shop shall close						No effect
2. Butchers	6	6	6	6	6	1	No effect
3. Bread, Confectionery, and Pastry	Same as No. 1						No effect
4. Cooked Meat (other than tinned meat)	Same as No. 1						No effect
5. Fish and Oyster	Same as No. 1						No effect
6. Flower	Same as No. 1						No effect
7. Fruit and Vegetable ..	Same as No. 1						No effect
8. Hairdressers or Tobacconists at Ballarat, Bendigo, Warrnambool, Geelong District, Castlemaine, Eaglehawk, Sebastopol, and Kyneton	7	7	7	7	7	1	No effect
9. Hairdressers or Tobacconists in other parts of Victoria	If Wednesday chosen for half-holiday						} No effect
	7	7	1	7	7	7	
	If Saturday chosen for half-holiday						
	7	7	7	7	7	1	
10. Motor oil, motor spirit and accessories	6	6	6	6	6	1	..
11. All shops of any kind not mentioned above	6	6	6	6	6	1	No effect

NOTE—The hours given in this table are the shop closing hours as fixed by law. The Factories Acts, however, provide for their alteration and variation by regulation wherever a majority of shopkeepers sign a petition. There are so many regulations in force throughout the country districts of Victoria applying to different localities that it would be impracticable to print them here. The hours given above must therefore be taken to be varied wherever such a regulation is in force.

The Factories and Shops (Bread Holidays) Act 1945

was introduced to enable bread to be delivered on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve when those days occur on Mondays and are proclaimed as Public Holidays.

The Act was passed to prevent inconvenience to the public because of the inability to obtain bread over an extended holiday period.

Factories and Shops (Bread Holidays) Act 1945.

Registration of shops became compulsory as from 1st March, 1915. At the end of that year there were 26,401 registered shops with 25,632 employees. The annual registration fee, which is based on the number of persons employed in the shop, varies from 2s. 6d. to £10.

Registered shops are divided into 25 classes. During the year 1945, there was an increase compared with 1944 of 1,401 shops, and an increase of 7,573 workers. Particulars of the shops registered and number of workers therein are given below:—

VICTORIA—SHOPS REGISTERED AND NUMBER OF PERSONS WORKING THEREIN, 1945 (INCLUDING SHOPKEEPERS AND MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES).

Class of Shop.	Metropolitan.		Provincial Cities and Country.		Whole State.	
	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.
Bread, Confectionery, and Pastry ..	3,549	6,584	1,918	3,981	5,467	10,565
Booksellers, Newsagents	781	1,750	358	814	1,139	2,564
Boot Dealers	229	866	201	455	430	1,321
Boot Repairers	652	758	410	549	1,062	1,307
Butchers	1,068	2,941	825	2,138	1,893	5,079
Chemists	548	1,513	326	861	874	2,374
Crockery	40	109	10	16	50	125
Cycle and Motor, and Motor Requisites	779	1,741	1,087	2,217	1,866	3,958
Dairy Produce and Cooked Meat ..	592	1,518	107	255	699	1,773
Drapery and Men's Clothing	1,972	12,255	963	3,307	2,935	15,562
Electrical and Radio	341	870	228	427	569	1,297
Fancy Goods Dealers	347	2,109	178	650	525	2,759
Fish	298	530	99	192	397	722
Florists	399	644	67	118	466	762
Fruit and Vegetable	1,353	2,412	832	1,694	2,185	4,106
Fuel and Fodder	659	1,212	270	545	929	1,757
Furniture	374	1,200	166	426	540	1,626
Grocers	2,446	4,972	1,233	2,999	3,679	7,971
Hairdressers	1,428	2,931	710	1,263	2,138	4,194
Hardware	417	1,672	372	1,026	789	2,698
Jewellery	221	505	156	251	377	756
Leather Goods	148	288	149	210	297	498
Musical Instruments	21	224	18	38	39	262
Tobacconists	1,028	1,207	229	294	1,257	1,501
Mixed Trades and Shops not classified	1,594	3,441	2,143	6,695	3,737	10,136
Total 1945*	21,284	54,252	13,055	31,421	34,339	85,673
Total 1944*	20,531	49,610	12,407	28,490	32,938	78,100
Total 1943*	19,901	48,980	12,284	27,896	32,185	76,876
Total 1942*	20,125	54,911	12,512	28,347	32,637	83,258
Total 1941	22,755	33,706	13,991	15,716	36,746	49,422

* Up to and including 1941 the figures show only the numbers of employees in shops, but the figures for 1942 and following years include all workers in shops including shopkeepers themselves and members of their families.

**Wages
Boards.**

The Wages Board method of fixing wages and of settling the conditions of employment had its origin in Victoria and was incorporated in an Act of Parliament introduced in the year 1896. A Board may be appointed for any trade or branch thereof. Each Board shall consist of not less than four nor more than six members and, in addition, a chairman. Originally, each Board was composed of equal numbers of employers and employees, with a qualification that each representative should be actively engaged in the trade concerned. However, under the provisions of the *Factories and Shops Act 1934*, this qualification was modified to permit of a paid officer of any corporation, public body, or association of employers being nominated as one of the members to represent employers and, if such officer is appointed, then one of the representatives of the employees on that Board shall likewise be an officer of the trade union concerned.

The Act of 1934 empowers a Board to determine that the wages rates and piecework prices fixed in any determination made by it shall be automatically adjusted, at prescribed periods, to accord as nearly as practicable with the variation in the cost of living, as indicated by such retail price index-numbers published by the Commonwealth Statistician as the Board considers appropriate. This Act, as amended by the *Factories and Shops Act 1936*, also provides that where, under any Commonwealth Act, the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration or a Conciliation Commissioner makes or has made an award with respect to employers and employees in any industry, the Wages Board for every trade concerned, as soon as may be, shall incorporate in any of its determinations those provisions of such award which the Board is, under the *Factories and Shops Acts*, empowered to include.

The *Factories and Shops Act 1936* gives Wages Boards the same powers relating to wages and conditions of labour as those incorporated in the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. These powers enable Wages Boards to make determinations that are not inconsistent with awards of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court. Any Wages Board has now the power to determine any industrial matter whatsoever in relation to any trade or branch of trade for which such board has been appointed and, in particular, to determine all matters relating to—

- (a) work and days and hours of work ;
- (b) pay, wages and reward ;
- (c) privileges, rights and duties of employers and employees ;
- (d) the mode, terms and conditions of employment or non-employment ;
- (e) the relations of employers and employees ;
- (f) the employment or non-employment of persons of any sex or age ;

- (g) the demarcation of functions of any employees or class of employees; and
 (h) all questions of what is fair and right in relation to any industrial matter having regard to the interests of the persons immediately concerned and of society as a whole.

The Act also empowered the Governor in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Labour, to appoint a Wages Board known as the "General Board" to determine the wages, &c., of persons in any trade specified by the Governor in Council in which no Wages Board Determination was operative. This provision had for its object the protection of persons engaged in industries which previously were unregulated by any Determination. Forty-two separate trades have been so specified.

Wages Boards are not empowered to determine any matter relating to the preferential employment or dismissal of persons as being or as not being members of any organization, association, or body.

Enforcement of determinations. A statement of the procedure with regard to the application and enforcement of determinations of Wages Boards was published in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29 on page 395.

New Boards and Alterations of Powers. One new Wages Board was appointed during 1945 to deal with workers not previously subject to control. One other Board was set up to replace a Board already existing. Alteration was made also to the powers of one Board.

New Board.—The Canteen Workers' Board, consisting of six members and a Chairman and having jurisdiction throughout the State was appointed to determine the lowest prices or rates which may be paid to any person or persons or classes of persons (other than persons subject to the jurisdiction of any Wages Board heretofore appointed) engaged in or in connexion with the supply of goods, food, drink, or meals to workers in manufacturing, trading, or commercial undertakings.

Replaced Board.—A new Shops Board No. 10 (Fish and Poultry) was appointed in lieu of a Board of the same name and powers. The area covered by the Determination of the new Board, however, is the whole of the State instead of the more restricted area to which the Determination of the superseded Board applied.

Altered Powers.—Saltworkers Board:—The original powers of this Board as to the processing of salt have been amplified and power has been added also to deal with the extraction of products (other than salt) from sea water or from natural brines and bitterns and the treating of such products.

Fixation of weekly hours by Boards. Wages Boards, when fixing weekly wages, also determine, almost invariably, the maximum number of hours for which such weekly wages shall be payable and provide overtime rates for time worked in excess of the number of hours fixed. The Commercial Travellers Board and the Entertainment Employees (Performers) Board, however, have departed from this practice and have not fixed any weekly hours.

During the year 1945 determinations were in force in respect of 186 Boards, in 168 of which a uniform set of hours for all employees was prescribed. In 17 determinations, however, varying sets of hours according to the class of work or to the sex of the worker were fixed by the Boards. The particulars are summarized in the following table:—

VICTORIA—WAGES BOARDS—DETERMINATIONS OF HOURS.

Boards which Determined Fixed Hours for all Employees.			Boards which Determined Differential Hours for Employees.		
Number of Boards.		Weekly Hours Adopted.	Number of Boards.		Weekly Hours Adopted.
4	.. ..	Less than 44	5	.. ..	44 and less than 44
138	.. ..	44	1	.. ..	46 and 44
11	.. ..	46	1	.. ..	47 „ 44
1	.. ..	47	1	.. ..	47 „ 46
14	.. ..	48	5	.. ..	48 „ 44
			2	.. ..	48 „ 47
			1	.. ..	49 „ 46
			1	.. ..	46, 48, and 50

On 31st December, 1945, there were 195 Wages Boards existent or authorized, affecting about 287,000 employees.

THE BASIC WAGE.

Basic Wage—Melbourne. The first basic wage, as such, was declared in 1907 by Mr. Justice Higgins, President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration. The rate of wage declared was 7s. per day or £2 2s. per week for Melbourne, and by virtue of the fact that it had been determined in connexion with H. V. McKay's Sunshine Harvester Works it became popularly known as the "Harvester Wage."

In 1913 the Court took cognizance of the Retail Price Index-Numbers compiled by the Commonwealth Statistician covering food, groceries, and the rent of all houses ("A" series), and thereafter the basic wage was adjusted in accordance with variations disclosed by that index.

An amount known as the "Powers three shillings" was added in 1922 to the weekly rate of wage for the purpose of securing to the worker, during a period of rising prices, the full equivalent of the "Harvester" standard. The system of making regular quarterly adjustments of the basic wage was also instituted in that year.

In 1931, in view of the depressed financial conditions prevailing, the Court reduced all wages under its jurisdiction by 10 per cent.

In consequence of continued applications from organizations of employees for the cancellation of the order providing for the 10 per cent. reduction, the Court, in its judgement of 5th May, 1933, transferred the basis of fixation and adjustment of wages to a new set of Index Numbers—Harvester—All Items Index ("D" Series). This award was made applicable only to workers who had suffered the full 10 per cent. reduction.

The judgement of the Arbitration Court relative to the Basic Wage Inquiry of 1934 ordered a vital change in the method of calculating the basic wage. The "Harvester" standard supplemented by the "Powers three shillings" was superseded by the "All Items" Index Numbers ("C" Series) as the measure for assessment and adjustment of the basic wage and the 10 per cent. reduction of wages—mentioned above—was removed.

As a result of the Basic Wage Inquiry of 1937, the Arbitration Court prepared and issued its own series of retail price index numbers. This is based upon and corresponds with the Commonwealth Statistician's "All Items" series, but it is specially numbered for convenience in the adjustment of the basic wage. Provision was also made for the addition of a "fixed loading" of six shillings to the existing wage, payable in two instalments.

Applications by organizations of employees for an increase in the basic wage prescribed by awards of the Arbitration Court were considered at the Basic Wage Inquiry of 1940-41. The Court was of the opinion that the application should not be dismissed but should stand over for further consideration.

Pending the hearing and final determination of the claims which have already been lodged and of such claims as may in the near future be lodged by unions in respect of their several awards for a full review of the basic wage, the Arbitration Court, in its Basic Wage (Interim) Inquiry of 13th December, 1946, decided, that by way of interim award or interim order for variation as may be appropriate in each case, there shall be an immediate increase of 7s. per week in the present "needs" portion (93s.) of the Court's basic wage for the Weighted Average index number of the Six Capital Cities for the September quarter 1946.

The increase was obtained by the equation of a "Court" series index number of 87.0 to be the base index number of the series, thus making the weekly wage of the base of the index 87s., in place of the present "needs" base of 81s. per week. The increased wage was payable as from 1st December, 1946.

Basic weekly rates of wage and the date on which they became payable are shown hereunder for the years 1929-1946:—

MELBOURNE—BASIC WEEKLY WAGE.

Year—	Basic Weekly Wage Payable in Melbourne on—			
	1st February.	1st May.	1st August.	1st November.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1929	4 6 0	4 9 6	4 10 0	4 10 0
1930	4 10 0	4 6 0	4 5 6	4 3 0
1931	3 10 2*	3 8 5	3 5 8	3 3 5
1932	3 3 5	3 3 11	3 3 0	3 1 8
1933	3 0 4	3 3 4†	3 2 5	3 2 10
1934	3 3 4	..	..	..
	1st March.	1st June.	1st September.	1st December.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1934 .. ..	..	3 4 0‡	3 4 0	3 4 0
1935	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 6 0
1936	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 9 0
1937	3 9 0	3 9 0	3 13 0§	3 17 0
1938	3 17 0	3 17 0	3 18 0	3 19 0
1939	3 19 0	4 1 0	4 1 0	4 0 0
	1st February.	1st May.	1st August.	1st November
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1940	4 1 0	4 2 0	4 4 0	4 4 0
1941	4 6 0	4 7 0	4 7 0	4 8 0
1942	4 9 0	4 12 0	4 14 0	4 17 0
1943	4 18 0	4 18 0	4 19 0	4 18 0
1944	4 17 0	4 17 0	4 18 0	4 18 0
1945	4 18 0	4 18 0	4 18 0	4 18 0
1946	4 18 0	4 18 0	4 19 0	4 19 0
1st December, 1946				5 6 0||

* 10 per cent. reduction became operative and continued to operate until 31st May, 1934.

† "D" Series Index Numbers—Commonwealth Arbitration Court's Award of 5th May, 1933 (less 10 per cent. reduction)—operative until 31st May, 1934.

‡ "C" Series Index Numbers—Commonwealth Arbitration Court's Award of 17th April, 1934—operative until 31st August, 1937.

§ Commonwealth Arbitration Court Series Index Numbers.—Award of 23rd June, 1937 (operative from 1st September onwards). The Court ordered a "fixed loading" addition of six shillings to the existing wage—three shillings to be added as from the commencement of the first pay period in July, 1937, and October, 1937, respectively.

|| Increased as a result of the Arbitration Court's Basic Wage (Interim) Inquiry of 13th December, 1946.

**Basic Wage—
Outside
Metropolitan
Area.**

Prior to 1934, the basic wage for Victoria differed only slightly from that for Melbourne. In its judgment in that year, the Court made special reference to the basic wage payable in industries outside the metropolitan area, and it ruled that, except in certain specified districts where the cost of living appeared to be correctly indicated by the local "All Items" Index Numbers, or where known circumstances indicated that the general rule should not apply, the basic wage for provincial places should be a constant three shillings per week less than that for the metropolitan district in the same State. Special provision was made also for assessing or adjusting the wage in certain places.

RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS.

**Retail Price
Index-
Numbers—
"C" Series.**

The "C" Series (all items) of retail price index-numbers for Melbourne is prepared by the Commonwealth Statistician. This series comprises the costs of food, groceries, rent of four and five-roomed houses, clothing, and miscellaneous expenditure, and is applied to the majority of awards of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in accordance with its judgment of 17th April, 1934. It was superseded by an index number of the Court's own construction as described in the Report of the "Basic Wage Inquiry, 1937" (see page 230). The weighted average for the six Capital Cities during the five-yearly period, 1923-27, expressed as 1,000, is the basis of comparison in the following table:—

MELBOURNE—RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS, "C" SERIES, "ALL ITEMS," 1914-1946.

Period.	Retail Price Index-Numbers Household Expenditure, "All Items."	Year.	Retail Price Index-Numbers Household Expenditure, "All Items."
November, 1914 ..	671	1937	868
November, 1921 ..	1003	1938	896
Years 1923-1927 ..	990	1939	924
1929 ..	1017	1940	964
1930 ..	956	1941	1008
1931 ..	846	1942	1100
1932 ..	813	1943	1139
1933 ..	789	1944	1135
1934 ..	801	1945	1135
1935 ..	824	1946	1149
1936 ..	844		

APPRENTICESHIP COMMISSION.

Under the *Apprenticeship Act* 1928 (No. 3636), which was proclaimed on 8th May, 1928, an Apprenticeship Commission was appointed to administer the Act and to supervise apprenticeship in trades proclaimed as apprenticeship trades thereunder. The provisions of the Acts apply only within the Metropolitan District as proclaimed under such Acts.

The proclaimed apprenticeship trades, and the number of probationers and apprentices employed under the Act on 30th June in each of the years 1942 to 1946 are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—PROCLAIMED APPRENTICESHIP TRADES
1942 TO 1946.

Trade.	Number of Probationers and Apprentices Employed under Act on 30th June—				
	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
Plumbing and Gasfitting ..	565	646	668	816	927
Carpentry and Joinery ..	429	492	599	823	1,013
Painting, Decorating, and Sign-writing	111	117	134	186	241
Plastering	39	34	35	39	42
Printing	819	987	1,035	1,181	1,322
Electrical	741	910	988	1,055	1,189
Motor Mechanics	459	460	521	628	712
Bootmaking	589	601	620	652	696
Moulding	286	289	285	265	215
Engineering	2,774	3,279	3,395	3,225	2,908
Fibrous Plastering	145	142	133	140	160
Boilermaking and/or Steel Construction	221	242	226	248	200
Sheet Metal	132	156	171	185	184
Bread Making and Baking ..	98	136	142	145	154
Pastrycooking	47	61	68	89	104
Butchering and/or Small Goods Making	212	270	316	453	506
Cooking	1	3	5	4	8
Hairdressing	55	232	444	685	860
Total	7,723	9,057	9,785	10,819	11,441*

* These figures include 1,200 apprentices who enlisted for the duration of the war in the A.I.F., R.A.N.R., R.A.A.F., or A.M.F., whose indentures were suspended but who were still under the jurisdiction of the Commission.

Since the inception of the Commission, 7,081 apprentices have completed their term of apprenticeship.

GOVERNMENT LABOUR EXCHANGE.

Following on war-time control of manpower the work of the State Government Labour Exchange was taken over in March, 1942, by the Department of Labour and National Service.

A statement showing the work carried on by the Labour Exchange until it ceased to function, is published in the *Year-Book* for 1940-41, pages 280-282.

Sustenance. Every male person who receives sustenance is required on demand, and in return for such sustenance, to perform work of such class as is prescribed on the recommendation of the Employment Council of Victoria for the municipality within whose municipal district sustenance is received.

War-time conditions and the consequent absorption of the able-bodied into essential work or the Services caused a virtual disappearance of unemployment and a consequent reduction in the amount spent on relief and sustenance works. At June, 1946, sustenance was confined to benevolent cases, and to those who, on account of age, infirmity, or other disability, could not find suitable employment. Other unemployed obtained benefit under the Commonwealth Unemployment and Sickness Benefit scheme, which commenced operation on the 1st July, 1945, see page 459.

PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC.

Information relating to receipts, expenditure, accommodation and inmates of public hospitals and charitable institutions in Victoria during the year ended 30th June, 1945, is contained in the following tables. The numbers, in respect of indoor and outdoor patients, refer to the "cases" treated and not to persons. It is considered probable that some persons obtained relief or became inmates at more than one establishment, but there is no information upon which an estimate of the number of these duplications can be based.

Statistical information relating to public hospitals (including the intermediate and private sections thereof) and charitable institutions is obtained from the annual report of the Charities Board of Victoria. Institutions directly controlled by Governmental or semi-Governmental authorities, such as Sanatoria (Greenvale, Gresswell, Heatherton)

and the Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital, furnish separate information. Statistics of mental hospitals are supplied by the Department of Mental Hygiene.

A summary of the particulars in respect of public hospitals and charitable institutions is given in the following table. A detailed statement of the Receipts and Expenditure of institutions appearing under the heading of "Hospitals" below will be found on pages 424 and 425 of this issue:—

VICTORIA—PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC.—RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1945.

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Receipts.					Expenditure (inc. cost of Out-patients).
		From Government.	Contributions from—		Other.†	Total Receipts.	
			In-patients or Inmates.	Out-patients.			
		£	£	£	£	£	£
HOSPITALS.							
Special†	8	270,000	88,569	46,252	232,156	636,977	545,315
General Hospitals—							
Metropolitan ..	6	367,180	94,397	58,501	808,539	1,328,617	725,845
Provincial ..	50	346,635	111,716	16,818	486,750	961,919	800,823
Auxiliary Hospitals ..	2	28,687	21,919	..	16,793	67,399	57,321
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital ..	1	50,513	..	..	53,607	104,120	103,611
Convalescent Hospitals ..	2	930	1,498	..	3,685	6,113	4,561
Sanatoria	3	65,092	..	..	..	65,092	65,092
Mental Hospitals ..	9	536,971	97,196	..	11,269	645,436	645,436
Total	81	1,666,008	415,295	121,571	1,612,799	3,815,673	2,948,004
OTHER INSTITUTIONS AND SOCIETIES.							
Infants' Homes ..	5	6,707	4,138	..	22,756	33,601	36,259
Children's Homes ..	28	83,142	25,096	..	129,544	237,782	200,647
Maternity Homes ..	4	2,597	6,879	..	5,894	15,370	14,869
Rescue Homes ..	6	6,209	4,839	..	54,964	66,012	59,212
Benevolent Homes ..	9	87,191	84,835	..	92,947	264,973	205,406
Deaf, Dumb and Blind Institutions ..	2	2,563	1,506	..	81,006	85,075	64,535
Benevolent Societies ..	78*	3,265	..	..	16,626	19,891	14,145
Miscellaneous ..	537*	61,966	..	2,410	581,302	645,678	558,755
Total	669	253,640	127,293	2,410	985,039	1,368,382	1,153,828
Grand Total ..	750	1,919,648	542,588	123,981	2,597,838	5,184,055	4,101,832

* Inclusive of branches.

† Special Hospitals are those that have accommodation for specific cases only or for women and/or children exclusively. They comprise:—The Austin (for Cancer and Chronic diseases), Children's, Eye and Ear, Dental, Queen Victoria, Women's, Caritas Christi Hospice (for the Dying), and the Talbot Colony for Epileptics.

‡ Includes receipts from the Intermediate and private sections of Public Hospitals.

NOTE.—Information relating to the Children's Welfare Department and the Gaols and Penal establishments will be found on pages 437 and 316 respectively of the *Year-Book*.

**VICTORIA—RECEIPTS OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS AND
SANATORIA DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH
JUNE, 1945.**

Institution.	Receipts.						Total Receipts.
	Maintenance Receipts.				Capital Receipts.		
	Government.	Contributions from In-patients and Out-patients.	Intermediate and Private Patients Section.	Other.	Government.	Other.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
METROPOLITAN.							
Special Hospitals—							
Austin	60,789	8,084	18,479	26,379	7,390	15,149	136,270
Caritas Christi	900	4,294	..	4,704	20,000	3,825	33,723
Children's	39,483	26,373	..	55,856	11,510	11,390	144,612
Dental	5,908	17,380	..	1,526	15,187	2,685	42,686
Queen Victoria	26,973	29,316	21,373	14,530	7,450	222	99,864
Talbot Colony	2,186	4,617	..	5,112	420	..	12,335
Eye and Ear	14,991	16,261	..	11,227	16,200	3,635	62,314
Women's	30,833	28,496	..	33,913	9,780	2,151	105,173
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases	50,513	..	..	53,607	..	..	104,120
General Hospitals—							
Royal Melbourne	92,590	47,234	76	46,154	8,900	570,152	765,106
Alfred	73,358	45,000	28,044	44,112	12,750	2,827	206,091
Prince Henry's	39,887	24,337	..	19,746	3,370	9,507	96,847
St. Vincent's	52,649	31,025	9,674	28,967	24,730	4,183	151,228
Williamstown	3,852	4,113	4,665	3,901	3,800	..	20,331
Dandenong	2,288	1,189	6,267	3,074	4,006	226	17,050
Box Hill† .. ..	..	..	..	..	15,000	10,826	25,826
Brighton† .. ..	..	..	..	..	5,000	3,074	8,074
Preston and Northcote† .. ..	..	..	..	..	15,000	8,430	23,430
Mordialloc† .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,418	1,418
Sandringham† .. ..	..	..	..	..	10,000	3,216	13,216
Auxiliary Hospitals—							
After Care	10,106	9,925	..	10,466	5,300	..	35,797
Caulfield Convalescent	13,281	11,994	..	6,327	..	..	31,602
PROVINCIAL.							
Base Hospitals (10)	116,804	75,709	118,087	111,859	52,612	11,685	486,756
General Hospitals (40)	90,556	52,825	122,615	77,374	86,663	45,130	475,163
Total	727,947	438,172	329,280	558,834	335,068	709,731	3,099,032
Convalescent Hospitals	930	1,498	..	3,685	..	..	6,113
Sanatoria (Tuberculosis)	65,092	..	..	..	..	..	65,092
Mental Hospitals	536,971	97,196	..	11,269	..	..	645,436
Grand Total	1,330,940	536,866	329,280	573,788	335,068	709,731	3,815,673

† Grants and contributions during 1944-45 towards the establishment of hospitals in these localities.

VICTORIA—EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS AND
SANATORIA DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE,
1945.

Institution.	Expenditure.						
	In-patients, Expenditure on—			Out-patients, Total Aggregate Cost.	Total Cost of all patients.	Capital Expenditure.	Total Expenditure.
	Salaries and Wages.	Other Inc. Extraordinary Exp.	Total.				
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
METROPOLITAN.							
Special Hospitals—							
Austin	67,432	53,368	120,800	..	120,800	7,278	128,078
Caritas Christi ..	4,980	5,211	10,191	..	10,191	..	10,191
Children's	51,470	39,959	91,429	27,890	119,319	6,903	126,222
Dental* .. ..	..	..	..	21,786*	21,786	837	22,623
Queen Victoria ..	50,546	32,081	82,627	13,593	96,220	2,206	98,426
Talbot Colony ..	5,429	5,129	10,558	..	10,558	..	10,558
Eye and Ear	18,964	11,081	30,045	10,999	41,044	2	41,046
Women's	51,414	43,455	94,869	11,505	106,374	1,797	108,171
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases	67,652	35,959	103,611	..	103,611	..	103,611
General Hospitals—							
Royal Melbourne ..	107,676	63,801	171,477	52,933	224,410	66,350	290,760
Alfred	82,978	71,229	154,207	33,526	187,733	..	187,733
Prince Henry's ..	30,981	30,323	61,304	17,855	79,159	647	79,806
St. Vincent's ..	51,912	46,245	98,157	27,172	125,329	..	125,329
Williamstown ..	6,669	7,588	14,257	792	15,049	..	15,049
Dandenong	5,878	5,844	11,722	126	11,848	1,804	13,652
Box Hill .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	4,000	4,000
Brighton .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Preston and Northcote .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	9,516	9,516
Mordialloc .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sandringham .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Auxiliary Hospitals—							
After Care	9,902	6,428	16,330	9,924	26,254	..	26,254
Caulfield Convalescent	16,917	14,150	31,067	..	31,067	..	31,067
PROVINCIAL.							
Base Hospitals (10)	217,809	186,706	404,515	19,255	423,770	12,774	436,544
General Hospitals (40)	179,054	154,917	333,971	1,766	335,737	28,542	364,279
Total	1,027,663	813,474	1,841,137	249,122	2,090,259	142,656	2,232,915
Convalescent Hospitals	2,410	2,151	4,561	..	4,561	..	4,561
Sanatoria (Tuberculosis)	34,866	30,226	65,092	..	65,092	..	65,092
Mental Hospitals ..	329,625	267,222	596,847	..	596,847	48,589	645,436
Grand Total	1,394,564	1,113,073	2,507,637	249,122	2,756,759	191,245	2,948,004

* The dental hospital caters for out-patients only. The total aggregate cost shown includes salaries, £14,503; other, £7,283.

The receipts of hospitals, and charitable institutions (excluding reformatory, gaols and penal establishments) in the State under various headings for the year ended 30th June, 1945, are shown hereunder:—

VICTORIA—SOURCES OF INCOME OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC., 1944-45.

Receipts.	Hospitals.							Total.
	Public.	Convalescent Mental and Sanatoria.	Infants' Homes.	Children's Homes.	Maternity and Rescue Homes.	Benevolent Homes.	Other Institutions.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Government Aid ..	1,063,015	602,993	6,707	83,142	8,806	87,191	67,794	1,919,648
Child Endowment ..	..	..	4,823	34,753	1,948	..	..	41,524
Municipal Grants and Contributions ..	95,603	195	283	727	110	1,070	50,292	148,280
Donations	161,012	475	5,808	33,752	2,381	5,805	66,771	276,004
Proceeds of Entertainments ..	93,754	1,601	2,524	7,464	302	3,465	21,957	131,067
Legacies and Bequests ..	197,307	715	2,827	25,466	1,822	65,724	25,165	319,026
Hospital Sunday and Church Donations ..	62,260	374	1,508	2,715	1,143	5,861	1,638	75,499
Contributions of In-patients or Inmates ..	316,601	98,694	4,138	25,096	11,718	84,835	1,506	542,588
Contributions from Out-patients	121,571	..	..	..	..	..	2,410	123,981
Proceeds of Inmates' Labour .. ..	..	..	..	6,257	49,132	..	10,455	65,844
Income from Investments	44,481	161	4,019	6,298	736	5,701	5,198	66,594
Fees from Intermediate patients	329,280	..	..	..	..	..	..	329,280
Other Sources	614,148*	11,433	964	12,112	3,284	5,321	497,458	1,144,720
Total	3,999,032	716,641	33,601	237,782	81,382	264,973	750,644	5,184,055

* Includes £549,000 received as purchase price of old Royal Melbourne Hospital premises.
NOTE.—Excludes Children's Welfare Department and Gaols and Pena Establishments.

Information relating to the receipts and expenditure of charitable institutions (excluding reformatory, gaols and penal establishments) during each year of the period of five years ended on 30th June, 1945, is given in the following table. years ended on 30th June, 1945, is given in the following table. For the year 1944-45, Government aid was equivalent to 37·84 per cent. of the total receipts; municipal grants and payments to 2·86

Charitable Institutions—receipts and expenditure.

per cent.; contributions of in-patients, inmates, and out-patients to 12·86 per cent.; donations to 5·32 per cent.; legacies and bequests to 6·15 per cent.; and receipts from all other sources to 34·97 per cent.

VICTORIA—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC., 1940-41 TO 1944-45.

Heading.	Year ended 30th June—				
	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
<i>Receipts.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Government Aid	1,360,743	1,360,713	1,561,827	2,135,836	1,919,648
Child Endowment* .. ..	..	28,200	42,735	40,081	41,524
Municipal Grants and Contributions	99,525	126,421	134,378	150,438	148,280
Patients' and Inmates' Contributions	502,027	540,208	604,968	649,732	666,569
Donations (Annual, Other)	247,156	289,568	217,519	249,243	276,004
Legacies and Bequests	607,683	638,729	286,481	240,581	319,026
Entertainments, &c.	63,295	58,209	89,393	109,237	131,067
Lord Mayor's Fund, Hospital Sunday and Church Donations	29,089	37,618	57,001	73,561	75,499
Income from Investments	65,063	51,642	63,023	63,275	66,594
Proceeds of Inmates' Labour	79,253	86,678	76,927	48,618	65,844
Loan Receipts	95,749	76,750	60,834	..	..
Other Sources	292,641	376,341	485,147	576,215	1,144,720†
Intermediate and Private Section of Public Hospitals	118,376	131,251	244,288	293,095	329,280
Total Receipts	3,560,600	3,802,328	3,924,521	4,629,912	5,184,055
<i>Expenditure.</i>					
Maintenance (In-patients or In- mates)	2,427,946	2,557,993	3,022,439	3,314,304	3,530,560
Out-patients (Public Hospitals)	168,283	172,895	205,540	224,605	263,764
Extraordinary	42,141	74,926	81,757	55,012	83,014
Building	702,814	605,219	285,886	196,853	224,494
Total Expenditure	3,341,184	3,411,033	3,595,622	3,790,774	4,101,832

* Payments under Commonwealth *Child Endowment Act* 1941 commenced 1st July, 1941.

† Includes £549,000 received as purchase price of old Royal Melbourne Hospital premises.

NOTE.—Children's Welfare Department is excluded from above table.

Accommodation and Inmates.

The next table shows the normal bed provision and the actual number of inmates maintained in the named institutions during the year ended 30th June, 1945:—

VICTORIA—PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC., ACCOMMODATION AND INMATES, 1944-45.

Institution.	Number of Beds in—		Daily Average of occupied Beds in Public Section.	Total Treated in—		Out-patients (including Casualties) Persons Treated.	
	Public Section.	Intermediate and Private Section.		Public Section.	Intermediate and Private Section.		
	No.	No.		No.	No.	No.	
Special Hospitals—							
Austin ..	461	72	301·5	880	1,654	..	
Caritas Christi Hospice ..	48	..	46·1	185	..	..
Children's ..	448	..	338·7	6,793	..	15,330	
Dental ..	..	..	..	..	..	21,562
Queen Victoria ..	164	81	171·7	4,645	1,766	11,701	
Talbot Colony for Epileptics ..	138	..	97·1	131	..	..
Eye and Ear ..	125	..	82·4	5,459	..	40,317	
Women's ..	314	..	238·3	8,510	..	8,764	
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases ..	720	..	346·0	5,086	..	..
General Hospitals—							
Royal Melbourne ..	474	6	361·9	7,508	10	40,540	
Alfred ..	405	91	339·1	6,545	2,129	40,130	
Prince Henry's ..	214	..	196·6	4,270	..	17,675	
St. Vincent's ..	292	22	262·2	4,302	636	34,789	
Central (a) ..	38	22	25·5	618	533	1,179	
Williamstown ..	12	22	10·6	223	687	264	
Dandenong ..	12	..	305·6	6,809	..	4,239	
Auxiliary Hospitals ..	340	..	1,781·2	33,089	26,844	35,264	
Provincial Hospitals ..	2,944	1,162	43·9	833	..	..
Convalescent Hospitals ..	65	..	349·9	714	..	..
Sanatoria ..	412	..	..	..	..	..
Mental Hospitals and Receiving Houses ..	6,710	..	6,280 0	8,367*	..	..
Total Hospitals ..	14,324	1,478	..	104,967	34,259	271,754	
			Number of Beds.		Admitted during Year.		
			For Children.	For Adults.	Daily Average.	Children.	Adults.
			No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Infants Homes ..	488	85	420·6	847	145
Children's Homes ..	3,052	..	2,678·7	4,297	849
Maternity Homes ..	159	181	240·0	870
Rescue Homes	677†	5,557·5	..	776†
Benevolent Homes	2,578	2,252·6	3,845
Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Institutions	188†	156·5	..	197†

(a) Not in operation 1944-45.

* Represents total cases under care during year ended 31st December, 1945.

† Details not available.

HOSPITALS AND CHARITIES ACT 1928.

An Act to consolidate the law relating to the management of Hospitals and Charities in the State of Victoria was passed in the year 1928 and proclaimed on 18th December, 1929; important amendments were passed in 1936, 1939, and 1945.

The Charities Board of Victoria, which was constituted under the *Hospitals and Charities Act 1922*, commenced to function in 1923. A summary of the constitution and principal duties of the Charities Board was published in the *Year-Book* for 1939-40, page 263.

The Hospitals and Charities Fund is established at the Treasury and into it are paid:—

- (1) Monies appropriated by Parliament (now fixed under the *Hospitals and Charities (Fund) Act 1939* at £440,000).
- (2) Special Appropriations by Parliament.
- (3) Seven per cent. of the money invested in the Totalizator in respect of each race or division of a race where the races are held on courses within the radius of 20 miles of Melbourne and $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in respect of races held on courses situated elsewhere in Victoria. (*Totalizator Act 1930* as amended by the *Totalizator Acts 1934* and 1945.)

Since the date of the operation of the 1930 Act the sum of £3,113,540 has been paid. The total amount available for distribution from the Hospitals and Charities Fund (including Totalizator Receipts) for the year ended 30th June, 1946, was £1,212,328. Grants to institutions from all Government funds for building purposes during the same period amounted to £742,278.

In making recommendations to the Minister as to what sums of money from Hospitals and Charities Fund should be paid to each subsidized institution or benevolent society in any financial year, the following matters are taken into consideration:—

- (a) The financial position of such institution or benevolent society and the amount likely to be contributed to it during the financial year other than that from the Fund.
- (b) The probable net receipts and expenditure for the financial year.
- (c) The actual number of persons relieved during the preceding financial year.
- (d) The average number of beds (if any) occupied during the preceding financial year and the average cost per bed.
- (e) The average length of stay of each in-patient during the preceding financial year.

- (f) The general conditions and management.
- (g) Any exceptional circumstances with regard to the geographical position.
- (h) Such other matters as are prescribed or as the Board thinks fit.

**Hospital
Decentraliza-
tion.**

The Charities Board has defined and recommended a policy which, in the metropolitan area, proposes the establishment of large hospitals in the suburbs and, in country districts, wherever concentrations of population or other circumstances indicate such hospitals are necessary. In many centres, committees have already been set up for these purposes.

HOSPITAL BENEFITS SCHEME.

**Public
Hospitals.**

The genesis of the Hospital Benefits Scheme and the main heads of agreement between the Commonwealth and the States Governments as embodied in the Commonwealth *Hospital Benefits Act* 1945 (No. 47 of 1945) and (so far as Victoria is concerned) the *Victorian Hospitals Benefits Act* (No. 5101) are set out in pages 481 and 482 of the *Victorian Year-Book* 1943-44.

Up to the 30th June, 1946 (half year) total payments by the Commonwealth to the State amounted to £398,687 of which £309,027 was on account of public wards. Of this amount £205,630 was paid to public hospitals and the balance £103,397 into a Trust Fund. No payments can be made from this Trust Fund except for the purpose of capital expenditure on public hospitals as approved by the Commonwealth.

**Private
Hospitals.**

The agreement above-mentioned related wholly to public hospitals but the Commonwealth Act (Section 4) also provided that "the regulations may make provision for and in relation to payments by the Commonwealth of hospital benefits, at such rates and subject to such conditions as are prescribed, in respect of patients in private hospitals as defined by the regulations".

Such regulations, which are administered in Victoria by the State Department of Health, provide for hospital benefit at the rate of 6s. per day to be allowed as a deduction from the hospital accounts of qualified patients in approved hospitals.

A qualified patient is one receiving hospital treatment in an approved hospital. Such treatment must be under the supervision of a doctor and may be for medical, surgical, or obstetric cases.

An approved hospital is one which has been approved under the Regulations. Most private hospitals which cater for medical, surgical, or obstetric cases are approved but a number of hospitals

which take only chronic patients requiring little or no medical attention are excluded. Private mental homes or rest homes are also excluded.

Benefit is not payable in respect of any patient for any period exceeding eight weeks, unless the claim is accompanied by a medical certificate stating nature of illness and the reason for further hospital treatment. This certificate must be approved by the Department of Health.

Patients whose fees are payable under any law of the Commonwealth or of a State do not receive hospital benefit. Examples of this class would be Workers' Compensation, Repatriation or Motor Car Accident cases.

Except in special cases, all benefits are allowed to the patient at the hospital. A form has to be completed and signed by the patient setting out the full hospital charges and the benefit allowed. The hospitals in turn are reimbursed monthly by the Department of Health the amount of benefit.

An important provision in the Regulations is the control of fees and charges by the hospitals. Approval had to be obtained for fees existing at 1st September, 1945, and all subsequent applications for increases or variations have to be submitted for approval to the Prices Branch before confirmation under the Hospital Benefit Regulations.

Payments made to private hospitals under the scheme for the period 18th February, 1946, to the 30th June, 1946, amounted to £91,664.

GENERAL HOSPITALS.

The principal general hospitals in the State are the Royal Melbourne, the Alfred, St. Vincent's, and Prince Henry's Hospitals. Descriptive details of the Alfred, St. Vincent's, and Prince Henry's Hospitals will be found on pages 277-279 of the *Year-Book* 1942-43 and of the Royal Melbourne Hospital on page 482 of the *Year-Book* 1943-44. Statistical information for the year ended 30th June, 1945, is contained in a table on pages 424, 425, and 428 of this issue.

Central Hospital. This hospital ceased to function as a unit of the Health Department on 16th December, 1946.

On account of the shortage of midwifery beds, the Government decided to hand the hospital over to the Committee of Management of the Queen Victoria Hospital for use in lieu of its existing hospital. This arrangement increased the number of available beds for midwifery cases in the metropolitan area by 55.

The Queen Victoria Hospital will carry on all its usual functions, plus the increased midwifery section, at these premises.

Provision has been made for both the male and female venereal diseases clinics and the prophylactic centre to continue to operate in the hospital grounds. The ward set apart for fifteen female bed patients will not be put into operation.

In exchange for the Central Hospital, the Queen Victoria Hospital will be handed over to the Government. A Bill to ratify the transfer will be presented to Parliament at its next session.

The uses to which the buildings will be put have not yet been determined but it is proposed that the Jessie McPherson Wing and the out-patients section be set aside for the Radiotherapy Institute and that the Lady Forster Wing will be used to accommodate 40 cases of tuberculosis.

**Queen's
Victoria
Hospital.**

This institution dates from 1904 when the first patient was admitted. Its early history and later development is recorded in the *Year-Book* 1937-38, page 259.

The patients treated during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1946, numbered 3,717 (5,086), and the maximum number of occupied beds in any one day, 310 (473). Figures in parenthesis relate to the year ended 30th June, 1945.

For the same period receipts amounted to £122,584 (£104,120), and expenditure to £109,323 (£103,611).

The greatest number of patients in hospital on any one day was 745, during the epidemic of diphtheria in 1936.

The hospital is an approved training school for nurses in association with other major hospitals, and has a fully-equipped preliminary training school, through which all probationer nurses pass before taking up ward duty.

TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIA AND BUREAUX.

With the definite object of obtaining improved results in the prevention and cure of tuberculosis, a State Director of Tuberculosis was appointed in 1927. Since this appointment, a new feature in the control and cure of the disease has been the establishment of tuberculosis bureaux in the metropolis and in the provincial centres of the State. With the co-operation of the Bureaux, a larger proportion of cases in the early stages of the disease has been admitted to the Sanatoria.

The following table shows the accommodation of, the number of admissions to, discharges from, and deaths of males and females in Sanatoria during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1945:—

VICTORIA—TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIA—ACCOMMODATION, ETC., 1944-45.

Sanatorium.	Accommodation.		Admissions.		Discharges.		Deaths.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Greenvale ..	..	96	..	102	..	124	..	23
Austin ..	..	90	77	106	86	91	29	16
Heatherton ..	..	124	..	118	..	88	..	24
Royal Park—								
Dunstan Chalet	19	..	19	..	4	..	15	..
Eleanor Shaw Chalet ..	..	12	..	3	..	1	..	2
Gresswell ..	192	..	129	..	120	..	9	..
Bendigo Chalet ..	14	10	17	17	8	12	9	4
Ballarat Chalet ..	6	6	4	8	3	4	2	..
Total ..	321	298	246	354	221	320	64	69

If Miniature Radiography is applied to the civil population on an extensive scale it will involve considerable increase in existing sanatoria accommodation. A new sanatorium for males, with accommodation for 400 beds, will be required in the near future.

Following up the work of the Army authorities in submitting recruits to miniature radiography, six units have been established for the civilian population—at the Central Tuberculosis Bureaux, Prahran, South Melbourne, Williamstown, Newtown (Geelong), and Brunswick.

State sanatorium beds available in Victoria in 1927 numbered 413; at June, 1945, 619. In addition, 675 Commonwealth Repatriation beds and 25 private sanatorium beds were available. Plans are in hand to increase existing sanatorium accommodation, provision having been made for the erection of a new 144-bed block at Greenvale, and a 72-bed block at Heatherton.

Work is in progress for new Chalets of approximately 14 beds each at the Base Hospitals—Mildura, Hamilton, Horsham, and Wangaratta. It is intended to build Chalets at Geelong, Sale, Mooropna, and Warrnambool.

The branch bureaux at Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, and Prahran have done useful work. Work at the Central Tuberculosis Bureau has further increased during the year. Attendances at this Bureau were 21,550 in 1941-42, 22,434 in 1942-43, 24,225 in 1943-44, and 25,232 in 1944-45. In recent years doctors in private practice have sent to the Bureaux an increasing number of patients for examination and report. During the year ended 30th June, 1945, 8,000 domiciliary visits to tuberculosis patients were made by the ten nurses attached to the various Bureaux.

The following table illustrates some of the work at the Central and Branch Tuberculosis Bureaux during the year ended 30th June, 1945 :—

VICTORIA—TUBERCULOSIS BUREAUX ACTIVITIES, 1944-45.

Type of Service.	Metropolitan—				Country—	
	Central.		Prahran.		Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
New cases applying	2,401	2,955	109	173	252	219
Re-attendances	8,100	12,016	153	345	1,318	1,783
Cases passed for entry to Sanatoria and other Institutions..	53	361	8	21	45	33
Contacts—						
New—Examined	765	1,154	22	51	100	93
Old—Re-examined	701	1,035	12	35	329	498
Found Tuberculous	19	41	1	6	5	4
Infecting cases	367		30	29	101	104
Visits to Patients' Homes—						
By Nurses (Central Bureau)	2,357	3,302	116	211	..	..
By Nurses (Bendigo-Ballarat)	..	..	..	..	828	676
By Nurses (Geelong) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	218	292
X-ray Screen Examinations—						
Films	3,255	4,219	81	152	551	656
Screens	2,485	2,877	..	..	15	17
Pneumothorax Refills	763	846	16	25	177	211

The number of attendances of patients at the Central and Branch Bureaux during the period of twelve months ended 30th June in each of the eighteen years, 1927 to 1945, was as follows :—

VICTORIA—ATTENDANCES OF PATIENTS AT TUBERCULOSIS BUREAUX, 1927 TO 1945.

Year Ended 30th June—	Bureau.					Total.
	Central.	Prahran.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Ballarat.	
1927	596	..	..	..	..	596
1928	1,115	..	..	..	..	1,115
1929	3,309	..	..	..	..	3,309
1930	6,088	177	..	..	..	6,265
1931	8,212	316	512	..	..	9,040
1932	9,235	285	543	164	..	10,227
1933	9,527	370	838	944	..	11,679
1934	10,370	365	939	1,028	..	12,702
1935	10,836	474	1,204	926	439	13,879
1936	12,319	431	1,184	731	654	15,319
1937	13,765	501	1,064	959	735	17,024
1938	13,565	571	1,147	1,312	714	17,309
1939	15,581	748	904	1,576	759	19,568
1940	17,203	737	1,029	1,415	693	21,077
1941	17,478	418	1,431	1,332	626	21,285
1942	21,550	600	1,417	1,236	583	25,386
1943	22,434	622	1,454	1,474	665	26,649
1944	24,225	722	968	1,648	603	28,166
1945	25,232	588	950	1,874	694	29,338

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE.

The subjoined table sets forth the numbers under the care of the Department for the years 1944 and 1945:—

VICTORIA—PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE, 31st DECEMBER, 1944 AND 1945.

Location.	On 31st December—		Increase (+). Decrease (-).
	1944.	1945.	
In State Hospitals	6,238	6,307	+69
On Trial Leave from State Hospitals ..	703	677	-26
Boarded Out	301	278	-23
In licensed Private Mental Homes ..	39	40	+ 1
On Trial Leave from licensed Private Mental Homes	8	6	- 2
Total Number of Certified Insane ..	7,289	7,308	+19
In Receiving Institutions	111	114	+ 3
Total	7,400	7,422	+22
Voluntary Boarders	272	332	+60
Military mental cases, Bundoora (not included in other statistics)	103	109	+ 6

There was an increase in the year 1945 compared with 1944 in the number of certified patients in State Mental Hospitals. The number of certified insane in the State at the end of 1945 proportionately to the population, was 1 in 276. At 31st December, 1945, there were 245 military mental cases known to the Department and 332 voluntary boarders in various institutions.

The number of admissions to mental hospitals for each of the years 1941 to 1945 was as follows :—

VICTORIA—MENTAL HOSPITALS—ADMISSIONS, 1941 TO 1945.

Year.	First Admissions.			Re-admissions.			Total Admissions.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
1941	346	431	777	41	73	114	891
1942	393	383	776	32	34	66	842
1943	367	427	794	31	42	73	867
1944	370	411	781	38	60	98	879
1945	397	407	804	51	63	114	918

The number of discharges from, and the deaths in, Mental Hospitals of the Department for each of the years 1941 to 1945 are given below :—

VICTORIA—MENTAL HOSPITALS—DISCHARGES AND DEATHS, 1941 TO 1945.

Year.	Discharges.			Deaths.			Total of Discharges and Deaths.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
1941	174	195	389	216	218	434	823
1942	180	207	387	263	262	525	912
1943	156	158	314	266	288	554	868
1944	158	198	356	234	293	527	883
1945	172	199	371	222	304	526	897

CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

Wards of
Children's
Welfare
Department
and
Department for
Reformatory
Schools.

This Department is responsible for the supervision of (a) children committed as wards of the Children's Welfare Department pursuant to the provisions of the Children's Welfare Act, and (b) those committed as wards of the Department for Reformatory Schools under the provisions of Part II., Division 2, Crimes Act (Juvenile Offenders).

Wards of the
Children's
Welfare
Department.

In the main these represent children who have been committed through the Children's Courts under one or other of the several definitions of a "neglected child" (section 18), children committed to the Department on the application of relatives, &c., on the grounds that they are without means of support (section 24), and children who *ipso facto* become wards on default in payment by their parents under the Infant Life Protection provisions of the Act (section 103).

According to the circumstances existing at the time of committal, the children are boarded out for payment in private foster homes or with relatives, or are placed in institutions. Only one institution is governmentally controlled, viz., the Department's Receiving Depot at Royal Park, which is used as a clearing house. The remaining institutions are conducted by the various religious denominations or private charitable committees, and a capitation fee is paid for wards maintained therein.

With children in private foster homes or with relatives, boarding out payments do not continue beyond school leaving age (14 years). The children are then placed "on probation" i.e., without cost with their foster parents or relatives, or are placed in employment in service situations. Children in institutions are in due course either returned to their relatives or friends "on probation," transferred to private foster homes, or placed in service situations or other employment.

In the past there has been a dearth of hostels to which ex-institutional children, whose parents or relatives are unable to resume custody, could, on reaching school-leaving age, be transferred to follow the careers or employment for which they are best fitted. Recently the Government approved of a scheme under which substantial financial assistance towards establishment costs and annual maintenance

is made available to institutions prepared to extend their operations in this manner. Several hostels have already been established under the scheme.

The following table (revised) shows the number and location of wards of the Children's Welfare Department at the end of each of the five years, 1941-1945.

**VICTORIA—CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT—
LOCATION OF WARDS.**

Year.	Boarded Out in Foster Homes.	On Probation with Friends or Relatives.	With Employers on Service Conditions.	At Royal Park Depot.	In Other Institutions.	Total.
1941 ..	1,424	2,115	251	228	1,750	5,768
1942 ..	1,149	1,974	258	251	2,002	5,634
1943 ..	971	2,063	279	237	1,736	5,286
1944 ..	834	1,597	265	223	1,841	4,760
1945 ..	691	1,538	278	206	1,675	4,388

Boys committed as wards of the Department for Reformatory Schools are transferred for training as early as possible to the private reformatory school appropriate to their religion. They then come under the legal guardianship of the superintendent of the school who, in due course, may return them to their friends or relatives (who are required to enter into a good behaviour bond) or place them at service or in other employment. The following table shows the number and location of wards of the Department for Reformatory Schools at the end of each of the five years 1941-45 :—

**VICTORIA—DEPARTMENT OF REFORMATORY SCHOOLS—
LOCATION OF WARDS.**

Year.	At Royal Park Reformatory School.	In Other Reformatory Schools.	On Probation with Friends or Relatives.	With Employers on Service Conditions.	Total.
1941 ..	3	43	32	3	81
1942 ..	..	70	10	3	83
1943 ..	3	93	11	6	113
1944 ..	3	65	43	9	120
1945 ..	1	78	38	14	131

Part II. of the Children's Welfare Act (Infant Life Protection) provides that no person shall, for payment or reward, retain or receive into her care or charge in any home any infant under the age of five years for the purpose of nursing or maintaining such infant apart from its parents for more than three consecutive days, or for the purpose of adopting such infant, unless such person and such home are registered by the Department (section 95). Exemptions from the operation of this section in the case of a relative or for other special reasons may be granted by the Minister (section 107). Payments are to be made through the Secretary and in no other way (section 103). If payments fall into arrears for four weeks the child *ipso facto* becomes a ward of the Children's Welfare Department (section 103). The following is a statement of the operations of this part for the year ended 31st December, 1945.

	1945.
Children already placed at 1st January	212
Children placed during year	343
Total	555
Discharged from operations of Part II. during year—	
Custody resumed by parent	226
Made wards through arrears	59
Deaths	4
Attained five years of age	36
Adopted	27
Transferred to Kew Cottages .. .. .	..
Under supervision at 31st December	203
Total	555

Part III. of the *Maintenance Act* 1928 enables a mother whose child is without sufficient means of support, and who is unable to provide or to obtain by any available legal proceedings sufficient means of support for such child, to apply in the prescribed form to the Secretary of the Children's Welfare Department for assistance for or towards the maintenance thereof. "Child" means any person (whether born in lawful wedlock or not) under the maximum age provided under the Education Acts at which attendance at school ceases to be compulsory.

The number of children in respect of whom assistance under the Maintenance Act was being afforded at the 31st December, in the years 1942 to 1945, and the total amount of such assistance paid in each year, together with the average payments per child per week are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—MOTHERS RECEIVING ASSISTANCE UNDER
THE MAINTENANCE ACT, 1942-1945.

Year.	Number of Children Assisted.	Total Amount of Assistance Payments.	Average Payment per Child per Week.
		£	s. d.
1941	5,680	144,872	8 8
1942	4,313	130,144	8 10
1943	3,545	93,792	9 3
1944	3,138	82,717	9 7
1945	2,881	76,598	9 6

The financial operations of the Children's Welfare Department for the year ended 31st December, 1945, are shown hereunder:—

VICTORIA—CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT—
FINANCIAL OPERATIONS, YEAR ENDED 31st
DECEMBER, 1945.

EXPENDITURE.						£
Children's Welfare Department—						
Boarded-out children .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	69,450
Royal Park Depot .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	11,349
Department for Reformatory Schools	..	..	..	..	..	2,235
Maintenance Act—						
Children .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	76,598
Widows .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	42
General Maintenance Items—						
(Medical attention, School requisites, &c.)	..	..	..	..	..	2,973
Administration .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	39,810
Gross Expenditure						202,457
RECEIPTS.						
Maintenance Collections .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	15,885
Child Endowment .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	2,922
Miscellaneous Receipts .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	274
						19,081
Net Expenditure						183,376

The following statement shows the Net Expenditure of the Children's Welfare Department during the ten years 1936-1945:—

VICTORIA—CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT—NET EXPENDITURE 1936-1945.

Year.	Net Expenditure.	Year.	Net Expenditure.
	£		£
1936	262,792	1941	279,476
1937	272,788	1942	256,309
1938	297,011	1943	200,910
1939	310,048	1944	193,234
1940	302,424	1945	183,376

MATERNAL AND INFANT WELFARE AND BUSH NURSING.

Maternal and Infant Welfare. With the object of reducing the wastage of child life due to preventable causes, Infant Welfare Centres have been established throughout Victoria since 1917. They are maintained by various municipalities which are subsidized by the Government at a flat rate of £165 per annum. A full time Infant Welfare Sister is employed by each centre and, in certain cases, her services are made available to adjacent unsubsidized municipalities. In the following details the figures in parentheses relate to the year ended 30th June, 1945. On 30th June, 1946, there were 170 (163) municipalities maintaining 316 (296) centres. Of these municipalities, 35 (34) in the metropolitan area were supporting 106 (102) centres, and 106 (129) in the country were supporting 192 (194) centres. During the year ended 30th June, 1946, the number of individual children who were given attention at centres was 82,588 compared with 78,202 in 1945. Their attendances numbered 833,248 in 1946 and 838,733 in 1945, and the nurses made 82,460 and 78,547 visits respectively. Also, at the end of June, 1946, there were five Mobile Infant Welfare Services operated by car or caravan. The number of nurses actually employed in infant welfare centre work was 167 (159) but, including Infant Welfare nurses in the Public Health Department and those attached to voluntary organizations and training schools, there were 181 (194).

Particulars of Infant Welfare centres for the year 1917-18 (the first year in operation) and for the five years 1941-42 to 1945-46 are given in the following table:—

VICTORIA—INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

	1917-18.	Year Ended 30th June—				
		1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
Number of centres ..	3	233	244	272	296	316
Nurses in centres ..	1	123	130	144	159	167
Home visits ..	1,407	75,279	74,950	76,593	78,547	82,460
Total individual children	913	66,187	67,061	73,919	78,202	82,588
Total attendances ..	4,116	654,798	658,000	758,440	838,733	833,248

As shown hereunder there are eight Infant Welfare and Mothercraft training schools for nurses. Of these schools which are supported by voluntary organizations and church bodies, five train Mothercraft nurses only.

VICTORIA—INFANT WELFARE AND MOTHERCRAFT TRAINING SCHOOLS.

School.	Number who Completed Training During the Year Ended 30th June—			
	1945.		1946.	
	Infant Welfare Nurses.	Mothercraft Nurses.	Infant Welfare Nurses.	Mothercraft Nurses.
Presbyterian Babies' Home ..	14	11	11	15
Victorian Baby Health Centres Association Training School ..	28	..	27	..
Tweddle Baby Hospital ..	18	10	11	10
St. Joseph's Foundling Hospital ..	..	12	..	20
Methodist Babies' Home ..	..	15	..	13
Bethany Babies' Home ..	..	8	..	10
St. Gabriel's Church of England Babies' Home ..	..	13	..	14
Foundling Hospital, Berry-street, East Melbourne ..	..	7	..	10

Since the inauguration of the Department of Health Mothercraft Nurses' examinations in 1930, 1,125 trainees had satisfactorily passed to the end of June, 1946. The number of Mothercraft nurses who passed the examination during the year ended 30th June, 1946, was 78 (67).

During the year 1945-46 five (twenty) Mothercraft nurses received Department of Health certificates for pre-school Mothercraft nursing. Fifty-three nurses have received certificates since the course was inaugurated in 1942.

There were 1,004 (933) Infant Welfare nurses registered with the Nurses' Board in Victoria at 30th June, 1946, and 1,125 (1,047) Mothercraft nurses eligible to obtain the Health Department certificate of competency.

There are eleven creches or day nurseries supported by Government grant, voluntary effort and money derived from Trust funds. The children are admitted as a rule from the age of six weeks to six years. The original charge of 3d. to 4d. per day, varying with different creches, remains the same for soldiers' children but, in cases where the father and mother are earning good wages, a higher charge is made. The daily payment includes provision of three meals and a bath. The total attendances for the year ended 30th June, 1946, were 89,562 (83,757).

SCHOOL MEDICAL AND DENTAL SERVICES.

From the 1st July, 1944, these services, which had previously functioned under the Education Department, were transferred to the Maternal and Child Hygiene Branch of the Department of Health, in accordance with the provisions of the *Ministry of Health Act* 1943. This transfer did not involve any changes in activities, but was effected to group all medical and allied services associated with Child Health in the one Branch.

Other divisions attached to this branch include the Pre-Natal, Infant Welfare, Pre-School Division and the Child Psychiatric and Children's Court Clinics.

School Medical Services.—School medical inspection was established in 1909 and, as staff is not sufficient to cover all children in the State, attention is given to selected schools and so arranged as to cover the whole of the metropolitan area in three years. The work of the School Medical Officers may be summarized as follows:—

1. (a) Routine examination of children in schools.
- (b) Examination of special cases referred by the Education Department.
- (c) Supervision of admission of children to special schools and classes—i.e.,—
 - Open Air School for children with poor nutrition;
 - Special class for partially sighted children;
 - Special day schools for the mentally retarded and opportunity grades for dull children;
 - Remedial gymnasium for selected cases.

2. *Examination of Teachers—*

Entrance to Training College.

Superannuation cases, including review.

Sick Leave cases (over three months' leave).

Special cases referred by the Education Department.

The school nurses who accompany medical officers in examinations at schools attend to clerical work in connexion with such examinations and follow-up the notifications, persuading parents to have treatment, &c. They also visit schools regularly to examine for pediculosis, skin complaints, &c., and undertake home visiting of special cases, including truants.

School Dental Services were commenced in 1921 when two school dentists were appointed. This was later increased to nine but, since January, 1945, unfilled vacancies resulted in a reduction to six dentists with consequent curtailment of activities.

Dental services are provided by :—

- (a) School Dental Centre, South Melbourne, where children from the inner suburbs are treated.
- (b) Three mobile vans for selected country circuits.
- (c) When possible, visits to main country areas by dental staff.

As personnel is not available to serve all children in the State, initial treatment is restricted to younger children and, as far as practicable, these continue to receive dental attention throughout their school career.

The number of children and teachers medically examined and given dental treatment and the cost thereof are shown in the following table :—

SCHOOL MEDICAL AND DENTAL SERVICES.

—	1944-45.	1945-46.
Number of children examined by medical officers ..	20,038	19,203
Number of children examined by school nurses ..	37,190	75,152
Number of teachers examined by medical officers ..	1,566	1,696
Number of children given dental treatment	18,617	14,837
Expenditure on medical and dental services	£17,950	£17,957

Bush Nursing. Bush nursing centres are distributed throughout the State in the rural areas. At June, 1945, there were 79 centres (including 64 hospitals) employing 163 bush nurses on the permanent staff and 23 on the relieving staff. At 30th June, 1946, the centres numbered 75, inclusive of 59 bush nursing hospitals. The bush nurses numbered 150 on permanent staff and 30 on relieving staff, the majority of whom held infant welfare as well as general and midwifery certificates.

Details of the receipts and expenditure of bush nursing centres whose financial statements were published in the annual reports of the Victorian Bush Nursing Association for the years ended 30th June, 1945 and 1946 are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—BUSH NURSING CENTRES.

	Year ended 30th June—	
	1945.	1946.
	£	£
RECEIPTS.		
Grants—		
Government	19,946	18,930
Municipalities	1,706	1,277
Donations	11,724	6,235
Proceeds from entertainments	5,532	7,417
Nursing fees	87,592	86,318
Members' fees	21,997	21,259
Interest and rent	549	627
Proceeds from sale of medicine	1,491	1,633
Loans—		
From Central Council .. .. .	..	..
From other sources .. .. .	..	..
Miscellaneous	1,679	3,205
Total receipts	152,216	146,901
EXPENDITURE.		
Salaries—		
Nurses (paid to Central Council)	43,275	41,298
Other	25,462	27,741
Provisions, fuel, lighting	29,437	30,295
Surgery and medicine	2,854	3,194
Repairs and maintenance	9,597	8,757
Printing, stationery, &c.	2,365	2,474
Insurance, rent, bank charges	3,997	3,265
Other maintenance costs	2,853	4,365
Loans and interest repayments	4,078	1,749
Land and buildings	4,293	6,462
Equipment	2,729	3,248
Total expenditure	130,940	133,448

MISCELLANEOUS FUNDS AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS.

The Lord Mayor's Fund was inaugurated on 4th April, 1923, for the purpose of assisting in the maintenance of the Metropolitan Hospitals and Charities, and was incorporated by Act of Parliament on 24th December, 1930. The Hospital Saturday and Sunday Fund was formed in 1873 and remained in operation until the year 1923, when the Hospital Saturday section was merged with the Lord Mayor's Fund, the Hospital Sunday section remaining a separate fund, but being carried on in close co-operation with the Lord Mayor's Fund. Since the date of the inauguration of the latter fund subscriptions and donations amounting to £1,795,342 have been received, and the collections for the Hospital Sunday Fund have amounted to £304,599.

The total annual receipts of the two funds during the period 1935-36 to 1945-46 were as follows:—

Year ended 30th June—	Lord Mayor's Fund.	Hospital Sunday Fund.	Total.
	£	£	£
1936	93,043	8,551	101,596
1937	105,714	8,843	114,557
1938	78,886	9,123	88,009
1939	72,509	8,986	81,495
1940	62,240	9,205	71,445
1941	65,413	12,867	78,280
1942	71,461	14,398	85,859
1943	97,561	20,320	117,881
1944	120,933	25,634	146,567
1945	141,340	26,725	168,065
1946	112,716	22,910	135,626

Information in regard to the British Children's Toy Appeal, the Sweets for Britain Appeal, and the Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Ex-Servicemen's Appeal was published in the *Year-Book* 1943-44, page 496.

Contributions to the last-named appeal totalled £43,445.

**Food for
Britain
Appeal.**

The Lord Mayor's Food for Britain Appeal was launched on 21st September, 1945, at a meeting convened by the Lord Mayor of Melbourne (Councillor F. R. Connolly). The position of the fund at 20th September, 1946, was as follows:—

Total cash receipts	..	..	£260,000
Donated food received (cases)	..	..	30,000
Value of donated food	..	..	£75,000
Number of shipments	..	..	16
Total number of cases shipped	..	..	145,743
Total tonnage shipped	..	..	4,439
Total value of food shipped	..	..	£309,500

VICTORIAN BUSH FIRES RELIEF COMMITTEE.

Following serious losses of human life and property caused by bush fires in Victoria, the Victorian Government on 18th January, 1944, appointed the Victorian Bush Fires Relief Committee to deal with the rehabilitation of victims of the bush fires and other incidental problems.

A joint appeal by the Premier of Victoria and the Lord Mayor resulted in the raising of £177,193 by public subscription. In addition grants were made by the Victorian Government (£75,000) the Melbourne City Council (£5,000) and the Commonwealth Government (£125,000). Transfers were made, as required, from the Lord Mayor's Bush Fires Relief Fund to the Victorian Bush Fires Relief Account.

As disclosed in the report of the committee there were 50 deaths as a result of the fires and 120 persons were injured. The total value of losses of property was £2,640,126. The committee, with the concurrence of the Premier, considered application for losses sustained through bush fires in 1944-45 in addition to those of 1943-44 and grants were made to certain sufferers. Receipts, at the 28th October, 1946, amounted to £429,437, while expenditure amounted to £423,991.

With its work finalized it was recommended by the committee that any uncommitted balance in the Victorian Bush Fire Relief Account should be transferred to the Lord Mayor's Distress Relief Fund.

**St. John
Ambulance
Association.** The work carried on by this Association is described in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 582. Its objects are to instruct all classes of people in the preliminary treatment of the sick and of the injured. During the year ended 30th September, 1945, 2,353 students were instructed in first aid and

nursing, and of these 1,423 received certificates. Since the formation of the Victorian Centre of the Association in 1883, 142,379 persons have been awarded certificates. The Association medallion has been awarded to 13,669 students.

During the year ended 30th June, 1946, this service **Victorian Civil Ambulance Service.** attended to 29,897 calls, of which 6,112 were connected with accidents; the mileage travelled was 339,019. In 5,329 cases no fee was paid. The fleet of nineteen ambulances has been fitted with single-way wireless equipment. This has greatly increased the efficiency of the service and has been the means of saving valuable time and mileage as direct contact can be made with the drivers at any time when they are out on the road.

In addition 26 Country Ambulance Stations have been successfully opened and operated since March, 1923, under the Country Division of the Service, and 68 stretchers and first-aid outfits have been supplied to police stations in smaller centres.

The locations of the Country Ambulance Stations are as follow :—

Ballarat (2 cars)	Korumburra	Shepparton (2 cars)
Beechworth	Kyabram	Stawell
Benalla	Lakes Entrance	Swan Hill
Bendigo	Maffra	Terang
Castlemaine	Mildura	Wangaratta
Echuca	Mornington	Warragul
Heyfield	Orbost	Warrnambool
Horsham	Rushworth	Yarram
Kerang	Sale	

Royal Humane Society.

The objects of the Royal Humane Society of Australasia were published in the *Year-Book* for 1942-43, page 295.

During the year ended 30th June, 1945, 88 applications for awards were investigated, with the result that 26 certificates of merit, 46 bronze medals, 6 silver medals, and 1 bar to a bronze medal were granted. Out of 124 applications for awards during the year ended 30th June, 1946, 98 were granted and comprised 1 gold medal, 39 certificates of merit, 28 bronze medals, and 30 silver medals.

Royal Life Saving Society.

With the object of minimizing the great loss of life from drowning, a branch of the Royal Life Saving Society was established in Melbourne in 1904. A statement of the aims of the society was published in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30 on page 237.

During the year ended 30th June, 1946, the number of awards granted by the Victorian Head Centre was 6,440; the total income was £1,866, and the expenditure £1,481.

The objects of this society are given in the *Year-Book Society for the Protection of Animals.* for 1916-17, page 589. During the year ended 30th June, 1946, 1,908 cases were dealt with, of which 669 were connected with cruelty to horses, and 697 to dogs. There were 11 prosecutions in cases of deliberate cruelty, in all of which the law was vindicated by the punishment of the offenders. The receipts for the year ended 30th June, 1946, amounted to £2,280 and the expenditure to £3,305.

Cost of Social Services. Expenditure on social services by the Government of Victoria during each of the last five years is shown hereunder.

Amounts shown include expenditure from Revenue, Loan Funds and Surplus Revenue. Interest charges and the cost of pensions have been excluded.

EXPENDITURE BY THE STATE OF VICTORIA ON SOCIAL SERVICES, 1940-41 TO 1944-45.

Social Service.	Year Ended 30th June—				
	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
	£	£	£	£	£
Law, Order, and Public Safety ..	1,446,572	1,651,231	1,967,127	1,830,716	1,831,483
Regulation of Trade and Industry	115,010	133,692	150,061	208,925	206,253
Education*	3,335,965	3,369,433	3,483,277	3,749,014	4,155,657
Promotion of Public Health and Recreation	1,671,266	1,773,144	2,107,828	2,270,101	2,918,860
Social Amelioration (excluding Unemployment Relief and Bush Fire Relief)	647,236	371,518	295,093	301,738	300,402
Unemployment Relief†	1,829,760	897,467	576,618	536,775	526,903
Bush Fire Relief .. .. .	..	..	2,042	88,235	1,094
Total	9,045,809	8,196,485	8,582,046	8,985,504	9,940,652

* Includes Agricultural Education, Experimental Farms, Libraries, Museums, &c.

† Excludes Commonwealth Grants as follows:—1940-41, £28,274; 1941-42, £30,095; 1942-43, 1943-44, and 1944-45, £27,400.

Further information in regard to the above items appears in part *Finance* of this *Year-Book*.

CHILD ENDOWMENT.

The *Child Endowment Act* 1941-1945 (Commonwealth Act No. 8 of 1941) which was assented to on 7th April, 1941, and amended by Act No. 5 of 1942 and Act No. 10 of 1945, is an Act to provide for the payment of endowment, in respect of certain children under the age of sixteen years, at the rate of seven shillings and sixpence per week per endowable child. (Increased rate operated as from 26th June, 1945).

The general administration of the Act is vested in the Director General, Department of Social Services, who is required to furnish to the Minister annually, for presentation to Parliament, a report of the administration and operation of the Act.

Endowment may be granted to any person maintaining more than one child, in respect of each child in excess of one maintained by him.

Where a person is maintaining a child born in Australia who is a child of an alien father, and is also maintaining a child under the age of sixteen years not born in Australia who is the child of such father, an endowment may be granted in respect of such child born in Australia who is maintained by him.

An endowment shall not be granted unless—

- (a) The person (not being an institution) claiming the endowment is in Australia on the date on which the claim is made, and, if not born in Australia, has, for the period of twelve months immediately preceding that date, had his usual place of residence in Australia; and
- (b) The child in respect of whom the endowment is claimed is in Australia and, if not born in Australia, has been resident in Australia for the period of twelve months immediately preceding the date on which the claim is made.

A child shall be deemed to have been born in Australia if, at the date of his birth, the usual place of residence of his mother was in Australia and her absence from Australia was temporary only.

An endowment may be granted to an aboriginal native of Australia unless—

- (a) He is nomadic; or
- (b) The child in respect of whom the endowment is claimed is wholly or mainly dependent upon the Commonwealth or a State for his support.

Upon the grant of an endowment it shall be paid—

- (a) To the mother of the child in respect of whom it is granted ;
or
- (b) In such cases as are prescribed, to such persons as are
respectively prescribed.

Endowment is paid also to any Institution approved by the Minister (not being an institution maintained by the Commonwealth or a State) in respect of every child maintained by it, and to any institution approved by the Minister and maintained by the Commonwealth or State in respect of every child who is an inmate thereof, other than a child the expenses of whose maintenance are met wholly and mainly by his parents or guardian. Endowment is not payable in respect of children in Commonwealth or State maintained hospitals for the insane.

For Commonwealth Income Tax purposes, endowment will not be regarded as income.

On the estimate that there were in Australia about 1,000,000 children dependent in excess of one child in each family, the cost of the scheme at its inception was computed at £13,000,000 of which £9,000,000 would be raised by pay-roll tax. (The actual receipts during 1945-46 from pay-roll tax amounted to £11,499,243 and the expenditure in respect of endowment, £18,019,178, the increase in expenditure being caused by the 50 per cent. increase in the rate of endowment as shown hereafter.

Provision for the tax on pay-rolls is made by the *Pay-roll Tax Assessment Act 1941* (No. 2 of 1941), as amended by the *Pay-roll Tax Assessment Act 1942* (No. 48 of 1942), and by the *Pay-roll Tax Act 1941* (No. 3 of 1941). The latter Act imposes a tax of 2½ per centum "on all wages paid or payable by any employer in respect of any period of time occurring after the 30th day of June, 1941," and provides that the tax "shall be paid by the employer who pays or is liable to pay the wages." The general administration of the former Act is placed in the hands of a Commissioner of Taxation, who is required to furnish annually a report to Parliament on the working of the Act.

Every employer who pays or is liable to pay wages in excess of £20 per week is required to make application to the Commissioner for registration as an employer. He is also required to make a monthly return of all wages paid or payable by him.

The total amount paid in endowment in Victoria for the twelve months ended 30th June, 1945 and 1946, was £2,984,645 and £4,464,619, respectively.

The following tables contain information in regard to Child Endowment in Victoria during the years 1944-45 and 1945-46.

VICTORIA—CHILD ENDOWMENT—CLAIMS CURRENT,
 ENDOWABLE CHILDREN AND TOTAL AMOUNT PAID.

YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1945.

Rate* per Endowment Period (Four Weeks).	Number of Claims.
	£
£1 (two child family)	76,670
£2 (three child family)	32,757
£3 (four child family)	12,932
£4 (five child family)	5,344
£5 (six child family)	2,185
£6 (seven child family)	953
£7 (eight child family)	440
£8 (nine child family)	167
£9 (ten child family)	56
£10 (eleven child family)	16
£11 (twelve child family)	5
£12 (thirteen child family)	1
£13 (fourteen child family) .. .. .	..
Total claims current	131,526
Number of endowable children	224,146
Average number of endowable children per claim	1·704
Average four-weekly rate	£ s. d. 2 11 1
Number of children maintained in institutions for whom endowment is paid	4,995
Number of approved institutions at end of year	73
Total amount paid in endowment	£2,984,645

* From 26th June, 1945, the rates shown above were increased by 50 per cent.

VICTORIA—CHILD ENDOWMENT—CLAIMS CURRENT,
 ENDOWABLE CHILDREN AND TOTAL AMOUNT PAID.

YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1946.

Rate per Endowment Period (Four Weeks).	Number of Claims.
	£
£1 10s. (two child family)	79,044
£3 (three child family)	33,740
£4 10s. (four child family)	13,374
£6 (five child family)	5,411
£7 10s. (six child family)	2,194
£9 (seven child family)	943
£10 10s. (eight child family)	417
£12 (nine child family)	168
£13 10s. (ten child family)	66
£15 (eleven child family)	16
£16 10s. (twelve child family)	1
£18 (thirteen child family)	3
Total claims current	135,377
Number of endowable children	229,982
Average number of endowable children per claim	1.699
	£ s. d.
Average four-weekly rate	2 11 0
Number of children maintained in institutions for whom endowment is paid	4,784
Number of approved institutions at end of year	74
Total amount paid in endowment	£4,464.619

COMMONWEALTH EXPENDITURE IN VICTORIA ON CERTAIN SOCIAL SERVICES AND REPATRIATION.

INVALID AND OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

**Federal
Invalid and
Old-age
Pensions Act.**

These pensions are payable by the Commonwealth Government under an Act passed in 1908 and amending Acts. The commencing age for old-age pensioners is 65 years in the case of men and 60 years in the case of women. The maximum rate of pension payable at 30th June, 1946, was £84 10s. per annum, or 32s. 6d. per week. Payment is subject to a "means" test.

**Pensioners,
1936-37 to
1945-46.**

The number of old-age and invalid pensioners in Victoria on 30th June, 1946, was as follows:—Old-age pensioners—men, 23,870; women, 45,438; total, 69,308. Invalid pensioners—men, 6,654; women, 6,945; total, 13,599.

The number of old-age and invalid pensioners at the end of each financial year and the amount expended each year during the ten years ended 30th June, 1946, are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—OLD-AGE AND INVALID PENSIONERS, 1936-37 TO 1945-46.

Year Ended 30th June—	Number of Pensioners at End of Period.			Actual Amount Paid in Pensions.*
	Old-Age.	Invalid.	Total.	£
1937	62,755	18,282	81,037	3,750,068
1938	65,203	18,817	84,020	4,218,918
1939	67,896	19,471	87,367	4,307,432
1940	76,081	12,739	88,820	4,413,702
1941	76,371	12,447	88,818	4,588,266
1942	75,240	12,550	87,790	5,037,118
1943	72,102	11,938	84,040	5,715,268
1944	69,156	12,446	81,602	5,787,445†
1945	67,240	12,598	79,838	5,604,739†
1946	69,308	13,599	82,907	6,822,535†

* Includes payment of pensions to eligible inmates of institutions. On 30th June, 1946, there were 1,432 such pensions in force. The weekly rate of pension paid was 4s. from 8th October, 1925; 5s. 6d. from 4th October, 1928; 5s. from 23rd July, 1931; 3s. 9d. from 13th October, 1932; 5s. from 26th October, 1933; 5s. 6d. from 24th September, 1936; 6s. from 9th September, 1937; 6s. 6d. from 26th December, 1940; 6s. 9d. from 3rd April, 1941; 7s. 9d. from 11th December, 1941; 8s. from 2nd April, 1942; 8s. 6d. from 9th July, 1942; 8s. 9d. from 1st October, 1942; 9s. from 7th January, 1943; 9s. 3d. from 1st April, 1943; 9s. 6d. from 19th August, 1943; and 11s. 6d. from 5th July, 1945.

† Includes payments in respect of allowances to wives of invalid pensioners, details of which are shown on page 455.

By an Act passed in 1943, which came into operation on 1st September, 1943, a measure of reciprocity between the Commonwealth and New Zealand in regard to invalid and old-age pensions was agreed to. The following were the main provisions:—

- (a) Residence in New Zealand (immediately prior to residence in Australia) to be treated as residence in Australia.
- (b) Permanent incapacity or blindness occurring in New Zealand to be treated as if it had occurred in Australia.
- (c) A claimant regarded as a British subject while resident in New Zealand to be treated as a British subject in Australia, if resident in New Zealand immediately prior to becoming resident in Australia.
- (d) Maoris resident in Australia to be eligible for pension if otherwise qualified.
- (e) The more restrictive conditions of the pensions laws of the two countries to apply in respect of the grant of pension.
- (f) The rate of pension not to exceed the maximum rate payable in the country which has the lower maximum rate.

Allowances to Wives of Invalid Pensioners. By an Act passed in 1943 provision was made for payment as from 8th July, 1943, of allowances to wives of invalid pensioners. The maximum rate of allowance is £39 per annum (15s. per week), and is subject to the same means test as invalid and old-age pensions. Where the wife of a pensioner is maintaining one or more children under sixteen years of age she may receive an additional allowance of £13 per annum (5s. per week).

The allowance is not payable to a woman who is living apart from her husband or is in receipt of a service pension or whose husband is an inmate of a benevolent asylum or an asylum for the insane.

The number of wives' allowances in operation in Victoria at 30th June, 1945 and 1946, was as follows:—

	1945.	1946.
Class A—allowance for wife and child ..	802	906
Class B—allowance for wife only..	819	1,042
Class C—allowance for child only ..	121	135
	1,742	2,083
		Annual liability £83,928
	Annual liability £71,318	

Funeral Benefits for Invalid and Old Age Pensioners.

By the same Act provision was made for the payment of a funeral benefit not exceeding the actual cost of the funeral or £10 whichever is the less, in respect of every invalid or old-age pensioner who dies on or after 1st July, 1943. The benefit is payable to the person who has paid, or is liable to pay, the cost of the funeral, or to the person who has actually borne the cost of the funeral. The benefit must be claimed within six months after the death of the pensioner.

The benefit is not payable to a person administering a Contributory Funeral Benefit Fund, unless such person is administering a Friendly Society registered under State or Commonwealth law or is exempted from the disqualification by the Minister or Director-General of Social Services.

The number of funeral benefits paid during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1946, was 6,020, the total cost being £56,365.

MATERNITY ALLOWANCES.

An Act was passed by the Federal Parliament in October, 1912, providing for the payment, on application, of £5 to the mother of each child born in the Commonwealth on and after 10th October, 1912.

The *Commonwealth Financial Emergency Acts* of 1931 and 1932 reduced the rate of payment and imposed income restrictions. Rates of payment and income restrictions were modified by the *Commonwealth Financial Relief Act* of 1934 and 1936, and by the *Maternity Allowance Act* (No. 44 of 1937). The latter Act increased—

- (a) the income limit to £247 per annum where there was no previous surviving issue under fourteen years of age, the additional allowance of £13 per annum in respect of each previous surviving child being retained up to a maximum of £338 per annum;
- (b) the maternity allowance was also increased to £7 10s. in cases where there were three or more previous surviving children under fourteen years of age, £5 where there were one or two previous children, and £4 10s. for the first child.

By an Act passed in 1943, which came into operation on 1st July, 1943, the means test was abolished and the amount of the maternity allowance was increased in accordance with the following scale:—

- (a) where the claimant is not the mother of a previous surviving child under fourteen years of age—£5.
- (b) where there are one or two such children—£6.
- (c) where there are three or more such children—£7 10s.

together with 25s. in respect of each of the four weeks immediately before, and 25s. in respect of each of the four weeks immediately after, the birth of the child.

By a further amendment which came into force on 5th April, 1944, an additional payment of £5 was provided in the case of twins and £10 in the case of triplets. The age limit in respect of previous surviving children was also increased to sixteen years.

Since 1st July, 1943, maternity allowances have been paid out of a Trust Account established under the *National Welfare Fund Act 1943* and known as the National Welfare Fund.

Details of the claims granted are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—MATERNITY ALLOWANCES GRANTED.

Year Ended 30th June—	Number Granted During Year.	Amount Paid in Allowances During Year.	Total Claims Granted Since Passing of Act.	Total Amount Paid in Allowances Since Passing of Act.
		£		£
1941	19,150	102,175	853,094	4,191,730
1942	16,120	86,392	869,214	4,278,122
1943	11,874	63,635	881,088	4,341,757
1944	38,653	590,648	919,741	4,932,405
1945	40,582	647,970	960,323	5,580,375
1946	40,991	649,648	1,001,314	6,230,023

WIDOWS' PENSIONS.

The *Commonwealth Widows' Pensions Act*, No. 19 of 1942, came into operation on 5th June, 1942, on which date it received the Royal Assent. Act No. 15 of 1943, Act No. 15 of 1944, and Act No. 56 of 1945 effected amendments to the principal Act.

The Act provides for three classes of widows:—

- (a) Widows of any age who are maintaining at least one child under the age of sixteen years—maximum pension £97 10s. per annum, subject to "means" test. In addition to excluding personal property, together with the house in which she resides and her furniture, the widow is allowed the ownership of £1,000 without disqualifying from pension.
- (b) Widows over fifty years of age without dependent children—maximum pension £70 4s. per annum subject to same "means" test as applied to old-age and invalid pensions.

- (c) Widows under fifty years of age without dependent children who find themselves in indigent circumstances upon the death of their husbands or within 26 weeks thereafter may be paid an allowance at the rate of 32s. 6d. per week for a period not longer than 26 weeks after the death of the widow's husband or man in respect of whom she was a dependent female.

“Widow” includes—

- (a) a “dependent female,” that is a woman who, for not less than three years immediately prior to the death of the man in respect of whom she was a dependent female, was wholly or mainly maintained by him and, although not legally married to him, lived with him as his wife on a permanent and bona fide domestic basis,
- (b) a deserted wife,
- (c) a divorcee who has not re-married and,
- (d) a woman whose husband is an inmate of a hospital for the insane.

The number, and cost, of widows' pensions in Victoria is shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—WIDOWS' PENSIONS.

	Number in Force at 30th June—		
	1944.	1945.	1946.
Class “A” (widow maintaining a child) ..	3,684	3,575	3,565
Class “B” (widow not maintaining a child) ..	8,271	9,034	9,172
Class “C” (widow in indigent circumstances not maintaining a child)	12	5	11
Total	11,967	12,614	12,748
	£	£	£
Amount paid in pensions	787,034	799,652	899,747
Total amount paid since passing of Act ..	1,389,991	2,189,643	3,089,390

UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS.

Benefits payable in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Unemployment and Sickness Benefits Act 1944*, commenced on 1st July, 1945. The Act is administered by the Department of Social Services.

A statement embodying the main provisions of the Act was published in the *Year-Book 1943-44*, pages 505 to 507. Briefly, it provides for the payment of benefit to persons whose normal earnings have been interrupted through unemployment or temporary incapacity. The Act also provides a third class of benefit—designated “Special” benefit—which gives a measure of assistance to those persons who, on account of some special circumstance, cannot comply with the statutory requirements relating to unemployment or sickness benefit, and who are prevented from earning a livelihood and are in need.

The weekly rates of benefit and limits of allowed income are shown in the following table:—

AUSTRALIA—UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS.

Age and Conjugal Condition.	Maximum Weekly Benefit.				Allowed Weekly Income*.
	Claimant.	Dependent Spouse.	Child.	Total.	
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Unmarried—					
16 years and under 17 years	} 15 0	..	..	} 15 0	5 0
17 years and under 18 years					
18 years and under 21 years	20 0	..	..	20 0	15 0
21 years and over ..	25 0	..	..	25 0	20 0
Married	25 0	20 0	5 6	50 0	20 0

NOTE.—Where an unmarried claimant has the custody, care, and control of a child under the age of sixteen years, the total benefit may be increased by 5s. per week.

* Payments made under the provisions of the Maternity Allowance Act and the Child Endowment Act are excluded from consideration as income. In applying the means test for sickness benefit, any amount up to 20s. per week received by the claimant from an approved Friendly Society or other approved benefit society is not regarded as income.

The numbers of recipients of benefit do not reflect total unemployment and sickness. Unemployment or sickness of less than seven (7) days duration is not covered due to the provision in the Act of a “waiting period” of this length of time during which no benefit is payable. Permanent incapacity is not included as this is covered by the Invalid and Old Age Pensions Act.

The following table shows the number of persons in Victoria under the various headings during the year ended 30th June, 1946. Dependants of such beneficiaries are not included.

VICTORIA—UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS
DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1946.

		Unemployment.	Sickness	Special.	Total.
Claims granted	{ Males .. Females	2,632 63	8,246 1,923	21 45	10,899 2,031
Claims rejected	.. ..	1,180	1,879	33	3,092
Expenditure	£	28,234	139,267	912	168,413*
Average per person admitted to benefit	£	10.5	13.7	13.8	13.0
Number on benefit at 30th June, 1946	{ Males .. Females	564 15	1,387 403	2 27	1,953 445

* Does not include advances to bank accounts £9,850 for the initial year's operations of the scheme.

VICTORIA—UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS
FOR YEAR 1945-46.

	Unemployment Benefits.				Sickness Benefits.			
	Entrances During Month.		On Benefit at End of Month.		Entrances During Month.		On Benefit at End of Month.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
1945.								
July ..	91	2	73	1	1,043	277	892	249
August ..	46	4	83	4	639	139	1,103	309
September ..	80	2	97	4	830	166	1,277	341
October ..	109	5	142	7	657	167	1,340	364
November ..	166	4	198	8	586	119	1,256	334
December ..	458	19	534	19	530	122	1,191	333

VICTORIA—UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS FOR YEAR
1945-46—*continued.*

	Unemployment Benefits.				Sickness Benefits.			
	Entrances during Month.		On Benefit at End of Month.		Entrances during Month.		On Benefit at End of Month.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
1946.								
January ..	301	4	460	6	529	111	1,188	308
February ..	273	2	388	5	584	152	1,252	351
March ..	253	4	354	8	811	186	1,295	367
April ..	205	4	400	12	552	113	1,286	353
May ..	271	4	464	11	649	174	1,348	385
June ..	379	9	564	15	836	197	1,387	403

REPATRIATION.

On 8th April, 1918, Repatriation became an Australian national undertaking for the provision of benefits for Australian soldiers, sailors, and nurses who served in the war of 1914-18. Its objects are to find employment for the fit, to re-establish the disabled, to provide for the dependants of those who have died and of those who are no longer able, in consequence of war disabilities, to support themselves, and to supply medical and surgical treatment, also artificial limbs and appliances, in respect of disabilities due to or aggravated by war service.

The *Year-Book* for 1920-21 contains, on pages 383 to 385, an epitome of the main work of the Department, also particulars of the sustenance rates granted to applicants awaiting fulfilment by the Department of certain specified obligations, and of the rates of pension payable to ex-members of the Forces and their dependants. The sustenance and some of the pension rates, however, have since been altered.

On pages 407 and 408 of the *Year-Book* for 1928-29 appears a statement of the activities of the Department.

The History of war pension legislation from 1914 to 1938 is recorded in the *Year-Book*, 1937-38, page 279 *et seq.*

To meet the position arising out of Australia's participation in the present war against Germany, and later, Japan, further amending legislation was passed in 1940, 1941, 1942, and 1943. In broad

principle the pension provisions are the same as those applying to the war of 1914. Of course, different time limits in respect of eligibility were necessary. For the purpose of the 1939 war a wife (or widow) is eligible if married to the member of the Forces before or during the member's service, or within fifteen years after his discharge from the Forces, and any child of such a marriage is eligible.

Service Pensions.

Eligibility for service pensions may be established on the following grounds—

- (a) Sixty years of age or more, provided the applicant served in a theatre of war, but eligibility on this ground limits payment of service pension to the ex-soldier; his wife or children are not eligible. A former nurse is eligible for consideration provided she embarked for service abroad and has reached the age of 55 years.
- (b) Permanently unemployable, provided the applicant served in a theatre of war. Under this class pensions may be paid to the ex-soldier, his wife and his children—up to four in number.
- (c) Pulmonary tuberculosis, whether the applicant served in a theatre of war or not. Under this class pensions are also payable to the wife and children—up to four in number.

Only those applicants who qualify under class (c) are entitled to receive both service pension and invalid pension at the same time.

The maximum rate of service pension for a member coincides with the maximum rate of invalid or old-age pension determined from time to time under the *Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act*. The rate at 30th June, 1946, was 65s. per fortnight. The fortnightly rate for the wife of a member is 44s.; for children under sixteen years of age—one child, 10s.; two children, 15s.; three children, 20s.; four or more children, 25s.

The actual rate payable in any case is determined after taking into consideration all other income and property received or owned by the pensioner in question, and no service pension can be paid in

any case where such other income and property has an assessable value of a certain amount, variable according to the cost of living. At 30th June, 1946, the amount was £117 per annum in the case of a single man, and £234 in the case of a member and his wife.

If the income from all other sources is less than the annual amounts above shown, then service pension becomes payable at such rate as will, with that other income, bring the total income of the pensioner (including service pension) up to the allowed maximum, provided, of course, that the pensions cannot exceed the maximum rate specified for the particular case.

The service pension scheme applies in respect of members engaged in the 1914 war, the South African war of 1899-1902, and the 1939 war.

Current Work of Department. The following statistics for the year 1945-46 show in some degree the type and extent of activity in the State of Victoria :—

VICTORIA—WAR PENSIONS, MEDICAL TREATMENT, ETC.

Details.	At 30th June, 1946.
War Pensions—Number in force—	
Members of the Forces	36,020
Dependants of deceased members of the Forces	13,157
Dependants of incapacitated members of the Forces	43,849
Expenditure for year (paid in pensions)	£3,640,063
Service Pensions—Number in force—	
Members of the Forces	2,296
Dependants of deceased member pensioners	393
Dependants of member pensioners	713
Expenditure for year (paid in service pensions)	£206,275
Medical Treatment—	
Number of In-patients in Repatriation Institutions—	
General Hospitals	1,548
Sanatoria	380
Anzac Hostels	35
Mental Hospitals	593
Patients being treated in non-departmental institutions and/or in their own homes	101

Details.	At 30th June, 1946.
Attendances of Out-patients (excluding treatments by Local Medical Officers, of whom there are 164 in rural areas) ..	63,646
Expenditure on treatment, &c.—	
Maintenance of Repatriation Institutions	£174,160
Maintenance of patients in other than Repatriation Institutions (including Country Hospitals)	£49,227
Sustenance during medical treatment	£79,866
Conducting Repatriation Artificial Limb Factory	£23,390
Other expenditure, including fees to Consultants, &c. ..	£41,462
Soldiers' Children Education Scheme—	
Number of children at school and in training	1,021
Expenditure for year	£27,956

Statistical details of the number and designation of Dependants' War and Service pensions in Victoria at 30th June, 1945 and 1946, are given in the following tables:—

VICTORIA—WAR PENSIONS—DEPENDANTS OF DECEASED MEMBERS.

Designation.	At 30th June, 1945.			At 30th June, 1946.		
	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.
Widows	3,506	1,655	5,161	3,588	2,552	6,140
Children	648	1,927	2,575	551	3,138	3,689
Widowed mothers of unmarried members	567	415	982	504	701	1,205
Other mothers	1,343	253	1,596	1,211	447	1,658
Fathers	273	76	349	231	130	361
Others	52	40	92	50	54	104
Total	6,389	4,366	10,755	6,135	7,022	13,157

VICTORIA—WAR PENSIONS—DEPENDANTS OF INCAPACITATED MEMBERS.

Designation.	At 30th June, 1945.			At 30th June, 1946.		
	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.
Wives	17,818	3,849	21,667	17,340	7,935	25,275
Wives (Widows)	1,380	5	1,385	1,500	6	1,506
Children	9,125	4,566	13,691	7,189	9,325	16,514
Mothers (Widows)	270	21	291	227	35	262
Other mothers	225	6	231	213	11	224
Fathers	30	..	30	30	1	31
Others	37	2	39	35	2	37
Total	28,885	8,449	37,334	26,534	17,315	43,849

VICTORIA—SERVICE PENSIONS—DEPENDANTS OF DECEASED MEMBERS.

Designation.	At 30th June, 1945.				At 30th June, 1946.			
	1899 War*.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.	1899 War*.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.
Widows	10	294	1	305	14	332	2	348
Children	1	71	1	73	1	38	6	45
Total	11	365	2	378	15	370	8	393

VICTORIA—SERVICE PENSIONS—DEPENDANTS OF INCAPACITATED MEMBERS.

Designation.	At 30th June, 1945.				At 30th June, 1946.			
	1899 War*.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.	1899 War*.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.
Wives	29	566	23	618	28	558	29	615
Children	3	109	40	152	..	52	46	98
Total	32	675	63	770	28	610	75	713

* South African War 1899-1902.

CREMATION.

There are two crematoria in Victoria—one at Springvale and the other at the new Melbourne General Cemetery, Fawkner. The history of the establishment of the crematoria is contained in an article published in the *Year-Book* 1942-43, page 307.

The figures in the following table have been supplied by the authorities of the two crematoria concerned:—

CREMATION IN VICTORIA.

Year.	Cremations at Fawkner.	Cremations at Springvale.	Total Cremations.	Total Deaths.	Percentage of Crema- tions to Deaths.
1927	32	..	32	16,773	·19
1928	84	..	84	17,708	·47
1929	151	..	151	16,717	·90
1930	162	..	162	15,959	1·02
1931	201	..	201	17,033	1·18
1932	199	..	199	16,805	1·18
1933	369	..	369	17,456	2·11
1934	499	..	499	18,648	2·68
1935	596	..	596	18,456	3·23
1936	358	400	758	18,778	4·04
1937	387	596	983	18,613	5·28
1938	415	752	1,167	18,955	6·16
1939	436	873	1,309	20,169	6·49
1940	571	1,053	1,624	20,293	8·00
1941	662	1,164	1,826	20,523	8·90
1942	753	1,246	1,999	21,973	9·09
1943	850	1,348	2,198	21,327	10·31
1944	892	1,502	2,394	20,502	11·68
1945	965	1,639	2,604	20,496	12·70
1946	1,030	1,920	2,950	21,534	13·69