

APPENDIX.

[Recent information and returns which have come to hand since the various chapters were sent to press are given hereunder.]

CHAPTER III. GENERAL GOVERNMENT.

§ 1. Scheme of Parliamentary Government.

4. The Cabinet and Executive Government. (v) *The Cabinet.* (c) *State Ministries* (pp. 91, 92). Certain changes have been made in the Ministries in Victoria and Tasmania. The names of the new Ministers, as at the 1st October, 1923, are shown below.

VICTORIA.

Premier and Minister of Water Supply—
HON. H. S. W. LAWSON.

Treasurer—
HON. SIR W. M. MCPHERSON, K.B.E.

Attorney-General and Solicitor-General—
HON. SIR A. ROBINSON, K.C.M.G.,
M.L.C.

Minister of Education, Forests, and Labour—
HON. SIR A. J. PEACOCK, K.C.M.G.

Chief Secretary and Minister of Public Health—
HON. S. ARGYLE, M.R.C.S.

Minister of Agriculture and Railways—
HON. F. E. OLD.

Commissioner of Public Works and Minister of Mines—
HON. G. L. GOUDIE, M.L.C.

Commissioner of Crown Lands and Minister of Immigration—
HON. J. ALLAN.

Ministers without Portfolio—
HON. H. I. COHEN, K.C., M.L.C.
HON. J. GORDON.
HON. M. E. WETTENHALL.

TASMANIA.

Premier, Treasurer, and Minister for Railways—
HON. SIR W. H. LEE, K.C.M.G.

Attorney-General and Minister for Education—
HON. A. HEAN, C.M.G.

Minister for Works, Lands, and Agriculture—
HON. E. HOBBS.

Chief Secretary and Minister for Mines and Forestry—
HON. J. C. NEWTON.

Minister without Portfolio—
HON. G. H. PITT, M.L.C.

§ 2. Parliaments and Elections.

7. The Parliament of Queensland, p. 98.—At the general elections held on the 12th May, 1923, the number of electors enrolled was:—Males, 257,001; females, 219,476; total, 476,477. The number of electors who voted in contested electorates was:—Males, 194,287; females, 174,980; total, 369,267. The percentages of electors who voted in contested electorates were:—Males, 80.72 per cent.; females, 83.96 per cent.; persons, 82.23 per cent. There were four uncontested electorates, in which 27,390 electors were enrolled.

§ 5. Legislation during 1922.

9. *Western Australia*, p. 111.—(i) *Public Education Acts Amendment Act*. Provision is made for the formation of "Parents and Citizens Associations" with the object of promoting the interests and efficiency of Government schools. Each Association may nominate members of a School Board, which may advise the Department in matters connected with the school, etc.

(ii) *Married Women's Protection Act*. The Summary Jurisdiction (Married Women) Acts of 1896 and 1902 are repealed, and fresh provisions made with regard to a married woman whose husband has been guilty of cruelty, adultery, desertion, etc.

(iii) *Pearling Act Amendment Act*. The Act of 1912 is amended in several particulars and a fresh schedule of licence fees prescribed.

(iv) *Dairy Cattle Improvement Act 1922*. All bulls within certain proclaimed areas must be registered.

(v) *Dairy Industry Act*. Dairy produce factories and others must be registered, inspectors may be appointed, and regulations are made in regard to the manufacture of dairy produce.

(vi) *Licensing Act Amendment Act*. Fresh provisions are made for the constitution of Licensing Courts, for the increase in the number of licences on petition, for the amount of accommodation to be provided in newly licensed premises, and for the fees payable for licences. Existing provisions relating to local option are repealed, and a Licences Reduction Board constituted with the duty of reducing the number of licences in the State to the extent that the amount of money in the Compensation Fund will allow, such fund being formed chiefly from 2 per cent. of the amount paid for liquor purchased. In 1925, and in every fifth year thereafter, a poll is to be taken of the electors for the Legislative Assembly on the subject of prohibition.

(vii) *Land and Income Tax Assessment Amendment Act*. The income of any male person over 65 years, or female person over 60 years, from personal exertion not exceeding £250 a year, is exempted from income tax. The following deductions are allowed :—
(a) Travelling expenses up to £15, from the living to the business place of the taxpayer ;
(b) calls in mining companies prospecting in Western Australia ; and (c) up to £40 for money actually expended on each dependent. The exemption for a married person is raised to £200.

(viii) *Workers' Compensation Act Amendment Act*. The definition of a worker is enlarged to include timber workers and persons engaged in manual labour under the Controller of Group Settlements.

(ix) *Electoral Districts Act*. The Governor may appoint three Electoral Commissioners, with power to divide the State into fifty districts.

(x) *Miner's Phthisis Act*. Provision is made for the medical examination of miners, for the prohibition of the employment of miners suffering from tuberculosis, and for the compensation of such miners.

(xi) *Agricultural Seeds Act*. The sale of agricultural seeds is regulated, and power given to officers appointed for the purpose to enter places where seeds are kept, and inspect the seeds found therein.

(xii) *Land and Income Tax Act Amendment Act*. The rate of income tax is increased by 15 per cent.

CHAPTER VI. OVERSEA TRADE.

§ 4. Oversea Trade.

1. **Total Oversea Trade, p. 222.**—The following particulars have been compiled from preliminary returns relating to the Oversea Trade of Australia during the year 1922-23 :—

| Period. | Recorded Value. | | | Value per Inhabitant. | | | Percentage of Exports on Imports. |
|------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Imports. | Exports. | Total. | Imports. | Exports. | Total. | |
| 1922-23 .. | £1,000. 131,809 | £1,000. 117,913 | £1,000. 249,722 | £ s. d. 23 7 10 | £ s. d. 20 18 7 | £ s. d. 44 6 '5 | % 89.5 |

CHAPTER VII. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION.

F. POSTS, TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

§ 1. Posts.

4. **Rates of Postage, p. 344.**—The following rates of postage came into force on the 1st October, 1923 :—

POSTAL RATES, 1923.

| Postal Article. | Rates of Postage. | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| | For Inland Delivery. | For Despatch Overseas. | |
| | | British Empire. | Foreign Countries. |
| Letters | 1½d. per ounce | 1½d. per ounce | First ounce 3d., additional ounce 1½d. |
| Lettercards.. .. | 1½d. each .. | 1½d. each | 3d. each |
| Postcards | 1d. each .. | 1d. each | 1½d. each |
| Commercial Papers .. | 1d. per 2 ounces | New Zealand and Fiji, 1d. per 2 ounces; other parts, 1d. per 2 ounces (minimum 3d.) | 1d. per 2 ounces (minimum 3d.) |
| Printed Papers .. | 1d. per 4 ounces | 1d. per 4 ounces | 1d. per 2 ounces |
| Patterns and Samples .. | 1d. per 2 ounces | 1d. per 2 ounces | 1d. per 2 ounces (minimum 2d.) |
| Merchandise | 1d. per 2 ounces | New Zealand and Fiji, 1d. per 2 ounces; other parts at parcel rates | Parcel rates |
| Newspapers printed and published in Australia | For each newspaper(a), 1d. per 10 ounces | New Zealand and Fiji(a), 1d. per 10 ounces United Kingdom— (i) Via France(a), 1d. per 4 ounces, 1½d. for 4 to 10 ounces, 1d. for each additional 4 ounces (ii) Wholly by sea, each newspaper exceeding 8 ounces, 1½d. every 16 ounces (iii) Via America, 1d. per 4 ounces (iv) Other parts, 1d. per 4 ounces | United States of America, each newspaper, 1d. per 4 ounces; other countries, 1d. per 2 ounces |
| Newspapers printed and published outside Australia | 1d. per 4 ounces | 1d. per 4 ounces | 1d. per 2 ounces |
| Magazines and Books printed in Australia | 1d. per 8 ounces | 1d. per 4 ounces | 1d. per 2 ounces |
| Magazines and Books printed outside Australia | 1d. per 4 ounces | | |
| Catalogues wholly set up and printed in Australia | 1d. per 4 ounces | | .. |

(a) Provided that the postage on a package containing more than one newspaper shall not be higher than that chargeable on a package of printed papers of the same weight.

CHAPTER VIII.

FINANCE.

§ 2. Consolidated Revenue Fund.

Division IV.—Subsidy Paid to States.

1. Payments to the Several States, p. 385. (See also §1. 3, p. 400). A conference of Commonwealth and State Ministers was held in Melbourne on 23rd May, 1923, to discuss matters of common interest. The main problem for settlement was that arising from the raising and allocation of the revenues of the Commonwealth and States. The Conference aimed at the termination of the present arrangement under which the Commonwealth pays to the States on a *per capita* basis part of the revenue which it collects; concurrently it was hoped to simplify the entire taxation systems of Australia.

The Commonwealth Prime Minister submitted a scheme intended to secure the attainment of both of these objects. He proposed to cease to collect income tax from all individuals whose incomes were £2,000 a year or less, and to grant an exemption of £2,000 to individuals with incomes over that amount. At the same time he proposed to discontinue the *per capita* payments to the States, leaving the latter free to balance their Budgets by increasing their income tax revenues in the field vacated by the Commonwealth. On the basis of figures supplied by the Commonwealth Treasury, it was believed that Queensland and Tasmania would stand to lose by this arrangement. Accordingly it was proposed to stabilize the finances of these States by a grant of £55,000 to the former and £80,000 to the latter. Inclusive of the above shortage, and certain special payments to the States of Queensland, Western Australia, and Tasmania, the Commonwealth would make an annual payment of £646,000 per annum to these three States. Finally, the Commonwealth Government proposed to enter on these arrangements for a period of five years, and thereafter until otherwise provided.

These proposals were not acceptable to the State Ministers, who put forward counter-proposals for the complete retirement of the Commonwealth from the field of income taxation. The States were willing on that condition to relinquish the capitation payments and to contribute to the Commonwealth Treasury sums to cover any Commonwealth loss entailed under the proposals.

As Commonwealth Ministers could not accept the offer of the States, the Prime Minister proposed that the Commonwealth should vacate the field of income taxation so far as it related to individuals, but should retain the right to tax companies up to a maximum limit of 2s. 6d. in the £1. As a set-off against this the Commonwealth would cease the payment to the States of the capitation allowances and the interest on the transferred properties. Before completing the new scheme it would be necessary to ascertain the exact value of the field to be vacated by the Commonwealth, because certain cash payments to be made by the Commonwealth to the States to save embarrassment of State finances could not be calculated until that value was ascertained.

These suggestions were much more favourably received, and ultimately five of the States—New South Wales dissenting—agreed to accept the principle of the new Commonwealth proposals.

The statistics relating to income tax have since been carefully investigated, and it has been found that figures on which to base payments to the States would not be available for some time. The operation of the scheme was therefore deferred for one year, and meanwhile efforts were made to arrange for one collecting authority for both State and Federal income taxes. Agreements have been drawn up between the Commonwealth on the one hand and the States of New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia on the other, under which the State taxation officers will collect both taxes, except where the Commonwealth incomes are derived from two or more States. Similar negotiations with Queensland and Tasmania have not yet reached finality, whilst in Western Australia there has been for some years only one collecting authority—the Commonwealth.

CHAPTER XVII. AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION.

§ 4. Wheat.

7. **Voluntary Wheat Pools, p. 723.**—The voluntary pooling scheme created to handle the 1921–22 wheat harvests in New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia was continued in connexion with the 1922–23 yields, and a similar practice was also adopted in Western Australia during 1922–23 in lieu of the compulsory Government pool of the previous season. The system is a co-operative one, controlled by Committees appointed by the growers, the whole of the proceeds, less administrative expenses, being distributed amongst contributors of wheat to the pool. The marketing of wheat in Queensland was conducted on the compulsory basis by the State Wheat Board, the members of which were nominated by the Minister for Agriculture. The quantities of wheat received by the different pools were as follows :—

WHEAT RECEIVED BY VOLUNTARY POOLS, 1922-23.

| Particulars. | Unit. | N.S.W. | Victoria. | S. Aust. | W. Aust. |
|--|--------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| Wheat received .. | Bushel | 11,650,523 | 20,000,000 | 10,072,909 | 9,349,115 |
| Percentage of total marketable wheat | % | 48 | 66 | 44 | 81 |

The requisite financial accommodation was furnished by the Commonwealth Bank, supported by a guarantee of 3s. 8d. per bushel by the Commonwealth Government. An initial advance of 3s. per bushel was made available to growers on the delivery of their wheat at country stations, and a second advance of 1s. per bushel, less rail freight, has also been made in all the States to 30th June, 1923.

Practically all the marketable wheat in Queensland was received into the compulsory Government pool during 1922–23. Approximately 1,756,000 bushels were pooled, and advances amounting to 4s. 6d. per bushel were paid to 30th June, 1923. Arrangements are being completed for a further advance of 9d. per bushel, and the final return to growers is estimated to approximate 5s. 8d. per bushel, less rail premium of 1½d. per bushel.

CHAPTER XXI. MINERAL INDUSTRY.

§ 1. The Mineral Wealth of Australia.

3. **Value of Production during 1922, p. 791.**—The following table gives the value of Australian mineral production in 1922 :—

MINERAL PRODUCTION.—VALUE, 1922.

| Minerals. | N.S.W. | Victoria. | Q'land. | S. Aust. | W. Aust. | Tas. | N. Ter. | Total. |
|--------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|---------|---------|------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Gold .. | 118,359 | 501,515 | 378,154 | 4,693 | 2,525,811 | 16,101 | 540 | 3,545,173 |
| Silver and Lead .. | 2,574,108 | 1,080 | 109,350 | 377 | 87,692 | 241,694 | .. | 3,014,301 |
| Copper .. | 36,233 | .. | 321,535 | 73,646 | 20,379 | 391,535 | 798 | 844,126 |
| Iron .. | 251,928 | .. | .. | 58,177 | .. | .. | .. | 310,105 |
| Tin .. | 154,698 | 12,071 | 99,758 | .. | 10,930 | 112,407 | 5,891 | 395,755 |
| Zinc .. | 1,157,458 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1,157,458 |
| Coal .. | 8,507,946 | 695,430 | 840,472 | .. | 381,555 | 61,016 | .. | 10,486,419 |
| Other .. | 150,434 | 34,870 | 109,815 | 194,973 | 14,745 | 55,256 | 2,730 | 562,823 |
| Total .. | 12,951,164 | 1,244,966 | 1,859,084 | 331,866 | 3,041,112 | 878,009 | 9,959 | 20,316,160 |

NOTE.—Gold, valued at £4.69267 per fine oz.

CHAPTER XXIV.

POPULATION.

§ 3. Distribution and Fluctuation of Population.

1. Present Number, p. 909.—The estimated population on the 30th June, 1923, together with details of the increase since the preceding year, and since the Census of 1921, are given hereunder :—

AUSTRALIA.—ESTIMATED POPULATION, 30th JUNE, 1923.

| States and Territories. | Males. | Females. | Persons. |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| New South Wales | 1,115,787 | 1,073,592 | 2,189,379 |
| Victoria | 797,623 | 809,963 | 1,607,586 |
| Queensland | 425,844 | 379,792 | 805,636 |
| South Australia | 259,652 | 257,033 | 516,685 |
| Western Australia | 186,203 | 161,916 | 348,119 |
| Tasmania | 107,294 | 106,490 | 213,784 |
| Northern Territory | 2,605 | 1,043 | 3,648 |
| Federal Capital Territory | 2,039 | 1,216 | 3,255 |
| Total, Australia | 2,897,047 | 2,791,045 | 5,688,092 |

The corresponding figures for the whole of Australia at 30th June, 1922, were 2,830,409 males, 2,736,336 females, or a total of 5,566,745. There was thus a total increase during the year ended 30th June, 1923, of 121,347, made up of 66,638 males and 54,709 females. Of this total increase the excess of births over deaths accounted for 84,567, while the excess of arrivals over departures accounted for 36,780. Details for the several States and Territories are as follows :—

INCREASE OF POPULATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1923.

| States and Territories. | Natural Increase, <i>i.e.</i> , Excess of Births over Deaths. | Net Migration, <i>i.e.</i> , Excess of Arrivals over Departures. | Total Increase. |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|-----------------|
| New South Wales | 35,785 | 5,593 | 41,378 |
| Victoria | 20,114 | 17,111 | 37,225 |
| Queensland | 12,810 | 9,244 | 22,054 |
| South Australia | 7,152 | 4,668 | 11,820 |
| Western Australia | 4,928 | 3,132 | 8,060 |
| Tasmania | 3,729 | (a) — 3,248 | 481 |
| Northern Territory | 30 | (a) — 42 | (b) — 12 |
| Federal Capital Territory | 19 | 322 | 341 |
| Total, Australia | 84,567 | 36,780 | 121,347 |

(a) Excess of departures.

(b) Decrease.

These figures indicate that since the Census of 4th April, 1921, the population of Australia has increased by 252,358, or rather more than a quarter of a million, representing an average rate of increase of slightly more than 2 per cent. per annum.