

CHAPTER III.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT.

§ 1. Scheme of Parliamentary Government.

1. **General.**—A brief account of the general legislative powers of the Commonwealth and States is given in preceding issues of the Official Year Book (see No. 13, pp. 927-951, and No. 22, p. 64).

2. **Powers and Functions of the Governor-General and of the State Governors.**—A detailed statement of the powers and functions of the Governor-General and of the State Governors appears in preceding issues of the Official Year Book (see No. 18, pp. 73-80).

3. **Governor-General and State Governors.**—The present Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia is His Royal Highness Prince Henry William Frederick Albert, Duke of Gloucester, Earl of Ulster and Baron Culloden, K.G., K.T., K.P., P.C., G.M.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., General in the Army, Air Chief Marshal in the Royal Air Force, One of His Majesty's Personal Aides-de-Camp.

His Royal Highness assumed office on 30th January, 1945, in succession to General, the Right Honorable Lord Gowrie, V.C., P.C., G.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., whose term of office expired on 5th September, 1944.

His Excellency Major-General Sir Winston Joseph Dugan, G.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., as Administrator of the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia, carried out the functions of the Governor-General from 5th September, 1944, to 30th January, 1945.

The following is a list of the Governors of the various States of Australia in office as at 30th April, 1946 :—

New South Wales ..	Lieut.-Governor—	The Hon. SIR FREDERICK RICHARD JORDAN, K.C.M.G.*
Victoria ..	.. Major-General	SIR WINSTON JOSEPH DUGAN, G.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.
Queensland ..	.. Colonel the Rt. Hon. Sir	LESLIE ORME WILSON, G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.C.L.E., D.S.O.
South Australia ..	.. Lieut.-General	SIR CHARLES WILLOUGHBY MOKE NORRIE, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., M.C.
Western Australia ..	.. Lieut.-Governor—	The Hon. SIR JAMES MITCHELL, K.C.M.G.
Tasmania ..	.. Admiral	SIR HUGH BINNEY, K.C.B., D.S.O.

4. **The Cabinet and Executive Government.**—(i) *General.* Both in the Commonwealth and in the States, executive government is based on the system which was evolved in Britain in the 18th century, and which is generally known as "Cabinet" or "responsible" government. Its essence is that the head of the State (His Majesty the King, and his representatives, Governor-General or Governor) should perform governmental acts on the advice of his Ministers; that he should choose his principal Ministers of State from members of Parliament belonging to the party, or coalition of parties, commanding a majority in the popular House; that the Ministry so chosen should be collectively responsible to that House for the government of the country; and that the Ministry should resign if it ceases to command a majority there.

The Cabinet system operates by means, chiefly, of constitutional conventions, customs or understandings, and of institutions that do not form part of the legal structure of the government at all. The constitutions of the Commonwealth and the States make fuller legal provision for the Cabinet system than the British Constitution does—for example, by requiring that Ministers shall be, or within a prescribed period become, members of the Legislature. In general, however, the legal structure of the executive government remains the same as it was before the establishment of the Cabinet system.

Formally, the executive power is vested in the Commonwealth in the Governor-General, and in the States in the Governor. In each case he is advised by an Executive Council, which however, meets only for certain formal purposes, as explained below.

* Lieut.-General John Northcott, C.B., M.V.O., Commander of the British Commonwealth Occupation Force in Japan, was appointed Governor in March, 1946, but had not taken up office at 30th April, 1946.

The whole policy of a Ministry is, in practice, determined by the Ministers of State, meeting, without the Governor-General or Governor, under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister or Premier. This group of Ministers is known as the Cabinet.

(ii) *The Cabinet.* This body does not form part of the legal mechanism of government. Its meetings are private and deliberative. The actual Ministers of the day are alone present, no records of the meetings are made public, and the decisions taken have, in themselves, no legal effect. In Australia, all Ministers are members of the Cabinet. As Ministers are the leaders of the party or parties commanding a majority in the popular House, the Cabinet substantially controls, in ordinary circumstances, not only the general legislative programme of Parliament, but the whole course of Parliamentary proceedings. In effect, though not in form, the Cabinet, by reason of the fact that all Ministers are members of the Executive Council, is also the dominant element in the executive government of the country. Even in summoning, proroguing or dissolving Parliament, the Governor-General or Governor is usually guided by the advice tendered him by the Cabinet, through the Prime Minister or Premier, though legally the discretion is vested in the Governor-General or Governor himself.

(iii) *The Executive Council.* This body is presided over by the Governor-General or Governor. Its members hold office during his pleasure. All Ministers of State are *ex officio* members of the Executive Council. In the Commonwealth, and also in the States of Victoria and Tasmania Ministers remain members of the Executive Council on leaving office, but are not summoned to attend its meetings; for it is an essential feature of the Cabinet system that attendance should be limited to the Ministers of the day. The meetings of the Executive Council are formal and official in character, and a record of proceedings is kept by the Secretary or Clerk. At Executive Council meetings, the decisions of the Cabinet are (where necessary) given legal form; appointments made; resignations accepted; proclamations issued, and regulations and the like enacted.

(iv) *The Appointment of Ministers.* Legally, Ministers hold office during the pleasure of the Governor-General or Governor. In practice, however, the discretion of the King's representative in the choice of Ministers is limited by the conventions on which the Cabinet system rests. Australian practice follows, broadly, that of the United Kingdom. When a Ministry resigns, the Crown's custom is to send for the leader of the party which commands, or is likely to be able to command, a majority in the popular House, and to commission him, as Prime Minister or Premier, to "form a Ministry"—that is, to nominate other persons to be appointed as Ministers of State and to serve as his colleagues in the Cabinet.

The customary procedure in connexion with the resignation or acceptance of office by a Ministry is described fully in previous issues of the Official Year Book (*see* No. 6, p. 942). It may be added, however, that subsequent legislation has, in most of the States, obviated the necessity of responsible Ministers vacating their seats in Parliament on appointment to office.

(v) *Ministers in Upper and Lower Houses.* The following table shows the number of Ministers with seats in the Upper or Lower Houses of each Parliament in June, 1945 :—

AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTS : MINISTERS IN UPPER OR LOWER HOUSES, JUNE, 1945.

Ministers with Seats in—	C'wealth.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
The Upper House ..	5	2	4	(a)	2	2	1	16
The Lower House ..	14	13	8	10	4	7	8	64
Total ..	19	15	12	10	6	9	9	80

(a) Abolished in 1922.

(vi) *Ministers of State.* (a) *Commonwealth.* A statement showing the names of Ministers of State who have held office from the inauguration of the Commonwealth Government to 1925 will be found in Official Year Book No. 18, pp. 82 and 83. The names of the present Ministers will be found on page 69.

(b) *State Ministries.* A list of the members of the Ministry in each State in April, 1946, will be found in § 3 of this Chapter.

5. **Number and Salary of Members of the Legislatures.**—The following table shows the number and annual salary of members in each of the legislative chambers in June, 1945 :—

MEMBERS OF COMMONWEALTH AND STATE PARLIAMENTS, AND ANNUAL SALARIES, JUNE, 1945.

Members in—	C'wealth.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Total.
NUMBER OF MEMBERS.								
Upper House ..	36	60	34	(a) 20	30	18		198
Lower House ..	75	90	65	62	39	50	30	411
Total ..	111	150	99	62	59	80	48	609
ANNUAL SALARY.								
Upper House ..	£ 1,000	£ ..	£ 350	£ (a) 600	£ 600	£ 600	£ (b)370-500	..
Lower House ..	1,000	875	650	850	600	600	(b)400-500	..

(a) Abolished in 1922.

(b) According to area of electorate and distance from the Capital.

The use of the expressions "Upper House" and "Lower House" in the statement above, though not justified constitutionally, is convenient, inasmuch as the legislative chambers are known by different names in the Commonwealth and in some of the States.

6. **Enactments of the Parliament.**—In the Commonwealth, all laws are enacted in the name of the Sovereign, the Senate, and the House of Representatives. The subjects with respect to which the Commonwealth Parliament is empowered to make laws are enumerated in the Constitution Act. In the States, laws are enacted in the name of the Sovereign by and with the consent of the Legislative Council (except in Queensland) and Legislative Assembly or House of Assembly. The Governor-General or the State Governor acts as Viceroy as regards giving the Royal Assent to or vetoing Bills passed by the Legislatures, or reserving them for the special consideration of the Sovereign. In the States, the Councils and Assemblies are empowered generally, subject to the Commonwealth Constitution, to make laws in and for their respective States, in all cases whatsoever. Subject to certain limitations, they may alter, repeal, or vary their Constitution. Where a law of a State is inconsistent with a law of the Commonwealth the latter prevails, and the former is, to the extent of the inconsistency, invalid.

§ 2. Parliaments and Elections.

1. **Qualifications for Membership and for Franchise.**—The conspectus in § 4 of "General Government" in Official Year Book No. 13 contains particulars, as in 1920, relating to the legislative chambers in the Commonwealth and State Parliaments, and shows concisely the qualifications necessary for membership and for the franchise in each House. (These are, in the main, applicable in 1945, but it must be remembered that Queensland abolished the Upper House in 1922.) It has further to be remembered that in 1925 the Commonwealth Parliament passed an Act removing the disqualification on racial grounds from (a) natives of British India and (b) persons who have become naturalized. Disqualification of persons otherwise eligible, either as members or voters, is generally on the usual grounds of being of unsound mind or attainted of treason, being convicted of certain offences, and, as regards membership, on the grounds of holding a place of profit under the Crown, being pecuniarily interested in a Government contract except as a member of an incorporated company of more than twenty-five persons, or being an undischarged bankrupt.

2. **The Commonwealth Government.**—The Senate consists of 36 members, six being returned by each of the original federating States. Members of this Chamber are elected for the term of six years, but by a provision in the Constitution half the members retire at the end of every third year, although they are eligible for re-election. In accordance with the Constitution, the total number of members of the House of Representatives must be as

nearly as possible double that of the Senate. In the House of Representatives the States are represented on a population basis, and the numbers in September, 1945, were as follows:—New South Wales, 28; Victoria, 20; Queensland, 10; South Australia, 6; Western Australia, 5; Tasmania, 5; Northern Territory, 1—total, 75. The member representing the Northern Territory may join in the debates but is not entitled to vote, except on a motion for the disallowance of any ordinance of the Territory or on any amendment of any such motion. The Constitution provides for a minimum of five members for each original State. Members of the House of Representatives are elected for the duration of the Parliament, which is limited to three years. In elections for Senators, the whole State constitutes the electorate. For the purpose of elections for the House of Representatives, the State is divided into single electorates corresponding in number with the number of members to which the State is entitled. In both Houses members are elected by universal adult suffrage. Further information regarding the Senate and the House of Representatives is given in earlier issues of the Official Year Book.

3. **Commonwealth Elections.**—There have been sixteen complete Parliaments since the inauguration of Federation. The fifth Parliament, which was opened on 9th July, 1913, was dissolved on 30th July, 1914, in somewhat unusual circumstances. Under Section 57 of the Constitution, it is provided that, should the Senate fail to pass, or pass with amendments, any proposed law previously passed by the House of Representatives, and should the latter House, after an interval of three months, again pass the proposed law, with or without the amendments of the Senate, and the Senate for a second time reject it or pass it with amendments to which the lower House will not agree, then the Governor-General may dissolve the two Houses simultaneously. For the first time in the history of the Commonwealth this deadlock between the Senate and the House of Representatives occurred in the second session of the fifth Parliament, and, in accordance with the section of the Constitution referred to above, both Houses were dissolved by the Governor-General. Until 1927 the Parliament met at Melbourne: it now meets at Canberra, the first meeting at Parliament House, Canberra, being opened by H.R.H. the Duke of York, on 9th May, 1927. The first session of the seventeenth Parliament opened on 23rd September, 1943. Particulars regarding Commonwealth elections since 1929 are shown in the following table:—

COMMONWEALTH ELECTIONS.

Date.	Electors Enrolled.			Electors who Voted.			Percentage of Electors who Voted.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
THE SENATE.									
12. 10. 1929	1,773,014	1,769,936	3,542,950	(a)	(a)	(a)	..	..	..
19. 12. 1931	1,827,079	1,822,875	3,649,954	1,741,163	1,727,140	3,468,303	95.30	94.75	95.02
15. 9. 1934	1,954,339	1,948,338	3,902,677	1,862,749	1,845,829	3,708,578	95.31	94.74	95.03
23. 10. 1937	2,043,212	2,036,826	4,080,038	1,963,970	1,957,358	3,921,327	96.12	96.10	96.11
21. 9. 1940	2,113,169	2,126,177	4,239,346	1,989,381	2,027,422	4,016,803	94.14	95.36	94.75
21. 8. 1943	2,164,648	2,301,989	4,466,637	2,132,256	2,169,430	4,301,686	98.50 ^b	94.24 ^b	96.31 ^b
(a) No election. (b) Includes members of Forces not enrolled.									
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. (CONTESTED ELECTORATES.)									
12. 10. 1929	1,557,525	1,560,505	3,118,030	1,479,100	1,478,447	2,957,547	94.96	94.74	94.85
19. 12. 1931	1,724,730	1,733,343	3,458,073	1,643,604	1,642,870	3,286,474	95.30	94.78	95.04
15. 9. 1934	1,930,418	1,934,021	3,864,439	1,843,949	1,833,774	3,677,723	95.52	94.82	95.17
23. 10. 1937	1,928,786	1,919,234	3,848,020	1,854,770	1,844,499	3,699,269	96.16	96.11	96.13
21. 9. 1940	2,087,003	2,109,443	4,196,446	1,966,744	2,012,265	3,979,009	94.24	95.39	94.82
21. 8. 1943	2,134,547	2,272,960	4,407,507	2,103,636	2,141,733	4,245,369	98.55 ^a	94.23 ^a	96.32 ^a
(a) Includes members of Forces not enrolled.									

The percentage of electors who exercised the franchise at each election rose from 53.04 for the Senate and 55.69 for the House of Representatives in 1901 to 77.69 and 78.30 respectively in 1917. The next election in 1919 showed a considerable falling off,

and in 1922 the decrease was still more marked, the respective percentages for that year being 57.95 and 59.36, or very little more than those for 1901. Compulsory voting was introduced prior to the election in 1925, and an exceedingly heavy vote (over 91 per cent.) was cast in that year. This high percentage has been exceeded appreciably at subsequent elections, increasing in 1943 to 96.3 per cent. for both Houses.

For the first time two women were elected to the Commonwealth Parliament in 1943, one to the Senate and the other to the House of Representatives.

4. **Commonwealth Referenda.**—(i) *General.* According to Section 128 of the Constitution, any proposed law for the alteration of the Constitution must, in addition to being passed by an absolute majority of each House of Parliament, be submitted to a referendum of the electors in each State, and must further be approved by a majority of the States and of the electors who voted before it can be presented for Royal assent. So far nineteen proposals have been submitted to referenda and the consent of the electors has been received in three cases only, the first in relation to the election of Senators in 1906, and the other two in respect of State Debts—one in 1910 and the other in 1928. Details of the various referenda and the voting thereon were given in previous issues of the Official Year Book (see No. 18, p. 87, No. 31, p. 67 and No. 35, pp. 60 and 961).

(ii) *Post-war Reconstruction and Democratic Rights Referendum, 1944.* A Convention of representatives of Commonwealth and States Parliaments to consider the reference of powers by the States to the Commonwealth met at Canberra from 24th November to 2nd December, 1942 and adopted a resolution that adequate powers to make laws in relation to post-war reconstruction should be referred by the States to the Commonwealth for a period ending at the expiration of five years after the war, and finally approved of a draft bill (see page 62 of the Official Year Book No. 35 for full text) which was passed in the agreed form in only two States viz. :—New South Wales and Queensland. The Victorian Parliament passed the bill in practically the agreed form but attached a condition to it suspending its operation until all the other States had passed identical measures. The Parliaments of South Australia and Western Australia passed the bill but vital amendments were made to the agreed list of powers. In Tasmania, despite repeated requests by the Government, the Legislative Council refused to pass the bill.

Following this failure to obtain the approval of all State Parliaments to the draft Bill agreed to at the Canberra Convention the Commonwealth Government decided to submit the question of transfer of powers to a Referendum in accordance with section 128 of the Commonwealth Constitution (see *supra*, p. 25) and the bill for this purpose, passed by an absolute majority of the members of both Houses of Parliament, was in substance similar to that agreed to at the Convention but contained also certain declarations regarding freedom of speech and expression and freedom of religion. It also contained a provision requiring notice of regulations of a legislative character made under the proposed powers being given to each senator and each member of the House of Representatives. The bill—the full text of which may be found on pages 64 to 66 of Official Year Book No. 35—was submitted to the people at a Referendum on 19th August, 1944, and only two States—South Australia and Western Australia—were in favour of the proposed alteration. The voting in each State was as follows :—

State.	Yes.	No.	Informal.	Total.	Percentage of Formal Votes.	
					Yes.	No.
New South Wales ..	759,211	911,680	23,228	1,694,119	45.44	54.56
Victoria	597,848	614,487	15,236	1,227,571	49.31	50.69
Queensland	216,262	375,862	7,444	599,568	36.52	63.48
South Australia ..	196,294	191,317	4,832	392,443	50.64	49.36
Western Australia ..	140,399	128,303	3,637	272,339	52.25	47.75
Tasmania	53,386	83,769	2,256	139,411	38.92	61.08
Total	1,963,400	2,305,418	56,633	4,325,451	45.99	54.01

5. **The Parliament of New South Wales.**—(i) *Constitution.* The Parliament of New South Wales consists of two Chambers, the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council. The Assembly consists of ninety members, elected in single-seat electoral districts, who hold their seats during the existence of the Parliament to which they are elected. The duration of Parliament is limited to three years. Until 1934 the Council was a nominee Chamber, consisting of a variable number of members appointed for life without remuneration, but as from 23rd April, 1934, it was reconstituted and became a House of sixty members to serve without remuneration for a term of twelve years, with one-quarter of the members retiring every third year. The electorate comprises members of both Chambers, who vote as a single electoral body at simultaneous sittings of both Chambers. At the first elections in 1933, four groups of fifteen members were elected to serve respectively twelve years, nine years, six years, and three years. Any person resident for at least three years in Australia and entitled to vote at the election of members of the Legislative Assembly is eligible for election as a member of the Council, if nominated by two electors, an elector being a member of either of the two Houses for the time being.

(ii) *Particulars of Elections.* Since the introduction of responsible government in New South Wales there have been thirty-three complete Parliaments, the first of which opened on 22nd May, 1856, and was dissolved on 19th December, 1857, while the thirty-third was dissolved on 13th April, 1944. The thirty-fourth Parliament opened on 22nd June, 1944. The elections of 1920, 1922 and 1925 were contested on the principle of proportional representation, but a reversion to the system of single seats and preferential voting was made at the later appeals to the people. Particulars of voting at elections from 1930 to 1944 are given below :—

NEW SOUTH WALES LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS.

Year.	Electors Enrolled.			Electors who Voted.			Percentage of Electors who Voted in Contested Electorates.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1930	724,471	716,314	1,440,785	682,747	673,676	1,356,423	95.09	94.79	94.94
1932	739,009	725,999	1,465,008	690,094	676,993	1,367,087	96.42	96.37	96.39
1935	769,220	759,493	1,528,713	654,383	640,369	1,294,752	96.09	95.60	95.85
1938	803,517	804,316	1,607,833	608,727	606,767	1,215,494	96.15	95.41	95.78
1941	834,752	850,029	1,684,781	698,100	727,652	1,425,752	90.99	94.03	92.52
1944 ^a	833,300	899,406	1,732,706	610,904	699,368	1,310,272	81.62	92.85	87.47

(a) Service and Section votes omitted in percentage calculations.

The principle of one elector one vote was adopted in 1894, and that of compulsory enrolment in 1921. Compulsory voting was introduced at the 1930 election and the percentage of electors who voted in contested electorates rose from 82.54 in 1927 to over 96 in 1932, but declined to 87 in 1944.

The franchise was extended to women (Women's Franchise Act) in 1902, and was exercised by them for the first time in 1904.

6. **The Parliament of Victoria.**—(i) *Constitution.* Both of the Victorian legislative Chambers are elective bodies, but there is a considerable difference in the number of members of each House, as well as in the qualifications necessary for members and electors. The number of members in the Upper House is thirty-four, and in the Lower House, sixty-five. In the Legislative Council the tenure of the seat is for six years, but one member for each of the seventeen provinces retires every third year. Members of the Legislative Assembly are elected for the duration of Parliament, which is limited

to three years. Single voting is observed in elections held for either House, plurality of voting having been abolished for the Legislative Assembly in 1899 and for the Legislative Council in 1937; for the latter House, however, it is still possible for an elector to be enrolled for more than one province, and such elector may select the province for which he desires to record his vote. A preferential system of voting (see Official Year Book No. 6, p. 1182) was adopted for the first time in Victoria at the election held in November, 1911. Compulsory voting was first observed at the 1927 elections for the Legislative Assembly, and at the 1937 elections for the Legislative Council.

(ii) *Particulars of Elections.* Since the introduction of responsible government in Victoria there have been thirty-five complete Parliaments, the first of which opened on 21st November, 1856, and closed on 9th August, 1859, while the thirty-fifth was dissolved on 3rd October, 1945. The thirty-sixth Parliament was opened on 28th November, 1945. Particulars of voting at elections during the years 1928 to 1945 are given in the following table:—

VICTORIAN ELECTIONS.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Year.	Electors Enrolled.	Electors Enrolled in Contested Electorates.	Electors who Voted.	Percentage of Electors who Voted in Contested Electorates.
1928	444,278	268,164	85,372	31.84
1931	470,349	239,975	93,244	38.86
1934	469,395	160,980	47,375	29.43
1937	447,694	265,194	208,925	78.78
1940	471,843	235,784	178,666	75.78
1943	465,637	117,584	83,568	71.07

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Year.	Electors Enrolled.			Electors who Voted.			Percentage of Electors who Voted in Contested Electorates.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1929	496,996	532,174	1,029,170	308,532	330,836	639,368	94.11	93.36	93.72
1932	510,809	544,492	1,055,301	335,512	351,530	687,042	94.60	93.82	94.20
1935	532,619	566,632	1,099,251	415,081	438,389	853,470	95.00	93.82	94.39
1937	550,618	585,978	1,136,596	383,507	413,923	797,430	94.22	93.72	93.96
1940	565,002	597,965	1,162,967	377,644	408,715	786,359	93.65	93.19	93.41
1943	596,595	665,035	1,261,630	392,160	491,519	883,679	81.87	91.57	87.00
1945	594,761	682,188	1,276,949	408,665	487,883	896,548	85.75	89.93	87.98

The franchise was extended to women by the Adult Suffrage Act 1908, while voting at elections was made compulsory for the Legislative Assembly in 1926 and for the Legislative Council in 1935.

7. *The Parliament of Queensland.*—(i) *Constitution.* As stated previously the Legislative Council in Queensland was abolished in 1922, the date of Royal Assent to the Act being 23rd March, 1922. The Legislative Assembly is composed of sixty-two members, and the State is divided into that number of electoral districts. The Electoral Districts Act of 1931, assented to on 1st October, 1931, provided that from and after the end of the twenty-fifth Parliament (dissolved on 19th April, 1932) the number of

members and electoral districts should be reduced from seventy-two to sixty-two. A system of optional preferential voting is in operation. (See Official Year Book No. 6, p. 1183.)

(ii) *Particulars of Elections.* Since the establishment of responsible government in Queensland there have been twenty-nine complete Parliaments, the last of which was dissolved on 23rd February, 1944. Opinions differ regarding the opening date of the first Queensland Parliament. According to the Votes and Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly the House met for the first time on 22nd May, 1860, when the members were sworn and the Speaker elected. The Governor, however, was unable to be present on that date, but he duly attended on 29th May, 1860, and delivered the Opening Address.

At the elections held in May, 1915, the principle of compulsory voting was introduced for the first time in Australia. Of the number of electors enrolled at the 1944 elections, 87.55 per cent. went to the polls. Statistics regarding elections during the years 1929 to 1944 are given below:—

QUEENSLAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS.

Year.	Electors Enrolled.			Electors who Voted.			Percentage of Electors who Voted in Contested Electorates.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1929	270,327	239,672	509,999	228,601	209,647	438,248	89.69	91.45	90.52
1932	274,986	250,958	525,944	236,266	220,628	456,894	92.59	93.14	92.86
1935	303,018	272,270	575,288	245,331	225,427	470,758	92.55	92.89	92.71
1938	318,402	288,157	606,559	280,841	258,196	539,037	92.09	92.97	92.51
1941	331,285	303,631	634,916	269,849	259,398	529,247	88.68	92.03	90.29
1944	329,028	326,956	655,984	251,119	261,662	512,781	85.62	89.48	87.55

The election of 1907 was the first State election in Queensland at which women voted, the right being conferred under the Elections Acts Amendment Act 1905.

S. The Parliament of South Australia.—(i) *Constitution.* In this State there is a Legislative Council composed of twenty members and a House of Assembly with thirty-nine members, both Chambers being elective. For the Legislative Council the State is divided into five districts each returning four members two of whom retire alternately. Thirty-nine districts return one member each to the House of Assembly; prior to 1938 there were forty-six members representing nineteen districts. A system of preferential voting is in operation.

(ii) *Particulars of Elections.* Since the inauguration of responsible government in South Australia there have been thirty complete Parliaments, the first of which was opened on 22nd April, 1857. The thirtieth Parliament was opened on 3rd July, 1941, and was dissolved on 28th February, 1944. The thirty-first Parliament was opened on 20th July, 1944. The duration of the twenty-eighth Parliament was extended from three to five years by the provisions of the Constitution (Quinquennial Parliament)

Act 1933, but this Act was repealed by the Constitution Act Amendment Act (No. 2) 1939, and the three-year term was reverted to. Particulars of voting at the last six elections are given below:—

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ELECTIONS.

Year.	Electors Enrolled.			Electors who Voted.			Percentage of Electors who Voted in Contested Electorates.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

1927	100,376	37,395	137,771	46,686	17,742	64,428	67.55	59.91	65.26
1930	(a)	(a)	133,274	(a)	(a)	100,040	(a)	(a)	75.06
1933	(a)	(a)	133,152	(a)	(a)	25,309	(a)	(a)	64.21
1938	92,109	37,026	129,135	67,691	23,474	91,165	73.49	63.40	70.60
1941	(a)	(a)	115,952	(a)	(a)	70,660	(a)	(a)	60.94
1944	(a)	(a)	142,314	(a)	(a)	81,791	(a)	(a)	83.05

(a) Not available.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

1927	152,997	156,591	309,588	110,127	104,611	214,738	80.64	74.31	77.43
1930	(a)	(a)	325,244	(a)	(a)	222,819	(a)	(a)	71.36
1933	(a)	(a)	338,576	(a)	(a)	182,693	(a)	(a)	59.45
1938	(a)	(a)	364,884	(a)	(a)	223,136	(a)	(a)	63.31
1941	(a)	(a)	378,265	(a)	(a)	171,978	(a)	(a)	50.69
1944	(a)	(a)	401,747	(a)	(a)	255,883	(a)	(a)	88.53

(a) Not available.

South Australia was the first of the States to grant women's suffrage (under the Constitution Amendment Act 1894), the franchise being exercised by women for the first time at the Legislative Assembly election on 25th April, 1896. Compulsory voting for the House of Assembly, provided for by the Electoral Act Amendment Act 1942, was first observed at the 1944 election.

9. The Parliament of Western Australia.—(i) *Constitution.* In this State both Chambers are elective. For the Legislative Council there are thirty members, each of the ten provinces returning three members, one of whom retires biennially. At each biennial election the member elected holds office for a term of six years, and automatically retires at the end of that period. The Legislative Assembly is composed of fifty members, one member being returned by each electoral district. Members of the Legislative Assembly are elected for three years.

(ii) *Particulars of Elections.* Since the establishment of responsible government in Western Australia there have been seventeen complete Parliaments, the first of which was opened on 30th December, 1890. The seventeenth Parliament was opened on 3rd August, 1939, and was dissolved on 8th October, 1943. The eighteenth Parliament was opened on 27th July, 1944. The preferential system of voting in use in Western Australia is described in *Official Year Book No. 6, p. 1184.* Elections for membership of both Houses which were due to be held early in 1942, were postponed by the Legislative Council

Postponement of Elections Act 1942 and the Legislative Assembly Duration and General Elections Postponement Act 1941. Particulars of voting at the last six elections for each Chamber are given in the tables following :—

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ELECTIONS.

Year.	Electors Enrolled.			Electors who Voted.			Percentage of Electors who Voted in Contested Electorates.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.									
1932	57,454	19,889	77,343	17,145	5,508	22,653	56.29	48.29	54.16
1934	62,168	22,323	84,491	31,590	10,189	41,779	53.39	47.23	51.75
1936	63,407	21,987	85,394	18,479	6,394	24,873	45.03	40.03	43.62
1938	62,992	23,419	86,411	19,132	6,971	26,103	52.64	45.57	50.54
1940	62,745	23,598	86,343	24,904	8,013	32,917	41.96	35.29	40.11
1944	56,021	23,868	79,889	17,609	5,454	23,063	51.01	45.47	49.58
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.									
1927	113,072	97,877	210,949	76,307	66,199	142,506	74.32	72.42	73.42
1930	122,576	107,500	230,076	75,206	63,807	139,013	75.44	73.30	74.44
1933	124,776	112,419	237,195	96,210	89,802	186,012	90.23	91.00	90.60
1936	130,065	117,400	247,465	71,734	64,575	136,309	71.95	68.22	70.13
1939	138,240	127,747	265,987	104,228	101,510	205,738	89.01	91.07	90.01
1943	137,100	137,756	274,856	(a)	(a)	6183,781	(a)	(a)	686.53

(a) Not available.

(b) Includes members of Forces not enrolled.

Women's suffrage was granted by the Electoral Act of 1899. The first woman member to be elected to an Australian Parliament was returned at the 1921 election in this State. Voting for the Legislative Assembly was made compulsory in December, 1936, the first elections for which the provision was in force being those held on 18th March, 1939 when the percentage of electors who voted in contested electorates rose from 70.13 to 90.01. The high percentage of 90.60 in 1933 was due to the fact that the Secession Referendum, in respect of which voting was compulsory, was taken on the Legislative Assembly election day.

(iii) *Secession Referendum.* On 8th April, 1933, the people of Western Australia voted overwhelmingly in favour of the State withdrawing from the Federal Commonwealth, the voting being :—In favour, 138,653; not in favour, 70,706.

10. **The Parliament of Tasmania.**—(i) *Constitution.* In Tasmania there are two legislative Chambers—the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly, both bodies being elective. The Council consists of eighteen members, elected for six years and returned from fifteen districts, Hobart returning three, Launceston two, and the remaining thirteen districts, one member each. Three members retire annually, and the Council cannot be dissolved as a whole. There are five House of Assembly districts, corresponding to the Commonwealth electoral divisions, each returning six members elected under a system of proportional representation which first came into force at the 1909 elections (see Official Year Book No. 6, p. 1185). The life of the Assembly was extended from three to five years by the Constitution Act 1936.

In 1924 and again in 1925 the House of Assembly contested, with at least temporary success, the power of the Legislative Council to amend money bills. The matter was settled by the Constitution Act 1926, which provides that all money bills shall originate in the Assembly, that all money votes shall be recommended by the Governor, and that the Council may amend bills other than those for appropriating public moneys or fixing a rate for income or land tax. The Council has no power to insert a provision for the appropriation of money or to impose or increase any burden on the people.

(ii) *Particulars of Elections.* The first Tasmanian Parliament opened on 2nd December, 1856, and closed on 8th May, 1861. There have been twenty-six complete Parliaments since the inauguration of responsible government. Particulars of the voting at the last six elections for the House of Assembly are given hereunder :—

TASMANIAN HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS.

Year.	Electors Enrolled.			Electors who Voted.			Percentage of Electors who Voted in Contested Electorates.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1925	56,667	58,234	114,901	41,322	35,959	77,281	72.92	61.81	67.25
1928	55,058	56,898	111,956	46,769	44,910	91,679	84.94	78.94	81.90
1931	59,024	59,706	118,730	56,674	56,105	112,779	96.02	93.97	94.99
1934	63,841	63,840	127,681	60,623	59,999	120,622	94.96	93.98	94.47
1937	66,223	65,778	132,001	62,880	61,580	124,460	94.95	93.62	94.29
1941	69,058	70,176	139,234	61,480	65,554	127,034	89.03	93.41	91.24

The present members of the Legislative Council have been elected at various dates and the following particulars are given of the last contested elections in two divisions in 1944 :—Number of electors on the roll, 8,940; number of votes recorded, 7,365; percentage of enrolled electors who voted, 82.38.

The suffrage was granted to women under the Constitution Amendment Act 1903 and compulsory voting came into force on the passing of the Electoral Act in 1928.

§ 3. Administration and Legislation.

1. *The Commonwealth Parliaments.*—The first Parliament of the Commonwealth was convened by proclamation dated 29th April, 1901, by his Excellency the late Marquis of Linlithgow, then Earl of Hopetoun, Governor-General. It was opened on 9th May, 1901, by H.R.H. the Duke of Cornwall and York, who had been sent to Australia for that purpose by His Majesty the King, the Rt. Hon. Sir Edmund Barton, G.C.M.G., K.C., being Prime Minister.

The following table gives the number and duration of Parliaments since Federation :—

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTS.

Number of Parliament.	Date of Opening.	Date of Dissolution.
First	9th May, 1901	23rd November, 1903
Second	2nd March, 1904	5th November, 1906
Third	20th February, 1907	19th February, 1910
Fourth	1st July, 1910	23rd April, 1913
Fifth	9th July, 1913	30th July, 1914(a)
Sixth	8th October, 1914	26th March, 1917
Seventh	14th June, 1917	3rd November, 1919
Eighth	26th February, 1920	6th November, 1922
Ninth	28th February, 1923	3rd October, 1925
Tenth	13th January, 1926	9th October, 1928
Eleventh	9th February, 1929	16th September, 1929
Twelfth	20th November, 1929	27th November, 1931
Thirteenth	17th February, 1932	7th August, 1934
Fourteenth	23rd October, 1934	21st September, 1937
Fifteenth	30th November, 1937	27th August, 1940
Sixteenth	20th November, 1940	7th July, 1943
Seventeenth	23rd September, 1943	

(a) On this occasion, the Governor-General, acting on the advice of the Ministry, and under Section 57 of the Constitution, granted a dissolution of both the Senate and the House of Representatives, this being the only occasion on which a dissolution of both Houses has occurred.

2. **Governors-General and Ministries.**—The following statements show the names of the several Governors-General, and the Ministries which have directed the administration of the affairs of the Commonwealth since its inception :—

(a) **GOVERNORS-GENERAL.**

- Rt. Hon. EARL OF HOPETOUN (afterwards MARQUIS OF LINLITHGOW), K.T., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O. From 1st January 1901, to 9th January, 1903.
- Rt. Hon. HALLAM, BARON TENNYSON, G.C.M.G. From 17th July, 1902, to 9th January, 1903. (Acting).
- Rt. Hon. HALLAM, BARON TENNYSON, G.C.M.G. From 9th January, 1903, to 21st January, 1904.
- Rt. Hon. HENRY STAFFORD, BARON NORTHCOPE, G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E., C.B. From 21st January, 1904, to 9th September, 1908.
- Rt. Hon. WILLIAM HUMBLE, EARL OF DUDLEY, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., &c. From 9th September, 1908, to 31st July, 1911.
- Rt. Hon. THOMAS, BARON DENMAN, G.C.M.G., K.C.V.O. From 31st July, 1911, to 18th May, 1914.
- Rt. Hon. SIR RONALD CRAUFURD MUNRO FERGUSON (afterwards VISCOUNT NOVAR OF RAITH), G.C.M.G. From 18th May, 1914, to 6th October, 1920.
- Rt. Hon. HENRY WILLIAM, BARON FORSTER OF LEPE, G.C.M.G. From 6th October, 1920, to 8th October, 1925.
- Rt. Hon. JOHN LAWRENCE, BARON STONEHAVEN, G.C.M.G., D.S.O. From 8th October, 1925, to 22nd January, 1931.
- Lieut.-Colonel the Rt. Hon. ARTHUR HERBERT TENNYSON, BARON SOMERS, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., M.C. From 3rd October, 1930, to 22nd January, 1931 (Acting).
- Rt. Hon. SIR ISAAC ALFRED ISAACS, G.C.M.G. From 22nd January, 1931, to 23rd January, 1936.
- General the Rt. Hon. ALEXANDER GORE ARKWRIGHT, BARON GOWRIE, V.C., P.C., G.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O. From 23rd January, 1936, to 30th January, 1945.
- Major-General Sir WINSTON JOSEPH DUGAN, G.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O. From 5th September, 1944 to 30th January, 1945 (Acting).
- His Royal Highness PRINCE HENRY WILLIAM FREDERICK ALBERT, DUKE OF GLOUCESTER, EARL OF ULSTER AND BARON CULLODEN, K.G., K.T., K.P., P.C., G.M.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O. General in the Army, Air Chief Marshal in the Royal Air Force, One of His Majesty's Personal Aides-de-Camp. From 30th January, 1945.

(b) **MINISTRIES.**

- (i) **BARTON MINISTRY**, 1st January, 1901, to 24th September, 1903.
- (ii) **DEAKIN MINISTRY**, 24th September, 1903, to 27th April, 1904.
- (iii) **WATSON MINISTRY**, 27th April, to 17th August, 1904.
- (iv) **REID-MCLEAN MINISTRY**, 18th August, 1904, to 5th July, 1905.
- (v) **DEAKIN MINISTRY**, 5th July, 1905, to 13th November, 1908.
- (vi) **FISHER MINISTRY**, 13th November, 1908, to 1st June, 1909.
- (vii) **DEAKIN MINISTRY**, 2nd June, 1909, to 29th April, 1910.
- (viii) **FISHER MINISTRY**, 29th April, 1910, to 24th June, 1913.
- (ix) **COOK MINISTRY**, 24th June, 1913, to 17th September, 1914.
- (x) **FISHER MINISTRY**, 17th September, 1914, to 27th October, 1915.
- (xi) **HUGHES MINISTRY**, 27th October 1915, to 14th November, 1916.
- (xii) **HUGHES MINISTRY**, 14th November, 1916, to 17th February, 1917.
- (xiii) **HUGHES MINISTRY**, 17th February, 1917, to 10th January, 1918.
- (xiv) **HUGHES MINISTRY**, 10th January, 1918, to 9th February, 1923.
- (xv) **BRUCE-PAGE MINISTRY**, 9th February, 1923, to 22nd October, 1929.
- (xvi) **SCULIN MINISTRY**, 22nd October, 1929, to 6th January, 1932.
- (xvii) **LYONS MINISTRY**, 6th January, 1932, to 7th November, 1938.
- (xviii) **LYONS MINISTRY**, 7th November, 1938, to 7th April, 1939.
- (xix) **PAGE MINISTRY**, 7th April, 1939, to 26th April, 1939.
- (xx) **MENZIES MINISTRY**, 26th April, 1939, to 14th March, 1940.
- (xxi) **MENZIES MINISTRY**, 14th March, 1940, to 29th August, 1941.
- (xxii) **FADDEN MINISTRY**, 29th August, 1941, to 7th October, 1941.
- (xxiii) **CURTIN MINISTRY**, 7th October, 1941, to 21st September, 1943.
- (xxiv) **CURTIN MINISTRY**, 21st September, 1943, to 6th July, 1945.
- (xxv) **FORDE MINISTRY**, 6th July, 1945, to 13th July, 1945.
- (xxvi) **CHIPLEY MINISTRY**, 13th July, 1945.

(c) CHIFLEY GOVERNMENT (sworn in 13th July, 1945), as at 30th April, 1946.

(The State from which each Minister was elected to Parliament is added in brackets.)

DEPARTMENTS.	MINISTERS.
<i>Prime Minister and Treasurer</i>	RT. HON. J. B. CHIFLEY (N.S.W.).
<i>Minister for the Army (and Deputy Prime Minister)</i>	RT. HON. F. M. FORDE (Qld.).
<i>Attorney-General and Minister for External Affairs</i>	RT. HON. H. V. EVATT, LL.D., D.Litt., K.C. (N.S.W.).
<i>Minister for Defence</i>	RT. HON. J. A. BEASLEY (N.S.W.).
<i>Minister for the Navy, Minister for Munitions and Minister for Aircraft Production</i>	HON. N. J. O. MAKIN (S.A.).
<i>Minister for Labour and National Service</i> ..	HON. E. J. HOLLOWAY (Vic.).
<i>Minister for Air and Minister for Civil Aviation</i>	HON. A. S. DRAKEFORD (Vic.).
<i>Minister for Commerce and Agriculture</i> ..	HON. W. J. SCULLY (N.S.W.).
<i>Minister for Supply and Shipping</i> ..	SENATOR THE HON. W. P. ASHLEY (N.S.W.).
<i>Minister for Trade and Customs*, Minister for Post-war Reconstruction and Minister in Charge of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research</i>	HON. J. J. DEDMAN (Vic.).
<i>Vice-President of the Executive Council</i> ..	SENATOR THE HON. J. S. COLLINGS (Qld.).
<i>Minister for Transport and Minister for External Territories</i>	HON. E. J. WARD (N.S.W.).
<i>Minister for Health and Minister for Social Services</i>	SENATOR THE HON. J. M. FRASER (W.A.).
<i>Minister for Repatriation</i>	HON. C. W. FROST (Tas.).
<i>Minister for Works and Housing</i>	HON. H. P. LAZZARINI (N.S.W.).
<i>Postmaster-General</i>	SENATOR THE HON. D. CAMERON (Vic.).
<i>Minister for Immigration and Minister for Information</i>	HON. A. A. CALWELL (Vic.).
<i>Minister for the Interior and Minister assisting the Minister for Works and Housing</i>	HON. H. V. JOHNSON (W.A.).

3. **State Ministries.**—The names of the members of the Ministries in each State in April, 1946, are shown in the following statement. The date on which each Ministry was sworn in is stated in parenthesis:—

STATE MINISTERS, 1945.
NEW SOUTH WALES (8th June, 1944).

<i>Premier and Colonial Treasurer—</i> THE HON. W. J. MCKELL, K.C.	<i>Secretary for Public Works and Minister for Local Government—</i> THE HON. J. J. CAHILL.
<i>Deputy Premier, Colonial Secretary, Minister for Mines and Minister for National Emergency Services—</i> THE HON. J. M. BADDELEY.	<i>Minister for Health—</i> THE HON. C. A. KELLY.
<i>Minister for Education—</i> THE HON. R. J. HEFFRON.	<i>Minister for Housing—</i> THE HON. J. MCGIRR.
<i>Attorney-General—</i> THE HON. C. E. MARTIN.	<i>Secretary for Lands—</i> THE HON. J. M. TULLY.
<i>Minister for Conservation—</i> THE HON. W. F. DUNN.	<i>Minister for Transport—</i> THE HON. M. O'SULLIVAN.
<i>Minister for Labour and Industry and Minister for Social Welfare—</i> THE HON. HAMILTON KNIGHT.	<i>Minister for Agriculture—</i> THE HON. E. H. GRAHAM.
<i>Minister of Justice and Vice-President of the Executive Council—</i> THE HON. R. R. DOWNING, M.L.C.	<i>Assistant Ministers—</i> THE HON. C. R. EVATT, K.C. THE HON. W. E. DICKSON, M.L.C. THE HON. G. WEIR.

* Following upon the death of Senator the Hon. R. V. Keane in Washington, U.S.A., on 26th April 1946, the Hon. J. J. Dedman, Minister for Post-war Reconstruction was appointed on 29th April, 1946, to hold also the office of Minister for Trade and Customs.

STATE MINISTERS—*continued.*

VICTORIA (21st November, 1945).

<i>Premier and Treasurer—</i> THE HON. J. CAIN.	<i>President of the Board of Land and Works, Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey and Minister of Water Supply—</i> THE HON. L. W. GALVIN.
<i>Minister of Public Instruction—</i> THE HON. F. FIELD.	
<i>Chief Secretary, Attorney-General and Solicitor-General—</i> THE HON. W. SLATER.	<i>Minister of Labour and Minister of Employ- ment—</i> THE HON. P. J. CLAREY, M.L.C.
<i>Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Mines and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works—</i> THE HON. W. G. MCKENZIE.	<i>Commissioner of Public Works, Minister in Charge of Electrical Undertakings, and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works—</i> THE HON. P. J. KENNELLY, M.L.C.
<i>Minister of Health, Minister of Housing and Minister of Forests—</i> THE HON. W. P. BARRY.	<i>Ministers without Portfolios—</i> THE HON. T. HAYES. THE HON. A. M. FRASER, M.L.C. THE HON. P. L. COLEMAN, M.L.C.
<i>Minister of Transport, Minister of State Development and Decentralization and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works—</i> THE HON. C. P. STONEHAM.	

QUEENSLAND (7th March, 1946).

<i>Premier and Chief Secretary; and Vice- President of the Executive Council—</i> THE HON. E. M. HANLON.	<i>Attorney-General—</i> THE HON. D. A. GLEDSON.
<i>Treasurer—</i> THE HON. J. LARCOMBE.	<i>Secretary for Public Instruction—</i> THE HON. T. L. WILLIAMS.
<i>Secretary for Health and Home Affairs—</i> THE HON. T. A. FOLEY.	<i>Minister for Transport—</i> THE HON. E. J. WALSH.
<i>Secretary for Public Works—</i> THE HON. H. A. BRUCE.	<i>Secretary for Labour and Employment and Secretary for Mines—</i> THE HON. V. C. GAIR.
<i>Secretary for Public Lands—</i> THE HON. A. JONES.	<i>Secretary for Agriculture and Stock—</i> THE HON. H. H. COLLINS.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA (15th May, 1944).

<i>Premier, Treasurer, and Minister of Immigration—</i> THE HON. T. PLAYFORD.	<i>Minister of Lands, Minister of Repatriation, and Minister of Irrigation—</i> THE HON. R. J. RUDALL, M.L.C.
<i>Chief Secretary, Minister of Health, and Minister of Mines—</i> THE HON. A. L. McEWIN, M.L.C.	<i>Minister of Works, Minister of Railways, Minister of Marine, and Minister of Local Government—</i> THE HON. M. McINTOSH.
<i>Attorney-General, Minister of Education, and Minister of Industry and Employment—</i> THE HON. C. LEMPRIERE ABBOTT, K.C.	<i>Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Forests—</i> THE HON. SIR GEORGE JENKINS.

STATE MINISTERS—*continued.*

WESTERN AUSTRALIA (3rd August, 1945).

Premier and Treasurer—

THE HON. F. J. S. WISE.

Minister for Works, Water Supplies and Industrial Development—

THE HON. A. R. G. HAWKE.

Minister for Lands and Labour—

THE HON. A. H. PANTON.

Chief Secretary and Minister for Police—

THE HON. W. H. KITSON, M.L.C.

Minister for Justice and Health—

THE HON. E. NULSEN.

Minister for the North-west and Minister for Forests—

THE HON. A. A. M. COVERLEY.

Minister for Education, Agriculture and Social Services—

THE HON. J. T. TONKIN.

Minister for Mines, Railways and Transport—

THE HON. W. M. MARSHALL.

Honorary Minister—

THE HON. E. H. GRAY, M.L.C.

TASMANIA (18th December, 1939).

Premier and Treasurer—

THE HON. R. COSGROVE.

Attorney-General and Assistant Minister for Education—

THE HON. J. McDONALD, M.L.C.

Minister for Lands and Works—

THE HON. E. BROOKER.

Minister for Agriculture, and Agricultural Bank—

THE HON. JOHN L. MADDEN.

Chief Secretary and Minister for Transport—

THE HON. C. E. CULLEY.

Minister for Education—

THE HON. E. R. A. HOWROYD.

Honorary Ministers—

THE HON. W. P. TAYLOR, M.C.
(*Minister for Forests.*)

THE HON. H. T. LANE (*Minister for Mines.*)

THE HON. A. J. WHITE.
(*Minister for Health.*)

4. The Course of Legislation.—The actual legislation by the Commonwealth Parliament up to the end of 1944, is indicated in alphabetical order in "Vol. XLII. of the Acts of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, passed during 1944, with Tables, Appendix and Index." A "Chronological Table of Acts passed from 1901 to 1944, showing how they are affected by Acts passed during the year 1944" is also given, and further "A Table of Commonwealth Legislation passed during the year 1944 in relation to the several provisions of the Constitution", is furnished. Reference should be made to these for complete information. In issues of the Official Year Book prior to No. 23, an analytic table was included showing the nature of Commonwealth legislation in force at the end of the latest year available. A classification of legislation, according to its relation to the several provisions of the Constitution, up to the end of the year 1928 will be found in No. 22, pp. 76-84.

§ 4. Cost of Parliamentary Government.

The following statement shows the cost of parliamentary government in the Commonwealth and in each State, as well as the cost per head of population, for the year ended 30th June, 1944. In order to avoid incorrect conclusions as to the cost of the Governor-General's or Governor's establishment, it may be pointed out that a very large part of the expenditure (with the exception of the item "Governor's salary") under the head of Governor-General or Governor represents official services entirely outside the Governor's personal interest, and carried out at the request of the Government.

COST OF PARLIAMENTARY GOVERNMENT, 1943-44.

Particulars.	C'wth.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1. Governor-General or Governor—								
Governor's salary ..	10,000	5,000	5,000	3,000	5,000 ^(a)	2,000	3,000	33,000
Other salaries ..	2,076	4,865	930	1,863	681	970	882	12,267
Other expenses, including maintenance of house and grounds ..	b 20,353	2,740	5,913	(b)3,875	1,667	2,297	3,208	40,053
Total ..	32,429	12,605	11,843	8,738	7,348	5,267	7,090	85,320
2. Executive Council—								
Salaries of Officers ..	(c)	28	687	30	..	60	(d)	805
Other expenses ..	(c)	44	26	95	..	..	(d)	165
Total ..	(e)	72	713	125	..	60	(d)	970
3. Ministry—								
Salaries of Ministers ..	22,750	23,420	11,250	11,796	7,750	8,200	6,500	91,666
Travelling expenses ..	7,337	21,582	(e)	..	(e)	3,460	1,610	33,989
Other ..	194	715	(e)	..	(e)	..	2,969	3,878
Total ..	30,281	45,717	11,250	11,796	7,750	11,660	11,079	129,533
4. Parliament—								
A. Upper House :								
President and Chairman of Committees ..	2,000	1,900	1,370	..	530	1,800	296	7,896
Allowance to members ..	36,063 ^(f)	150	5,931	..	6,534	16,700	7,205	72,583
Railway passes ..	5,760 ^g	11,790 ^(h)	9,000	..	1,226	4,003	1,000	32,779
Postage for members ..	2,921 ⁽ⁱ⁾	..	381	..	70	169	(e)	3,541
B. Lower House :								
Speaker and Chairman of Committees ..	2,000	2,613 ^(j)	2,349	2,000	1,404	1,689	350	12,405
Allowance to members ..	75,164 ^(f)	68,992	27,855	34,410	13,181	27,691	12,294	259,587
Railway passes ..	12,000 ^g	18,680	(k)	12,333	2,390	6,875	1,650	53,928
Postage for members ..	6,174 ^(h)	3,357	1,364	2,521	447	366	(e)	14,229
C. Both Houses :								
Standing Committee on Public Works—								
Expenses of members ..	..	..	1,401	..	1,852	..	191	3,444
Salaries of staff and contingencies ..	..	773	1,135	..	983	..	75	2,966
Printing—								
<i>Hansard</i> ..	11,298	3,314	4,290	3,189	2,257	1,566	..	25,914
Other ..	6,353	5,438	4,601	1,585	4,717	670	2,432	25,816
Reporting staff—								
Salaries ..	11,384	8,727	7,417	2,929	6,419	6,005	..	42,881
Contingencies ..	89	115	106	..	473	76	..	859
Library—								
Salaries ..	7,301	3,961	2,271	1,095	958	50	73	15,709
Contingencies ..	2,469	1,328	750	629	451	215	..	5,842
Salaries of other officers ..	43,939	31,213	13,064	8,977	8,090	7,650	4,100	117,033
Other ..	40,972	1,363	..	..	861	763	..	43,959
D. Miscellaneous :								
Fuel, light, heat, power, and water ..	2,898	1,752	1,453	741	2,186	151	..	10,981
Posts, telegraphs, telephones ..	3,654	4,448	..	1,234	1,187	302	..	10,825
Furniture, stores, and stationery ..	3,223	945	990	191	1,935	250	..	7,587
Other ..	1 86,177	2,143	234	1,952	2,349	1,021	940	94,816
Total ..	361,839	173,002	85,962	73,786	60,500	78,012	31,043	864,144

(a) Salary of Lieut.-Governor. (b) Commonwealth, includes interest and sinking fund on loans, £4,318, and new works, buildings, etc., £186; Queensland, includes £650 allowances to Lieut.-Governor. (c) Included under Governor-General. (d) Duties performed by Chief Secretary's Department. (e) Not available separately. (f) Allowance to representative of Government in Legislative Council. (g) Estimated. (h) Both Houses. (i) Included with Lower House. (j) Includes Leader of the Opposition and Leader of the Labour Party. (k) Included with Upper House. (l) Includes interest and sinking fund, Parliament House, Canberra, £35,142; and maintenance of members' rooms in capital cities, £13,711.

COST OF PARLIAMENTARY GOVERNMENT—continued.

Particulars.	C'wth.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total.
5. <i>Electoral—</i>	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Salaries	95,626	2,559	778	2,919	3,499	6,028	(d)	111,400
Cost of elections, contingencies, etc.	139,155	40,216	25,255	32,546	11,846	16,740	2,060	267,818
Total	234,781	42,775	26,033	35,465	15,345	22,768	2,060	379,227
6. <i>Royal Commissions, Select Committees, etc.</i>	4,712	..	4,278	1,533	..	..	818	11,341
Total	4,712	..	4,278	1,533	..	..	818	11,341
GRAND TOTAL	664,042	274,171	140,079	131,443	90,943	117,767	52,090	1,470,535
Cost per head of population ..	1s. 10d.	1s. 11d.	1s. 5d.	2s. 6d.	2s. 11d.	4s. 11d.	4s. 3d.	4s. 1d.

(d) Duties performed by Chief Secretary's Department.

Figures showing total cost and cost per head during each of the five years 1940-41 to 1943-44 in comparison with 1938-39 are given in the next table.

COST OF PARLIAMENTARY GOVERNMENT.

Year.	C'wealth.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total
TOTAL.								
1938-39 ..	£ 516,455	£ 232,799	£ 114,497	£ 106,942	£ 97,383	£ 113,793	£ 49,270	£ 1,231,049
1940-41 ..	592,482	264,255	112,533	125,642	94,292	104,310	49,174	1,342,688
1941-42 ..	522,795	221,022	112,648	99,544	82,859	108,038	52,864	1,199,770
1942-43 ..	539,475	220,958	139,224	103,204	81,867	102,146	49,609	1,236,535
1943-44 ..	664,042	274,171	140,079	131,443	90,943	117,767	52,000	1,470,533
PER HEAD OF POPULATION.								
1938-39 ..	s. d. 1 6	s. d. 1 8	s. d. 1 3	s. d. 2 1	s. d. 3 3	s. d. 4 11	s. d. 4 2	s. d. 3 7
1940-41 ..	1 8	1 11	1 2	2 5	3 2	4 5	4 1	3 10
1941-42 ..	1 6	1 7	1 2	1 11	2 9	4 6	4 5	3 4
1942-43 ..	1 6	1 7	1 5	2 0	2 8	4 4	4 1	3 5
1943-44 ..	1 10	1 11	1 5	2 6	2 11	4 11	4 3	4 1

§ 5. Government Employees.

1. Australia, 1939 to 1944.—The following table shows at June in each of the years 1941 to 1944 in comparison with 1939 the number of employees of Commonwealth and Allied Governments, State and Semi-Government bodies, and Local Government authorities. These include not only administrative employees but also employees in business undertakings, public utilities operated by Governments, and persons engaged on construction of public works, as well as employees in Commonwealth munition factories and in factories connected with Government undertakings and utilities.

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES—AUSTRALIA.

June—	Commonwealth and Allied Governments.			State Govt. and Semi-Government Bodies.			Local Government Authorities.(a)			Total.		
	M.	F.	Persons.	M.	F.	Persons.	M.	F.	Persons.	M.	F.	Persons.
1939 ..	56,177	12,335	68,512	245,415	40,920	286,335	60,708	2,786	63,494	362,300	50,041	418,341
1941 ..	82,452	23,686	106,138	247,777	42,755	290,532	49,340	2,804	52,144	379,599	69,245	448,844
1942(b) ..	136,801	49,196	185,997	249,010	47,740	287,750	41,860	3,865	45,725	418,671	100,801	519,472
1943(b) ..	146,879	71,720	218,599	228,904	53,148	282,052	36,690	4,305	40,995	412,473	129,173	541,646
1944(b) ..	137,053	71,795	208,848	229,792	53,846	283,638	37,203	4,219	41,422	404,048	129,860	533,908

(a) Partly estimated.

(b) Includes United States of America authorities' civilian employees in Australia.

The figures in all cases exclude personnel of defence forces. The increase in number of employees of the Commonwealth and Allied Governments in 1941-42 and 1942-43 was due mainly to expansion of Government munition factories, Allied Works projects and administrative organizations of Allied Governments and war-time departmental controls. In 1943-44 there was a decrease in Commonwealth Government employment following completion of certain munitions and defence works programmes. The diminution in number of employees of State and Semi-Government authorities since 1941 was due to a curtailment of peace-time work.

2. Commonwealth and States, etc., June, 1943 and 1944.—The number of employees of the Commonwealth and Allied Governments and of the State Governments, Semi-Government and Local Government authorities in each State as at June, 1943 and 1944, are shown in the following table:—

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, JUNE, 1943 AND 1944.

Employed by—	1943.			1944.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
Commonwealth and Allied Governments ^(a)	146,879	71,720	218,599	137,053	71,795	208,848
New South Wales ..	105,220	21,483	126,703	106,799	21,550	128,349
Victoria ..	65,178	16,083	81,261	65,707	16,686	82,393
Queensland ..	41,377	7,116	48,493	42,514	7,238	49,752
South Australia ..	26,817	6,450	33,267	26,353	6,065	32,418
Western Australia ..	18,716	4,276	22,992	18,158	4,409	22,567
Tasmania ..	8,286	2,045	10,331	7,464	2,117	9,581
Total ..	412,473	129,173	541,646	404,048	129,860	533,908

(a) Includes United States of America Authorities' civilian employees in Australia.

§ 6. Diplomatic and other Representatives Overseas and in Australia.

The following statement shows the various diplomatic and other representatives overseas and in Australia as at 31st December, 1945. Full details of Australian diplomatic and consular representation and of foreign representation in Australia can be obtained from a publication issued by the Department of External Affairs, Canberra, entitled "Diplomatic and Consular List, including British Commonwealth Representatives and Trade Commissioners in Australia".

AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMATIC AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES OVERSEAS.

His Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to—

United States of America, Washington, D.C.—

The Hon. Sir Frederic W. Eggleston.

Brazil, Rio de Janeiro—

L. R. Macgregor, C.B.E.

Chile, Santiago—

J. S. Duncan, C.B.E. (Minister Designate).

China, Chungking—

D. B. Copland, C.M.G. (Minister Designate).

France, Paris—

Lieut.-Colonel W. R. Hodgson, O.B.E.

Netherlands, London—

Chargé d'Affaires *ad interim*: J. D. L. Hood.

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Moscow—

The Hon. James J. Maloney, M.L.C.

High Commissioner for Australia in—*United Kingdom, London—*

Vacant. Commonwealth Minister resident in London (The Rt. Hon. J. A. Beasley, M.P.) will act in this capacity for time being.

Canada, Ottawa—

A. T. Stirling, O.B.E.

India, New Delhi—

Lieut.-General Sir Iven Gifford Mackay, K.B.E., C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D.

New Zealand, Wellington—

The Hon. T. G. D'Alton.

Consul General—*New York, United States of America—*

C. V. Kellway.

Consuls—*New Caledonia—*H. S. Barnett.*Portuguese Timor—*Vacant.**Trade Commissioners for the Commonwealth of Australia—***United Kingdom—*C. E. Critchley, London.*Canada—*Vacant.*Egypt—*C. L. Steele, Cairo.*India—*H. R. Gollan, D.S.O., M.C., Calcutta.*United States of America—*

Trade Commissioner, R. R. Ellen, New York.

Commercial Counsellor, J. U. Garside, Washington, D.C.

DIPLOMATIC AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES IN AUSTRALIA.**Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of—***United States of America, Canberra—*

Vacant. *Chargé d'Affaires ad interim* : John R. Minter.

Brazil, Canberra—

Senhor Oscar Correia (Minister Designate).

China, Canberra—

His Excellency Mr. Cheng Ye-Tung.

Netherlands, Canberra—

His Excellency Baron F. C. van Aerssen Beyeren van Voshol, M.W.O.

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Canberra—

His Excellency Mr. N. M. Lifanov.

France, Canberra—

His Excellency Monsieur Pierre Auge.

Chargé d'Affaires en titre for the Republic of Chile, Canberra—

Senor M. E. Hubner.

High Commissioner for—*His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, Canberra—*Vacant. Deputy High Commissioner—W. C. Hankinson, C.M.G., O.B.E.,
M.C. (Acting).*Canada, Canberra—*

The Rt. Hon. Mr. Justice T. C. Davis.

New Zealand, Canberra—

Hon. J. G. Barclay.

India, Canberra—

Sir Raghunath P. Paranjpye.

Commissioner for Malta—

Captain H. C. Curmi, O.B.E., Melbourne.

TRADE COMMISSIONERS OF OVERSEAS GOVERNMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.*United Kingdom—*

His Majesty's Senior Trade Commissioner, Canberra—

Sir R. W. Dalton, C.M.G.

His Majesty's Trade Commissioners, Sydney—

J. R. Adams.

A. W. Burton, M.B.E.

His Majesty's Trade Commissioner, Melbourne—

H. F. Gurney.

His Majesty's Trade Commissioner, Brisbane—

A. Hartland.

Canada—

Government Trade Commissioner—

F. W. Fraser, Melbourne.

Acting Government Trade Commissioner—

K. F. Noble, Sydney.

*New Zealand—*Government Trade and Tourist Commissioner and New Zealand Supply Liaison
Officer—

W. Taylor, Sydney.

Officer in Charge New Zealand Government Offices, Melbourne, and New
Zealand Supply Liaison Officer—

J. A. Malcolm, Melbourne.

India—

Trade Commissioner—

R. R. Saksena, Sydney.

Netherlands Indies—

Trade Commissioner—

J. van Holst Pellekaan, Melbourne.

§ 7. Consular Representatives of Foreign Countries in Australia.

The following tabular statement shows the number of consular representatives of foreign countries in each State at 1st May, 1945 :—

CONSULAR REPRESENTATIVES IN AUSTRALIA AT 1st MAY, 1945.

Country.	Number of Consular Representatives in—						Total, Aust.
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	
Argentina	1	1	..	..	..	..	2
Belgium	4	1	1	1	1	1	9
Bolivia .. .. .	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Brazil	2	1	..	..	..	..	3
Chile	3	1	..	..	..	..	4
China	5	2	1	..	1	..	9
Costa Rica	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Czechoslovakia	1	1	1	1	1	..	5
Denmark	2	2	2	1	2	1	10
Dominican Republic .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Ecuador	2	..	1	..	..	..	3
France	2	..	..	..	..	..	2
Greece	3	2	1	1	3	..	10
Honduras	1	1	..	..	..	..	2
Latvia	1	1	1	1	..	..	4
Liberia .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Netherlands	4	2	4	1	1	..	(a) 13
Nicaragua .. .. .	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Norway	3	1	3	3	4	2	16
Panama	2	..	1	..	..	..	3
Paraguay	1	..	..	..	1	..	2
Peru .. .. .	..	1	..	1	..	..	2
Poland	3	1	..	..	..	..	4
Portugal	2	1	1	1	1	..	6
Salvador .. .. .	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Spain .. .. .	..	1	..	..	1	..	2
Sweden	2	1	3	3	1	1	11
Switzerland	1	1	1	..	..	..	3
United States of America	8	4	3	1	2	..	18
Yugoslavia	1	1	..	..	..	..	2
Total	55	29	25	17	19	5	151

(a) Includes a Consul for the Netherlands in the Northern Territory.

Countries having Consuls-General or Senior Consuls in Sydney are Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, France, Greece, Latvia, Netherlands, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland United States of America and Yugoslavia.

The Consuls-General in London for Latvia, Mexico and Turkey have jurisdiction over Australia and its Territories.

Particulars of the names and addresses of the various Consular representatives, as well as their rank and year of appointment, are contained in a publication issued by the Department of External Affairs, Canberra, entitled "Diplomatic and Consular List including British Commonwealth Representatives and Trade Commissioners in Australia."