

CHAPTER XIX.

PRIVATE FINANCE.

A. CURRENCY.

§ 1. General.

The Australian monetary system is based on the British system, of which the unit is the pound (£) divided into 20 shillings (s.) each of 12 pence (d.). When the Australian currency was introduced in 1909 the Australian pound was specified as equivalent to 123.27447 grains of gold $\frac{11}{18}$ ths fine or 113.002 grains of fine gold and, until the depression in 1930, was identical with the pound sterling. There was a gradual depreciation of the Australian pound in terms of sterling from the beginning of 1930 until 3rd December, 1931, when it was stabilized at the rate of £125 Australian = £100 sterling. This relationship has been maintained until the present time. Following the depreciation, no action was taken to define the value of the Australian pound in terms of gold until 5th August, 1947, when the Australian Government advised the International Monetary Fund, in terms of the membership agreement, that the par value of the Australian pound was 2.86507 grammes (44.2148 grains) of fine gold. From 19th September, 1949 this was reduced to 1.99062 grammes (30.720 grains) of fine gold.

When the Commonwealth was established in 1901, the currency in Australia consisted of United Kingdom gold, silver and bronze coins, notes issued by the banks, and Queensland Treasury notes. Queensland Treasury notes were in circulation in Queensland only, having superseded bank notes in that State after the 1893 crisis. Under the Commonwealth Constitution the control of currency, coinage and legal tender and the issue of paper money were vested in the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth assumed these powers by enacting the Coinage Act 1909 and the Australian Notes Act 1910.

Imperial gold coins of the specified weight and fineness and Australian notes are legal tender in Australia for any amount. Australian silver coins are legal tender for any amount not exceeding forty shillings and Australian bronze coins are legal tender for any amount not exceeding one shilling.

§ 2. Coinage.

1. *Coins in Circulation.*—Brief historical notes relating to the Australian Coinage are given in Official Year Book No. 37, pages 557 and 558. For weight, metal, composition, etc., of Australian coins in circulation *see* Official Year Book No. 39, page 697.

The silver coins issued prior to July, 1947 have a millesimal fineness of 925 (thirty-seven fortieths silver and three fortieths alloy) and those issued since 1st July, 1947 (dated 1946 and later) have a millesimal fineness of 500 (one-half silver and one-half alloy).

From 1910 to 1916 Australian coins were minted in England by the Royal Mint, London, and the Mint, Birmingham Ltd., and in 1916 and 1917 by the Indian Mints. The minting of Australian coins was undertaken by the Australian Mints in 1916 and coins have been minted at the Melbourne branch of the Royal Mint from 1916 to the present time, at the Sydney branch from 1919 until that Mint closed in 1926 and at the Perth branch in 1922 and since 1940.

During the 1939–45 War the two Australian mints were unable to meet the demand for Australian coins and some coins were minted in the United States of America and India. In 1951–52 and 1952–53 some coins were minted at the Royal Mint, London, to meet the heavy demand for coins. Details of Australian coins obtained from each mint to 30th June, 1955, are as follows:—Melbourne, £37,917,000; Perth, £1,226,000; Sydney, £488,000; United Kingdom Mints, £3,016,000; United States Mints, £6,000,000; Indian Mints, £169,000; Total, £48,816,000.

2. **Issues of Australian Coins.**—The net issues of Australian silver and bronze coin; from 1910 to 30th June, 1955 were:—Crown (5s.), £276,000; Florin (2s.), £17,998,000; Shilling (1s.), £6,382,000; Sixpence (6d.), £4,557,000; Threepence (3d.), £5,036,000; Total silver coins, £34,249,000; Penny (1d.), £2,089,000; Half-penny ($\frac{1}{2}$ d.), £620,000; Total bronze coins, £2,709,000. No allowance has been made for £52,000 worth of damaged silver coin, for which denominations are not available, withdrawn since 1910.

3. **Profits on Coinage of Silver and Bronze.**—Australian silver and bronze coins are token coins and, as the face value of the coins is greater than the value of the bullion they contain, a profit is made from their issue. This profit forms part of the Commonwealth Consolidated Revenue. In the following table details are given of the value of coins issued, the cost of bullion, the cost of minting and sundry expenses connected with the issue, and the profits made on the issue of coins during the years 1938–39 and 1950–51 to 1954–55.

AUSTRALIAN SILVER AND BRONZE COINS : PROFITS FROM ISSUE.

(£.)

Year.	Coin issued.	Cost of Bullion.	Gross Profit. (a)	Cost of Minting and Sundry Charges.	Net Profit. (a)
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SILVER COIN.

1938–39	219,600	81,314	138,286	18,459	119,827
1950–51	1,553,200	860,367	692,833	158,457	534,376
1951–52	.. ..	3,003,600	1,663,384	1,340,216	316,970	1,023,246
1952–53	.. ..	1,709,600	971,471	738,129	180,608	557,521
1953–54	.. ..	2,469,400	1,381,027	1,088,373	233,151	855,222
1954–55	.. ..	2,127,800	1,187,041	940,759	172,552	768,207

BRONZE COIN.

1938–39	.. ..	41,800	7,838	33,962	26,025	7,937
1950–51	.. ..	208,066	100,922	107,144	142,848	— 35,704
1951–52	.. ..	249,639	125,514	124,125	251,991	— 127,866
1952–53	.. ..	327,620	413,263	— 85,643	161,640	— 247,283
1953–54	.. ..	61,368	71,421	— 10,053	94,963	— 105,016
1954–55	.. ..	14,616	12,665	1,951	45,590	— 43,639

TOTAL.

1938–39	.. ..	261,400	89,152	172,248	44,484	127,764
1950–51	.. ..	1,761,266	961,289	799,977	301,305	498,672
1951–52	.. ..	3,253,239	1,788,898	1,464,341	568,961	895,380
1952–53	.. ..	2,037,220	1,384,734	652,486	342,248	310,238
1953–54	.. ..	2,530,768	1,452,448	1,078,320	328,114	750,206
1954–55	.. ..	2,142,416	1,199,706	942,710	218,142	724,568

(a) Minus sign (—) denotes a loss.

4. **Australian Mints.**—(i) *General.* Soon after the discovery of gold in Australia a branch of the Royal Mint was established in Sydney. The formal opening took place on 14th May, 1855. The Melbourne branch was opened on 12th June, 1872, and the Perth Branch on 20th June, 1899. The States of New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia provided an annual endowment in return for which the mint receipts were paid to the respective State Treasuries. Owing to losses incurred in its operations, the Sydney branch was closed at the end of 1926.

Since their establishment, the Australian branches of the Royal Mint have been primarily concerned with the refining of gold, minting of Imperial gold coins and the production of bars and ingots of gold bullion for export. The minting of Imperial gold coins was discontinued in September, 1931. In 1916 the Melbourne branch took over the minting of Australian silver and bronze coins from the Royal Mint, London. Australian coins were also minted at the Sydney Mint from 1919 to 1926 and at the Perth Mint in 1922 and from 1940 to the present time. The Melbourne branch has also minted token coins for the Territory of New Guinea and for New Zealand.

(ii) *Gold Receipts and Issues.* (a) *Receipts.* The receipts of gold at Australian mints during 1954 amounted to 1,013,000 fine ounces (Melbourne, 168,000 fine ounces; Perth, 845,000 fine ounces) making the aggregate received to the end of 1954, 124,888,000 fine ounces, (Melbourne, 43,101,000 fine ounces, Perth, 44,880,000 fine ounces, and Sydney, until 1926 when it was closed, 36,907,000 fine ounces).

(b) *Issues.* The Australian mints issue gold bullion for the use of local manufacturers (jewellers, dentists, etc.), and for export. Since September, 1931, when the United Kingdom departed from the gold standard, the minting and issue of gold coins by Australian mints has ceased. Australian exports of gold are mainly in the form of 400-oz. ingots, but in earlier years a considerable amount of gold was shipped to India in 10-oz. bars. Since early in the 1939-45 War, all gold has been acquired by the Commonwealth Bank and the export and use of gold has been subject to regulation by the Commonwealth Government. From December, 1951 export of a proportion of newly-mined gold for sale on premium markets overseas was permitted (see para. 5 below). The issues from Australian mints during 1954 (valued at £3 17s. 10½d. per standard ounce) amounted to £4,300,000 (Melbourne, £709,000, Perth, £3,591,000) making the aggregate issues of bullion and coin to the end of 1954, £530,549,000 (Melbourne, £183,079,000, Perth, £190,679,000, and Sydney, £156,791,000).

5. *Price of Gold.*—The following table shows the average prices of gold and the average value of the sovereign in London and Australia for the years 1938-39 and 1950-51 to 1954-55. The average price of gold in Australia is based on the Commonwealth Bank's buying price for gold lodged with the mints.

PRICE OF GOLD : LONDON AND AUSTRALIA.

Period.	London.		Australia.			
	Average price per fine oz.	Average value of Sovereign.	Average price per fine oz.	Sovereign.		
				Average value.	Equivalent to a premium of—	
	£stg. s. d.	£stg. s. d.	£A. s. d.	£A. s. d.	%	
1938-39 ..	7 6 9	1 14 7	9 2 9	2 3 0	115.0	
1950-51 ..	12 8 0	2 18 5	15 9 10	3 12 0	260.0	
1951-52 ..	12 8 0	2 18 5	15 9 10	3 12 0	260.0	
1952-53 ..	12 8 0	2 18 5	15 9 10	3 12 0	260.0	
1953-54 ..	12 8 3	2 18 5	15 10 4	3 12 1	260.4	
1954-55 ..	12 10 0	2 18 10	15 12 6	3 12 6	267.8	

In December, 1951, arrangements were made whereby producers could sell a proportion of newly-mined gold for industrial purposes on oversea premium markets. Under the arrangements, gold is acquired by the Commonwealth Bank in the usual manner and sold, at the Bank's buying price, to an association representing gold producers participating in the scheme. The association pays the Bank's handling charges and the costs of preparation of the gold and makes arrangements for export and sale. The gold can only be sold against payment in United States dollars. Profits earned by the

association after meeting administrative expenses are distributed to members in proportion to the quantity of gold delivered to the Commonwealth Bank. Until August, 1952, when permission was given for the export of fine gold, gold exported under this arrangement was not to exceed a fineness of 22 carats ($\frac{11}{13}$ ths.).

The average prices in Australian currency (f.o.b.) obtained for gold exported under this scheme for each month during 1954-55 were :—July, £15 10s. 1d.; August, no sales; September, no sales; October, £15 13s. 1d.; November, £15 14s. 2d.; December, £15 12s. 11d.; January, £15 13s. 2d.; February, £15 13s. 5d.; March, £15 12s. 11d.; April, £15 12s. 10d.; May, £15 12s. 9d.; June, £15 12s. 11d.

From 1st May, 1954 the Commonwealth Bank increased its buying price for gold from £15 9s. 10d. to £15 12s. 6d. per fine ounce. The previous gold price was a realization price based upon the price for which the Commonwealth Bank could sell gold abroad in official markets, less costs of movement. Changes affecting gold abroad, including the reopening of the London gold market on 22nd March, 1954, made it necessary to review the Australian price of gold. The new price of £15 12s. 6d. per fine ounce reflects the "parity" value of Australian currency as established by the International Monetary Agreements Act, 1947.

§ 3. Notes.

1. **General.**—Brief historical notes relating to the circulation and issue of notes in Australia are given in Official Year Book No. 37, pages 561 and 562. The issue of notes intended for circulation as money other than by the Commonwealth Bank is prohibited.

2. **The Australian Note Issue.**—(i) *General.* Notes in circulation in Australia are issued by the Commonwealth Bank through the Note Issue Department. The Bank is authorized to issue Australian notes in denominations of 5s., 10s., £1, £5, £10 and any multiple of £10. The Commonwealth Bank is not required to hold a specific reserve in gold against the note issue, but the assets of the Note Issue Department must be held or invested in gold, on deposit with any bank or in securities of the Government of the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth or a State. All profits of the Note Issue Department, with the exception of an amount not exceeding £500,000 each year which may be paid to the other departments or divisions of the Commonwealth Bank, are paid to the Commonwealth Consolidated Revenue Fund.

Australian notes are legal tender to any amount within Australia and have been issued in denominations of 10s., £1, £5, £10, £20, £50, £100 and £1,000.

(ii) *Australian Notes in Circulation.* Particulars of the average values of notes in circulation for the years 1938-39 and 1950-51 to 1954-55 are given in the following table :—

AUSTRALIAN NOTE ISSUE.
(£'000.)

Denomination.	Average of monthly statements for year—					
	1938-39.	1950-51.	1951-52.	1952-53.	1953-54.	1954-55.
10s.	4,141	8,919	9,454	9,738	9,136	10,175
£1	21,124	67,841	69,399	68,286	69,238	69,646
£5	11,718	106,063	132,432	152,679	168,232	176,383
£10	5,126	70,671	83,131	88,257	91,911	101,443
£20	111	8	7	6	6	6
£50	1,259	65	59	55	51	49
£100	2,238	69	63	60	57	55
£1,000	2,855	447	572	649	683	799
Held by Banks	15,454	32,478	37,745	36,400	38,996	40,880
Held by Public	33,118	221,605	257,372	283,330	300,718	317,676
Total	48,572	254,083	295,117	319,730	339,714	358,556

(iii) *Commonwealth Bank—Note Issue Department.* The following statement shows particulars of liabilities and assets of the Note Issue Department of the Commonwealth Bank as at 30th June, 1954 and 1955.

NOTE ISSUE DEPARTMENT : LIABILITIES AND ASSETS, 30th JUNE.

(£'000.)

Liabilities.	1954.	1955.	Assets.	1954.	1955.
Notes on Issue(a) ..	343,827	362,753	Gold and Balances held abroad (including money at short call) ..	120,736	120,926
Special Reserve—Premium on gold sold ..	4,755	4,755	Government Securities (including Commonwealth Treasury Bills) ..	231,002	250,041
Other Liabilities(a) ..	3,204	3,531	Other Assets ..	48	72
Total Liabilities ..	351,786	371,039	Total Assets ..	351,786	371,039

(a) Notes of a denomination not exceeding one pound which have been on issue for more than twenty years, and notes of a denomination exceeding one pound which have been on issue for more than 40 years are not included in the item "Notes on Issue" but are included in the item "Other Liabilities".

In 1954-55 the net profits of the Note Issue Department amounted to £6,016,409 of which £5,516,409 was paid to the Commonwealth Treasury and £500,000 to the Capital Accounts of sections of the Commonwealth Bank and the Commonwealth Trading Bank as follows:—Mortgage Bank Department £143,000, Rural Credits Department £71,000, Industrial Finance Department £143,000, and the Commonwealth Trading Bank £143,000. For the basis of distribution of the net profits of the Note Issue Department see page 721.

§ 4. Legal Tender Extant.

Accurate information regarding the amount of legal tender in circulation is not available, but the estimated amount extant about the middle of the years 1939 and 1951 to 1955, is as follows:—1939, £58 millions; 1951, £307 millions; 1952, £336 millions; 1953, £360 millions; 1954, £378 millions; and 1955, £399 millions. Details of the amounts of coin and notes in circulation are shown in § 2 and § 3, Part A, of this chapter.

B. BANKING.

§ 1. Cheque-Paying Banks.

1. *Banking Legislation.*—(i) *Commonwealth Legislation.* Under Section 51 of the Commonwealth Constitution the Commonwealth Parliament has power to legislate with respect to "Banking, other than State banking; also State banking extending beyond the limits of the State concerned, the incorporation of banks, and the issue of paper money" The principal Commonwealth Acts at present in force relating to Banking are—

- (a) The Commonwealth Bank Act 1945-1953 which provides for the constitution and management of the Commonwealth Bank, Commonwealth Trading Bank and Commonwealth Savings Bank and the management of the Australian note issue; and
- (b) The Banking Act 1945-1953, which provides for the regulation of banking and for the protection of the currency and the public credit of the Commonwealth.

The Banking Act 1945 was assented to on 3rd August, 1945, and came into operation on 21st August, 1945. It applies to all banks, except State banks, operating in Australia or Territories of the Commonwealth. The objects of the Act are:—(a) To provide a legal framework, uniform throughout Australia, for regulating the banking system; (b) to safeguard depositors of the banks from loss; (c) to provide for the co-ordination of banking policy under the direction of the Commonwealth Bank; (d) to control the volume of credit in circulation and bank interest rates; (e) to mobilize and to provide machinery for the control of the foreign exchange and gold resources of the Australian economy. A summary of the main provisions of the Act is given in Official Year Book No. 37, page 565.

The Banking Act 1953, assented to on 1st April, 1953, amended the Banking Act 1945. Details of the main amendments are given in Official Year Book No. 40, page 616.

(ii) *State Legislation.* State banking legislation relates to the incorporation of banks and the constitution and management of State banks. The Acts under which the various banks are incorporated differ. While some of the older banks were incorporated by special Act or Charter, e.g., the Bank of New South Wales by Act of Council 1817, The Bank of Adelaide by Act of the South Australian Parliament, and the Bank of New Zealand by Act of the General Assembly of New Zealand, most of the banks are incorporated under a Companies Act of the States or the United Kingdom. This is also the case with those banks which were reconstructed after the crisis of 1893. State banks, constituted under State Acts, transacting general banking business are The Rural Bank of New South Wales, the State Bank of South Australia and The Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia.

2. *Royal Commission on Monetary and Banking Systems.*—A Royal Commission was appointed by the Commonwealth Government in November, 1935 to inquire into the monetary and banking systems in operation in Australia and to report whether any, and if so what, alterations were desirable in the interests of the people of Australia as a whole, and the manner in which any such alterations should be effected. The Commission presented its report on 15th July, 1937, and a summary of the recommendations appears in Official Year Book No. 31, p. 1010.

3. *Presentation of Banking Statistics.*—Because of the different purposes they serve in the Australian financial system, Australian banks have been divided for statistical purposes into four groups and a separate series is presented for each. These groups are:—

- (a) *The Commonwealth Bank.* This is the Central Bank. It also provides special banking facilities through the Rural Credits, Mortgage Bank and Industrial Finance Departments. It transacted general banking business through a General Banking Division up to 3rd December, 1953, when that business was transferred to the Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia. Statistics of the Central Banking Business (including the Note Issue Department), and Rural Credits, Mortgage Bank and Industrial Finance Departments are presented in separate series.
- (b) *The Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia.* This bank commenced operations on 3rd December, 1953. On that date, under the provisions of the Commonwealth Bank Act, 1953, it took over the business of the General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank. The statistics presented in the Commonwealth Trading Bank series include averages for the General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank up to 3rd December, 1953.
- (c) *Private Trading Banks.* This group was formerly known as the Nine Trading Banks but the number of banks included has been reduced to seven by amalgamations. With the Commonwealth Trading Bank, these banks provide the major part of the general banking facilities in Australia. The banks included in this group are—the Bank of New South Wales,

The Commercial Banking Company of Sydney Ltd., The National Bank of Australasia Ltd. (which has absorbed the Queensland National Bank Ltd., and The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd.), The Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd., The Bank of Adelaide, the Australia and New Zealand Bank Ltd. (an amalgamation of The Bank of Australasia Ltd. and The Union Bank of Australia Ltd.), and The English, Scottish and Australian Bank Ltd.

- (d) *Other Banks.* This group consists of (i) three State Government Banks—The Rural Bank of New South Wales, the State Bank of South Australia and The Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia which, in their general banking business, specialize mainly in financing rural industries, (ii) one joint stock bank—The Brisbane Permanent Building and Banking Co. Ltd., which has specialized business in one district only, and (iii) branches of three overseas banks—the Bank of New Zealand, Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris and the Bank of China, which transact limited business in Australia and are mainly concerned with financing trade, etc., between Australia and overseas countries.

In addition to the series mentioned above, a series for all cheque-paying banks is presented. This series covers the Commonwealth Trading Bank, the Private Trading Banks and the other cheque-paying banks included in the fourth group.

Unless otherwise stated, the statistics presented are averages of weekly returns. Averages of liabilities and assets are the averages of the liabilities and assets of the banks on the several weekly balance days during the period concerned. Averages of bank clearings and debits to customers' accounts are the averages of transactions for weeks ended on the balance days during the period.

4. Banks Transacting Business in Australia.—(i) *Number of Branches.* At 30th June, 1955 the 15 banks operating in Australia transacted all classes of banking business at 3,298 branches and 1,210 agencies. The Commonwealth Trading Bank and the Private Trading Banks have branches throughout the Commonwealth. The Rural Bank of New South Wales, the State Bank of South Australia and The Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia, being State Government banks specializing mainly in financing rural industries, have branches only in those States. The Brisbane Permanent Building and Banking Co. Ltd., transacts business in Brisbane only. The remaining three banks are branches of overseas banks.

CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS : NUMBER OF BRANCHES(a) AT 30th JUNE, 1955.

Banks.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Q'land.	South Aust.	West. Aust.	Tasmania.	Nor. Terr.	Aust. Cap. Terr.	Total.
Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia ..	256	62	67	18	45	7	2	2	459
Private Trading Banks ..	881	794	433	259	219	64	8	8	2,666
Other Cheque-paying Banks ..	108	2	1	28	34	..	..	..	173
All Cheque-paying Banks—									
Metropolitan areas ..	477	385	102	104	110	15	1	..	1,194
Elsewhere ..	768	473	399	201	188	56	9	10	2,104
Total ..	1,245	858	501	305	298	71	10	10	3,298

(a) Includes Head Offices. Excludes agencies, 1,210.

(ii) *Capital Resources, Profits and Dividends.* The paid-up capital of cheque-paying banks (excluding the three overseas banks, the Bank of New Zealand, the Bank of China and the Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris), together with their reserve funds, their profits and the amount of their last dividends, are shown in the following table. The information relates to the balance-sheet last preceding 31st October, 1954. All amounts are expressed in Australian currency.

CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS: CAPITAL RESOURCES, PROFITS AND DIVIDENDS.

1953-54.

(£'000.)

Bank.	Paid-up Capital. (a)	Re-serves.	Balance of Profit and Loss Account. (b)	Total Shareholders' Funds. (c)	Reserve Liability of Shareholders. (d)	Net Profit for year.	Net Dividends. (e)
Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia	4,857	1,860	..	6,717	..	661	..
Commonwealth Bank of Australia—							
Central Banking Business ..	4,000	4,810	..	8,810	..	3,918	..
Note Issue Department ..	..	(f) 4,755	..	4,755	..	6,207	..
Rural Credits Department ..	2,429	821	..	3,250	..	171	..
Mortgage Bank Department ..	4,857	378	..	5,235	..	59	..
Industrial Finance Department ..	4,857	1,717	..	6,574	..	346	..
Total	16,143	12,481	..	28,624	..	10,701	..
Private Trading Banks—							
Australia and New Zealand Bank Ltd.	12,801	8,120	1,749	22,670	10,667	919	704
The Bank of Adelaide	1,750	1,437	171	3,358	1,750	164	137
Bank of New South Wales ..	13,170	10,000	1,066	24,236	13,170	1,688	1,079
The Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd.	5,170	3,000	382	8,552	..	500	353
The Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney Ltd.	5,926	4,850	422	11,198	5,926	529	379
The English, Scottish and Australian Bank Ltd.	3,765	3,765	662	8,192	2,510	320	242
The National Bank of Australasia Ltd. (g)	6,726	5,500	708	12,934	1,800	741	605
The Queensland National Bank Ltd. (in vol. liq.) (g) .. ..	..	..	130	130	..	..	..
Total	49,308	36,672	5,200	91,270	35,823	4,861	3,490
Other Cheque-paying Banks—							
The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. ..	159	165	14	338	141	17	12
The Brisbane Permanent Building and Banking Co. Ltd. ..	1,000	275	62	1,337	..	78	75
The Rural Bank of New South Wales	17,510	8,857	..	26,367	..	105	..
State Bank of South Australia ..	2,983	1,020	..	4,003	..	191	..
The Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia	8,554	168	..	8,722	..	304	..
Total	30,206	10,485	76	40,767	141	695	87
Grand Total	100,514	61,498	5,366	167,378	35,964	16,918	3,586

(a) For the Commonwealth Bank and Commonwealth Trading Bank the amount shown in this column is the amount specified as capital in the Commonwealth Bank Act 1945-1953. For these two Banks all capital has been provided from accumulated profits. For the State Bank of South Australia and The Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia the amounts shown in this column are capital funds provided by the respective State Governments. Capital of The Rural Bank of New South Wales consists of Inscribed Stock and Debentures issued by the Bank for capital purposes. (b) Includes dividends declared but not paid at date of balance-sheet. (c) For the Commonwealth Bank, Commonwealth Trading Bank and the State Banks the amount shown in this column is total capital and reserves. (See footnote (a).) (d) Includes uncalled capital. (e) Dividends paid and payable out of profits earned during 1953-54. (f) Special Reserve—Premium on gold sold. (g) The business of The Queensland National Bank Ltd. was taken over by The National Bank of Australasia Ltd. in January, 1948.

5. Commonwealth Bank of Australia.—(i) General. An account of the progress and development of the Commonwealth Bank is given in earlier issues of the Official Year Book (see No. 37, pages 570 to 573). The general functions of the Bank are set out in section 8 of the Commonwealth Bank Act 1945-1953 which states—

“8. It shall be the duty of the Commonwealth Bank, within the limits of its powers, to pursue a monetary and banking policy directed to the greatest advantage of the people of Australia, and to exercise its powers under this Act and the Banking Act 1945 in such a manner as, in the opinion of the Bank, will best contribute to:—

(a) the stability of the currency of Australia; (b) the maintenance of full employment in Australia; and (c) the economic prosperity and welfare of the people of Australia.”

In addition to its functions as a Central Bank, the Bank controls the Australian note issue through a Note Issue Department and provides special services through the Rural Credits Department, Mortgage Bank Department and Industrial Finance Department. The Commonwealth Bank also provided general banking facilities through the General Banking Division up to 3rd December, 1953. In accordance with the provisions of the Commonwealth Bank Act, 1953, the Commonwealth Trading Bank, on that date, took over the business of the General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank. The Commonwealth Savings Bank, a separate institution providing for small depositors, is controlled by the Commonwealth Bank Board and is operated in conjunction with the Commonwealth Bank.

(ii) *Management.* Under the Commonwealth Bank Act 1911 the Bank was managed by a Governor. From 1924 to August, 1945 it was controlled by a Board of Directors. Under the Commonwealth Bank Act 1945 control was vested in a Governor, assisted by an Advisory Council. Since 21st August, 1951, under the Commonwealth Bank Act 1951, the policy of the Commonwealth Bank and the Commonwealth Savings Bank has been determined by the Commonwealth Bank Board consisting of the Governor (Chairman), the Deputy Governor, the Secretary of the Department of the Treasury and seven other members appointed by the Governor-General. The Bank is managed by the Governor who shall act in accordance with the policy of the Bank and with any directions of the Board. The Board is required to inform the Government of the monetary and banking policy of the Bank. In the event of a disagreement between the Government and the Board as to whether the monetary and banking policy of the Bank is directed to the greatest advantage of the people of Australia, the Governor-General, acting with the advice of the Executive Council, may determine the policy to be adopted by the Bank. The Commonwealth Trading Bank is managed by a General Manager under the Governor of the Commonwealth Bank and its policy is determined by the Commonwealth Bank Board.

(iii) *Central Banking Business.* Under the powers it possessed under the Commonwealth Bank Act 1911-1943 and under its war-time powers under the National Security Regulations, the Commonwealth Bank had gradually assumed the functions of a Central Bank. Part III. of the Commonwealth Bank Act 1945 formally constituted the Commonwealth Bank as a Central Bank and granted the Bank the necessary powers to carry on the business of a Central Bank. The capital for the Central Banking Business is £4,000,000 and such other sums as are transferred from the Reserve Fund. Since 1951 the profits of the Commonwealth Bank have been distributed as follows:—(a) One-half to the National Debt Sinking Fund; (b) for a period of five years, an amount not exceeding £500,000 per annum may be paid to the capital of the several departments of the Bank and the Commonwealth Trading Bank, this amount to be distributed as follows:—Commonwealth Trading Bank Mortgage Bank Department and Industrial Finance Department each two-sevenths and the Rural Credits Department one-seventh; and (c) the balance to be paid to the Commonwealth Bank Reserve Fund.

(iv) *Note Issue Department.* This Department was established in 1920 when the control of the Australian note issue was transferred from the Commonwealth Treasury to the Commonwealth Bank. The Bank may, through this department, issue, re-issue and cancel Australian notes. Until 30th June, 1951, all profits of this Department, with

the exception of £2,000,000 paid to the Capital Account of the Rural Credits Department and £1,200,000 paid to the Capital Account of the Mortgage Bank Department, were paid to the Commonwealth Consolidated Revenue Fund. In 1951 provision was made for an amount, not exceeding £500,000 per annum for five years, to be paid to the Capital Accounts of the Commonwealth Trading Bank and the Rural Credits, Industrial Finance and Mortgage Bank Departments of the Commonwealth Bank. This amount is payable only if a similar amount is paid from the profits of the Central Banking Business and is to be distributed to the various sections in the same proportions as the amount payable from the profits of the Central Banking Business. The balance of the profits is to be paid to the Commonwealth Consolidated Revenue Fund.

(v) *General Banking Division.* Under the Commonwealth Bank Act 1911-1943 no provision was made for the separation of the general banking business of the bank from its central banking business. Under the Commonwealth Bank Act 1945 the General Banking Division was set up to carry on the general banking business of the Bank and the accounts and transactions of this division were kept separate and distinct from the other accounts of the Bank. The capital of the General Banking Division was £4,000,000, and such other sums as were transferred from the General Banking Division Reserve Fund, or from the profits of the Central Banking Business and the Note Issue Department. Transfers from each of these two sources increased the total capital to £4,572,000 at 30th June, 1953. The profits of the General Banking Division were distributed as follows :—(a) one-half was credited to the General Banking Division Reserve Fund, and (b) one-half was paid to the National Debt Sinking Fund. Under the Commonwealth Bank Act 1953 the business of the General Banking Division was transferred to the Commonwealth Trading Bank on 3rd December, 1953. *See also* para. 6 below—Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia.

(vi) *Rural Credits Department.* The Rural Credits Department was established in 1925 for the purpose of making short-term credit available for the orderly marketing of primary produce. The Bank may, through this department, make advances, upon the security of primary produce placed under the legal control of the Bank or other security associated with the production or marketing of primary produce, to co-operative associations or marketing boards formed under the laws of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territory of the Commonwealth or other bodies specified by proclamation. The period of the advance shall not be more than one year. The capital of the Rural Credits Department is £2,000,000 and such amounts as are transferred from the profits of the Central Banking Business and the Note Issue Department. Transfers from each of these two sources have increased the total capital to £2,571,000 at 30th June, 1955. Profits are distributed as follows :—(a) one-half is credited to the Rural Credits Department Reserve Fund, and (b) one-half is credited to the Rural Credits Department Development Fund for the promotion of primary production.

(vii) *Mortgage Bank Department.* The Mortgage Bank Department was established in 1943 for the purpose of making long-term loans to primary producers. Through this Department the Bank may make a loan to any person engaged in farming, agricultural, horticultural, pastoral or grazing operations or other form of primary production, upon the security of a mortgage to the Bank of an estate or interest in land in the Commonwealth owned by the borrower. The term of the loan shall not be less than five years nor more than forty-one years. The capital of the Department is £4,000,000 plus any amount transferred from the profits of the Central Banking Business and the Note Issue Department. Transfers from each of these two sources have increased the total capital to £5,143,000 at 30th June, 1955. Profits are credited to the Mortgage Bank Department Reserve Fund.

(viii) *Industrial Finance Department.* The functions of the Industrial Finance Department established in January, 1946 are :—(a) to provide finance for the establishment and development of industrial undertakings; (b) to assist in the establishment

and development of industrial undertakings; and (c) to provide advice on the operations of industrial undertakings with a view to promoting the efficient organization and conduct thereof. To exercise these functions the Bank may, through the Industrial Finance Department, lend money and purchase and sell shares or securities in an industrial undertaking. The capital of this department is £4,000,000 plus any amount transferred from the profits of the Central Banking Business and Note Issue Department. Transfers from each of these two sources have increased the total capital to £5,143,000 at 30th June, 1955. The Treasurer, the Bank and the Savings Bank may advance money to the Industrial Finance Department. The amount that may be advanced by the Bank is limited to £1,000,000. The profits of the Department are credited to the Industrial Finance Department Reserve Fund.

(ix) *Housing Loans.* Provision is made for the Bank, through the Commonwealth Trading Bank, to make loans to individuals or building societies for the erection or purchase of homes or for the discharge of mortgages on homes. These loans must be made at the lowest possible rate of interest. Loans to individuals are to be on *crédit foncier* terms, to be secured by first mortgage on an estate or interest in land owned by the borrower and to be repaid in periods of not less than five years nor more than 35 years. Loans to building societies are to be made on such security and on such terms and conditions as the Bank determines.

(x) *Liabilities and Assets—All Departments.* Liabilities and assets of each Department of the Commonwealth Bank at 30th June, 1955 are shown in the following table. The Commonwealth Trading Bank and the Commonwealth Savings Bank, which are operated as separate institutions, are not included (*see* § 1, para. 6 (ii) and § 2, para 8 (ii), following):—

COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA : LIABILITIES AND ASSETS,
30th JUNE, 1955.
(£'000.)

Item.	Central Banking Business.	Note Issue Depart- ment.	Rural Credits Depart- ment.	Mortgage Bank Depart- ment.	Industrial Finance Depart- ment.	Total.(a)
LIABILITIES.						
Capital	4,000	..	2,571	5,143	5,143	16,857
Reserve Funds	6,569	..	917	444	2,114	10,044
Special Reserve—Premium on gold sold .. .. .	..	4,755	..	..	..	4,755
Development Fund .. .. .	..	..	137	..	..	137
Notes on Issue .. .. .	..	362,753	..	..	..	362,753
Deposits, bills payable and other liabilities—						
Special Accounts of Trading Banks	280,559	..	..	..	..	280,559
Other deposits of Trading Banks	29,782	..	..	..	..	29,782
Other (including provision for contingencies)	251,540	3,531	57,101	563	21,596	280,874
Total Liabilities	571,450	371,039	60,726	6,150	28,853	985,761
ASSETS.						
Gold and balances held abroad (including money at short call)	246,333	120,926	..	..	..	367,259
Australian notes and coin and cash balances	2,869	..	..	111	453	3,433
Cheques and bills of other banks	12,290	..	..	..	..	12,290
Commonwealth Government securities (including Commonwealth Treasury Bill)	196,982	250,041	..	698	2,072	449,793
Securities of other Governments, and of local and semi-governmental authorities	39,681	..	..	..	..	39,681
Bills receivable and remittances in transit	8,611	..	..	..	..	8,611
Bank premises at cost less amounts written off	593	..	..	..	..	593
Loans, advances, bills discounted, and other assets (after deducting debts considered bad or doubtful)	67,091	72	60,726	5,441	26,328	104,101
Total Assets	571,450	371,039	60,726	6,150	28,853	985,761

(a) Inter-departmental accounts totalling £55,457,000 have been offset in the combined figures.

(xi) *Profits.* Net profits of the various Departments of the Commonwealth Bank for the years ended 30th June, 1939 and 1951 to 1955 were as follows :—

COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA : NET PROFITS.
(£'000.)

Year ended 30th June—	General Bank Department.	Central Banking Business. (a)	Note Issue Department.	General Banking Division. (a) (b)	Rural Credits Department.	Mortgage Bank Department. (c)	Industrial Finance Department. (d)	Total
1939	356	..	767	..	32	..	..	1,155
1951	1,282	3,544	445	85	47	287	5,690
1952	2,274	3,881	352	97	49	290	6,943
1953	2,892	5,361	457	160	52	292	9,214
1954	3,918	6,207	..	171	50	346	10,701
1955	4,518	6,017	..	192	65	398	11,190

(a) Created 21st August, 1945. Previously combined under General Bank Department. (b) From 3rd December, 1953 business transferred to Commonwealth Trading Bank. (c) Commenced business 27th September, 1943. (d) Commenced business 2nd January, 1946.

The distribution of these profits for the years ended 30th June, 1951 to 1955 is given in the following table :—

COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA : DISTRIBUTION OF PROFITS.
(£'000.)

To—	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.	1955.
National Debt Sinking Fund	863	1,313	1,675	1,959	2,259
Commonwealth Consolidated Revenue Fund ..	3,394	3,381	4,861	5,707	5,517
Commonwealth Trading Bank Capital Account ..	..	..	..	285	286
Commonwealth Bank Reserve Fund	345	637	946	1,459	1,739
General Banking Division—					
Capital Account ..	..	286	286	..	..
Reserve Fund ..	222	176	229	..	..
Rural Credits Department—					
Capital Account ..	..	143	143	143	142
Reserve Fund ..	43	48	80	85	96
Development Fund ..	43	48	80	86	96
Mortgage Bank Department—					
Capital Account ..	446	285	286	286	286
Reserve Fund ..	47	50	51	59	65
Industrial Finance Department—					
Capital Account ..	..	286	285	286	286
Reserve Fund ..	..	287	292	346	398
Total	5,690	6,943	9,214	10,701	11,190

(xii) *Central Banking Business—Average Liabilities and Assets.* The average liabilities and assets of the Central Banking Business and Note Issue Department of the Commonwealth Bank for the years ended June, 1951 to 1955 are shown in the two tables which follow.

COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA: CENTRAL BANKING BUSINESS
(INCLUDING NOTE ISSUE DEPARTMENT)—AVERAGE LIABILITIES.

(£'000.)

Year ended June—	Capital and Reserve Funds.	Notes on Issue.	Special Accounts of Trading Banks.	Other Deposits of Trading Banks.	Other Liabilities.	Total Liabilities.
1951	10,127	251,770	503,248	34,696	238,230	1,038,071
1952	10,450	293,639	468,800	31,112	270,937	1,074,938
1953	11,023	318,192	212,890	45,447	(a)287,361	874,913
1954	11,906	338,223	306,820	41,731	(a)283,397	982,077
1955	13,279	357,023	300,286	36,795	243,408	956,851

(a) Includes special deposit of General Banking Division 1952-53, £21,731,000; 1953-54, £14,265,000.

COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA: CENTRAL BANKING BUSINESS
(INCLUDING NOTE ISSUE DEPARTMENT)—AVERAGE ASSETS.

(£'000.)

Year ended June—	Gold and Balances held Abroad.	Australian Coin.	Cheques and Bills of other Banks.	Government and other Securities (including Commonwealth Treasury Bills.)	Bills Receivable and Remittances in Transit.	Other Assets.	Total Assets.
1951	596,276	3,370	5,791	366,570	105	65,959	1,038,071
1952	470,644	2,164	6,321	503,089	85	92,635	1,074,938
1953	363,576	2,538	6,595	434,771	130	67,303	874,913
1954	512,615	2,105	6,895	407,979	2,514	49,960	982,077
1955	415,896	2,380	7,009	459,839	3,488	68,239	956,851

6. Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia.—(i) *General.* The Commonwealth Trading Bank was established under the Commonwealth Bank Act, 1953. On 3rd December, 1953, it took over the business of the General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank. The Commonwealth Trading Bank is a body corporate with its own General Manager who is appointed by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the Commonwealth Bank Board for a term of seven years. The General Manager, under the Governor of the Commonwealth Bank, is responsible for the administration of the Commonwealth Trading Bank in accordance with policy determined by the Commonwealth Bank Board. Under the Banking Act 1945-1953 the Commonwealth Trading Bank is subject to the same central banking controls as the private trading banks and is required to maintain a Special Account with the Commonwealth Bank on the same basis as those of the private trading banks. The capital of the Commonwealth Trading Bank is the total of the capital of the General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank immediately before 3rd December, 1953 and such other sums as are transferred from the Commonwealth Trading Bank Reserve Fund, or from the profits of the Central Banking Business and the Note Issue Department of the Commonwealth Bank. The net profits of the Commonwealth Trading Bank are divided as follows :—(a) one-half placed to the credit of the Commonwealth Trading Bank Reserve Fund, and (b) one-half paid into the National Debt Sinking Fund.

(ii) *Liabilities and Assets.* The liabilities and assets of the Commonwealth Trading Bank at 30th June, 1954 and 1955 are shown in the following table :—

COMMONWEALTH TRADING BANK OF AUSTRALIA : LIABILITIES AND ASSETS, 30TH JUNE.

(£'000.)

Liabilities.	1954.	1955.	Assets.	1954.	1955.
Capital	4,857	5,143	Coin, bullion, notes and cash at bankers ..	18,817	14,498
Reserve Fund ..	1,860	2,160	Money at short call in London	1,850	1,800
Deposits, bills payable and other liabilities (including provision for contingencies) ..	210,286	225,493	Special Account with Commonwealth Bank	38,650	33,850
Balances due to other banks	241	454	Cheques and bills of other banks and balances with and due from other banks	1,863	2,313
			Treasury bills ..	10,000	7,500
			Public securities of Australian Governments	35,078	40,019
			Bills receivable and remittances in transit	26,974	27,138
			Bank premises (at cost less amounts written off)	2,950	3,506
			Loans, advances and bills discounted (after deducting provision for debts considered bad or doubtful) ..	78,812	99,961
			Other assets ..	2,250	2,665
Total ..	217,244	233,250	Total ..	217,244	233,250

(iii) *Average Liabilities and Assets within Australia.* The average liabilities and assets within Australia of the General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank for the years ended 30th June, 1951 to 1953, and of the Commonwealth Trading Bank for the years ended 30th June, 1954 and 1955, are shown in the tables below.

COMMONWEALTH TRADING BANK OF AUSTRALIA(a)—AVERAGE LIABILITIES WITHIN AUSTRALIA.(b)

(£'000.)

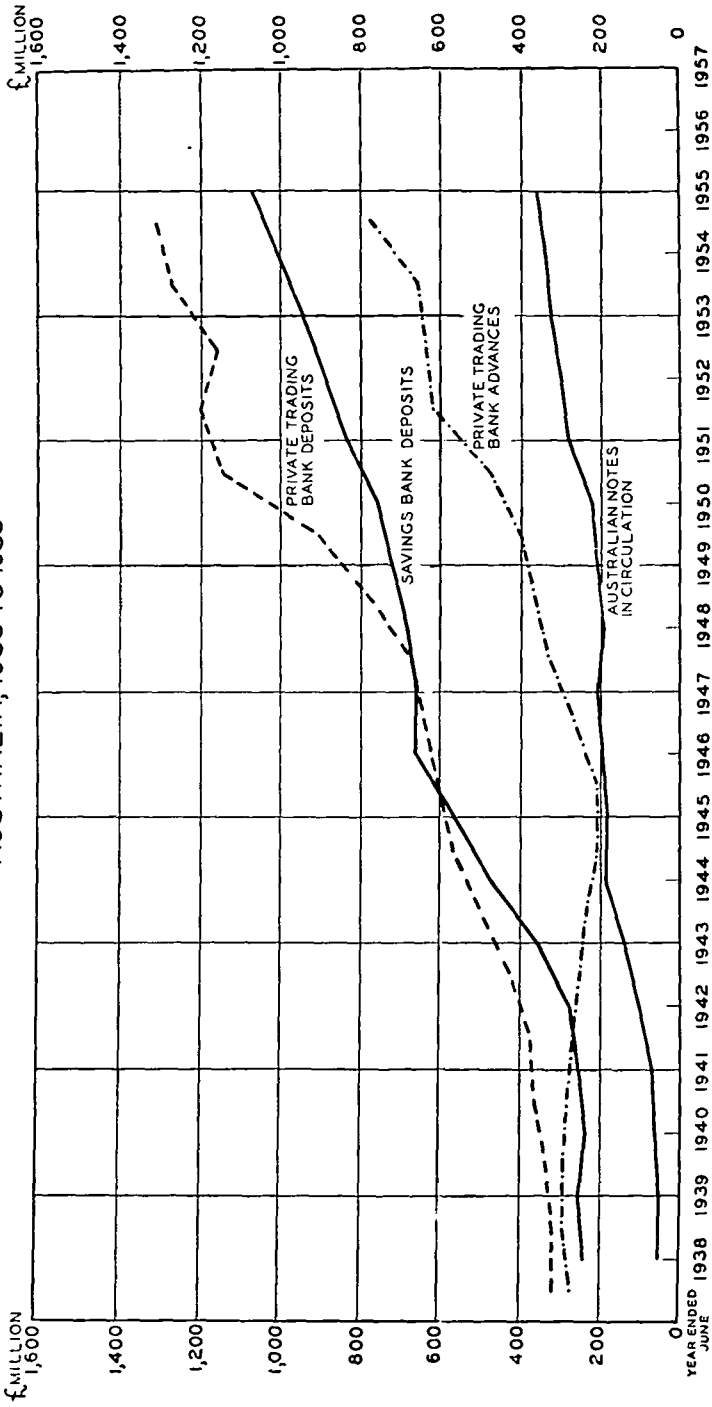
Year ended June—	Inter- minable Deposits or Deposit Stock.	Deposits.			Notes in Cir- culation.	Balances due to other Banks.	Bills payable and all other Lia- bilities to the Public.	Total Lia- bilities.
		Not Bearing Interest.	Bearing Interest.	Total.				
1951	89,234	19,405	108,639	..	3,014	7,950	119,603
1952	90,595	20,093	110,688	..	2,644	8,524	121,856
1953	96,664	22,817	119,481	..	3,820	8,560	131,870
1954	120,885	35,352	156,237	..	2,034	11,766	170,037
1955	130,909	43,549	174,458	..	309	16,148	190,915

(a) General Banking Division of Commonwealth Bank prior to 3rd December, 1953.
Territories of Papua and New Guinea.

(b) Includes

BANK DEPOSITS AND ADVANCES AND NOTES IN CIRCULATION

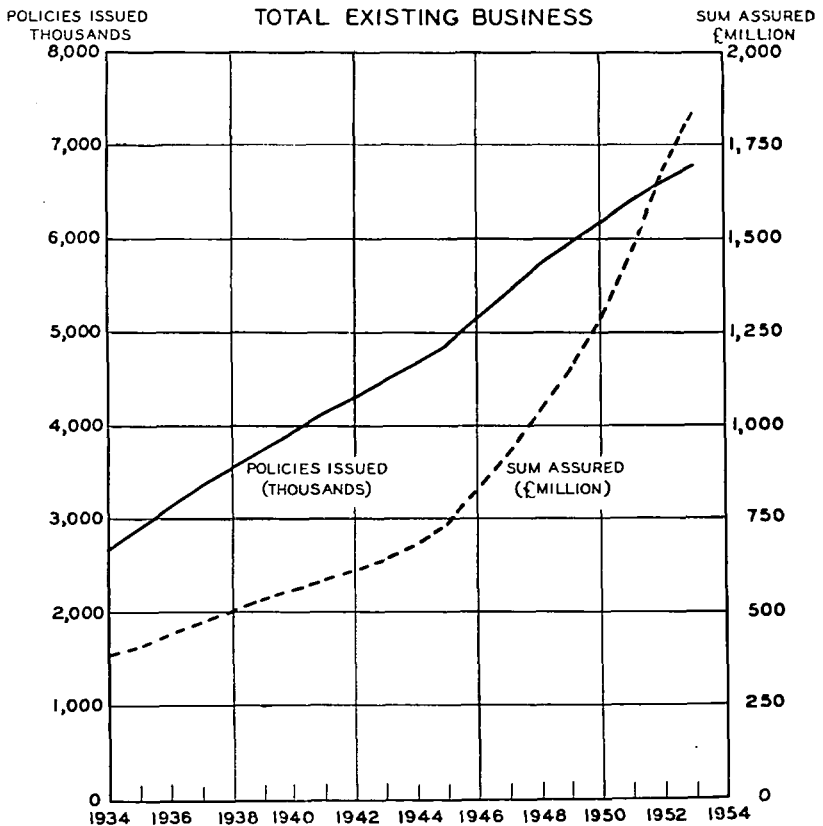
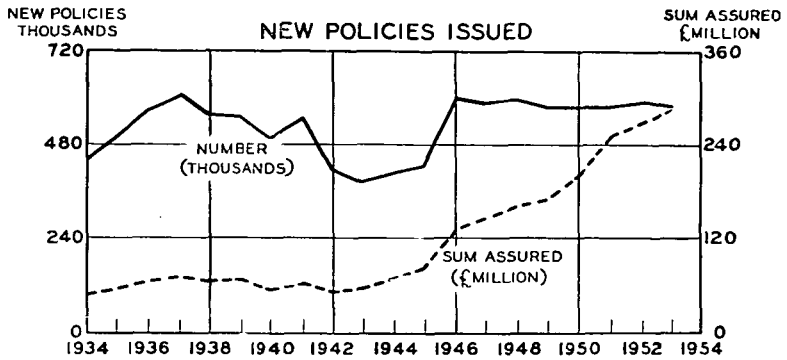
AUSTRALIA, 1938 TO 1955



LIFE ASSURANCE: AUSTRALIA

1934 TO 1953

POLICIES ISSUED AND SUM ASSURED



COMMONWEALTH TRADING BANK OF AUSTRALIA(a)—AVERAGE ASSETS
WITHIN AUSTRALIA.(b)
(£'000.)

Year ended June—	Cash and Cash Balances.	Special Account with Commonwealth Bank.	Balances with other Banks. (c)	Australian Public Securities.		Other Securities.	Loans, Advances, and Bills Discounted.	All other Assets.	Total Assets.
				Treasury Bills.	Other.				
1951	7,176	..	820	24,049	26,868	..	62,491	2,348	123,752
1952	6,581	..	994	26,392	13,274	2	76,407	3,230	126,880
1953	8,784	(d) 21,731	1,600	17,239	25,840	92	59,492	3,954	138,762
1954	11,000	(e) 34,800	787	23,404	29,924	1,284	69,204	4,360	174,763
1955	10,456	36,061	870	12,260	38,165	1,606	89,138	5,075	194,231

(a) General Banking Division of Commonwealth Bank prior to 3rd December, 1953. (b) Includes Territories of Papua and New Guinea. (c) Includes notes, cheques and bills of other banks. (d) Special deposit of General Banking Division. (e) Includes special deposit of General Banking Division. £14,265,000.

(iv) *Profits.* The net profits of the Commonwealth Trading Bank for the years ended 30th June, 1954 and 1955 were £660,778 and £734,185 respectively. These profits were distributed as follows (1954 figures shown in parenthesis):—£134,160 (£110,320) was applied to writing off bank premises; £300,012 (£275,229) was appropriated to the Commonwealth Trading Bank Reserve Fund; and £300,013 (£275,229) was paid to the National Debt Sinking Fund.

7. *Private Trading Banks.*—(i) *Average Liabilities and Assets in Australia.* The average liabilities and assets within Australia of the Private Trading Banks (see page 718 for list of banks) for the years ended June, 1939 and 1951 to 1955 are shown in the following tables:—

PRIVATE TRADING BANKS : AVERAGE LIABILITIES WITHIN AUSTRALIA.
(£'000.)

Year ended June—	Inter- minable Deposits or Deposit Stock.	Deposits.			Notes in Cir- culation.	Balances due to other Banks.	Bills payable and all other Liabilities to the Public.	Total Li- abilities.
		Not Bearing Interest.	Bearing Interest.	Total.				
1939	2,644	a 118,868	198,793	317,661	167	921	(b) 3,005	324,398
1951	729	896,499	247,727	1,144,226	158	50,259	18,240	1,213,612
1952	729	963,524	238,217	1,201,741	158	61,527	14,970	1,270,125
1953	226	943,747	218,699	1,162,446	158	10,628	14,247	1,187,705
1954	14	1,035,707	239,774	1,275,481	158	3,360	14,980	1,293,993
1955	9	1,047,677	262,986	1,310,663	158	3,282	16,432	1,330,544

(a) Includes other Liabilities. (b) Excludes other Liabilities.

PRIVATE TRADING BANKS : AVERAGE ASSETS WITHIN AUSTRALIA.
(£'000.)

Year ended June—	Cash and Cash Balances.	Special Account with Commonwealth Bank.	Balances with other Banks. (a)	Australian Public Securities.		Other Securities.	Loans, Advances and Bills Discounted.	All other Assets.	Total Assets.
				Treasury Bills.	Other. (b)				
1939	33,597	..	3,938	21,533	20,477	(c)	d 288,109	(e) 9,421	377,075
1951	59,333	500,317	23,761	36,887	90,244	1,126	479,322	18,988	1,209,978
1952	60,589	465,991	29,140	32,402	63,416	1,124	621,435	33,511	1,312,248
1953	74,712	211,737	22,586	123,059	86,513	2,313	638,092	29,693	1,183,699
1954	71,244	285,226	17,346	99,368	130,306	3,588	658,134	36,519	1,302,161
1955	66,908	267,117	18,436	51,602	121,927	3,425	776,762	43,925	1,357,102

(a) Includes notes, cheques and bills of other banks. (b) Government and Municipal Securities. (c) Included with Loans, Advances and Bills Discounted. (d) See footnotes (c) and (e). (e) Landed and House Property only. Other assets included with Loans, Advances and Bills Discounted.

(ii) *Ratios of Assets and Liabilities to Total Deposits.* The following table shows, for the Private Trading Banks, the ratios of certain assets and liabilities to total deposits for the years ended June, 1939 and 1951 to 1955. The ratios are based on the average liabilities and assets for the years shown.

PRIVATE TRADING BANKS : RATIOS OF AVERAGE ASSETS AND LIABILITIES TO AVERAGE TOTAL DEPOSITS.

(Per cent.)

Year ended June—	Cash and Cash Balances.	Treasury Bills.	Government and Municipal Securities. (a)	Special Account with Commonwealth Bank.	Advances.	Deposits.	
						Not Bearing Interest.	Bearing Interest.
1939	10.6	6.8	6.5	..	90.7	37.4	62.6
1951	5.2	3.2	7.8	43.7	41.9	78.4	21.6
1952	5.0	2.7	5.7	38.8	51.7	80.2	19.8
1953	6.4	10.6	7.4	18.2	54.9	81.2	18.8
1954	5.6	7.8	10.2	22.4	51.6	81.2	18.8
1955	5.1	3.9	9.3	20.5	59.3	79.9	20.1

(a) Excludes Treasury Bills.

(iii) *Proportion of Non-Interest Bearing to Total Deposits.* The following table shows, for each State, the proportion of non-interest bearing deposits to total deposits with the Private Trading Banks for each of the years ended June, 1939 and 1951 to 1955. The ratios are based on the average deposits for the years shown.

PRIVATE TRADING BANKS : PROPORTION OF NON-INTEREST BEARING DEPOSITS TO TOTAL DEPOSITS.

(Per cent.)

Year ended June—	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Nor. Terr.	Aust. Cap. Terr.	Total. (a)
1939	43.5	30.3	45.4	26.1	45.7	36.5	61.1	23.2	37.4
1951	81.3	75.8	80.9	69.8	80.5	74.6	83.2	76.2	78.4
1952	83.1	77.8	82.5	72.0	83.1	75.6	84.7	78.4	80.2
1953	84.3	79.2	82.5	72.4	84.4	78.5	87.0	82.6	81.2
1954	83.9	79.6	82.7	72.3	83.1	79.7	89.5	88.2	81.2
1955	81.9	78.1	82.6	71.6	84.1	80.1	88.7	89.6	79.9

(a) Includes Papua and New Guinea for 1951 and following years.

(iv) *Ratio of Advances to Total Deposits.* The ratio of advances to total deposits, for each State for the years ended June, 1939 and 1951 to 1955, is shown in the following table. The ratios are based on the averages of deposits and advances for the years shown.

PRIVATE TRADING BANKS : RATIO OF ADVANCES TO TOTAL DEPOSITS.

(Per cent.)

Year ended June—	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Nor. Terr.	Aust. Cap. Terr.	Total. (a)
1939	104.5	71.6	99.2	77.6	155.5	57.0	24.5	37.7	90.7
1951	41.9	43.0	49.0	28.3	36.4	44.0	30.5	21.3	41.9
1952	54.5	52.1	60.0	33.0	41.5	48.4	29.6	26.4	51.7
1953	60.2	52.8	63.7	35.2	46.1	54.0	24.0	27.6	54.9
1954	56.4	47.8	59.7	32.2	52.7	57.3	30.0	35.6	51.6
1955	66.1	51.8	68.5	37.2	71.6	61.9	55.8	49.5	59.3

(a) Includes Papua and New Guinea for 1950 and following years.

8. Other Cheque-paying Banks.—Average Liabilities and Assets within Australia. The average liabilities and assets within Australia of "Other Cheque-paying Banks" (see page 719 for list of these banks) for the years ended June, 1951 to 1955 are shown in the following tables.

OTHER CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS : AVERAGE LIABILITIES WITHIN AUSTRALIA.
(£'000.)

Year ended June—	Inter- minable Deposits or Deposit Stock.(a)	Deposits			Notes in Cir- culation.	Bal- ances due to other Banks.	Bills payable and all other Liabilities to the Public.	Total Li- abilities.
		Not Bearing Interest.	Bearing Interest.	Total.				
1951	20,056	31,947	12,421	44,368	..	194	1,594	66,212
1952	19,336	37,445	13,369	50,814	..	504	1,478	72,132
1953	19,286	35,848	15,302	51,150	..	622	525	71,583
1954	19,734	39,408	15,309	54,717	..	664	454	75,569
1955	20,520	41,115	16,069	57,484	..	554	461	79,019

(a) Inscribed stock and debentures, Rural Bank of New South Wales and State Bank of South Australia.

OTHER CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS : AVERAGE ASSETS WITHIN AUSTRALIA.
(£'000.)

Year ended June—	Cash and Cash Bal- ances.	Special Account with Com- mon- wealth Bank.	Bal- ances with other Banks. (a)	Australian Public Securities.		Other Securi- ties.	Loans, Ad- vances and Bills Dis- counted.	All other Assets. (b)	Total Assets.
				Trea- sury Bills.	Other.				
1951	4,852	3,271	1,760	3,087	12,375	185	56,604	4,613	86,747
1952	5,104	2,612	1,800	2,925	14,880	111	61,816	5,423	94,671
1953	4,640	1,153	2,176	3,911	13,874	149	64,731	3,792	94,426
1954	5,091	1,090	2,409	7,326	13,977	432	65,982	3,815	100,122
1955	4,586	1,108	2,193	5,641	13,972	701	72,189	4,923	105,318

(a) Includes notes, cheques and bills of other banks. (b) Includes The Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia and State Bank of South Australia accounts with State Treasuries.

9. All Cheque-paying Banks.—*Average Liabilities and Assets within Australia.* Particulars of the average liabilities and assets within Australia of all cheque-paying banks in Australia for the years ended 30th June, 1951 to 1955 are shown in the following tables. The series includes the Commonwealth Trading Bank (General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank to 3rd December, 1953), but the Central Banking business of the Commonwealth Bank is excluded.

ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS : AVERAGE LIABILITIES WITHIN AUSTRALIA.(a)
(£'000.)

Year ended June—	Inter- minable Deposits or Deposit Stock.	Deposits.			Notes in Cir- culation.	Bal- ances due to other Banks.	Bills payable and all other Liabilities to the Public.	Total Li- abilities.
		Not Bearing Interest.	Bearing Interest.	Total.				
1951	20,785	1,017,680	279,553	1,297,233	158	53,467	27,784	1,399,427
1952	20,065	1,091,564	271,679	1,363,243	158	64,675	24,972	1,473,113
1953	19,512	1,076,259	256,818	1,333,077	158	15,070	23,341	1,391,158
1954	19,748	1,106,000	290,435	1,486,435	158	6,058	27,200	1,539,599
1955	20,520	1,220,001	322,604	1,542,605	158	4,145	33,041	1,600,478

(a) Includes Territories of Papua and New Guinea.

ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS : AVERAGE ASSETS WITHIN AUSTRALIA.(a)
(£'000.)

Year ended June—	Cash and Cash Bal- ances.	Special Account with Com- mon- wealth Bank.	Bal- ances with other Banks.	Australian Public Securities.		Other Securi- ties.	Loans, Ad- vances and Bills Dis- counted.	All other Assets.	Total Assets.
				Trea- sury Bills.	Other.				
1951	71,361	503,588	26,341	64,023	129,487	1,311	598,417	25,949	1,420,477
1952	72,274	468,603	31,934	61,719	96,570	1,237	759,658	41,804	1,533,709
1953	88,136	234,621	26,356	144,209	126,227	2,554	762,315	37,499	1,421,887
1954	87,335	321,116	20,542	130,098	174,207	5,304	793,720	44,774	1,577,046
1955	81,950	306,286	21,504	69,503	174,064	5,732	938,089	59,523	1,656,651

(a) Includes Territories of Papua and New Guinea.

10. **Classification of Advances within Australia.—Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia and Private Trading Banks.**—(i) *States, June, 1955.* A dissection of advances made by the Commonwealth Trading Bank and the Private Trading Banks at the end of June, 1955, is shown in the following table. Business advances, which have been classified according to the main industry of the borrower, are those made mainly for business purposes and include all loans to corporate bodies other than public authorities. Advances made to public authorities are those made to Commonwealth and State Governments, Government Agencies and Local and Semi-governmental Authorities irrespective of the purpose of the advance or the industry in which the authority is engaged. Personal advances, which have been classified according to purpose, include advances to persons in their private capacity for such purposes as the purchase of a house or of household equipment, repayment of personal debts, etc.

COMMONWEALTH TRADING BANK OF AUSTRALIA AND PRIVATE TRADING BANKS : CLASSIFICATION OF ADVANCES WITHIN AUSTRALIA(a)—STATES, END OF JUNE, 1955.

(£'000.)

Classification.	N.S.W. (b)	Vic.	Q'land. (a)	S. Aust. (c)	W.Aust.	Tas.	Total Aust. (a)	Pro- portion of Total.
A. BUSINESS ADVANCES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO MAIN INDUSTRY OF BORROWER.								
1. Agriculture, Dairying and Grazing ..	87,119	44,063	55,288	12,409	17,527	4,473	220,879	23.8
2. Manufacturing ..	83,320	65,720	21,801	8,953	6,994	3,940	190,728	20.6
3. Transport, Storage and Communication ..	5,370	5,093	3,498	1,512	1,177	594	17,244	1.9
4. Finance and Property ..	43,195	29,350	11,333	4,310	3,446	2,901	94,535	10.2
5. Commerce—								
Retail Trade ..	33,836	23,954	11,797	6,339	7,775	3,261	86,962	9.4
Wholesale Trade ..	35,883	23,664	4,625	4,660	3,622	1,373	73,827	7.9
Total Class 5 ..	69,719	47,618	16,422	10,999	11,397	4,634	160,789	17.3
6. Miscellaneous(d) ..	22,171	17,671	10,348	3,011	5,206	1,783	60,190	6.5
7. Not elsewhere specified	4,051	3,411	1,683	667	689	122	10,623	1.1
Total ..	314,945	212,926	120,373	41,861	46,436	18,447	754,988	81.4
B. ADVANCES TO PUBLIC AUTHORITIES.								
Public Authority Advances (Including Government, Semi-Governmental and Municipal Bodies) ..	6,346	3,535	1,032	177	229	59	11,378	1.2
C. PERSONAL ADVANCES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO MAIN PURPOSE OF ADVANCE.								
1. Advances for building or purchasing own home (Individuals) ..	48,962	28,649	12,716	3,748	9,480	2,121	105,676	11.4
2. All other (including Per- sonal Loans) ..	24,751	16,667	5,925	2,755	4,206	1,095	55,390	6.0
Total ..	73,713	45,316	18,641	6,503	13,686	3,216	161,075	17.4
TOTAL ADVANCES.								
Grand Total ..	395,004	261,777	140,046	48,541	60,351	21,722	927,441	100.0

(a) Includes Papua and New Guinea. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (c) Includes Northern Territory. (d) Includes (i) fishing, hunting, trapping and forestry; (ii) mining and quarrying; (iii) legal and other professions, religious, charitable and benevolent institutions, hospitals, schools and industrial and trade associations; (iv) amusements, wireless broadcasting, sporting associations and promoters; and (v) hotels, boarding houses and restaurants, laundries, social clubs, etc.

(ii) *Australia, June, 1952 to June, 1955.* The following table provides a dissection of advances within Australia (including Papua and New Guinea). The figures for June, 1954 and 1955 include advances made by the Commonwealth Trading Bank, and the

earlier years include advances made by the General Banking Division only of the Commonwealth Bank. As the Commonwealth Trading Bank took over the business of the General Banking Division on 3rd December, 1953, the figures are comparable from year to year.

COMMONWEALTH TRADING BANK OF AUSTRALIA(a) AND PRIVATE TRADING BANKS : CLASSIFICATION OF ADVANCES WITHIN AUSTRALIA(b)—AMOUNT AND PROPORTION OF EACH CLASS TO TOTAL

Classification.	At End of—							
	June, 1952.		June, 1953.		June, 1954.		June, 1955.	
	Amount (£'000).	Per cent.	Amount (£'000).	Per cent.	Amount (£'000).	Per cent.	Amount (£'000).	Per cent.
BUSINESS ADVANCES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO MAIN INDUSTRY OF BORROWER.								
1. Agricultural, Dairying and Grazing ..	143,008	19.1	148,279	22.1	192,340	24.3	220,879	23.8
2. Manufacturing ..	193,344	25.7	141,481	21.1	139,314	17.6	190,728	20.6
3. Transport, Storage and Communication ..	13,285	1.8	12,710	1.9	16,690	2.1	17,241	1.9
4. Finance and Property	70,394	9.3	64,615	9.6	84,475	10.7	94,535	10.2
5. Commerce—								
Retail Trade ..	62,857	8.3	50,433	7.6	74,861	9.4	86,962	9.4
Wholesale Trade ..	78,424	10.4	59,132	8.8	57,678	7.3	73,827	7.9
Total Class 5 ..	141,281	18.7	109,565	16.4	132,539	16.7	160,789	17.3
6. Miscellaneous(c) ..	40,570	5.4	42,618	6.4	52,400	6.6	60,190	6.5
7. Not elsewhere specified	7,239	1.0	9,345	1.4	9,874	1.2	10,623	1.1
Total ..	610,021	81.0	528,613	78.9	627,692	79.2	754,988	81.4

ADVANCES TO PUBLIC AUTHORITIES.

Public Authority Advances (including Government, Semi-Governmental and Municipal Bodies) ..	15,919	2.1	13,551	2.0	9,871	1.2	11,378	1.2
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PERSONAL ADVANCES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO MAIN PURPOSE OF ADVANCE.

1. Advances for Building or purchasing own home (Individuals) ..	87,591	11.6	86,587	12.9	102,872	13.0	105,676	11.4
2. All other (including Personal Loans) ..	39,955	5.3	41,325	6.2	52,083	6.6	55,399	6.0
Total ..	127,546	16.0	127,912	19.1	154,955	19.6	161,075	17.4

TOTAL ADVANCES.

Grand Total ..	753,486	100.0	670,076	100.0	792,518	100.0	927,441	100.0
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(a) Prior to 3rd December, 1953, General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank.
 (b) Includes Papua and New Guinea. (c) Includes (i) fishing, hunting, trapping and forestry; (ii) mining and quarrying; (iii) legal and other professions, religious, charitable and benevolent institutions, hospitals, schools and industrial and trade associations; (iv) amusements, wireless broadcasting, sporting associations and promoters; and (v) hotels, boarding houses and restaurants, laundries, social clubs, etc.

II. Interest on Deposits : Rates—Cheque-Paying Banks.—Particulars of interest rates for fixed deposits since 1944 are shown hereunder.

BANK FIXED DEPOSIT RATES : AUSTRALIA.

(Per cent. per annum.)

Dates from which Rates Operated.	Deposits for—			
	Three Months.	Six Months.	Twelve Months.	Two Years.
11th August, 1944 ..	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$1\frac{3}{4}$
1st December, 1945 ..	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	1	$1\frac{1}{4}$
29th July, 1952 ..	1	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	(a) $1\frac{3}{4}$
1st January, 1955 ..	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{3}{4}$	(b) 2

(a) On first £10,000; rate on amount in excess of £10,000 is 1 per cent. (b) On first £10,000; rate on amount in excess of £10,000 is $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.

12. **Clearing House Returns—Average Weekly Clearings.**—The average weekly clearings in each capital city for the years ended June, 1939 and 1951 to 1955 are shown in the following table.

BANK CLEARINGS(a) : AVERAGE WEEKLY CLEARINGS.
(£'000.)

Year ended June—	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Total.
1939	17,832	15,415	4,212	2,953	2,055	623	43,090
1951	88,588	82,022	18,046	15,957	10,809	2,885	218,307
1952	92,557	86,022	17,478	17,226	11,425	2,980	227,688
1953	88,557	78,965	17,886	16,794	11,441	2,985	216,628
1954	97,191	87,505	20,736	18,027	13,249	3,393	240,101
1955	102,891	94,520	21,840	19,534	13,547	3,639	255,971

(a) Excludes transactions connected with the issue and redemption of Treasury Bills.

13. **Debits to Customers' Accounts—All Cheque-Paying Banks.**—Statistics of debits to customers' accounts have been collected since September, 1945. Generally they represent the total of all cheques drawn by the customers of the banks. In the following table are shown the average weekly debits to customers' accounts of all cheque-paying banks for each State for the years ended June, 1951 to 1955. In this table debits to accounts of Australian Governments in capital cities are excluded as they are subject to abnormal influences and are not uniform for each State.

AVERAGE WEEKLY DEBITS TO CUSTOMERS' ACCOUNTS : ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS.

(Excluding Debits to Australian Government Accounts in Capital Cities.)
(£'000.)

Year ended June—	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	A.C.T.	Total
1951	145,110	134,925	39,011	26,844	19,250	7,370	373	372,883
1952	156,602	142,358	41,516	30,792	21,810	8,872	471	402,421
1953	151,938	131,998	43,796	30,063	22,091	8,850	580	389,316
1954	171,709	154,885	51,032	32,802	25,339	9,938	775	446,480
1955	187,471	176,146	53,873	36,288	26,247	10,716	821	491,562

14. **Rates of Exchange.**—(i) *Oversea Exchange Rates.* In the following table the par of exchange (based on par values agreed with the International Monetary Fund) and average telegraphic transfer selling rates of exchange for Sydney on a number of oversea countries are shown. Generally the averages which are averages of daily quotations are based on rates quoted by the Commonwealth Bank, but where these were not available rates issued by the Department of Trade and Customs have been used.

OVERSEA EXCHANGE RATES : PAR OF EXCHANGE AND AVERAGE TELEGRAPHIC TRANSFER SELLING RATES FOR SYDNEY ON OVERSEA COUNTRIES.

Country.	Basis of Quotation.	Par of Ex- change.(a)	Selling Rate 1954-55.	Country.	Basis of Quotation.	Par of Ex- change.(a)	Selling Rate 1954-55.
Belgium ..	Francs to £A.1 ..	112.00	110.60	Netherlands ..	Guilders to £A.1 ..	8.5120	8.4168
Canada ..	Dollars to £A.1 ..	(b)	2.1707	New Zealand ..	£A. to £NZ.100 ..	(c)	124.54
Ceylon ..	Pence A. to Rupee ..	22.500	22.795	Norway ..	Kroner to £A.1 ..	16.000	15.84
Denmark ..	Kroner to £A.1 ..	15.472	15.358	Pakistan ..	Pence A. to Rupee ..	32.384	32.688
Egypt ..	Piastres to £A.1 ..	78.006	77.490	Portugal ..	Escudos to £A.1 ..	(c)	63.773
Fiji ..	£A. to £F.100 ..	112.61	113.00	Singapore ..	Pence A. to Dollar ..	35.000	35.420
Finland ..	Marks to £A.1 ..	515.20	509.96	South Africa, Union of ..	£A. to £SA.100 ..	125.00	125.79
France ..	Francs to £A.1 ..	(b)	776.71	Sweden ..	Kroner to £A.1 ..	11.588	11.506
French Oceania	Francs to £A.1 ..	(b)	138.61	Switzerland ..	Francs to £A.1 ..	(c)	9.7125
Germany, Fed.	Deutsche Marks to £A.1 ..	9.408	9.306	United Kingdom	£A. to £Eng.100 ..	125.00	125.50
Hong Kong ..	Pence A. to Dollar ..	18.750	18.844	United States of America ..	Dollars to £A.1 ..	2.2397	2.226
India ..	Pence A. to Rupee ..	22.500	22.734	U.S.S.R. ..	Roubles to £A.1 ..	(c)	8.924
Indonesia ..	Rupiahs to £A.1 ..	(c)	25.067				
Japan ..	Yen to £A.1 ..	806.40	797.80				

(a) As at 30th June, 1954, established under International Monetary Fund Agreement.
(c) Not a member of International Monetary Fund.

(b) No par value established.

(ii) *Interstate Exchange Rates.* Exchange rates between the capital cities and towns of each of the States and other States or parts thereof at 30th June, 1955, are shown below. Rates varied from 2s. per £100 between the nearer locations to 10s. per £100 between those more widely separated.

INTERSTATE BANK EXCHANGE RATES, 30th JUNE, 1955.(a)
(s. d. per £100.)

Between—	And—						
	New South Wales.	Vic.	Brisbane and adjacent towns.	South Aust.	Perth and all but distant towns.	Tas.	Aust. Cap. Terr.
Sydney and New South Wales towns	..	2 6	2 6	5 0	7 6	5 0	2 0
Melbourne and Victorian towns ..	2 6	..	5 0	2 6	5 0	2 6	2 0
Brisbane and adjacent towns ..	2 6	5 0	..	7 6	10 0	7 6	2 6
Adelaide and South Australian towns	5 0	2 6	7 6	..	2 6	5 0	5 0
Perth and all but distant towns ..	7 6	5 0	10 0	2 6	..	7 6	7 6
Hobart and Tasmanian towns ..	5 0	2 6	7 6	5 0	7 6	..	5 0
Australian Capital Territory ..	2 0	2 0	2 6	5 0	7 6	5 0	..

(a) Unchanged since 1st January, 1940.

There is no charge for transfers within a city or a town. In all States excepting Queensland and Western Australia, the exchange for transfers between towns in the same State is 2s. per £100. Queensland and Western Australia are divided into zones. The exchange rate for transfers between towns in the same zone is 2s. per £100, with higher rates for inter-zone transfers.

The exchange rate between Papua and New Guinea and the mainland is 10s. per £100 for all points.

§ 2. Savings Banks.

1. *General.*—The inauguration of Savings Banks in Australia dates from 1819, when a private Savings Bank was opened in Sydney. In 1832 the legislature created "The Savings Bank of New South Wales" under the control of trustees, and shortly after its establishment the funds of the private Savings Bank were transferred to the new institution. In the other States provision for placing deposits with savings banks dates from 1841 in Victoria; 1854 in Queensland; 1848 in South Australia; 1863 in Western Australia (a Savings Bank was opened in 1856 but was closed a year later); 1835 in Launceston; and 1845 in Hobart. These early banks functioned as Trustee Savings Banks, but, with the exception of the Hobart and Launceston institutions, were later absorbed by, or amalgamated with, Government Savings Banks.

Post Office Savings Banks were established in all States from 1864 onwards. These were separate Government institutions except in South Australia, where the Post Office acted as agent for the Savings Bank. Since the federation of the Australian States in 1900, post offices have been controlled by the Commonwealth Government, but they continued to act as savings bank agencies for the State institutions until the establishment of the Commonwealth Bank in 1912. They now act as agents for the Commonwealth Savings Bank.

Savings banks at present operating are the Commonwealth Savings Bank (all States and Territories); State Savings Bank of Victoria; Savings Bank of South Australia; and the two Trustee Banks—Hobart and Launceston.

The prime object of the foundation of savings banks in Australia was the encouragement of thrift, deposits of one shilling and upwards being accepted; nevertheless, the facilities offered, while preserving the original object, have led to developments in another direction. Although depositors may not operate on their accounts by means of cheques, they have practically all the other advantages of a current account and in addition receive interest on their minimum monthly balances. No charge is made by the banks for keeping the accounts.

Commencing with July, 1931, monthly returns of statistics have been furnished by savings bank authorities. The information given in the following paragraphs relates to the deposits at 30th June in each year. For convenience of reference the information has been grouped under the following headings :—

- (i) Commonwealth Savings Bank ; (ii) State Savings Banks (including Trustee Banks in Tasmania) ; and (iii) All Savings Banks.

2. Number of Accounts.—The following table shows the number of savings bank accounts in existence at 30th June, 1954 and 1955. It should be noted that these figures relate to the number of accounts and not necessarily to the number of depositors.

SAVINGS BANKS : NUMBER OF ACCOUNTS.(a)

Bank.	30th June, 1954.		30th June, 1955.	
	Operative.	Inoperative. (b)	Operative.	Inoperative. (b)
Commonwealth Savings Bank ..	4,495,323	2,165,141	4,576,280	2,257,832
State Savings Bank of Victoria ..	1,513,109	585,108	1,524,989	601,227
Savings Bank of South Australia ..	572,838	(c) 167,806	585,696	(c) 171,573
Hobart Savings Bank ..	93,430	(c) 34,221	95,121	(c) 34,841
Launceston Bank for Savings ..	80,821	23,436	79,374	27,804
Total	6,755,521	2,975,712	6,861,460	3,093,277

(a) Excludes special purpose and school bank accounts. (b) Inoperative accounts are those accounts with balances of less than £1 which have not been operated on for a period of over two years. (a) Estimated.

3. Business Transacted.—The following table shows details of the business transacted in Australia by savings banks during the years ended 30th June, 1954 and 1955 :—

BUSINESS TRANSACTED IN AUSTRALIA. (£'000.)

State or Territory.	Year ended 30th June, 1954.				Year ended 30th June, 1955.			
	Deposits During Year.	With- drawals During Year.	Interest Added During Year.	Amount on Deposit at 30th June, 1954.	Deposits During Year.	With- drawals During Year.	Interest Added During Year.	Amount on Deposit at 30th June, 1955.
COMMONWEALTH SAVINGS BANK.								
New South Wales ..	291,765	276,915	5,797	339,796	322,797	310,423	6,475	358,645
Victoria ..	90,606	83,140	1,571	94,174	104,653	96,063	1,833	104,597
Queensland ..	111,454	105,413	2,005	117,406	119,382	114,244	2,270	124,814
South Australia ..	24,073	21,842	478	28,192	26,839	25,036	552	30,547
Western Australia ..	51,587	49,679	912	52,614	53,136	53,117	996	53,629
Tasmania ..	11,165	10,691	225	12,869	12,653	12,010	251	13,763
Northern Territory ..	1,889	1,716	19	1,308	2,111	1,959	22	1,482
Australian Capital Ter- ritory ..	3,312	3,177	39	2,328	3,503	3,300	44	2,575
Total ..	585,851	552,573	11,046	648,687	645,074	616,152	12,443	690,052

STATE SAVINGS BANKS.

Victoria ..	189,832	183,467	4,408	245,667	209,481	199,819	4,882	260,151
South Australia ..	64,061	59,621	1,925	94,757	70,770	66,510	2,128	101,145
Tasmania ..	14,580	13,868	458	21,078	15,675	15,195	488	22,046
Total ..	268,473	256,956	6,791	361,442	295,926	281,524	7,498	383,342

ALL SAVINGS BANKS.

New South Wales ..	291,765	276,915	5,797	339,796	322,797	310,423	6,475	358,645
Victoria ..	280,438	266,607	5,979	339,781	314,134	295,882	6,715	364,748
Queensland ..	111,454	105,413	2,005	117,406	119,382	114,244	2,270	124,814
South Australia ..	88,124	81,463	2,403	122,949	97,609	91,546	2,680	131,692
Western Australia ..	51,587	49,679	912	52,614	53,136	53,117	996	53,629
Tasmania ..	25,745	24,559	683	33,947	28,328	27,205	739	35,809
Northern Territory ..	1,889	1,716	19	1,308	2,111	1,959	22	1,482
Australian Capital Ter- ritory ..	3,312	3,177	39	2,328	3,503	3,300	44	2,575
Total ..	854,324	809,529	17,837	1,010,129	941,000	897,676	19,941	1,073,394

4. Deposits.—The amount at credit of depositors' accounts and the average deposits per head of population for each State and Territory at 30th June, 1939 and 1951 to 1955 are shown in the following table:—

TOTAL DEPOSITS IN AUSTRALIA.

At 30th June.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	N. Terr.	A.C.T.	Total.
COMMONWEALTH SAVINGS BANK.(a)									
(£'000.)									
1939	87,474	11,242	29,045	3,167	12,396	2,358	99	319	146,100
1951	284,467	68,092	98,840	20,203	44,672	10,497	965	1,717	529,453
1952	304,532	76,485	102,661	22,502	47,171	11,406	1,036	1,821	567,614
1953	319,149	85,137	109,360	25,483	49,790	12,171	1,116	2,154	604,363
1954	339,796	94,174	117,406	28,192	52,613	12,864	1,308	2,325	648,687
1955	358,645	104,597	124,814	30,547	53,620	13,76	1,482	2,575	690,052

STATE SAVINGS BANKS.(b)

(£'000.)									
1939	..	69,219	..	24,230	..	6,038	..	..	99,487
1951	..	213,687	..	77,646	..	16,658	..	..	307,991
1952	..	224,347	..	81,224	..	18,713	..	..	324,284
1953	..	234,834	..	88,392	..	19,908	..	..	343,134
1954	..	245,607	..	94,757	..	21,078	..	..	361,442
1955	..	260,151	..	101,145	..	22,046	..	..	383,342

ALL SAVINGS BANKS.

(£'000.)									
1939	87,474	80,461	29,045	27,397	12,396	8,396	99	319	245,587
1951	284,467	281,779	98,840	97,849	44,672	27,155	965	1,717	837,444
1952	304,532	300,832	102,661	103,726	47,171	30,119	1,036	1,821	891,898
1953	319,149	319,971	109,360	113,875	49,794	32,078	1,116	2,154	947,197
1954	339,796	339,781	117,406	122,949	52,614	33,947	1,308	2,325	1,070,129
1955	358,645	364,748	124,814	131,69	53,620	35,806	1,482	2,575	1,073,394

PER HEAD OF POPULATION.

(£ s. d.)									
1939	31 16 7	42 16 8	28 10 7	45 18 6	26 7 5	35 1 5	15 14 8	25 7 4	35 4 11
1951(c)	86 15 7	123 15 6	80 10 2	133 11 11	76 19 6	94 17 8	61 16 10	68 19 7	99 8 9
1952(c)	91 3 10	128 6 3	81 10 3	137 7 6	78 12 9	101 13 0	67 0 5	69 1 5	103 5 5
1953(c)	94 6 4	133 11 8	84 13 8	146 15 9	80 4 10	105 9 10	70 8 3	75 3 8	107 9 8
1954(c)	99 5 1	138 11 1	89 1 3	154 4 11	82 4 9	109 19 0	79 8 8	76 15 8	112 8 1
1955	102 15 1	144 11 4	92 16 7	160 13 9	81 8 9	113 15 11	84 6 5	79 8 4	116 13 3

(a) In addition to the amounts shown above, the Commonwealth Bank had deposits at offices in Papua, New Guinea, London and British Solomon Islands totalling: 1939, £78,000; 1951, £2,841,000; 1952, £3,285,000; 1953, £3,785,000; 1954, £4,190,000; and 1955, £1,688,000. (b) The State savings banks in New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia and Tasmania were absorbed by the Commonwealth Savings Bank. (c) Revised.

5. Deposits per head and Purchasing Power.—Particulars of the deposits per head of population, actual and adjusted to purchasing power by the application of retail price index-numbers, at 30th June, in each of the years 1939 and 1951 to 1955 are shown in the following table. In calculating the index-numbers in this table the average of deposits per head of population at 30th June, 1937, 1938 and 1939 has been used as a base and made equal to 1,000.

ALL SAVINGS BANKS : DEPOSITS PER HEAD OF POPULATION, AUSTRALIA.

At 30th June—	Actual		Adjusted to Purchasing Power.(a)	
	Deposits per head of population.	Index-Number.	Deposits per head of population.	Index-Number.
	£	1937-1939 = 1000	£	1937-1939 = 1000
1939	35.25	1,018	34.32	991
1951	99.44	2,872	48.44	1,390
1952	103.27	2,983	41.80	1,207
1953	107.48	3,104	41.86	1,209
1954	112.40	3,246	43.19	1,247
1955	116.66	3,369	43.87	1,267

(a) On the basis of the All Items ("C") Series of Retail Price Index-numbers (6 capitals) for June quarter in each year.

In interpreting the figures above it should be remembered that savings bank accounts are used to some extent by institutions and business people, as well as by individuals for the investment of personal savings. The relative extent to which savings bank accounts are used for business purposes, etc., may, and probably does, fluctuate considerably from time to time.

6. **School Banking.**—With the object of encouraging principles of thrift amongst children, agencies of the Savings Banks have been established at most of the schools throughout Australia. Particulars of operative accounts for the Commonwealth at 30th June of the years 1939 and 1951 to 1955 appear below :—

SCHOOL SAVINGS BANKS : AUSTRALIA.

At 30th June—				Number of School Agencies.	Number of Operative Accounts.	Deposits.	Deposits per Operative Account.
						£	£ s. d.
1939				9,535	560,116	1,090,703	1 18 11
1951				8,239	591,915	3,369,872	5 13 10
1952				8,219	638,476	3,866,793	6 1 2
1953				8,148	684,527	4,375,185	6 7 10
1954				8,179	724,038	4,831,538	6 13 6
1955				8,210	761,974	5,280,808	6 18 7

7. **War Savings and Savings Certificates.**—Sales of savings certificates and stamps under the War Savings and Savings Certificate schemes, particulars of which were given in earlier issues of the Official Year Book (*see* No. 37, page 586), were discontinued after 31st January, 1949, except for some sales made to wind up savings groups, etc. This method of saving was replaced by special savings schemes to operate through the savings banks. Employers were asked to co-operate by forming employee savings groups and by making regular deductions from wages and salaries for payment into group savings bank accounts, and thence, at the end of each quarter to individual accounts. The total value of certificates outstanding at 30th June in each of the last five years was :—1951, £48,115,000; 1952, £41,809,000; 1953, £35,601,000; 1954, £30,310,000; 1955, £26,615,000.

8. **Commonwealth Savings Bank of Australia.**—(i) *General.* The Savings Bank Department of the Commonwealth Bank opened for business in Victoria on 15th July, 1912; in Queensland on 16th September, 1912; in the Northern Territory on 21st October, 1912; in Tasmania on 1st January, 1913, and in New South Wales, South Australia and Western Australia on 13th January, 1913. The Tasmanian State Savings

Bank was absorbed by the Commonwealth Bank on 1st January, 1913, the Queensland State Savings Bank was taken over in 1920 and the New South Wales and Western Australian State Savings Banks in 1931. The Savings Bank Department was separated from the General Bank on 9th June, 1928, and established as a separate institution known as the "Commonwealth Savings Bank of Australia". It has since then operated independently, publishing its own balance-sheets and profit and loss accounts. The Commonwealth Bank Act 1927, which provided for the establishment of the Commonwealth Savings Bank as a separate institution, provided for a Commission of three members to manage the Savings Bank. This Commission was never appointed and the Commonwealth Bank Act 1945 placed the control of the Commonwealth Savings Bank under the Governor of the Commonwealth Bank.

(ii) *Balance-sheet, 30th June, 1954 and 1955.* Particulars of the liabilities and assets of the Commonwealth Savings Bank as at 30th June, 1954 and 1955 were as follows :—

COMMONWEALTH SAVINGS BANK(a) : LIABILITIES AND ASSETS, 30th JUNE.
(£'000.)

Liabilities.	1954.	1955.	Assets.	1954.	1955.
Reserve Fund ..	8,276	8,828	Cash Balances and Money at Short Call	67,856	72,719
Depositors' Balances and Accrued Interest	653,910	695,930	Australian Notes and Coin ..	709	692
Contingency Account and other Liabilities	19,036	20,675	Government Securities	451,331	470,778
			Securities of Municipal and other Public Authorities ..	67,668	72,709
			Bank Premises ..	3,492	4,667
			Loans and Advances..	80,671	92,821
			Other Assets ..	9,495	11,047
Total ..	681,222	725,433	Total ..	681,222	725,433

(a) Includes branches in London, Territories of Papua and New Guinea, and British Solomon Islands.

(iii) *Profile.* Under the terms of the Savings Bank Amalgamation Agreements the profits of the Commonwealth Savings Bank in New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia and Tasmania are equally divided between the Bank and the former controlling authorities in those States. Net profits for the years ended 30th June, 1939 and 1951 to 1955 and the distribution of those profits are shown in the following table.

COMMONWEALTH SAVINGS BANK : DISTRIBUTION OF PROFITS.
(£.)

Year ended 30th June—	Total Profit.	Payments to State Authorities under Savings Bank Amalgamation Agreements.					Pub- lished Profit.	Distribution of Published Profit.	
		New South Wales. (a)	Queens- land. (b)	Western Aus- tralia. (b)	Tas- mania. (b)	Total.		National Debt Sinking Fund.	Savings Bank Reserve Fund.
1939 ..	532,736	168,878	30,464	13,251	3,861	216,454	316,282	158,141	158,141
1951 ..	1,616,082	459,959	170,191	30,370	9,321	669,841	946,241	473,120	473,121
1952 ..	1,522,507	453,200	140,443	20,122	7,024	620,789	901,718	450,859	450,859
1953 ..	1,525,475	497,082	94,795	23,544	4,984	620,405	905,070	452,535	452,535
1954 ..	2,031,371	629,614	155,365	33,217	12,439	830,635	1,200,736	600,368	600,368
1955 ..	1,855,901	587,959	130,415	26,284	6,327	750,985	1,104,916	552,458	552,458

(a) Paid to Rural Bank of New South Wales.

(b) Paid to State Consolidated Revenue Funds.

9. State Savings Banks.—(i) *Assets, 1955.* At 30th June, 1955 or in the case of Tasmania, 31st August, 1955, the assets of State savings banks amounted to £406,563,000, distributed as shown in the following table.

STATE SAVINGS BANKS : ASSETS, 30th JUNE, 1954 AND 1955.

(£'000.)

Particulars.	30th June, 1955.				30th June, 1954.
	Victoria.	South Australia.	Tasmania. (a)	Total.	Total.
Cash in hand, in transit and on Current Account	4,855	2,008	1,320	8,183	8,425
Fixed Deposits	42,812	13,510	1,705	58,027	56,627
Outstanding Interest, Dividends and Rents	2,090	708	238	3,036	2,732
Government Securities	117,457	54,666	6,629	178,752	180,102
Municipal and other Public Securities	91,571	17,905	7,926	117,402	99,037
Mortgages	14,869	18,246	6,027	39,142	34,713
Landed and House Property ..	1,100	630	283	2,013	1,782
All other Assets .. ..	..	..	8	8	5
Total Assets	274,754	107,673	24,136	406,563	383,423

(a) At 31st August, 1955.

(b) State totals were: Victoria, £259,554,000; South Australia, £100,815,000; and Tasmania, £23,054,000.

(ii) *Profit and Loss Accounts, 1954-55.* Details of the profit and loss accounts of the several State savings banks for the year 1954-55 are given below :—

STATE SAVINGS BANKS : PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS, 1954-55.

(£'000.)

Particulars.	1954-55.				1953-54.
	Victoria.	South Australia.	Tasmania. (a)	Total.	Total.
Receipts—					
Total, Interest, Dividends, Rents, and all other ..	7,998	3,400	814	12,212	11,134
Expenditure—					
Interest allotted to Depositors	4,498	2,179	531	7,208	6,294
Provision for accrued interest on Depositors' Balances ..	451	..	..	451	594
Expenses of Management ..	2,391	753	187	3,331	3,057
All other Expenditure ..	439	65	3	507	297
Total	7,779	2,997	721	11,497	10,242
Profit for year	219	403	93	715	892
Balance of profit and loss account brought forward	127	150	106	383	413
Total	346	553	199	1,098	1,305
Distribution of Profits—					
Amount written off Bank Premises	63	25	36	124	138
Amount carried to Reserves and Depreciation Funds ..	150	370	57	577	784
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward ..	133	158	106	397	383

(a) Year ended 31st August, 1955.

10. *Classification of Depositors' Balances.*—The classification of deposits published by savings banks does not permit a fully detailed analysis with respect to Australia as a whole, but information supplied to the Royal Commission on Monetary and Banking Systems, for all savings banks except the Hobart Trustee Savings Bank, shows that at 30th June, 1936 the amount on deposit in accounts with balances of less than £100 represented 21 per cent. of the total deposits; balances of over £100 but under £250, 21 per cent.; over £250 but under £500, 23 per cent.; over £500 but under £1,000, 25 per cent.; while those of over £1,000 accounted for 10 per cent. School, penny bank and small inoperative accounts were excluded in determining these percentages.

A similar classification as at 30th June, 1936, 1939 and 1951 to 1955, but relating only to the combined State Savings Banks of Victoria and South Australia, is shown below.

STATE SAVINGS BANKS : CLASSIFICATION OF DEPOSITS.

(Per cent.)

At 30th June—	£100 and under.	£101-£300.	£301-£500.	Total under £501.	£501-£1,000.	Over £1,000.
1936.. ..	19.54	26.13	17.84	63.51	27.42	9.07
1939.. ..	20.27	27.15	17.90	65.32	26.14	8.54
1951.. ..		47.45		47.45	32.22	20.33
1952.. ..		45.85		45.85	32.33	21.82
1953.. ..		43.88		43.88	32.73	23.39
1954.. ..		42.17		42.17	32.03	25.80
1955.. ..		40.45		40.45	30.34	29.21

11. *Rates of Interest on Deposits.*—The following tables show the rates of interest allowed at 30th June, 1939 and 1950 to 1955 by State and trustee savings banks and by the Commonwealth Savings Bank.

SAVINGS BANKS : INTEREST RATES(a) ON DEPOSITS.

(Per cent. per annum.)

Particulars.	Interest Rate at 30th June.					
	1939.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.	1955.
Part of Balance not exceeding £500—						
Commonwealth Savings Bank	2	2	2	2½	2½	2½
State Savings Bank of Victoria	2	2	2	2½	2½	2½
Savings Bank of South Australia	(b) 3	2½	2½	2½	2½	(c) 2½
The Hobart Savings Bank(d)	3	2½	2½	2½	2½	2½
The Launceston Bank for Savings(d) ..	3	2½	2½	2½	2½	2½
Part of balance in excess of £500 but not exceeding £1,500(e)—						
Commonwealth Savings Bank(f)	1½	1	1	1½	1½	1½
State Savings Bank of Victoria	2	1	1	1½	1½	1½
Savings Bank of South Australia	2½	1½	1½	1½	1½	(g) 1½
Deposit Stock—						
State Savings Bank of Victoria	2½	1	1	1½	1½	2
Savings Bank of South Australia .. ..	..	1	1	1½	1½	2

(a) Rates on ordinary accounts. On Friendly and other Society Accounts the rates at 30th June, 1955 were:— Commonwealth Savings Bank, State Savings Bank of Victoria and Savings Bank of South Australia, 2½ per cent. on £2,000, 1½ per cent. on balance. (b) £1-£200. Rate on £201 to £500 was 2½ per cent. (c) The interest bearing limit for this bank was increased from £500 to £750 from 1st January, 1955.

(d) The interest bearing limit for these banks was increased from £300 to £450 from 1st April, 1951, and from £450 to £500 from 1st January, 1955. (e) The interest bearing limit was increased from £1,000 to £1,500 from 1st June, 1954. (f) Up to 1911 the interest bearing limit in all States except Queensland was £1,300. In Queensland it was £2,000. The limit from 1942 to 1953 was £1,000 in all States. (g) £751-£1,500.

C. COMPANIES.

NOTE.—Statistics available in regard to companies relate to (a) Trustee, Executor and Agency Companies; (b) Building and Investment Societies; and (c) Co-operative Societies.

§ 1. Trustee, Executor and Agency Companies.

The following table shows, for the years 1939 and 1950 to 1954, particulars of the assets and liabilities of certain trustee companies transacting business in Australia and New Zealand. Details have been extracted from a summary of the last published balance-sheets for the various years, as shown in the *Australasian Insurance and Banking Record*.

TRUSTEE, EXECUTOR AND AGENCY COMPANIES.
AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

Particulars.	1939.	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
Number of Companies ..	23	24	24	24	24	24
Liabilities—	£	£	£	£	£	£
Capital paid-up ..	1,408,452	1,528,452	1,528,452	1,528,452	1,528,452	1,528,452
Reserves and undistributed						
Profits ..	1,254,262	1,483,424	1,508,912	1,511,596	1,533,107	1,583,874
Other Liabilities ..	621,069	867,364	901,314	1,000,752	1,107,642	1,133,959
Total Liabilities ..	3,283,783	3,879,240	3,938,678	4,040,800	4,169,201	4,246,285
Assets—						
Deposits with Government,						
Public Securities, Fixed						
Deposits, etc. ..	966,847	1,450,221	1,511,739	1,393,241	1,463,523	1,479,961
Mortgages ..	547,705	412,203	313,295	294,206	276,590	262,155
Property ..	1,104,216	1,111,837	1,117,672	1,140,149	1,149,450	1,170,703
Cash ..	102,300	206,538	265,985	478,812	481,606	559,982
Other Assets ..	562,715	698,441	729,987	734,392	797,992	773,479
Total Assets ..	3,283,783	3,879,240	3,938,678	4,040,800	4,169,201	4,246,285
Total Trust Fund Assets	(a)157,256	(a)195,982	(a)203,585	(a)208,168	(b)219,155	(b)219,466

(a) Nine offices only.

(b) Ten offices only.

§ 2. Building and Investment Societies.

1. Summary.—During 1953 returns were received from 1,017 societies, but the information is not exhaustive, as particulars regarding a number of organizations are not included. In the following table general information is given relating to the societies for the year 1952–53.

BUILDING AND INVESTMENT SOCIETIES : SUMMARY, 1952-53.

Particulars.		N.S.W.	Vic.(a)	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
Societies making returns—								
Permanent ..	No.	25	18	5	5	6	5	64
Terminating ..	No.	926	2	6	17	2	..	953
Total ..	No.	951	20	11	22	8	5	1,017
Number of shareholders ..		110,147	11,821	25,666	23,801	25,460	7,966	204,861
„ shares ..	b	1,881,965	1,190,098	8,027,767	113,079	(c)	92,653	(c)
„ borrowers ..	(d)	10,310	17,542	9,721	3,664	4,140	2,404	47,781
Income for year from interest, etc. ..	£	1,053,266	735,956	207,543	67,975	123,540	92,438	2,280,718
Working expenses for year ..	£	742,504	577,957	297,499	26,365	34,204	26,332	1,704,921
Amounts of deposits during year ..	£	473,931	1,063,458	826,587	501,486	597,423	163,808	3,626,693
Repayment of loans during year ..	£	1,631,501	2,733,114	961,575	306,475	608,808	373,844	6,615,317
Loans granted during year ..	£	2,901,620	2,512,518	1,380,944	530,781	773,813	490,317	8,589,993

(a) Year 1953; excludes Co-operative Housing Societies, for details of which see para. 3.
 (b) Terminating societies only. (c) Not available. (d) Permanent societies only. (e) Incomplete
 —“ Other terminating societies ” not available.

2. **Liabilities and Assets.**—Particulars of liabilities and assets in 1952-1953 of the 1,017 societies mentioned in the previous paragraph are shown below.

BUILDING AND INVESTMENT SOCIETIES : LIABILITIES, 1952-53.

(£.)

State.	Paid-up Capital and Subscriptions.	Reserve Funds.	Deposits.	Bank Overdrafts and other Liabilities.	Total Liabilities.
New South Wales ..	18,887,065	2,051,733	1,055,603	64,108,990	86,103,391
Victoria (a) ..	4,194,149	b 1,394,189	3,403,082	5,631,390	14,622,810
Queensland ..	4,445,063	98,794	84,391	613,372	5,241,620
South Australia ..	1,848,594	200,761	273,613	26,559	2,349,527
Western Australia ..	2,115,134	65,406	505,159	(c) 175,945	2,861,644
Tasmania ..	1,299,766	150,934	310,134	117,047	1,877,881
Total ..	32,789,771	3,961,817	5,631,982	70,673,303	113,056,873

(a) Year 1953. (b) Includes balance of Profit and Loss account, £126,000. (c) Includes net accumulated profits, £80,335.

BUILDING AND INVESTMENT SOCIETIES : ASSETS, 1952-53.

(£.)

State.	Advances on Mortgage.	Landed and House Property, Furniture, etc.	Cash in Hand and on Deposit.	Other Assets.	Total Assets.
New South Wales ..	a 84,195,819	(b)	568	1,907,004	86,103,391
Victoria (c) ..	14,252,810	183,990	32,111	153,899	14,622,810
Queensland ..	a 5,041,536	90,048	48,040	61,996	5,241,620
South Australia ..	2,091,386	44,649	94,178	119,314	2,349,527
Western Australia ..	2,674,793	45,006	51,911	89,934	2,861,644
Tasmania ..	1,796,227	10,803	1,798	69,053	1,877,881
Total ..	110,052,571	374,496	228,606	2,401,200	113,056,873

(a) Includes Starr-Bowkett and other terminating societies:—New South Wales, £75,233,075; Queensland, £936,666. (b) Not available. Included in Other Assets. (c) Year 1953.

3. Co-operative Housing Societies, Victoria.—In addition to the information shown above, the following details of co-operative housing societies in Victoria have been extracted from the 8th Annual Report of the Registrar of Co-operative Housing Societies. At 30th June, 1953, 234 co-operative housing societies were registered in Victoria with 22,648 members who had subscribed for 744,530 shares giving a nominal share capital subscribed of £39,477,299. For the twelve months ended 30th April, 1953, returns were submitted by 217 societies, the total income of those societies being £156,206, and total expenditure £142,205. The liabilities at 30th April, 1953 of the societies submitting returns were:—bank overdraft, £20,001,888; subscriptions, £2,620,049; surplus interest and management expenses, £261,956; other liabilities, £375,032; total liabilities, £23,258,925. Assets at the same date consisted of:—advances, £22,973,234; other assets, £285,691; total assets, £23,258,925.

§ 3. Co-operative Societies.

Co-operative societies are divided into three classes—(i) those engaged in the manufacture and marketing of primary products and trade requirements; (ii) those engaged in retailing general household requirements; and (iii) those engaged in activities covered by both classes (i) and (ii). The first class may be described briefly as Producers' Co-operative Societies and the second as Consumers' Co-operative Societies. The particulars given for New South Wales relate to societies registered under the Co-operative Act 1923-1950. A summary of the business of all co-operative societies for the years 1952-53 or 1953 for all States except Western Australia is given in the following tables. For Western Australia details of the business during 1940-41 (the latest year available) are given. Separate particulars for each of the three types of Co-operative Societies is given in the *Annual Finance Bulletin* (see No. 45, pages 176 and 177).

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

Particulars.	N.S.W. 1952-53.	Vic. 1952-53.	Q'land. 1952-53.	S. Aust. 1953.	W. Aust. 1940-41.	Tas. 1952-53.
SUMMARY.						
Number of Societies ..	292	97	178	72	85	10
" Branches ..	(a)	83	89	(a)	36	6
" Members ..	187,215	64,761	116,698	100,323	21,663	13,012
Gross Turnover (Sales) ..	£ 95,354,598	24,578,278	50,633,258	11,622,505	2,548,776	3,232,496
Other Income ..	£ 417,139	1,278,348	1,543,625	886,132	698,449	128,203
Total Income ..	£ 95,771,737	25,856,626	52,176,883	12,508,637	3,247,225	3,360,699
Total Purchases during Year ..	£ 93,195,993	20,512,701	42,523,884	9,451,666	2,254,119	2,404,853
Other Expenditure ..	£ 4,997,710	9,434,968	2,525,159	850,741	800,861	800,861
Total Expenditure ..	£ 93,195,993	24,810,411	51,958,852	11,976,825	3,105,160	3,205,714
Rebates and Bonuses ..	£ 994,220	204,680	492,158	458,791	15,472	42,913
Dividends on Share Capital ..	£ 248,992	125,421	136,383	62,099	19,097	14,078

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS.

(£.)

Liabilities—						
Paid-up Capital ..	7,198,206	2,450,686	3,944,196	1,613,231	469,144	332,850
Loan Capital ..	..	342,727	1,911,482	1,279,889	225,009	123,230
Bank Overdrafts ..	..	1,367,413	3,970,191	799,315	61,386	435,992
Accumulated Profits ..	5,051,273	689,141	916,771	393,941	22,814	149,335
Reserve Funds ..	4,242,557	2,105,548	4,419,539	1,006,001	322,255	143,885
Sundry Creditors ..	..	1,953,670	6,915,476	745,470	374,553	504,351
Other Liabilities ..	9,807,776	594,908	369,229	1,962,164	457,371	45,201
Total Liabilities ..	26,299,812	9,504,093	22,446,875	7,800,011	1,932,514	1,734,844
Assets—						
Land and Buildings ..	..	..	4,347,660	1,178,749	510,279	526,259
Machinery, Plant and other fixed Assets ..	9,556,528	3,982,074	5,509,640	866,427	247,143	141,970
Stocks ..	8,522,090	2,178,243	4,061,915	2,976,248	351,437	589,539
Sundry Debtors ..	5,711,670	2,351,708	6,850,354	985,599	468,668	413,670
Cash in hand and on deposit ..	..	254,824	776,398	549,164	191,383	2,831
Profit and Loss Account ..	..	113,594	82,942	3,009	50,025	..
Other Assets ..	2,500,524	623,650	817,966	1,240,815	113,639	60,575
Total Assets ..	26,299,812	9,504,093	22,446,875	7,800,011	1,932,514	1,734,844

(a) Not available.

D. INSURANCE.**§ 1. Introductory.**

1. **Legislation.**—Section 51 of the Commonwealth Constitution confers the necessary powers on the Commonwealth Parliament to legislate with respect to “insurance other than State insurance; also State insurance extending beyond the limits of the State concerned”. Commonwealth legislation includes the Marine Insurance Act 1909 defining the limits of marine insurance and regulating the terms of contracts, etc., the Insurance Act 1932–1937 requiring the lodgment of deposits by insurance companies, and the Life Insurance Act 1945–1953 generally regulating life insurance business in Australia. The Marine Insurance Act 1909 and the Insurance Act 1932–1937 have limited application, and, except for life insurance business which is regulated by the Life Insurance Act 1945–1953, insurance business is conducted under State laws.

2. **Insurance Act 1932–1937.**—Companies, persons or associations of persons carrying on insurance business in Australia or in any Territory of Australia are required to lodge a deposit with the Commonwealth Treasurer.

Money deposited is invested by the Treasurer in prescribed securities selected by the depositor, and all interest is paid to depositors. Deposits remain as security against liability to policy holders, and are available to satisfy judgments obtained in respect of policies.

Deposits held by States on 1st February, 1932, could, however, remain with the States subject to the conditions embodied in the laws of the States, and depositors to the extent of the value of these deposits were exempt from liability to make deposits under the Commonwealth Act.

The following are not regarded as insurance businesses under the Act :—

Staff superannuation schemes; schemes of religious organizations solely for insurance of their property; and friendly society, union and association schemes involving superannuation or insurance benefits to employees.

This Act does not apply to State insurance within the limits of the State concerned, and, under the Life Insurance Act 1945–1953, ceased to apply to life insurance business.

3. **Life Insurance Act 1945–1953.**—The objects of this Act are :—(a) To replace all State legislation on the subject of life insurance and to provide uniform legislation for the whole of Australia; (b) to appoint an Insurance Commissioner to exercise active supervision of the activities of life insurance companies, with a view to securing the greatest possible protection for policy holders; (c) to set up adequate machinery for dealing with any company that fails to maintain a required minimum standard of solvency.

The Act was assented to on 16th August, 1945 and came into operation on 20th June, 1946. A summary of the provisions of the Act is given in Official Year Book No. 37 (pages 595 to 597).

The main amendment by the Life Insurance Act, No. 94 of 1953 was to repeal Part VI. of the principal Act, which provided for the establishment of a Commonwealth Government Insurance Office.

4. **Deposits under Insurance Acts.**—Deposits lodged under the Insurance Acts at 30th June, 1954, totalled £5,381,991, comprising £1,092,282 held by the Commonwealth in respect of life insurance and £4,006,379 held by the Commonwealth and £283,330 held by the States in respect of other forms of insurance.

The deposits comprise cash £25,000, government, municipal and other securities £4,373,841, fixed deposits £1,000, bank guarantees and undertakings £618,000, titles and mortgages £364,150.

§ 2. Life Assurance.

1. **General.**—Statistical returns have been collected from life assurance institutions since 1907. Until 1946 these returns were collected under the Census and Statistics Act. Since 1947 returns lodged under the Life Insurance Act 1945–1953 have been used to

compile life assurance statistics. This change in method of collection has resulted in some slight changes in definition and, as a result, the statistics for 1947 and later years are not in all cases strictly comparable with those for earlier years. In earlier years statistics of revenue and expenditure and of assets and liabilities, although generally related only to the life assurance business of the offices making the returns, included, in some cases, a small amount of other classes of business. Under the Life Insurance Act 1945-1953 companies transacting life assurance business are required to set up separate statutory funds for their life assurance business. As a result of this, it has been possible to separate life assurance business from other classes of business. Except where otherwise indicated, the figures in the succeeding paragraphs refer to Australian business only. Business in the Territories of Papua and New Guinea is, however, included in the Australian figures.

2. **Offices Transacting Business.**—The number of offices which transacted life assurance business in Australia during 1953 was 24, including three overseas companies. Of the twenty-one Australian offices, six are purely mutual, including one which transacts general business in respect of which share capital is used, thirteen are public companies, and two are State Government institutions. Of the total offices, fourteen transacted both ordinary and industrial business, and one industrial business only. Ordinary and industrial business has, where possible, been kept separate.

3. **Australian Business—Policies in Existence.**—In the following table details of policies on the registers in each State and the Australian Capital Territory are given for the year 1953:—

LIFE ASSURANCE : POLICIES EXISTING IN AUSTRALIA, 1953.

State or Territory.(a)	Assurance and Endowment Policies.				Annuity Policies.		
	Number of Policies.	Sum Assured. (£'000.)	Bonus Additions. (£'000.)	Annual Premiums. (£'000.)	Number of Policies.	Annuities Per Annum. (£.)	Annual Premiums. (£.)
ORDINARY DEPARTMENT.							
New South Wales ..	1,047,470	540,692	47,599	18,826	5,064	1,158,082	343,351
Victoria ..	805,694	453,225	38,073	15,954	7,136	4,339,483	913,557
Queensland(b) ..	485,906	242,593	17,959	7,746	921	80,581	18,709
South Australia ..	268,373	140,192	11,089	5,004	923	80,963	16,884
Western Australia ..	184,044	97,751	8,651	3,528	617	67,338	13,643
Tasmania ..	91,976	51,513	4,049	1,710	696	78,139	21,363
Australian Capital Territory ..	9,379	26,830	608	418	1,614	171,197	16,491
Total ..	2,892,842	1,552,706	128,928	53,186	16,971	5,975,783	1,343,998
INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.							
New South Wales ..	1,431,843	106,653	2,803	5,300	..	..	..
Victoria ..	1,243,157	90,257	2,604	4,547	..	..	..
Queensland(b) ..	451,023	34,351	857	1,697	..	..	..
South Australia ..	407,912	27,537	793	1,379	..	..	..
Western Australia ..	243,205	19,054	478	933	..	..	..
Tasmania ..	98,406	7,277	215	354	..	..	..
Australian Capital Territory ..	5,222	465	18	22	..	..	..
Total ..	3,880,768	285,594	7,768	14,232	..	..	..

(a) Location of register of policies.

(b) Includes Territories of Papua and New Guinea.

The following table shows particulars of policies existing at the end of the years 1939 and 1949 to 1953 inclusive :—

LIFE ASSURANCE : POLICIES EXISTING IN AUSTRALIA.

At End of Year—	Assurance and Endowment Policies.				Annuity Policies.	
	Number of Policies.	Sum Assured.	Average per Policy.	Annual Premiums.	Number of Policies.	Annuities per Annum.
		(£'000.).	(£.).	(£'000.).		(£.).
ORDINARY DEPARTMENT.						
1939 ..	1,243,378	427,291	344	(a) 13,954	3,820	304,584
1949 ..	2,224,240	930,791	419	32,109	14,138	2,802,424
1950 ..	2,377,032	1,047,145	441	36,081	12,748	3,406,314
1951 ..	2,553,710	1,211,970	475	41,868	14,459	4,346,634
1952 ..	2,731,284	1,378,474	505	47,634	16,240	5,587,112
1953 ..	2,892,842	1,552,706	537	53,186	16,971	5,975,783
INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.						
1939 ..	2,491,742	111,862	45	(a) 6,490	2	58
1949 ..	3,725,017	224,012	60	12,001	2	39
1950 ..	3,793,074	238,321	63	12,517	1	13
1951 ..	3,842,716	253,594	66	13,069	1	13
1952 ..	3,872,726	270,323	70	13,682	1	13
1953 ..	3,880,768	285,594	74	14,232	..	..

(a) Annual premium income.

4. New Policies issued in Australia. During 1953, 300,295 new policies for £252,080,000 were issued in the Ordinary Department. The average amount per policy was £839 as compared with an average of £505 per policy for all ordinary policies existing at the end of 1952.

In the Industrial Department, 260,948 new policies were issued during 1953 assuring £34,570,000. The average amount per policy was £132 as compared with an average of £70 per policy for all industrial policies existing at the end of 1952.

In the following table details are given of new policies issued in each State and the Australian Capital Territory during 1953 for each class of business :—

LIFE ASSURANCE : NEW POLICIES ISSUED IN AUSTRALIA, 1953.

State or Territory.(a)	Assurance and Endowment Policies.				Annuity Policies.			
	Number of Policies.	Sum Assured.	Premiums.		Number of Policies.	Annuities per Annum.	Premiums.	
			Single.	Annual.			Single.	Annual.
		(£'000.).	(£'000.).	(£'000.).		(£'000.).	(£'000.).	(£'000.).
ORDINARY DEPARTMENT.								
New South Wales ..	111,437	86,501	96	3,094	678	191	101	64
Victoria ..	80,547	69,763	99	2,547	801	701	411	148
Queensland(b) ..	50,356	38,614	122	1,229	44	9	6	3
South Australia ..	25,939	22,737	33	849	46	8	16	2
Western Australia ..	19,854	16,635	12	625	35	8	7	2
Tasmania ..	10,988	9,960	5	334	24	10	7	3
Australian Capital Territory ..	1,174	7,870	151	87	06	41	4	2
Total ..	300,295	252,080	518	8,765	1,724	968	552	224
INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.								
New South Wales ..	98,547	13,590	..	628	..	..	..	..
Victoria ..	78,036	10,019	..	463	..	..	..	..
Queensland(b) ..	33,272	4,237	..	195	..	..	..	..
South Australia ..	28,615	3,098	..	142	..	..	..	..
Western Australia ..	18,581	2,630	..	119	..	..	..	..
Tasmania ..	6,405	929	..	42	..	..	..	..
Australian Capital Territory ..	492	67	..	3	..	..	..	..
Total ..	260,948	34,570	..	1,592	..	..	..	..

(a) Location of register of policies.

(b) Includes Papua and New Guinea.

New policies issued in Australia during each of the years 1939 and 1949 to 1953 were as shown in the following table :—

LIFE ASSURANCE : NEW POLICIES ISSUED IN AUSTRALIA.

Year.	Assurance and Endowment Policies.				Annuity Policies.			
	Number of Policies.	Sum Assured. (£'000.)	Premiums.		Number of Policies.	Annuities per Annum. (£'000.)	Premiums.	
			Single. (£'000.)	Annual. (£'000.)			Single. (£'000.)	Annual. (£'000.)

ORDINARY DEPARTMENT.

1939	142,157	48,263	(a)	(a)	420	87	(a)	(a)
1949	253,793	140,395	347	5,030	2,533	507	468	136
1950	265,846	167,271	364	5,891	2,879	878	560	209
1951	287,647	221,132	460	7,854	2,658	1,300	649	380
1952	268,797	233,186	355	8,240	2,602	1,741	600	418
1953	300,295	252,080	518	8,765	1,724	968	552	224

INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.

1939	385,498	18,542	(a)	(a)	..	..	..	..
1949	300,988	29,690	7	1,367	..	..	..	..
1950	289,275	29,632	7	1,367	..	..	..	..
1951	266,577	30,661	..	1,413	..	..	..	..
1952	270,391	34,367	..	1,579	..	..	..	..
1953	260,948	34,570	..	1,592	..	..	..	..

(a) Not available.

5. Policies Matured or Otherwise Discontinued in Australia.—The volume of business discontinued from various causes in each year is always large. In the following table details are given of ordinary and industrial life assurance policies matured or otherwise discontinued in each State and the Australian Capital Territory during the year 1953.

LIFE ASSURANCE : POLICIES MATURED OR OTHERWISE DISCONTINUED IN AUSTRALIA, 1953.

State or Territory.(a)	Assurance and Endowment			Annuity Policies.		
	Number of Policies.	Sum Assured. (£'000.)	Annual Premiums. (£'000.)	Number of Policies.	Annuities per Annum. (£'000.)	Annual Premiums. (£'000.)

ORDINARY DEPARTMENT.

New South Wales	54,697	36,045	1,345	367	74	27
Victoria	38,858	25,362	948	455	484	102
Queensland(b)	22,598	13,188	435	32	3	..
South Australia	10,054	5,802	230	24	5	1
Western Australia	7,963	4,388	175	16	3	..
Tasmania	4,854	3,078	108	28	3	2
Australian Capital Territory	—287	—10,015	—28	71	7	3
Total	138,737	77,848	3,213	993	579	135

INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.

New South Wales	101,135	7,871	422	..	..	..
Victoria	80,431	5,953	324	1	..	..
Queensland(b)	28,288	2,183	119	..	..	..
South Australia	22,566	1,552	86	..	..	..
Western Australia	14,802	1,204	63	..	..	..
Tasmania	5,488	524	27	..	..	..
Australian Capital Territory	106	12	1	..	..	..
Total	252,906	19,299	1,042	1	..	..

(a) Location of register of policies.

(b) Includes Papua and New Guinea.

NOTE.—Minus sign (—) indicates excess of transfers to registers or other adjustment to number and value of policies.

Policies matured or otherwise discontinued in Australia during each of the years 1939 and 1949 to 1953 were as shown in the following table :—

LIFE ASSURANCE : POLICIES MATURED OR OTHERWISE DISCONTINUED IN AUSTRALIA.

Year.	Assurance and Endowment Policies.			Annuity Policies.		
	Number of Policies.	Sum Assured. (£'000.).	Annual Premiums. (£'000.).	Number of Policies.	Annuities per Annum. (£'000.).	Annual Premiums. (£'000.).

ORDINARY DEPARTMENT.

1939	..	..	..	80,912	24,786	(a)	275	17	(a)
1949	..	..	..	100,492	44,071	1,687	1,039	216	90
1950	..	..	..	113,054	50,917	1,920	4,269	274	71
1951	..	..	..	110,969	56,307	2,067	947	360	124
1952	..	..	..	121,228	66,694	2,473	821	500	179
1953	..	..	..	138,737	77,848	3,213	993	579	135

INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.

1939	..	..	..	262,096	12,132	(a)	..	..	..
1949	..	..	..	219,041	14,690	819	I	..	..
1950	..	..	..	221,218	15,323	851	I	..	..
1951	..	..	..	216,935	15,388	861	..	..	..
1952	..	..	..	240,381	17,638	967	..	..	..
1953	..	..	..	252,906	19,299	1,042	I	..	..

(a) Not available.

The number of policies and sums assured, excluding annuities, discontinued during the years 1939 and 1949 to 1953 and the cause for discontinuance are given in the following table :—

LIFE ASSURANCE : POLICIES(a) MATURED OR OTHERWISE DISCONTINUED IN AUSTRALIA—CAUSE OF DISCONTINUANCE.

Year.	Death or Maturity.	Surrender.	Forfeiture.	Other.	Total.
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ORDINARY DEPARTMENT : NUMBER OF POLICIES.

1939	22,529	18,409	39,382	—	128	80,192
1949	..	..	..	32,867	35,889	34,013	—	2,277	100,492
1950	..	..	..	34,655	42,710	35,045	—	644	113,054
1951	..	..	..	36,150	43,347	33,259	—	1,787	110,969
1952	..	..	..	39,150	48,879	33,734	—	535	121,228
1953	..	..	..	40,836	53,064	37,027	—	7,810	138,737

(a) Excludes annuities.

NOTE.—Minus sign (—) indicates excess of transfers to registers or other adjustment to number and value of policies.

LIFE ASSURANCE: POLICIES(*a*) MATURED OR OTHERWISE DISCONTINUED
IN AUSTRALIA—CAUSE OF DISCONTINUANCE—*continued.*

Year.	Death or Maturity.	Surrender.	Forfeiture.	Other.	Total.
ORDINARY DEPARTMENT: SUM ASSURED. (£'000.).					
1939	5,612	5,863	13,414	— 103	24,786
1949	9,340	17,956	14,909	1,866	44,071
1950	10,132	22,270	16,939	1,576	50,917
1951	10,816	24,303	18,108	3,080	56,307
1952	12,044	28,824	21,458	4,368	66,694
1953	13,107	34,026	25,792	4,923	77,848

INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT: NUMBER OF POLICIES.					
1939	73,585	33,766	154,328	417	262,096
1949	113,833	37,268	67,800	140	219,041
1950	115,594	38,699	66,542	383	221,218
1951	122,209	33,109	60,877	740	216,935
1952	136,117	43,769	60,402	93	240,381
1953	146,134	51,044	55,289	439	252,906

INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT: SUM ASSURED. (£'000.).					
1939	2,759	1,372	7,976	25	12,132
1949	4,962	2,231	7,466	31	14,690
1950	4,880	2,446	7,950	47	15,323
1951	5,056	2,462	7,819	51	15,388
1952	5,728	3,914	7,983	13	17,638
1953	6,285	5,383	7,569	62	19,299

(*a*) Excludes annuities.

NOTE.—Minus sign (—) indicates excess of transfers to registers or other adjustment to number and value of policies.

6. Premiums and Claims, Australia.—(*i*) *Premiums.* (*a*) *Ordinary Business.* Details of revenue from premiums in respect of the ordinary business of all offices doing business in Australia are shown in the following table for each State and the Australian Capital Territory for the year 1953:—

ORDINARY LIFE ASSURANCE: AUSTRALIAN REVENUE FROM PREMIUMS, 1953.
(£'000.)

State or Territory.(<i>a</i>)	Assurance and Endowment Premiums.		Consideration for Annuities.		Total.
	Single Premiums.	Other Premiums.	Single Premiums.	Other Premiums.	
New South Wales	95	18,777	103	349	19,324
Victoria	102	15,691	384	886	17,063
Queensland(<i>b</i>)	72	7,530	8	18	7,628
South Australia	34	4,899	16	16	4,965
Western Australia	13	3,429	8	12	3,462
Tasmania	5	1,649	7	22	1,683
Australian Capital Territory	151	667	4	196	1,018
Total	472	52,642	530	1,499	55,143

(*a*) Location of register of policies.

(*b*) Includes Territories of Papua and New Guinea.

The next table shows, for each of the years 1939 and 1949 to 1953, the aggregate Australian income from premiums in respect of ordinary business of all offices doing business in Australia :—

ORDINARY LIFE ASSURANCE : AUSTRALIAN REVENUE FROM PREMIUMS.
(£'000.)

Year.	Assurance and Endowment Premiums.	Consideration for Annuities.	Total.
1939	13,954	184	14,138
1949	31,904	1,158	33,062
1950	35,840	1,365	37,205
1951	41,265	1,679	42,944
1952	47,091	1,870	48,961
1953	53,114	2,029	55,143

(b) *Industrial Business.* Premiums received on policies in 1953 amounted to :— New South Wales, £5,161,000; Victoria, £4,457,000; Queensland, £1,657,000; South Australia, £1,346,000; Western Australia, £900,000; Tasmania, £346,000; Australian Capital Territory, £21,000; Australia, £13,888,000. The Australian receipts from premiums for the years 1939 and 1949 to 1953 were as follows :—1939, £6,490,000; 1949, £11,676,000; 1950, £12,207,000; 1951, £12,874,000; 1952, £13,379,000; 1953, £13,888,000.

(ii) *Claims, etc., paid.* Details of the claims, etc., paid on policies in each State and the Australian Capital Territory during the year 1953 are shown in the following table :—

LIFE ASSURANCE : PAYMENTS TO POLICY-HOLDERS IN AUSTRALIA, 1953.
(£'000.)

State or Territory.(a)	Claims.		Sur- renders.	Annuities.	Cash Bonuses.	Total.
	Death or Disability.	Maturity.				
ORDINARY DEPARTMENT.						
New South Wales	3,438	2,552	1,475	151	50	7,666
Victoria	2,871	2,613	1,348	142	41	7,015
Queensland(b)	1,198	1,014	498	23	16	2,749
South Australia	790	705	253	28	10	1,786
Western Australia	624	369	203	19	7	1,222
Tasmania	281	209	117	17	2	626
Australian Capital Territory	38	37	88	11	..	174
Total	9,240	7,499	3,982	391	126	21,238
INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.						
New South Wales	338	2,302	392	..	..	3,032
Victoria	279	2,066	282	..	..	2,627
Queensland(b)	108	678	108	..	..	894
South Australia	82	502	73	..	..	657
Western Australia	47	340	51	..	..	438
Tasmania	18	112	20	..	..	150
Australian Capital Territory	..	7	1	..	..	8
Total	872	6,007	927	..	..	7,806

(a) Location of register of policies.

(b) Includes Papua and New Guinea.

In the following table details are given of claims, etc., paid on policies in Australia for each of the years 1939 and 1949 to 1953 :—

LIFE ASSURANCE : PAYMENTS TO POLICY-HOLDERS IN AUSTRALIA.
(£'000.)

Year.	Claims.	Surrenders.	Annuities.	Cash Bonuses.	Total.
ORDINARY DEPARTMENT.					
1939	7,935	1,843	220	260	10,258
1949	12,273	1,951	298	98	14,620
1950	13,320	2,382	322	102	16,126
1951	14,029	2,641	346	87	17,103
1952	15,576	3,287	379	107	19,349
1953	16,739	3,982	391	126	21,238
INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.					
1939	3,132	499	..	..	3,631
1949	5,572	546	..	..	6,118
1950	5,410	606	..	..	6,016
1951	5,585	566	..	..	6,151
1952	6,284	772	..	..	7,056
1953	6,879	927	..	..	7,806

7. **Total Revenue and Expenditure.**—(i) *Total Revenue.* The following table shows particulars of the total life assurance revenue derived by life assurance offices from sources within and beyond Australia during each of the years 1939 and 1949 to 1953 :—

ORDINARY AND INDUSTRIAL LIFE ASSURANCE : TOTAL REVENUE.
(£'000.)

Year.	Assurance and Endowment Premiums.	Con-sideration for Annuities Granted.	Interest, Dividends and Rents.	All other Revenue.	Total Revenue.
ORDINARY BUSINESS.					
1939	21,568	303	9,901	17	31,789
1949	45,770	1,366	15,267	736	63,139
1950	50,867	1,572	16,613	2,327	71,379
1951	57,869	2,461	18,244	307	78,881
1952	64,980	2,372	20,175	106	87,633
1953	72,389	2,614	22,508	2,545	100,056
INDUSTRIAL BUSINESS.					
1939	7,863	..	2,127	61	10,051
1949	13,576	..	3,301	366	17,243
1950	14,145	..	3,548	389	18,082
1951	14,915	..	3,831	85	18,831
1952	15,437	..	4,120	26	19,583
1953	15,975	..	4,415	603	20,993

(ii) *Total Expenditure.* The next table supplies details of the total expenditure, both within and beyond Australia, of life assurance offices during each of the years 1939 and 1949 to 1953 :—

ORDINARY AND INDUSTRIAL LIFE ASSURANCE : TOTAL EXPENDITURE.

(£'000.)

Year.	Claims and Annuities paid.	Surrenders.	Cash Bonuses paid to Policy-holders.	Com-mission.	Share-holders' Dividends.	All other Expendi-ture.(a)	Total Expendi-ture.
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ORDINARY BUSINESS.

1939	..	12,320	2,668	380	1,483	125	3,867	20,843
1949	..	19,735	2,845	143	3,613	105	6,390	32,831
1950	..	20,876	3,481	152	4,027	105	6,187	34,828
1951	..	21,786	3,813	134	5,042	128	7,770	38,673
1952	..	24,034	4,691	161	5,479	120	10,355	44,840
1953	..	25,905	5,636	178	5,964	122	11,793	49,598

INDUSTRIAL BUSINESS.

1939	..	3,763	576	..	1,619	72	1,278	7,308
1949	..	6,778	638	..	2,082	37	2,159	11,694
1950	..	6,622	710	..	2,116	31	2,416	11,895
1951	..	6,743	667	..	2,250	35	2,646	12,341
1952	..	7,594	878	..	2,405	75	3,030	13,982
1953	..	8,348	1,053	..	2,421	130	3,978	15,930

(a) Includes other expenses of management, licence fees and taxes, &c.

8. *Liabilities and Assets.*—(i) *General.* The liabilities of the Australian offices consist mainly of their assurance funds, but in the case of public companies there is a further liability on account of the shareholders' capital. The assets consist chiefly of government and municipal securities, mortgages, loans on policies, landed and house property, etc. Loans on personal security are granted by very few of the Australian offices. Separate details of liabilities and assets in respect of Australian business are not available.

(ii) *Total Liabilities and Assets.* In the two tables which follow, the details of liabilities and assets relate to all business (Australian and overseas) of Australian companies, the life assurance business of the two State Government offices, all business of the Provident Life Assurance Co. Ltd. (incorporated in New Zealand) and the Australian business only of the Prudential Assurance Co. Ltd. (incorporated in England). For various reasons several offices do not attempt the dissection of liabilities and assets between the industrial and ordinary branches, and, therefore, the figures in the following tables relate to the ordinary and industrial branches combined. Details of the total liabilities of life assurance offices for the year 1953 are given in the following table.

ORDINARY AND INDUSTRIAL LIFE ASSURANCE : TOTAL LIABILITIES, 1953.
(£'000.)

Item.	Life Assurance Business.	Other Classes of Business.	Total Liabilities.
Shareholders' Capital—			
Authorized .. .. .	..	4,648	4,648
Less Unissued .. .. .	..	1,907	1,907
Subscribed Capital .. .. .	..	2,741	2,741
Paid-up—			
In Money .. .. .	..	2,319	2,319
Otherwise than in Money .. .. .	..	99	99
Total .. .. .	..	2,418	2,418
Life Assurance Statutory Funds—			
Ordinary Department	579,106	..	579,106
Industrial Department	113,925	..	113,925
Total	693,031	..	693,031
Funds in respect of Other Classes of Business .. .. .	..	764	764
General Reserves	16,194	1,587	17,781
Profit and Loss Account Balance .. .. .	..	134	134
Total, Shareholders' Capital, Assurance Funds and Reserves	709,225	4,903	714,128
Other Liabilities—			
Deposits	1,041	1,090	2,131
Staff Provident and Superannuation Funds	173	332	505
Claims admitted or intimated but not paid	8,086	90	8,176
Annuities due but not paid	6	..	6
Premiums Paid in Advance and in Suspense	1,000	13	1,013
Sundry Creditors	2,523	145	2,668
Bank Overdraft	2,443	221	2,664
Reserves and Provisions for Taxation	2,296	138	2,434
All other Liabilities	619	15	634
Total Liabilities	727,412	6,947	734,359

The following table furnishes details of the total assets of life assurance offices for the year 1953 :—

ORDINARY AND INDUSTRIAL LIFE ASSURANCE : TOTAL ASSETS, 1953.
(£'000.)

Item.	Life Assurance Business.	Other Classes of Business.	Total.	Amount of Total Assets held in Australia.
Freehold and leasehold property, office premises, furniture, etc.	25,001	334	25,335	17,473
Loans—				
On Mortgage	196,765	95	196,860	149,507
On Policies of the Company including Advances of Premiums	29,463	..	29,463	21,745
Other Loans	21,677	445	22,122	22,008
Total Loans	247,905	540	248,445	193,260
Investments—				
Government Securities—				
Australia	212,102	3,514	215,616	208,208
Other	49,837	79	49,916	344
Securities of Local and Semi-Governmental Bodies	119,001	184	119,185	92,702
Other Investments	59,387	1,580	60,967	51,885
Total Investments	440,327	5,357	445,684	353,139
Cash on Deposit, Current Account and in hand	3,775	65	3,840	2,801
Other Assets	10,404	651	11,055	8,251
Total Assets	727,412	6,947	734,359	574,924

(iii) *Assets held in Australia.* Details of assets held in Australia for the years 1930 and 1949 to 1953 are set out in the following table :—

ORDINARY AND INDUSTRIAL LIFE ASSURANCE(a) : ASSETS HELD IN AUSTRALIA.

(£'000.)

Particulars.	1939. (b)	1949.	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.
Landed and house property ..	12,823	13,436	13,582	13,941	15,776	16,840
Government and municipal securities	115,712	278,354	273,331	267,158	271,892	301,254
Other investments	6,700	25,611	36,114	45,613	48,218	51,885
Loans on mortgages	61,720	60,941	82,793	113,312	136,006	149,507
Loans on companies' policies	22,445	16,699	17,071	18,067	20,580	21,745
Other loans	(c)	5,484	10,941	16,463	19,998	22,008
All other assets	8,116	11,377	11,465	11,562	12,128	11,685
Total Australian Assets	227,516	411,902	445,297	486,116	524,598	574,924

(a) Life assurance and other classes of business.
other investments.

(b) Australian assets.

(c) Included with

9. *Loans.*—In the following table details are given of new loans granted by life assurance companies during each of the years ended 31st December, 1950 to 1954. The information has been compiled from monthly returns furnished by each company. New loans granted by the Government Insurance Office of New South Wales and the Queensland State Government Insurance Office are not included. Advances of premiums are also excluded.

LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANIES : NEW LOANS GRANTED.

(£'000.)

Particulars.	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
CLASS OF SECURITY.					
Mortgage of Real Estate ..	35,677	41,132	30,140	26,863	33,216
Companies' Policies	2,583	2,930	4,329	3,477	3,725
Other	4,211	7,298	4,937	3,967	4,113
Total	42,471	51,360	39,406	34,307	41,054
STATE OR TERRITORY.(a)					
New South Wales	21,176	26,596	21,748	18,637	17,699
Victoria	16,651	16,813	10,687	9,638	12,196
Queensland	1,916	3,325	2,065	1,841	4,158
South Australia	1,419	1,641	2,349	1,754	2,765
Western Australia	894	2,075	1,649	1,694	3,005
Tasmania	391	873	858	731	1,176
Aust. Cap. Territory	24	37	50	12	55
Total	42,471	51,360	39,406	34,307	41,054

(a) State or Territory of location of mortgage, registration of policy, or residence of borrower.

§ 3. Fire, Marine and General Insurance.

1. *Australasian Companies.*—The following table which has been extracted from the *Australasian Insurance and Banking Record*, shows, for the years 1938–39 and 1949–50 to 1953–54 particulars of the revenue and expenditure of a group of insurance companies having their head offices either in Australia, New Zealand or Fiji :—

FIRE, MARINE AND GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANIES : SUMMARY OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Particulars.	1938–39.	1949–50.	1950–51.	1951–52.	1952–53.	1953–54.
No. of companies	40	44	45	46	48	54
	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
Premiums, less reinsurances ..	9,708	24,008	31,796	40,451	45,679	52,684
Losses	5,417	12,585	17,131	22,777	25,826	32,596
Expenses, commission and taxes	2,994	7,880	9,799	12,397	14,306	15,058
Transfer to Reserve for Un-earned Premiums ..	(a)	1,526	3,151	3,441	2,764	2,996
Underwriting Profit ..	1,297	2,017	1,715	1,836	2,783	4,245
Interest, rent, etc.	1,011	1,360	1,545	1,828	2,094	2,835
Dividends and bonuses paid ..	709	1,755	1,912	1,904	1,629	1,612

(a) Not available.

2. *Aggregate Australian Business.*—(i) *General.* While the foregoing statements relate only to those companies whose head offices are located in Australia, New Zealand or Fiji, the following particulars, which are somewhat restricted in the range of information, are in respect of all companies operating in Australia. The statistics in this paragraph conform substantially to the following definitions and should be interpreted in accordance therewith.

(a) Premiums represent the full amount receivable in respect of policies issued and renewed in the year, less returns, rebates and bonuses paid or credited to policy-holders during the year. They are not adjusted to provide for premiums unearned at the end of the year and consequently the amounts differ from "earned premium income" appropriate to the year. When business is increasing, as in recent years, premiums receivable (as shown in the statistics) are greater than "earned premium income" appropriate to the year. The converse applies when business is declining.

(b) Claims or losses include provision for outstanding claims and represent claims or losses incurred in the year. Salvage and other amounts recoverable have been deducted.

(c) Contributions to Fire Brigades, Commission and Agents' Charges, and Expenses of Management represent mainly charges paid during the year.

(d) Taxation represents mainly payments made during the year, and includes income tax, pay-roll tax, licence fees, stamp duty (where paid by the company), etc. Income tax paid during the year is based on the income of earlier years.

The tables contain selected items of statistics and the information shown is not suitable for the construction of a "profit and loss" statement or "revenue" account.

In cases where the business is underwritten in one State and the risk is situated in another the business is included in the State in which the policy was issued.

During 1953–54 (1952–53) revenue from premiums amounted to £97,984,000 (£89,346,000) and from the net interest on investments, etc., to £3,345,000 (£2,593,000), totalling £101,329,000 (£91,939,000). Expenditure on losses amounted to £52,599,000 (£45,800,000), contributions to fire brigades £2,635,000 (£2,290,000), commission and agents' charges £9,963,000 (£9,279,000), expenses of management £16,742,000 (£15,537,000) and taxation £3,992,000 (£3,817,000), a total of £85,931,000 (£76,723,000).

(ii) *States.* The following table shows, for each State, the aggregate premium income less reinsurances and returns, and claims or losses less amounts recoverable, for all classes of insurance other than life for the years 1938–39 and 1949–50 to 1953–54.

FIRE, MARINE AND GENERAL INSURANCE : PREMIUMS AND LOSSES—STATES.
(£'000.)

State.	1938-39.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.	1952-53.	1953-54.
GROSS PREMIUMS, LESS REINSURANCES AND RETURNS.						
New South Wales (a) ..	6,943	18,797	23,214	31,107	35,130	38,381
Victoria	4,505	14,579	18,024	24,441	28,215	30,775
Queensland	2,327	5,422	6,755	9,015	10,733	12,016
South Australia ..	1,245	3,637	4,630	6,167	7,275	8,041
Western Australia ..	1,373	3,141	3,911	5,000	5,779	6,224
Tasmania	457	1,156	1,415	1,878	2,214	2,547
Total	16,850	46,732	57,949	77,608	89,340	97,984
GROSS CLAIMS OR LOSSES, LESS AMOUNTS RECOVERABLE.						
New South Wales (a) ..	3,842	9,109	11,156	16,661	17,848	20,981
Victoria	2,194	6,465	9,042	12,205	15,208	16,709
Queensland	1,071	2,401	2,658	4,979	5,650	5,981
South Australia ..	487	1,357	1,851	2,858	3,021	4,835
Western Australia ..	731	1,365	1,912	2,981	3,120	3,009
Tasmania	204	471	786	724	953	1,084
Total	8,529	21,168	27,405	40,408	45,800	52,599

(a) From 1947-48 excludes Workers' Compensation Insurance in coal-mining industry in New South Wales.

(iii) *Classes of Insurance.* The following statement shows premiums and losses in respect of the principal classes of risks, for the years 1938-39 and 1949-50 to 1953-54 :—

FIRE, MARINE AND GENERAL INSURANCE : PREMIUMS AND LOSSES—
PRINCIPAL CLASSES OF RISK, AUSTRALIA.
(£'000.)

Class of Risk.	1938-39.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.	1952-53.	1953-54.
GROSS PREMIUMS, LESS REINSURANCES AND RETURNS.						
Fire	5,597	12,343	14,763	18,535	21,366	22,170
Workers' Compensation (a) ..	4,361	11,556	13,378	17,159	19,310	20,279
Motor Vehicle—						
Compulsory Third Party ..	3,848	{ 2,383	3,040	4,750	7,106	8,496
Other						
{ 8,236		11,920	18,048	21,934	25,805	
Marine	1,018	4,296	5,303	7,433	5,940	6,056
Personal Accident	554	1,188	1,541	1,899	2,184	2,479
All other	1,472	6,730	8,004	9,784	11,506	12,699
Total	16,850	46,732	57,949	77,608	89,346	97,984
GROSS CLAIMS OR LOSSES, LESS AMOUNTS RECOVERABLE.						
Fire	2,223	2,430	4,197	6,669	6,731	5,842
Workers' Compensation (a) ..	2,972	6,292	6,784	8,678	10,934	14,542
Motor Vehicle—						
Compulsory Third Party ..	2,324	{ 2,695	3,372	5,331	7,042	9,456
Other						
{ 4,970		7,867	12,025	13,436	13,950	
Marine	243	1,784	2,244	3,352	3,420	2,263
Personal Accident	264	412	514	634	741	912
All other	503	2,585	2,427	3,719	3,496	5,634
Total	8,529	21,168	27,405	40,408	45,800	52,599

(a) From 1947-48 excludes Workers' Compensation Insurance in coal-mining industry in New South Wales.

The volume of business measured by the amount of premium income shows that fire insurance represented about 23.9 per cent. of the total business during 1952-53 and 22.6 per cent. during 1953-54, workers' compensation 21.6 per cent. during 1952-53 and 20.7 per cent. during 1953-54, motor vehicles (including compulsory third party insurance) 32.5 per cent. in 1952-53 and 35.0 per cent. in 1953-54 and marine insurance constituted 6.6 per cent. in 1952-53 and 6.2 per cent. in 1953-54.

E. FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

1. *General.*—The total membership of friendly societies in Australia is approximately 530,000 but as certain benefits, such as medical attendance and free medicines, and in many cases funeral expenses, are granted to members' families as well as to members themselves, this figure must, even when due allowance is made for young and unmarried members, be more than doubled to arrive at an estimate of the number of persons who receive some direct benefit from these societies. Legislation has conferred certain privileges on friendly societies, but, on the other hand, it insists on their registration, and it is the duty of the Registrars in the various States, prior to registering a new society, to see that its proposed rules conform to the law, and that the scale of contribution is sufficient to provide the promised benefits. Societies are obliged to forward to the Registrar annual returns about their membership and their finances, and reports are published in most of the States dealing with the returns received.

2. *Societies, Members and Revenue.*—The following table sets out the number of societies, members, etc., and revenue and expenditure and funds of registered societies for the year 1952-53. More detailed information is available in *Finance Bulletin* No. 45.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES : 1952-53.

Particulars.	New South Wales. (a)	Victoria. (b)	Queensland. (c)	South Australia. (e)	Western Australia.	Tasmania. (d)	Total.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Registered Societies	(e) 36	150	24	15	13	20	..
Branches	2,200	1,397	527	(f) 730	300	159	5,313
Benefit members at end of year ..	179,581	179,845	58,275	63,922	23,915	18,834	524,372
Average benefit members during year ..	185,211	178,536	60,150	65,742	25,097	18,617	533,553
Members who received sick pay ..	(g)	36,599	10,161	13,809	4,358	2,642	(g)
Total weeks sick pay granted ..	(g)	462,388	129,483	180,202	59,506	36,425	(g)
Average weeks per member sick ..	(g)	12.63	12.74	13.05	13.65	13.79	(g)
Deaths of benefit members ..	(g)	2,522	1,004	1,068	303	313	(g)
Proportion of deaths per 1,000 members (average) ..	(g)	14.13	16.69	16.24	12.07	16.63	(g)
Revenue—(e)	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
Entrance fees, levies and members' contributions	1,178	1,084	318	344	200	92	3,216
Interest, dividends and rents ..	274	330	109	168	41	26	1,233
All other revenue	83	83		23	60	36	
Total	1,535	1,497	427	535	301	154	4,449
Expenditure—(e)							
Sick pay	229	269	76	90	28	20	712
Medical attendance and medicine ..	548	513	130	184	122	42	1,539
Sums payable at death	122	64	46	54	17	22	325
Administration	321	278	88	98	45	33	863
All other expenditure	117	206	..	41	15	30	409
Total	1,337	1,330	340	467	227	147	3,848
Total Funds (e)	7,333	8,981	2,825	4,081	1,165	668	25,053

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (b) Excludes Dispensaries, juvenile societies and members contributions to medical benefits only. (c) Excludes juvenile branches. (d) Year 1952. (e) Excludes 22 miscellaneous societies. (f) Lodges which contain male and female members counted as two branches. (g) Not available.

F. PROBATES AND LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION.

The following particulars give some idea of the number and value of estates of deceased persons in each State for the latest year for which information is available. Owing to differences in legislation in the various States the figures are not entirely comparable.

PROBATES AND LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION.

Particulars.		New South Wales. 1953-54. (a)	Victoria. 1953.	Queens- land. 1952-53.	South Australia. 1953.	Western Australia. 1953.	Tasmania. 1953. (b)
Probates—							
Estates ..	No.	17,723	9,680	1,778	2,827	2,089	1,102
Gross Value ..	£	(c)	(d)	16,610,743	15,378,171	8,792,674	5,887,284
Net Value ..	£	72,674,998	(d)	(c)	14,347,361	8,390,830	5,540,985
Letters of Administration—							
Estates ..	No.	(c)	2,200	289	899	291	239
Gross Value ..	£	(c)	(d)	906,500	1,601,861	608,317	513,243
Net Value ..	£	(c)	(d)	(c)	1,420,944	539,195	473,939
Total—							
Estates ..	No.	17,723	11,880	2,067	3,726	2,380	1,341
Gross Value ..	£	(c)	62,345,679	17,517,243	16,980,032	9,401,021	6,400,527
Net Value ..	£	72,674,998	58,654,839	(c)	15,768,305	8,930,025	6,014,924

(a) Total estates of deceased persons assessed for death duty. (b) Estates dealt with by Taxation Department.
(c) Not available. (d) Not available separately.

G. STATE LOTTERIES AND BETTING.

§ 1. State Lotteries.

State Governments operate lotteries in New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia. Tattersalls Lotteries and Tasmanian Lotteries are operated under Government licences in Victoria and Tasmania respectively.

New South Wales State Lotteries are conducted in accordance with the New South Wales State Lotteries Act, 1930 and the first drawing took place on 20th August, 1931. At present, each ordinary lottery consists of 100,000 tickets at 5s. 6d. each, with prizes totalling £17,550 and each special lottery of 100,000 tickets at 10s. each, with prize money totalling £31,700. In addition there is a mammoth lottery consisting of 100,000 tickets of £1 each with prize money totalling £64,200. Net profits of the lottery are paid to the Consolidated Revenue Fund from which grants are made to hospitals.

Tattersalls Lotteries, which were previously conducted in Tasmania, were transferred to Victoria in 1954 and the first drawing in Melbourne took place on 8th July, 1954. The Tattersalls Consultations Act, 1953 provides that prizes in each consultation shall not be less than sixty per cent. of total subscriptions to that consultation, and that a duty equal to thirty-one per cent. of subscriptions shall be paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund from which an equivalent amount will be paid out into the Hospitals and Charities Fund and the Mental Hospitals Fund in proportions as determined by the Treasurer. At present, tickets are priced at 5s. each (200,000) with prizes totalling £30,000; 10s. each (100,000 and 200,000) with prizes totalling £30,000 and £60,000 respectively and £1 each (100,000) with prizes totalling £60,000. In addition there is a special Melbourne Cup consultation at £1 each (200,000) with prize money of £120,000.

In Queensland, the Golden Casket Art Union commenced in 1916 with the specific object of augmenting the funds of the Queensland War Council. Subsequently, Anzac Cottages and Nurses Quarters Funds benefited until 1920, when net profits were paid to the Department of Health and Home Affairs (Hospitals, Motherhood and Child Welfare Trust Fund) and used for the maintenance of hospitals, grants to institutions, and for motherhood and child welfare purposes. A stamp duty is imposed on tickets sold. The proceeds of this are paid to Consolidated Revenue Fund. At present, ordinary tickets are priced at 5s. 6d. each (100,000), special tickets at 10s. (100,000) and £1 (100,000) each with prizes totalling £17,550, £32,000 and £64,300 respectively. A special Melbourne Cup lottery with tickets priced at 15s. (100,000) and prizes totalling £48,100 was introduced in 1955.

In Western Australia, lotteries are conducted by the Lotteries Commission under the Lotteries Control Act of 1932. Profits are paid by the Commission to hospitals and other charities. Each lottery comprises 100,000 tickets at 2s. 6d. each, with prizes totalling £6,630.

In Tasmania, lotteries are subject to the provisions of the Racing and Gaming Act 1950-1952. With the transfer of Tattersalls from Hobart to Melbourne, Tasmanian Lotteries commenced operations under Government licence and the first drawing took place on 30th June, 1954. The stamp duty on tickets sold, and the duty on prize money

are paid into Consolidated Revenue. Tickets are priced at present at 5s. (250,000) and £1 (250,000) with prizes totalling £38,047 and £152,188 respectively. In 1955 a lottery with tickets at £5 each (50,000) and prize money totalling £152,188 was introduced.

Details of the income, expenditure and net profit of the three State Lotteries for the years 1938-39 and 1949-50 to 1953-54 are given in the following table:—

STATE LOTTERIES: INCOME, EXPENDITURE AND NET PROFIT.
(£.)

Year ended 30th June—	Income.			Expenditure.				Net Profit.
	Tickets.	Other Income.	Total.	Prizes Allotted.	Taxes.	Adminis- tration and other.	Total.	
NEW SOUTH WALES STATE LOTTERY.								
1939	2,388,750	18	2,388,768	1,500,059	..	55,674	1,555,733	833,035
1950	6,990,000	336	6,990,336	4,456,505	..	151,882	4,608,387	2,381,949
1951	7,867,500	233	7,867,733	5,015,255	..	194,819	5,210,074	2,657,659
1952	8,830,000	142	8,830,142	5,627,205	..	266,307	5,893,512	2,936,630
1953	10,330,000	204	10,330,204	6,580,500	..	317,128	6,897,628	3,432,576
1954	10,587,500	213	10,587,713	6,712,990	..	373,958	7,110,948	3,470,765
QUEENSLAND GOLDEN CASKET ART UNION.								
1939	1,902,500	2,626	1,905,126	1,217,800	95,125	146,907	1,459,832	445,294
1950	3,972,500	1,794	3,974,294	2,537,450	198,625	236,092	2,972,167	1,002,127
1951	4,265,000	2,484	4,267,484	2,724,300	213,250	253,132	3,190,682	1,076,802
1952	4,882,500	1,865	4,884,365	3,118,650	244,125	294,483	3,657,258	1,227,107
1953	5,650,000	2,410	5,652,410	3,609,000	282,500	343,918	4,235,418	1,416,992
1954	5,760,000	2,399	5,762,399	3,679,200	288,000	352,211	4,319,411	1,442,988
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN STATE LOTTERY.								
1939	238,680	..	238,680	127,389	..	33,432	160,821	77,859
1950	787,470	..	787,470	417,600	..	108,876	526,566	260,904
1951	924,965	..	924,965	490,620	..	127,731	618,351	306,614
1952	949,975	..	949,975	511,800	..	128,592	640,692	309,283
1953	974,950	..	974,950	530,010	..	134,673	664,683	310,267
1954	1,099,979	..	1,099,979	596,310	..	147,100	743,410	356,569

§ 2. Totalizator Investments.

Estimates of totalizator investments and investments with licensed bookmakers for the years 1938-39 and 1949-50 to 1953-54 are given in the following table:—

TOTALIZATOR INVESTMENTS AND INVESTMENTS WITH LICENSED BOOKMAKERS.
(£'000.)

Year ended 30th June—	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
TOTALIZATOR INVESTMENTS.(a)							
1939	1,731	2,732	722	630	762	339	6,916
1950	9,702	9,457	1,945	1,746	2,382	950	26,182
1951	11,550	10,756	2,249	1,966	2,718	936	30,175
1952	16,344	11,334	2,857	2,204	3,226	951	36,916
1953	14,190	10,314	2,888	2,337	3,019	839	33,587
1954	14,202	10,172	2,925	2,497	3,002	993	33,791
INVESTMENTS WITH LICENSED BOOKMAKERS.(b)							
1939	21,379	(c)	(c)	7,640	(c)	(d) 1,093	(c)
1950	74,664	50,000	(c)	21,272	(c)	(e) 6,389	(c)
1951	82,073	51,000	(c)	22,857	(c)	7,223	(c)
1952	115,485	52,000	(c)	25,080	(c)	8,889	(c)
1953	110,080	50,000	(c)	24,642	(c)	10,764	(c)
1954	114,402	55,000	(c)	27,197	(c)	11,662	(c)

(a) Estimated from taxes on totalizators. (b) Estimated from taxes on betting with licensed bookmakers. (c) Not available. (d) Year ended 31st December. (e) Year ended 31st July.

H. GOVERNMENT, SEMI-GOVERNMENTAL AND PARLIAMENTARY PENSION AND SUPERANNUATION SCHEMES.

§ 1. Government and Semi-Governmental Pension and Superannuation Schemes.

The Commonwealth and all State Governments have established pension or superannuation schemes for their employees. These schemes are operated through funds to which both the Government and the employees make contributions. Employees of semi-governmental authorities are in some cases covered by the Commonwealth or State Government scheme and in other cases by a separate scheme of the authority.

In the following table aggregate details are given for the year 1953-54, of the receipts, expenditure, accumulated funds and number of contributors and pensioners of the Commonwealth and State Government and main semi-governmental schemes. The funds included are :—

- (a) *Commonwealth*.—The Superannuation Fund and Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Fund.
- (b) *New South Wales*.—State Superannuation Fund, Government Railways Superannuation Fund and Police Superannuation and Reward Fund.
- (c) *Victoria*.—The State Superannuation Fund, Police Superannuation Fund, Police Pensions Fund, Melbourne Harbor Trust Superannuation Account, Geelong Harbor Trust Superannuation Fund, Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works Superannuation Fund, State Electricity Commission Provident Fund, Gas and Fuel Corporation Superannuation Fund, Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board Superannuation Fund, Country Fire Authority Superannuation Fund and Port Phillip Pilots' Sick and Superannuation Fund.
- (d) *Queensland*.—Public Service Superannuation Fund and Police Superannuation Fund.
- (e) *South Australia*.—South Australian Superannuation Fund, Police Pensions Fund and Public Service Superannuation Fund.
- (f) *Western Australia*.—The Superannuation Fund.
- (g) *Tasmania*.—Public Service Superannuation Fund (Old and New Funds), Police Provident Fund and State Teachers' Superannuation Fund.

GOVERNMENT AND SEMI-GOVERNMENTAL PENSION AND SUPERANNUATION SCHEMES, 1953-54.

Particulars.	C'with.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
Receipts—								
Contributions—	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
Employees ..	5,379	3,242	2,140	248	625	249	334	12,217
Government ..	2,819	6,324	2,003	385	649	503	211	13,704
Interest ..	1,341	1,566	974	232	306	116	82	4,605
Other ..	45	68	16	4	4	3	4	143
Total ..	9,585	11,200	6,033	890	1,579	868	631	30,750
Expenditure—								
Pension Payments ..	3,510	5,305	2,962	202	810	549	252	13,705
Gratuities or Rewards ..	111	87	61	1	..	..	11	271
Refund of Contributions ..	630	384	83	77	65	30	45	1,314
Other ..	..	53	2	..	20	..	..	86
Total ..	4,251	5,829	3,108	377	915	579	310	15,376
Funds at end of Year ..	5,334	5,376	2,877	5,077	8,000	3,141	2,300	19,922
Contributors at end of Year—								
Males ..	No. 119,237	No. 87,414	No. 40,961	No. 10,214	No. 11,652	No. 6,880	No. 5,497	No. 308,218
Females ..	No. 13,087	No. 5,329	No. 3,421	No. 1,309	No. 582	No. 1,731	No. 1,731	No. 22,210
Total ..	132,324	92,743	44,382	11,523	12,234	8,611	7,228	330,428
Pensioners at end of Year—								
Males ..	7,765	25,493	7,833	1,026	2,686	2,331	78	35,918
Female ex-employees ..	790	..	1,072	253	421	154	13	..
Widows ..	5,228	..	5,602	252	2,213	1,107	44	..
Children ..	1,174	..	587	32	227	168	12	..
Total ..	14,957	25,493	15,094	1,563	5,547	3,760	149	65,918

For details of the individual funds summarized above see *Finance Bulletin* No. 45 issued by this Bureau.

§ 2. Parliamentary Pension and Superannuation Schemes.

Pension and superannuation schemes have been established for members of the Commonwealth and all State Parliaments except the Tasmanian. Full details of these schemes are given in pages 91 to 99 of Official Year Book No. 38. All the schemes are operated through funds to which the members of Parliament and the Commonwealth or States contribute. Details of the receipts, expenditure, funds and number of contributors and pensioners for the year 1953-54 are given in the following table :—

PARLIAMENTARY PENSION AND SUPERANNUATION SCHEMES, 1953-54.

Particulars.	C'wlth.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts—							
Contributions—							
Members	30,057	12,131	10,284	7,354	3,816	4,302	67,944
Government	19,690	4,950	6,738	107,354	6,566	4,160	149,458
Interest	4,234	1,709	..	2,232	1,782	766	10,723
Other .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	53,981	18,790	17,022	116,940	12,164	9,228	228,125
Expenditure—							
Pension Payments (a) ..	29,662	9,625	17,022	3,092	2,729	3,025	65,155
Refund of Contributions ..	583	675	..	..	..	334	1,592
Other .. ..	..	..	..	..	63	..	63
Total	30,245	10,300	17,022	3,092	2,792	3,359	66,810
Funds at end of Year ..	134,750	52,703	..	170,871	53,273	23,850	435,447
Contributors at end of Year ..	No. 183	No. 99	No. 99	No. 71	No. 59	No. 80	No. 591
Pensioners at end of Year—							
Ex-members	23	16	(b)	10	4	8	(b)
Widows	13	10	(b)	..	5	11	(b)
Total	36	26	(b)	10	9	19	(b)

(a) Including lump sum payments.

(b) Not available.