

## CHAPTER 3

# GENERAL GOVERNMENT

### Parliamentary government

#### Scheme of parliamentary government

Under Section 1 of the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution the legislative power of the Commonwealth is vested in the Parliament of the Commonwealth, which consists of the Sovereign, the Senate, and the House of Representatives. The Sovereign is represented throughout the Commonwealth by the Governor-General who, subject to the Constitution of the Commonwealth, has such powers and functions as the Sovereign is pleased to assign to him. In each State there is a State Governor who is the representative of the Sovereign for the State. He has such powers within the State as are conferred upon him by the Letters Patent constituting his office and he exercises these powers in accordance with instructions issued to him by the Sovereign, detailing the manner in which his duties are to be fulfilled.

The Legislature in each State was bicameral until 1922, when the Queensland Parliament became unicameral with the abolition of the Upper House. In Queensland the sole legislative chamber is known as the Legislative Assembly. The Upper House is known in the Commonwealth Parliament as the Senate, and in the bicameral State Parliaments as the Legislative Council. The Lower House is known in the Commonwealth Parliament as the House of Representatives, in the State Parliaments of New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia as the Legislative Assembly, and in the State Parliaments of South Australia and Tasmania as the House of Assembly. The extent of the legislative powers of the Parliaments is defined by the Commonwealth and State Constitutions. In those States that have a bicameral legislature the Legislative Assembly or House of Assembly is the larger House.

The members of the Legislative Assembly or House of Assembly, as the case may be, of each State are elected by the people, the franchise extending to British subjects who are at least 18 years of age with certain residential qualifications. With the exception of the New South Wales Legislative Council, the members of State Legislative Councils are, in common with members of the Lower Houses, elected by the people of the respective States. In New South Wales a quarter of the members of the Legislative Council retire each three years, and the continuing members of the Council and the members of the Legislative Assembly, voting as an electoral body, elect members to fill the vacant positions. In Victoria, and Tasmania members of the Legislative Council are elected by adult suffrage, while the franchise is limited in South Australia to the holders of certain property or service qualifications and their spouses. In the Commonwealth Parliament the qualifications for the franchise are identical for both Houses, extending to British subjects who have lived in Australia for six months continuously and who are not less than 18 years of age.

#### The Sovereign

On 7 February 1952 the Governor-General and members of the Federal Executive Council proclaimed Princess Elizabeth Queen Elizabeth the Second, Queen of this Realm and of all Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith, Supreme Liege Lady in and over the Commonwealth of Australia. The coronation of Her Majesty in Westminster Abbey took place on 2 June 1953. By the *Royal Style and Titles Act 1973*, which Her Majesty assented to in Canberra on 19 October 1973, the Parliament of the Commonwealth assented to the adoption by Her Majesty, for use in relation to Australia and its Territories, of the Style and Titles set forth in the Schedule to the Act. On the same day, also in Canberra, Her Majesty issued a Proclamation, under the Great Seal of Australia, appointing and declaring that Her Majesty's Style and Titles should henceforth be, in relation to Australia and its Territories, 'Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God Queen of Australia and Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth'.

#### The Governor-General

*Powers and functions.* As the Queen's representative in Australia, the Governor-General exercises certain prerogative powers and functions assigned to him by the Queen. Other powers and function are conferred on him by the Constitution. Powers which have been so assigned or conferred include, among others, the power to grant pardons and to remit fines for offences against the laws of the

Commonwealth to appoint certain officers in the Diplomatic or Consular Service; to appoint times for holding the sessions of the Parliament, prorogue Parliament, and dissolve the House of Representatives; to cause writs to be issued for general elections of members of the House of Representatives; to assent in the Queen's name to a proposed law passed by both Houses of the Parliament or withhold assent, or to reserve the law for the Queen's pleasure, or to return the proposed law to the House in which it originated and transmit therewith any amendments which he may recommend; to exercise executive power; to choose and summon Executive Councillors, who hold office during his pleasure; and to appoint Ministers of State for the Commonwealth. In addition, the command-in-chief of the defence forces of the Commonwealth is vested in the Governor-General as the Queen's representative.

Many Acts of the Commonwealth Parliament provide that the Governor-General may make regulations to give effect to the Act. The Governor-General may also be authorised by statute to issue proclamations—for example, to declare an Act in force. He has been given power by statute to legislate for certain of the Commonwealth Territories. Under the conventions of responsible government obtaining in British Commonwealth countries, the Governor-General's functions are exercised generally on the advice of Ministers of State.

*HOLDERS OF OFFICE.* The following list shows the names of the Governors-General since the inception of the Commonwealth of Australia.

#### GOVERNORS-GENERAL

- Rt Hon. JOHN ADRIAN LOUIS, EARL OF HOPETOUN (afterwards MARQUIS OF LINLITHGOW), P.C., K.T., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O. From 1 January 1901 to 9 January 1903.
- Rt Hon. HALLAM, BARON TENNYSON, P.C., G.C.M.G. From 17 July 1902 to 9 January 1903 (Acting).
- Rt Hon. HALLAM, BARON TENNYSON, P.C., G.C.M.G. From 9 January 1903 to 21 January 1904.
- Rt Hon. HENRY STAFFORD, BARON NORTHCOTE, P.C., G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E., C.B. From 21 January 1904 to 9 September 1908.
- Rt Hon. WILLIAM HUMBLE, EARL OF DUDLEY, P.C., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O. From 9 September 1908 to 31 July 1911.
- Rt Hon. THOMAS, BARON DENMAN, P.C., G.C.M.G., K.C.V.O. From 31 July 1911 to 18 May 1914.
- Rt Hon. SIR RONALD CRAUFURD MUNRO-FERGUSON (afterwards VISCOUNT NOVAR OF RAITH), G.C.M.G. From 18 May 1914 to 6 October 1920.
- Rt Hon. HENRY WILLIAM, BARON FORSTER OF LEPE, P.C., G.C.M.G. From 6 October 1920 to 8 October 1925.
- Rt Hon. JOHN LAWRENCE, BARON STONEHAVEN (afterwards 1ST VISCOUNT STONEHAVEN), P.C., G.C.M.G., D.S.O. From 8 October 1925 to 22 January 1931.
- Rt Hon. SIR ISAAC ALFRED ISAACS, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., K.C. From 22 January 1931 to 23 January 1936.
- Brigadier-General the Rt Hon. ALEXANDER GORE ARKWRIGHT, BARON GOWRIE (afterwards 1ST EARL OF GOWRIE), V.C., P.C., G.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., K.G.St.J. From 23 January 1936 to 30 January 1945.
- His Royal Highness PRINCE HENRY WILLIAM FREDERICK ALBERT, DUKE OF GLOUCESTER, EARL OF ULSTER AND BARON CULLODEN, K.G., P.C., K.T., K.P., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., General in the Army, Air Chief Marshal in the Royal Air Force, One of His Majesty's Personal Aides-de-Camp. From 30 January 1945 to 11 March 1947.
- Rt Hon. SIR WILLIAM JOHN MCKELL, G.C.M.G., Q.C. From 11 March 1947 to 8 May 1953.
- Field Marshal SIR WILLIAM JOSEPH SLIM (afterwards VISCOUNT SLIM OF YARRALUMLA), K.G., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., K.St.J. From 8 May 1953 to 2 February 1960.
- Rt Hon. WILLIAM SHEPHERD, VISCOUNT DUNROSSIL, P.C., G.C.M.G., M.C., K.St.J., Q.C. From 2 February 1960 to 3 February 1961.
- Rt Hon. WILLIAM PHILIP, VISCOUNT DE LISLE, V.C., P.C., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., K.St.J. From 3 August 1961 to 22 September 1965.
- Rt Hon. RICHARD GARDINER, BARON CASEY, K.G., P.C., G.C.M.G., C.H., D.S.O., M.C., K.St.J. From 22 September 1965 to 30 April 1969.
- Rt Hon. SIR PAUL HASLUCK, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., K.St.J. From 30 April 1969 to 11 July 1974.
- Hon. SIR JOHN ROBERT KERR, A.K., G.C.M.G., K.St.J., Q.C. From 11 July 1974.

*Administrators.* In addition to the holders of the office of Governor-General listed above, certain persons have, from time to time, been appointed as Administrator. Administrators are appointed in the event of the death, illness, or absence from Australia of the Governor-General, or for the period between the departure of a Governor-General and the arrival of his successor. The following is a list of such appointments.

#### ADMINISTRATORS

- Rt Hon. FREDERIC JOHN NAPIER, BARON CHELMSFORD (afterwards 1ST VISCOUNT CHELMSFORD), K.C.M.G. From 21 December 1909 to 27 January 1910.
- Lieut.-Colonel the Rt Hon. ARTHUR HERBERT TENNYSON, BARON SOMERS, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., M.C. From 3 October 1930 to 22 January 1931.
- Captain the Rt Hon. WILLIAM CHARLES ARCEDECKNE, BARON HUNTINGFIELD, K.C.M.G., K.St.J. From 29 March 1938 to 24 September 1938.
- Major-General SIR WINSTON JOSEPH DUGAN (afterwards 1ST BARON DUGAN OF VICTORIA), G.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., From 5 September 1944 to 30 January 1945; 19 January 1947 to 11 March 1947.
- General\* SIR JOHN NORTHCOTT, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., C.B. From 19 July 1951 to 14 December 1951; 30 July 1956 to 22 October 1956.
- General SIR REGINALD ALEXANDER DALLAS BROOKS, K.C.B., K.C.M.G.†, K.C.V.O., D.S.O., K.St.J. From 8 January 1959 to 16 January 1959; 4 February 1961 to 3 August 1961; 5 June 1962 to 3 October 1962; 21 November 1962 to 18 December 1962.
- General SIR ERIC WINSLOW WOODWARD, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., K.St.J. From 16 June 1964 to 30 August 1964.
- Colonel SIR HENRY ABEL SMITH, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., D.S.O., K.St.J. From 7 May 1965 to 22 September 1965.
- Lieut.-General SIR EDRIC MONTAGUE BASTYAN, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., K.B.E., C.B. From 24 April 1967 to 1 June 1967.
- Major-General SIR ROHAN DELACOMBE, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., K.St.J. From 11 February 1971 to 18 February 1971; 12 October 1971 to 19 October 1971; 29 June 1972 to 9 August 1972; 5 April 1974 to 8 April 1974.
- SIR ARTHUR RODEN CUTLER, V.C., K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., C.B.E., K.St.J. From 20 February 1975 to 13 March 1975; 12 May 1975 to 24 May 1975; 16 September 1975 to 17 September 1975; 23 December 1975 to 3 February 1976.

#### Governors of the States

*Powers and functions.* The Queen is represented in each of the States by a Governor, the office having been constituted by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of various dates. The Governors of the States exercise prerogative powers conferred on them by these Letters Patent, their Commissions of appointment, and the Governor's Instructions given them under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet or other instrument as specified in the Letters Patent. In addition, they have been invested with various statutory functions by State Constitutions and other Imperial Acts and by Acts of the Parliaments of the States.

A Governor of a State assents in the Queen's name to Bills passed by the Parliament of the State, except those reserved for the Royal assent. The latter include certain classes of Bills which are regulated by the Constitution Acts and by the Governor's Instructions. He administers the prerogative of mercy by the reprieve or pardon of criminal offenders within his jurisdiction, and may remit fines and penalties due to the Crown. In the performance of his functions generally, particularly those conferred by Statute, the Governor of a State acts on the advice of Ministers of State for the State.

*Holders of office.* The names of the present (July 1976) State Governors are as follows:

#### STATE GOVERNORS, JULY 1976

*New South Wales*—SIR ARTHUR RODEN CUTLER, V.C., K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., C.B.E., K.St.J.

*Victoria*—SIR HENRY ARTHUR WINNEKE, K.C.M.G., O.B.E., K.St.J., Q.C.

*Queensland*—AIR MARSHAL SIR COLIN THOMAS HANNAH, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B., K.St.J.

*South Australia*—SIR MARK LAURENCE ELWIN OLIPHANT, K.B.E., K.St.J.

*Western Australia*—AIR CHIEF MARSHAL SIR WALLACE HART KYLE, G.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O. D.F.C., K.St.J.

*Tasmania*—SIR STANLEY CHARLES BURBURY, K.B.E., K.St.J.

\* Lieutenant-General Sir John Norcott was granted honorary rank of General while administering the Government of the Commonwealth. † G.C.M.G., 1963

### The Cabinet and executive government

Both in the Commonwealth and the States, executive government is based on the system which was evolved in Britain in the 18th Century, and which is generally known as 'Cabinet' or 'responsible' government. Its essence is that the head of the State (Her Majesty the Queen, and her representative the Governor-General or Governor) should perform governmental acts on the advice of her Ministers; that her Ministers of State should be appointed from members of Parliament belonging to the party, or coalition of parties, commanding a majority in the lower House; that the Ministry should be collectively responsible to that House for the Government of the country; and that the Ministry should resign if it ceases to command a majority there.

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

The executive power of the Commonwealth is exercisable by the Governor-General, and that of the States by the Governor. In each case he is advised by an Executive Council, which, however, meets only for certain formal purposes, as explained below. The whole policy of a Ministry is, in practice, determined by some or all of the Ministers of State, meeting without the Governor-General or Governor, under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister or Premier. This group of Ministers is known as the Cabinet.

*The Cabinet.* The Cabinet of the Liberal/National Country Party Coalition Government comprises the twelve senior Ministers. Other Ministers attend meetings of Cabinet only when required. Meetings of the full Ministry are held when deemed necessary. There are six Standing Committees of the Cabinet with varying numbers of Cabinet and non-Cabinet Ministers. In Labor Governments all Ministers have been members of Cabinet. Cabinet meetings are private and deliberative and records of meetings are not made public. The Cabinet does not form part of the legal mechanisms of Government; the decisions it takes have, in themselves, no legal effect. As Ministers are the leaders of the party or parties commanding a majority in the lower House, the Cabinet substantially controls, in ordinary circumstances, not only the general legislative program of Parliament, but the whole course of Parliamentary proceedings. In effect, though not in form, the Cabinet, by reason of the fact that all Ministers are members of the Executive Council, is also the dominant element in the executive government of the country.

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

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

*Ministers in Upper and Lower Houses.* The following table shows the distribution of Ministers in the Houses of each Parliament in July 1976.

AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTS: MINISTERS IN UPPER OR LOWER HOUSES JULY 1976

<i>Ministers with seats in—</i>	<i>Commonwealth</i>	<i>N.S.W.</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>S.A.</i>	<i>W.A.</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>Total</i>
The Upper House	6	1	6	(a)	3	4	1	21
The Lower House	18	17	12	18	9	9	9	92
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>113</b>

(a) Abolished in 1922.

Commonwealth Government Ministries

*Names and tenure of office, 1901 to 1976.* The following list shows the name of each Commonwealth Government Ministry to hold office since 1 January 1901, and the limits of its term of office.

COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES, 1901 TO JULY 1976

- (i) BARTON MINISTRY, 1 January 1901 to 24 September 1903.
- (ii) DEAKIN MINISTRY, 24 September 1903 to 27 April 1904.
- (iii) WATSON MINISTRY, 27 April 1904 to 17 August 1904.
- (iv) REID-MCLEAN MINISTRY, 18 August 1904 to 5 July 1905.
- (v) DEAKIN MINISTRY, 5 July 1905 to 13 November 1908.
- (vi) FISHER MINISTRY, 13 November 1908 to 1 June 1909.
- (vii) DEAKIN MINISTRY, 2 June 1909 to 29 April 1910.
- (viii) FISHER MINISTRY, 29 April 1910 to 24 June 1913.
- (ix) COOK MINISTRY, 24 June 1913 to 17 September 1914.
- (x) FISHER MINISTRY, 17 September 1914 to 27 October 1915.
- (xi) HUGHES MINISTRY, 27 October 1915 to 14 November 1916.
- (xii) HUGHES MINISTRY, 14 November 1916 to 17 February 1917.
- (xiii) HUGHES MINISTRY, 17 February 1917 to 10 January 1918.
- (xiv) HUGHES MINISTRY, 10 January 1918 to 9 February 1923.
- (xv) BRUCE-PAGE MINISTRY, 9 February 1923 to 22 October 1929.
- (xvi) SCULLIN MINISTRY, 22 October 1929 to 6 January 1932.
- (xvii) LYONS MINISTRY, 6 January 1932 to 7 November 1938.
- (xviii) LYONS MINISTRY, 7 November 1938 to 7 April 1939.
- (xix) PAGE MINISTRY, 7 April 1939 to 26 April 1939.
- (xx) MENZIES MINISTRY, 26 April 1939 to 14 March 1940.
- (xxi) MENZIES MINISTRY, 14 March 1940 to 28 October 1940.
- (xxii) MENZIES MINISTRY, 28 October 1940 to 29 August 1941.
- (xxiii) FADDEN MINISTRY, 29 August 1941 to 7 October 1941.
- (xxiv) CURTIN MINISTRY, 7 October 1941 to 21 September 1943.
- (xxv) CURTIN MINISTRY, 21 September 1943 to 6 July 1945.
- (xxvi) FORDE MINISTRY, 6 July 1945 to 13 July 1945.
- (xxvii) CHIFLEY MINISTRY, 13 July 1945 to 1 November 1946.
- (xxviii) CHIFLEY MINISTRY, 1 November 1946 to 19 December 1949.
- (xxix) MENZIES MINISTRY, 19 December 1949 to 11 May 1951.
- (xxx) MENZIES MINISTRY, 11 May 1951 to 11 January 1956.
- (xxxi) MENZIES MINISTRY, 11 January 1956 to 10 December 1958.
- (xxxii) MENZIES MINISTRY, 10 December 1958 to 18 December 1963.
- (xxxiii) MENZIES MINISTRY, 18 December 1963 to 26 January 1966.
- (xxxiv) HOLT MINISTRY, 26 January 1966 to 14 December 1966.
- (xxxv) HOLT MINISTRY, 14 December 1966 to 19 December 1967.
- (xxxvi) MCEWEN MINISTRY, 19 December 1967 to 10 January 1968.
- (xxxvii) GORTON MINISTRY, 10 January 1968 to 28 February 1968.
- (xxxviii) GORTON MINISTRY, 28 February 1968 to 12 November 1969.
- (xxxix) GORTON MINISTRY, 12 November 1969 to 10 March 1971.
- (xl) McMAHON MINISTRY, 10 March 1971 to 5 December 1972.
- (xli) WHITLAM MINISTRY, 5 December 1972 to 19 December 1972.
- (xlii) WHITLAM MINISTRY, 19 December 1972 to 11 November 1975.
- (xliii) FRASER MINISTRY, 11 November 1975 to 22 December 1975.
- (xliv) FRASER MINISTRY, 22 December 1975

*Names of Members of each Ministry to 8 July 1976.* In Year Book No. 17, 1924, the names are given of each Ministry up to the Bruce-Page Ministry (9 February 1923 to 22 October 1929,) together with the names of the successive holders of portfolios therein, and issue No. 39 contains a list, commencing with the Bruce-Page Ministry, which covers the period between the date on which it assumed power, 9 February 1923, and 31 July 1951, showing the names of all persons who held office in each Ministry during that period. The names of members of subsequent Ministries are listed in successive issues of the Year Book after No. 39.

This issue shows only particulars of the First Fraser Ministry and the Second Fraser Ministry (at 8 July 1976).

## THE FIRST FRASER MINISTRY

(The State in which each Minister's electorate is situated and party affiliation are shown in parenthesis. Party affiliation is indicated by the use of the following abbreviations: L.P. Liberal Party of Australia; N.C.P. National Country Party of Australia).

*Prime Minister—*

THE HON. J. M. FRASER, M.P. (Vic.) (L.P.)

*Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Overseas Trade and Minister for Minerals and Energy—*

THE RT HON. J. D. ANTHONY, M.P. (N.S.W.) (N.C.P.)

*Treasurer—*

THE HON. P. R. LYNCH, M.P. (Vic.) (L.P.)

*Minister for Agriculture and Minister for Northern Australia—*

THE HON. I. MCC. SINCLAIR, M.P. (N.S.W.) (N.C.P.)

*Special Minister of State, Minister for the Capital Territory, Minister for the Media, Minister for Tourism and Recreation and Vice-President of the Executive Council—*

SENATOR THE HON. R. G. WITHERS (W.A.) (L.P.)

*Attorney-General and Minister for Police and Customs—*

SENATOR THE HON. I. J. GREENWOOD, Q.C. (Vic.) (L.P.)

*Minister for Manufacturing Industry and Minister for Science and Consumer Affairs—*

SENATOR THE HON. R. C. COTTON (N.S.W.) (L.P.)

*Minister for Transport and Postmaster-General—*

THE HON. P. J. NIXON, M.P. (Vic.) (N.C.P.)

*Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Environment—*

THE HON. A. S. PEACOCK, M.P. (Vic.) (L.P.)

*Minister for Social Security, Minister for Health and Minister for Repatriation and Compensation—*

THE HON. D. L. CHIPP, M.P. (Vic.) (L.P.)

*Minister for Defence—*

THE HON. D. J. KILLEN, M.P. (Qld) (L.P.)

*Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Minister for Administrative Services—*

SENATOR THE HON. T. C. DRAKE-BROCKMAN, D.F.C. (W.A.) (N.C.P.)

*Minister for Housing and Construction and Minister for Urban and Regional Development—*

SENATOR THE HON. J. L. CARRICK (N.S.W.) (L.P.)

*Minister for Labor and Immigration—*

THE HON. A. A. STREET, M.P. (Vic.) (L.P.)

*Minister for Education—*

SENATOR THE HON. MARGARET G. C. GUILFOYLE (Vic.) (L.P.)

THE SECOND FRASER MINISTRY—AT 8 JULY 1976

(For abbreviations see headnote to first Fraser Ministry)

*\*Prime Minister—*

THE RT HON. J. M. FRASER, M.P. (Vic.) (L.P.)

*\*Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for National Resources and Minister for Overseas Trade—*

THE RT HON. J. D. ANTHONY, M.P. (N.S.W.) (N.C.P.)

*\*Treasurer—*

THE HON. P. R. LYNCH, M.P. (Vic.) (L.P.)

*\*Minister for Primary Industry and Leader of the House—*

THE HON. I. MCC. SINCLAIR, M.P. (N.S.W.) (N.C.P.)

*\*Minister of Administrative Services, Vice-President of the Executive Council and Leader of the Government in the Senate—*

SENATOR THE HON. R. G. WITHERS (W.A.) (L.P.)

*\*Minister for Industry and Commerce—*

SENATOR THE HON. R. C. COTTON (N.S.W.) (L.P.)

*\*Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister in Public Service Matters—*

THE HON. A. A. STREET, M.P. (Vic.) (L.P.)

*\*Minister for Transport—*

THE HON. P. J. NIXON, M.P. (Vic.) (N.C.P.)

*\*Minister for Education and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister in Federal Affairs—*

SENATOR THE HON. J. L. CARRICK (N.S.W.) (L.P.)

*\*Minister for Foreign Affairs—*

THE HON. A. S. PEACOCK, M.P. (Vic.) (L.P.)

*\*Minister for Defence—*

THE HON. D. J. KILLEN, M.P. (Qld) (L.P.)

*\*Minister for Social Security—*

SENATOR THE HON. MARGARET G. C. GUILFOYLE (Vic.) (L.P.)

*Attorney-General—*

THE HON. R. J. ELLICOTT, Q.C., M.P. (N.S.W.) (L.P.)

*Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs—*

THE HON. J. W. HOWARD, M.P. (N.S.W.) (L.P.)

*Minister for Health—*

THE HON. R. J. D. HUNT, M.P. (N.S.W.) (N.C.P.)

*Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs—*

THE HON. M. J. R. MACKELLAR, M.P. (N.S.W.) (L.P.)

*Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—*

THE HON. R. I. VINER, M.P. (W.A.) (L.P.)

*Minister for the Northern Territory and Minister Assisting the Minister for National Resources—*

THE HON. A. E. ADERMANN, M.P. (Qld) (N.C.P.)

*Minister for Post and Telecommunications and Minister Assisting the Treasurer—*

THE HON. E. L. ROBINSON, M.P. (Qld) (L.P.)

*Minister for Construction and Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—*

THE HON. J. E. MCLEAY, M.P. (S.A.) (L.P.)

*Minister for Environment, Housing and Community Development—*

THE HON. K. E. NEWMAN, M.P. (Tas.) (L.P.)

*Minister for Science—*

SENATOR THE HON. J. J. WEBSTER (Vic.) (N.C.P.)

*Minister for the Capital Territory—*

THE HON. A. A. STALEY, M.P. (Vic.) (L.P.)

*Minister for Repatriation—*

SENATOR THE HON. P. D. DURACK (W.A.) (L.P.)

\* Minister in the Cabinet.

**State Premiers, July 1976**

The names of the Premiers of each State in July 1976 are shown below.

**STATE PREMIERS, JULY 1976†**

*New South Wales*—The Hon. N. K. Wran, Q.C., M.L.A. (A.L.P.)

*Victoria*—The Hon. R. J. Hamer, E.D., M.L.A. (L.P.)

*Queensland*—The Hon. J. Bjelke-Petersen, M.L.A. (C.P.)

*South Australia*—The Hon. D. A. Dunstan, Q.C., M.P. (A.L.P.)

*Western Australia*—The Hon. Sir Charles Court, O.B.E., M.L.A. (L.P.)

*Tasmania*—The Hon. W. A. Neilson, M.H.A. (A.L.P.)

**Leaders of the Opposition, Commonwealth and State Parliaments, July 1976**

The Leader of the Opposition plays an important part in the Party system of government which operates in the Australian Parliaments. The following list gives the names of the holders of this position in each of the Parliaments in July 1976.

**LEADERS OF THE OPPOSITION, JULY 1976†**

*Commonwealth*—The Hon. E. G. Whitlam, Q.C., M.P. (A.L.P.)

*New South Wales*—Sir Eric Willis, K.B.E., C.M.G., M.L.A. (L.P.)

*Victoria*—A. C. Holding, M.L.A. (A.L.P.)

*Queensland*—T. J. Burns, M.L.A. (A.L.P.)

*South Australia*—Dr D. O. Tonkin, M.P. (L.P.)

*Western Australia*—The Hon. C. J. Jamieson, M.L.A. (A.L.P.)

*Tasmania*—The Hon. E. M. Bingham, Q.C., M.H.A. (L.P.)

**Numbers and salaries of Commonwealth Government Ministers**

Under Sections 65 and 66, respectively, of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia the number of Ministers of State was not to exceed seven, and the annual sum payable for their salaries was not to exceed £12,000 (\$24,000), each provision to operate, however, 'until the Parliament otherwise provides'.

Subsequently the number and salaries have been increased from time to time, and at July 1976 the annual sum payable for salaries is \$407,700 and the number of Ministers is twenty-four. An additional ministerial allowance of \$10,900 a year is payable to the Prime Minister, and an additional ministerial allowance of \$5,200 a year to the Deputy Prime Minister and \$4,875 a year to other Ministers.

All amounts payable in the foregoing paragraphs are in addition to amounts payable as Parliamentary allowances (see page 93).

**Parliaments and elections****The Commonwealth Parliaments**

The first Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia was convened by proclamation dated 29 April 1901 by His Excellency the Marquis of Linlithgow, then Earl of Hopetoun, Governor-General. It was opened on 9 May 1901 by H.R.H. the Duke of Cornwall and York. The Rt Hon. Sir Edmund Barton, G.C.M.G., K.C., was Prime Minister.

The following table shows the number and duration of Parliaments since federation.

---

† Full titles of party abbreviations are shown on page 88.



COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTS

<i>Number of Parliament</i>	<i>Date of opening</i>	<i>Date of dissolution</i>
First . . . . .	9 May 1901 . . . . .	23 November 1903
Second . . . . .	2 March 1904 . . . . .	5 November 1906
Third . . . . .	20 February 1907 . . . . .	19 February 1910
Fourth . . . . .	1 July 1910 . . . . .	23 April 1913
Fifth . . . . .	9 July 1913 . . . . .	30 July 1914(a)
Sixth . . . . .	8 October 1914 . . . . .	26 March 1917
Seventh . . . . .	14 June 1917 . . . . .	3 November 1919
Eighth . . . . .	26 February 1920 . . . . .	6 November 1922
Ninth . . . . .	28 February 1923 . . . . .	3 October 1925
Tenth . . . . .	13 January 1926 . . . . .	9 October 1928
Eleventh . . . . .	6 February 1929 . . . . .	16 September 1929
Twelfth . . . . .	20 November 1929 . . . . .	27 November 1931
Thirteenth . . . . .	17 February 1932 . . . . .	7 August 1934
Fourteenth . . . . .	23 October 1934 . . . . .	21 September 1937
Fifteenth . . . . .	30 November 1937 . . . . .	27 August 1940
Sixteenth . . . . .	20 November 1940 . . . . .	7 July 1943
Seventeenth . . . . .	23 September 1943 . . . . .	16 August 1946
Eighteenth . . . . .	6 November 1946 . . . . .	31 October 1949
Nineteenth . . . . .	22 February 1950 . . . . .	19 March 1951(a)
Twentieth . . . . .	12 June 1951 . . . . .	21 April 1954
Twenty-first . . . . .	4 August 1954 . . . . .	4 November 1955
Twenty-second . . . . .	15 February 1956 . . . . .	14 October 1958
Twenty-third . . . . .	17 February 1959 . . . . .	2 November 1961
Twenty-fourth . . . . .	20 February 1962 . . . . .	1 November 1963
Twenty-fifth . . . . .	25 February 1964 . . . . .	31 October 1966
Twenty-sixth . . . . .	21 February 1967 . . . . .	29 September 1969
Twenty-seventh . . . . .	25 November 1969 . . . . .	2 November 1972
Twenty-eighth . . . . .	27 February 1973 . . . . .	11 April 1974(a)
Twenty-ninth . . . . .	9 July 1974 . . . . .	11 November 1975(a)
Thirtieth . . . . .	17 February 1976 . . . . .	

(a) A dissolution of both the Senate and the House of Representatives was granted by the Governor-General under section 57 of the Constitution.

There have been twenty-nine complete Parliaments since Federation. Until 1927 the Parliament met in Melbourne; it now meets in Canberra, the first meeting at Parliament House, Canberra, being opened by the Duke of York on 9 May 1927.

The twenty-ninth Parliament opened on 9 July 1974 and ended on 11 November 1975 when a dissolution of both the Senate and the House of Representatives was granted by the Governor-General under Section 57 of the Constitution. The date of elections for both Houses was fixed for 13 December 1975. Writs were issued by the Governor-General on 17 November 1975 for the House of Representatives elections in all States and Territories (except South Australia and Western Australia, for which States the writs were issued on 21 November 1975). State Governors issued writs for the Senate elections on the same dates as those issued for the House of Representatives elections in the respective States. On 17 November 1975 the Governor-General issued the writs for the Senate elections in the Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory. For voting figures *see* page 88. For particulars of electors enrolled and of electors who voted in the several States and Territories at previous Commonwealth elections for Parliament *see* Year Book No. 60 and earlier issues.

A special article describing the Commonwealth Parliament, its functions and procedure, prepared by the Clerk of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives, appears in Year Book No. 49, pages 65-71.

**Qualifications for membership and for franchise—Commonwealth Parliament**

Qualifications necessary for membership of either House of the Commonwealth Parliament are possessed by any British subject, eighteen years of age or over and not disentitled on other grounds, who has resided in Australia for at least three years and who is, or is qualified to become an elector of the Commonwealth Parliament. Qualifications for Commonwealth Parliament franchise are possessed by any British subject, not under eighteen years of age and not disentitled on other grounds, who has lived in Australia for six months continuously. Residence in a Subdivision for a period of one month prior to enrolment is necessary to enable a qualified person to enrol. Enrolment and voting are compulsory except that the compulsory enrolment provisions do not relate to an Aboriginal

native of Australia. A member of the Defence Force on service outside Australia who is not less than eighteen years of age, is a British subject and has lived in Australia for six months continuously is entitled to vote at Commonwealth Parliament elections even though he may not be enrolled.

The principal reasons for disqualification of persons otherwise eligible for election as members of either Commonwealth House are: membership of the other House, allegiance to a foreign power, being attainted of treason, being convicted and under sentence for any offence punishable by imprisonment for one year or longer, being an undischarged bankrupt or insolvent, holding an office of profit under the Crown (with certain exceptions), or having pecuniary interest in any agreement with the public service of the Commonwealth Government except as a member of an incorporated company of more than twenty-five persons. Persons of unsound mind, attainted of treason, convicted and under sentence for any offence punishable by imprisonment for one year or longer, or persons who are holders of temporary entry permits under the *Migration Act 1958* or are prohibited immigrants under that Act are excluded from the franchise. In the main, these or similar grounds for disqualification apply also to State Parliament membership and franchise. Aborigines are entitled to enrol and to vote at both Commonwealth and State elections in all States.

#### Commonwealth Parliaments and elections

From the establishment of the Commonwealth of Australia until 1949 the Senate consisted of thirty-six members, six being returned by each of the original federating States. The Constitution empowers Parliament to increase or decrease the size of the Parliament, and, as the population of Australia had more than doubled since its inception, the Parliament passed the *Representation Act 1948* which provided that there should be ten Senators from each State instead of six, increasing the total to sixty Senators, thus enlarging both Houses of Parliament and providing a representation ratio nearer to the proportion which existed at Federation.

The *Senate (Representation of Territories) Act 1973* (No. 39 of 1974), assented to on 7 August 1974, made provision for two Senators to be elected from both the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory at the same time as the next election of Senators for a State or a general election for the House of Representatives, whichever first occurred. Consequently, at the election on 13 December 1975, 2 Senators were elected from each Territory, and the number of Senators increased to 64.

In accordance with the Constitution the total number of members of the House of Representatives must be as nearly as practicable double that of the Senate. Consequently, in terms of the Constitution and the Representation Act, from the date of the 1949 elections the number of members in the House of Representatives was increased from 74 to 121 (excluding the members for the internal Territories). As the States are represented in the House of Representatives on a population basis, the numbers were increased as follows: New South Wales—from 28 to 47; Victoria—from 20 to 33, Queensland—from 10 to 18; South Australia—from 6 to 10; and Western Australia—from 5 to 8. Tasmania's representation remained at 5 (the Constitution provides for a minimum of 5 members for each Original State). The increase in the number of members of Parliament necessitated a redistribution of seats and a redetermination of electoral boundaries. Redistributions are carried out by Distribution Commissioners appointed for each State. The redistributions are effected on a quota basis, but taking into account community interests, means of communication, physical features, existing boundaries, and other factors.

The population as disclosed by the Census taken on 30 June 1954 necessitated a further alteration in representation in the House of Representatives in respect of New South Wales, South Australia, and Western Australia. Representation as from the general election for the House of Representatives on 10 December 1955 was: New South Wales 46, Victoria 33, Queensland 18, South Australia 11, Western Australia 9, Tasmania 5, the total number of members (excluding the members for the internal Territories) being increased from 121 to 122.

The population as disclosed by the Census taken on 30 June 1961 revealed that, under the provisions of the Representation Act, New South Wales, Queensland, and Western Australia would each lose one member in the House of Representatives, while Victoria would gain a member. The Distribution Commissioners' reports were duly laid before both Houses of Parliament, but the Government decided not to proceed with the proposals and announced that it would amend the Representation Act. In November 1964 the formula provided by Section 10 of the Representation Act for determining the number of members of the House of Representatives was amended so as to give a State an additional member for 'any portion of a quota'. The effect of that amendment would have been that at the next redistribution Victoria and South Australia would each gain one member while all other States would retain their existing representation. However, no fresh redistribution was effected prior to the 1966 Census. Consequent upon the population changes disclosed by the Census taken on 30 June 1966, a redistribution of the State electoral division boundaries was carried out in

1968 and the following representation in the House of Representatives became effective as from the general election held on 25 October 1969: New South Wales 45, Victoria 34, Queensland 18, South Australia 12, Western Australia 9 and Tasmania 5, the total number of members (excluding the members for the internal Territories) being increased from 122 to 123.

The population as disclosed by the Census taken on 30 June 1971 revealed that, under the provisions of the Representation Act, Western Australia would gain an additional member of the House of Representatives as from the next general elections following a redistribution of the electoral boundaries in that State. Subsequently, Distribution Commissioners for that State were appointed, and published their final recommendations on 13 February 1974. These recommendations, redistributing Western Australia into ten electoral Divisions for the House of Representatives, were approved by Parliament in April 1974. The new electoral boundaries were proclaimed by the Governor-General on 19 April 1974. A High Court judgment of 1 December 1975 indicated that the Representation Act fails to ensure that the determination of the number of Members of the House of Representatives to be chosen by the States in proportion to their populations will be effectively made in each triennial period. The decision of the Court was to the effect that—

Part III of the Commonwealth Electoral Act relating to the distribution of States into Electoral Divisions was not invalid; and

Sections 3, 4 and 12A of the Representation Act were invalid.

Amendments to the Representation Act are therefore essential. Henceforth the Chief Australian Electoral Officer will determine the representation of the several States during each normal Parliamentary triennium. Should the representation for any State be varied consequent upon such determination, a redistribution will be required. Future determinations will be based on latest available statistics prepared by the Australian Statistician, rather than on census figures.

Since the general election of 1922 the Northern Territory has been represented by one member in the House of Representatives, and the Australian Capital Territory has had similar representation since the elections of 1949. The member for the Australian Capital Territory has had full voting rights since the first sitting of the twenty-sixth Parliament. In May 1968 the Northern Territory Representation Act was amended to give full voting rights to the Member for the Northern Territory effective from 15 May 1968, the day on which the Act received Royal Assent.

Following Parliament's approval of the Australian Capital Territory Representation (House of Representatives) Bill in October 1973, a Distribution Committee was appointed for the purpose of distributing the Australian Capital Territory into two electoral Divisions. On 19 March 1974 the Committee published an initial redistribution proposal.

By early April 1974 there was an indication that the House of Representatives would be dissolved before the Distribution Committee could complete its task, in which event the Australian Capital Territory would be deprived of any representation in the next Parliament. Accordingly the *Australian Capital Territory Representation (House of Representatives) Act 1974* was enacted to provide that the Territory be divided into two electoral divisions, adopting the boundaries recommended by the Distribution Committee on 19 March 1974. The 1974 House of Representative elections were held on those boundaries.

Members of the House of Representatives are elected for the duration of the Parliament, which is limited to three years. At elections for Senators the whole State constitutes the electorate. For the purpose of elections for the House of Representatives the State is divided into single electorates corresponding in number to the number of members to which the State is entitled. Further information regarding the Senate and the House of Representatives is given in earlier issues of the Year Book.

The *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1948*, enacted with the *Representation Act 1948* which enlarged the Commonwealth Parliament (see page 86), changed the system of scrutiny and counting of votes in Senate elections from the alternative vote to that of proportional representation. For a description of the system, see Year Book No. 38, pages 82-3. The method of voting for both the Senate and the House of Representatives is preferential.

Particulars of voting at Senate elections and elections for the House of Representatives up to 1974 appear in earlier issues of the Year Book, and additional information is available in the *Statistical Returns* issued by the Chief Electoral Officer following each election and printed as Parliamentary Papers.

The numbers of electors and primary votes cast for the major political parties in each State and Territory at the latest election for each House of the Commonwealth Parliament were as follows.

## COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS, 13 DECEMBER 1975

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia
<b>HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ELECTION</b>									
Electors enrolled . . . . .	2,961,698	2,234,778	1,206,231	789,004	658,419	255,402	40,885	115,916	8,262,333
Number of votes recorded for—									
Australian Labor Party . . . . .	1,260,335	882,842	439,405	316,006	244,404	105,324	12,944	51,744	3,313,004
Liberal Party . . . . .	1,100,672	887,635	370,041	365,353	326,679	131,003	..	50,727	3,232,160
National Country Party(a) . . . . .	326,124	186,667	303,107	4,070	30,727	3,248	15,976	..	869,919
Liberal Movement . . . . .	..	..	..	45,968	..	..	..	3,516	49,484
Democratic Labor Party . . . . .	..	101,750	..	..	..	..	..	..	101,750
Australia Party . . . . .	10,931	21,473	..	525	..	..	701	..	33,630
Workers Party . . . . .	30,986	..	17,341	2,604	5,576	2,550	..	377	59,434
Others . . . . .	43,072	17,280	3,700	6,642	1,664	..	..	840	73,198
Informal votes . . . . .	52,760	42,008	14,604	18,201	14,334	4,569	996	1,822	149,294
<b>Total votes recorded . . . . .</b>	<b>2,824,880</b>	<b>2,139,705</b>	<b>1,148,198</b>	<b>759,369</b>	<b>623,384</b>	<b>246,694</b>	<b>30,617</b>	<b>109,026</b>	<b>7,881,873</b>

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia
<b>SENATE ELECTION</b>									
Electors enrolled . . . . .	2,961,698	2,234,778	1,206,231	789,004	658,419	255,402	40,885	115,916	8,262,333
Number of votes recorded for—									
Australian Labor Party . . . . .	1,123,462	811,773	387,740	277,800	203,151	78,310	10,207	33,867	2,931,310
Liberal Party; National Country Party(a)(b) . . . . .	1,258,859	993,634	603,228	351,818	287,358	108,853	..	45,743	3,649,493
National Country Party(a)(b) . . . . .	..	..	..	..	38,366	3,611	15,519	..	57,496
Liberal Movement . . . . .	6,218	16,279	4,709	44,136	5,084	..	..	..	76,426
Democratic Labor Party . . . . .	44,543	115,866	26,833	942	2,865	..	..	..	191,049
Australia Party . . . . .	10,616	19,319	2,516	..	1,616	..	565	..	34,632
Workers Party . . . . .	28,513	..	20,857	4,085	6,726	1,007	615	582	62,385
Others . . . . .	77,537	9,206	7,326	5,048	10,946	30,538	1,521	19,800	161,922
Informal votes . . . . .	275,132	173,628	94,989	75,540	67,272	24,375	2,190	4,034	717,160
<b>Total votes recorded . . . . .</b>	<b>2,824,880</b>	<b>2,139,705</b>	<b>1,148,198</b>	<b>759,369</b>	<b>623,384</b>	<b>246,694</b>	<b>30,617</b>	<b>109,026</b>	<b>7,881,873</b>

(a) The National Country Party is known in the various States as follows: New South Wales—Australian Country Party; Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania—National Party; South Australia and Western Australia—National Country Party. In the Northern Territory it is known as the Country Liberal Party. (b) In New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland the Liberal Party and the National Country Party candidates stood as one group; in South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory only the Liberal Party stood as a group; in Western Australia and Tasmania the National Country Party and the National Party respectively, and the Liberal Party each stood as separate groups; in Northern Territory there was a Country Liberal Party group only.

**The Senate and House of Representatives Election, 13 December 1975**

Membership at 18 February 1976 was: *Senate*—Australian Labor Party, 27; Liberal Party of Australia, 27; National Country Party of Australia, 8; Independent, 1; Liberal Movement, 1; *House of Representatives*—Australian Labor Party, 36; Liberal Party of Australia, 68; National Country Party of Australia, 23.

**Members of the Commonwealth Parliament**

The following is a list of Senators and Members of the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth Parliament at 7 June 1976. Party affiliation is indicated by the use of the following abbreviations:

A.L.P.—Australian Labor Party

Ind.—Independent

L.M.—Liberal Movement

L.P.—Liberal Party of Australia

N.C.P.—National Country Party of Australia (see footnote (a) above)

MEMBERS OF THE COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENT, 7 JUNE 1976(a)  
THE SENATE

*President:*

SENATOR THE HON. C. L. LAUCKE

*Chairman of Committees:*

SENATOR THE HON. T. C. DRAKE-BROCKMAN, D.F.C.

*Leader of the Government in the Senate:*

SENATOR THE HON. R. G. WITHERS

*Leader of the Opposition in the Senate:*

SENATOR THE HON. K. S. WRIEDT

<i>Senator</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Term(b) expires 30 June</i>	<i>Senator</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Term(b) expires 30 June</i>
Archer, B. R. (L.P.) . . .	Tas.	1978	Lajovic, M. E. (L.P.) . . .	N.S.W.	1976
Baume, P. E. (L.P.) . . .	N.S.W.	1978	Laucke, Hon. C. L. (L.P.) . . .	S.A.	1981
Bishop, Hon. R. (A.L.P.) . . .	S.A.	1981	McAuliffe, R. E. (A.L.P.) . . .	Qld	1981
Bonner, N. T. (L.P.) . . .	Qld	1981	McClelland, Hon. D. (A.L.P.) . . .	N.S.W.	1981
Brown, W. W. C. (A.L.P.) . . .	Vic.	1978	McClelland, Hon. J. R. (A.L.P.) . . .	N.S.W.	1981
Button, J. N. (A.L.P.) . . .	Vic.	1978	McIntosh, G. D. (A.L.P.) . . .	W.A.	1981
Cameron, D. N. (A.L.P.) . . .	S.A.	1978	McLaren, G. T. (A.L.P.) . . .	S.A.	1978
Carrick, Hon. J. L. (L.P.) . . .	N.S.W.	1981	Martin, Kathryn J. (L.P.) . . .	Qld	1978
Cavanagh, Hon. J. L. (A.L.P.) . . .	S.A.	1981	Maunsell, C. R. (N.C.P.) . . .	Qld	1981
Chaney, F. M. (L.P.) . . .	W.A.	1978	Melzer, Jean I. (A.L.P.) . . .	Vic.	1981
Coleman, Ruth N. (A.L.P.) . . .	W.A.	1978	Messner, A. J. (L.P.) . . .	S.A.	1978
Collard, S. J. (N.C.P.) . . .	Qld	1978	Missen, A. J. (L.P.) . . .	Vic.	1978
Colston, M. A. (A.L.P.) . . .	Qld	1978	Mulvihill, J. A. (A.L.P.) . . .	N.S.W.	1978
Cormack, Hon. Sir Magnus, K.B.E. (L.P.) . . .	Vic.	1978	O'Byrne, J. (A.L.P.) . . .	Tas.	1981
Cotton, Hon. R. C. (L.P.) . . .	N.S.W.	1981	Primmer, C. G. (A.L.P.) . . .	Vic.	1981
Davidson, G. S. (L.P.) . . .	S.A.	1981	Rae, P. E. (L.P.) . . .	Tas.	1981
Devitt, D. M. (A.L.P.) . . .	Tas.	1978	Robertson, E. A. (A.L.P.) . . .	N.T.	(c)
Drake-Brockman, Hon. T. C., D.F.C. (N.C.P.) . . .	W.A.	1978	Ryan, Susan M. (A.L.P.) . . .	A.C.T.	(c)
Durack, P. D. (L.P.) . . .	W.A.	1981	Scott, D. B. (N.C.P.) . . .	N.S.W.	1981
Georges, G. (A.L.P.) . . .	Qld	1978	Sheil, G. (N.C.P.) . . .	Qld	1981
Gietzelt, A. T. (A.L.P.) . . .	N.S.W.	1978	Sibraa, K. W. (A.L.P.) . . .	N.S.W.	1978
Greenwood, Hon. I. J., Q.C. (L.P.) . . .	Vic.	1981	Sim, J. P. (L.P.) . . .	W.A.	1981
Grimes, D. J. (A.L.P.) . . .	Tas.	1978	Tehan, T. J. (N.C.P.) . . .	Vic.	1978
Guilfoyle, Hon. Margaret G. C. (L.P.) . . .	Vic.	1981	Thomas, A. M. (L.P.) . . .	W.A.	1978
Hall, R. S. (L.M.) . . .	S.A.	1978	Townley, M. (L.P.) . . .	Tas.	1981
Harradine, B. (Ind.) . . .	Tas.	1981	Walsh, P. A. (A.L.P.) . . .	W.A.	1978
Jessop, D. S. (L.P.) . . .	S.A.	1981	Walters, Mary S. (L.P.) . . .	Tas.	1978
Keeffe, J. B. (A.L.P.) . . .	Qld	1981	Webster, Hon. J. J. (N.C.P.) . . .	Vic.	1981
Kilgariff, B. F. (N.C.P.) . . .	N.T.	(c)	Wheeldon, Hon. J. M. (A.L.P.) . . .	W.A.	1981
Knight, J. W. (L.P.) . . .	A.C.T.	(c)	Withers, Hon. R. G. (L.P.) . . .	W.A.	1981
			Wood, I. A. C. (L.P.) . . .	Qld	1978
			Wriedt, Hon. K. S. (A.L.P.) . . .	Tas.	1981
			Wright, Hon. R. C. (L.P.) . . .	Tas.	1978
			Young, H. W. (L.P.) . . .	S.A.	1978

(a) For later changes see Appendix. (b) Senators are elected for a term of six years on a rotational basis; the terms of half the Senators expire every third year. (c) Pursuant to the *Senate (Representation of Territories Act) 1973*, the term of office expires at the close of the day next preceding the polling day for the general election of Members of the House of Representatives.

## MEMBERS OF THE COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENT

7 JUNE 1976(a)—continued

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
(Triennial Parliaments—Last General Election  
13 December 1975)*Speaker:*

THE RT HON. B. M. SNEDDEN, Q.C., M.P.

*Chairman of Committees:*

P. E. LUCOCK, C.B.E., M.P.

*Leader of the House:*

THE HON. I. McC. SINCLAIR, M.P.

*Leader of the Opposition:*

THE HON. E. G. WHITLAM, Q.C., M.P.

<i>Member</i>	<i>Division</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>Division</i>
Abel, J. A. (L.P.) . . .	Evans (N.S.W.)	Connolly, D. M. (L.P.) .	Bradfield (N.S.W.)
Adermann, Hon. A. E. (N.C.P.)	Fisher (Qld)	Connor, Hon. R. F. X. (A.L.P.)	Cunningham (N.S.W.)
Aldred, K. J. (L.P.) . .	Henty (Vic.)	Corbett, J. (N.C.P.) . .	Maranoa (Qld)
Anthony, Rt Hon. J. D. (N.C.P.)	Richmond (N.S.W.)	Cotter, J. F. (L.P.) . .	Kalgoorlie (W.A.)
Armitage, J. L. (A.L.P.)	Chifley (N.S.W.)	Crean, Hon. F. (A.L.P.)	Melbourne Ports (Vic.)
Baillieu, M. (L.P.) . . .	La Trobe (Vic.)	Dobie, Hon. J. D. M. (L.P.)	Cook (N.S.W.)
Baume, M. E. (L.P.) . .	Macarthur (N.S.W.)	Drummond, P. H. (L.P.)	Forrest (W.A.)
Beazley, Hon. K. E. (A.L.P.)	Fremantle (W.A.)	Edwards, H. R. (L.P.) .	Berowra (N.S.W.)
Birney, R. J. (L.P.) . .	Phillip (N.S.W.)	Ellicott, Hon. R. J. Q.C. (L.P.)	Wentworth (N.S.W.)
Bonnett, R. N. (L.P.) . .	Herbert (Qld)	Falconer, P. D. (L.P.) .	Casey (Vic.)
Bourchier, J. W. (L.P.)	Bendigo (Vic.)	Fife, Hon. W. C. (L.P.) .	Farrer (N.S.W.)
Bowen, Hon. L. F. (A.L.P.)	Kingsford-Smith (N.S.W.)	Fisher, P. S. (N.C.P.) . .	Mallee (Vic.)
Bradfield, J. M. (L.P.) .	Barton (N.S.W.)	FitzPatrick, J. (A.L.P.) .	Darling (N.S.W.)
Braithwaite, R. A. (N.C.P.)	Dawson (Qld)	Fraser, Rt Hon. J. M. (L.P.)	Wannon (Vic.)
Brown, N. A. (L.P.) . .	Diamond Valley (Vic.)	Fry, K. L. (A.L.P.) . . .	Fraser (A.C.T.)
Bryant, Hon. G. M., E.D. (A.L.P.)	Wills (Vic.)	Garland, Hon. R. V. (L.P.)	Curtin (W.A.)
Bungey, M. H. (L.P.) . .	Canning (W.A.)	Garrick, H. J. (A.L.P.) .	Batman (Vic.)
Burr, M. A. (L.P.) . . .	Wilmot (Tas.)	Giles, G. O'H. (L.P.) . .	Angas (S.A.)
Cadman, A. G. (L.P.) . .	Mitchell (N.S.W.)	Gillard, R. (L.P.) . . .	Macquarie (N.S.W.)
Cairns, Hon. J. F. (A.L.P.)	Lalor (Vic.)	Goodluck, B. J. (L.P.) .	Franklin (Tas.)
Cairns, Hon. K. M. (L.P.)	Lilley (Qld)	Graham, B. W. (L.P.) . .	North Sydney (N.S.W.)
Calder, S. E., D.F.C. (N.C.P.)	Northern Territory	Groom, R. J. (L.P.) . . .	Braddon (Tas.)
Cameron, Hon. C. R. (A.L.P.)	Hindmarsh (S.A.)	Hamer, D. J. D.S.C. (L.P.)	Isaacs (Vic.)
Cameron, D. M. (L.P.) .	Griffith (Qld)	Haslem, J. W. (L.P.) . .	Canberra (A.C.T.)
Carige, C. L. (N.C.P.) . .	Capricornia (Qld)	Hayden, Hon. W. G. (A.L.P.)	Oxley (Qld)
Cass, Hon. M. H. (A.L.P.)	Maribyrnong (Vic.)	Hodges, J. C. (L.P.) . .	Petrie (Qld)
Chapman, H. G. P. (L.P.)	Kingston (S.A.)	Hodgman, M. (L.P.) . . .	Denison (Tas.)
Chipp, Hon. D. L. (L.P.)	Hotham (Vic.)	Holten, Hon. R. McN. (N.C.P.)	Indi (Vic.)
Cohen, B. (A.L.P.) . . .	Robertson (N.S.W.)	Howard, Hon. J. W. (L.P.)	Bennelong (N.S.W.)

(a) For later changes see Appendix.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENT

7 JUNE 1976(a)—continued

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—continued

<i>Member</i>	<i>Division</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>Division</i>
Hunt, Hon. R. J. D. (N.C.P.)	Gwydir (N.S.W.)	Neil, M. J. (L.P.)	St George (N.S.W.)
Hurford, C. J. (A.L.P.)	Adelaide (S.A.)	Newman, Hon. K. E. (L.P.)	Bass (Tas.)
Hyde, J. M. (L.P.)	Moore (W.A.)	Nicholls, M. H. (A.L.P.)	Bonython (S.A.)
Innes, U. E. (A.L.P.)	Melbourne (Vic.)	Nixon, Hon. P. J. (N.C.P.)	Gippsland (Vic.)
Jacobi, R. (A.L.P.)	Hawker (S.A.)	O'Keefe, F. L. (N.C.P.)	Paterson (N.S.W.)
James, A. W. (A.L.P.)	Hunter (N.S.W.)	Peacock, Hon. A. S. (L.P.)	Kooyong (Vic.)
Jarman, A. W. (L.P.)	Deakin (Vic.)	Porter, J. R. (L.P.)	Barker (S.A.)
Jenkins, H. A. (A.L.P.)	Scullin (Vic.)	Richardson, P. A. (L.P.)	Tangney (W.A.)
Johnson, L. K. (A.L.P.)	Burke (Vic.)	Robinson, Hon. E. L. (L.P.)	McPherson (Qld)
Johnson, Hon. L. R. (A.L.P.)	Hughes (N.S.W.)	Robinson, Hon. I. L. (N.C.P.)	Cowper (N.S.W.)
Johnson, P. F. (L.P.)	Brisbane (Qld)	Ruddock, P. M. (L.P.)	Parramatta (N.S.W.)
Jones, Hon. C. K. (A.L.P.)	Newcastle (N.S.W.)	Sainsbury, M. E. (L.P.)	Eden-Monaro (N.S.W.)
Jull, D. F. (L.P.)	Bowman (Qld)	Scholes, G. G. D. (A.L.P.)	Corio (Vic.)
Katter, Hon. R. C. (N.C.P.)	Kennedy (Qld)	Shipton, R. F. (L.P.)	Higgins (Vic.)
Keating, Hon. P. J. (A.L.P.)	Blaxland (N.S.W.)	Short, J. R. (L.P.)	Ballaarat (Vic.)
Kelly, Hon. C. R. (L.P.)	Wakefield (S.A.)	Simon, B. D. (L.P.)	McMillan (Vic.)
Killen, Hon. D. J. (L.P.)	Moreton (Qld)	Sinclair, Hon. I. McC. (N.C.P.)	New England (N.S.W.)
King, Hon. R. S. (N.C.P.)	Wimmera (Vic.)	Snedden, Rt Hon. B. M. Q.C. (L.P.)	Bruce (Vic.)
Klugman, R. E. (A.L.P.)	Prospect (N.S.W.)	Staley, Hon. A. A. (L.P.)	Chisholm (Vic.)
Lloyd, B. (N.C.P.)	Murray (Vic.)	Stewart, Hon. F. E. (A.L.P.)	Lang (N.S.W.)
Lucock, P. E., C.B.E. (N.C.P.)	Lyne (N.S.W.)	Street, Hon. A. A. (L.P.)	Corangamite (Vic.)
Lusher, S. A. (N.C.P.)	Hume (N.S.W.)	Sullivan, J. W. (N.C.P.)	Riverina (N.S.W.)
Lynch, Hon. P. R. (L.P.)	Flinders (Vic.)	Thomson, D. S., M.C. (N.C.P.)	Leichhardt (Qld)
MacKellar, Hon. M. J. R. (L.P.)	Warringah (N.S.W.)	Uren, Hon. T. (A.L.P.)	Reid (N.S.W.)
Mackenzie, A. J. (N.C.P.)	Calare (N.S.W.)	Viner, Hon. R. I. (L.P.)	Stirling (W.A.)
McLean, R. M. (L.P.)	Perth (W.A.)	Wallis, L. G. (A.L.P.)	Grey (S.A.)
McLeay, Hon. J. E. (L.P.)	Boothby (S.A.)	Wentworth, Hon. W. C. (L.P.)	Mackellar (N.S.W.)
McMahon, J. L. (A.L.P.)	Sydney, (N.S.W.)	Whitlam, A. P. (A.L.P.)	Grayndler (N.S.W.)
McMahon, Rt Hon. W., C.H. (L.P.)	Lowe (N.S.W.)	Whitlam, Hon. E. G., Q.C. (A.L.P.)	Werriwa (N.S.W.)
Macphee, I. M. (L.P.)	Balaclava (Vic.)	Willis, R. (A.L.P.)	Gellibrand (Vic.)
McVeigh, D. T. (N.C.P.)	Darling Downs (Qld)	Wilson, I. B. C. (L.P.)	Sturt (S.A.)
Martin, V. J. (A.L.P.)	Banks (N.S.W.)	Yates, W. (L.P.)	Holt (Vic.)
Martyr, J. R. (L.P.)	Swan (W.A.)	Young, M. J. (A.L.P.)	Port Adelaide (S.A.)
Millar, P. C. (N.C.P.)	Wide Bay (Qld)		
Moore, J. C. (L.P.)	Ryan (Qld)		
Morris, P. F. (A.L.P.)	Shortland (N.S.W.)		

(a) For later changes see Appendix.

Referendums

In accordance with section 128 of the Constitution any proposed law for the alteration of the Constitution, in addition to being passed by an absolute majority of each House of Parliament, must be submitted to a referendum of the electors in each State, and must be approved by a majority of the electors in a majority of the States and also by a majority of all the electors who voted, before it can be presented for Royal Assent. Thirty-two such proposals have so far been submitted to

referendums and the consent of the electors has been received in five cases—the first in relation to the election of Senators in 1906, the second and third in respect of State Debts—one in 1910 and the other in 1928, the fourth in respect of Social Services in 1946, and the fifth in respect of Aboriginals in 1967. In addition to referendums for alterations of the Constitution, other Commonwealth referendums have been held—two prior to Federation regarding the proposed Constitution and two regarding military service during the 1914–1918 War. For details of earlier referendums *see* Year Book No. 52, pages 66–8.

On 17 and 26 September 1973 respectively, two Bills were introduced in the House of Representatives to alter the Constitution; one Bill being designed to grant the Australian Government control over prices, the other to grant similar control over incomes. The proposed laws, after being passed by both Houses of Parliament, were submitted to the electors of the States at referendums held on 8 December 1973. At these referendums the electors voted in all States to reject both proposed laws. For a summary of the results of the voting *see* Year Book No. 60, page 90.

In November 1973 four Bills were introduced in and passed by the House of Representatives to alter the Constitution. The Constitution Alteration (Simultaneous Elections) Bill was designed to ensure that future Senate elections would be held simultaneously with the House of Representatives elections. The Constitution Alteration (Mode of Altering the Constitution) Bill was designed to facilitate alterations to the Constitution and to allow electors in the Territories, as well as electors in the States, to vote on proposed laws to alter the Constitution. The Constitution Alterations (Democratic Elections) Bill was designed to ensure that members of the House of Representatives and of the State Parliaments would be 'chosen directly and democratically by the People'. The Constitution Alteration (Local Government Bodies) Bill was designed to enable the Commonwealth Government to borrow money for, and to grant financial assistance to, local government bodies.

On 4 December 1973 the Senate referred the first of these proposed laws to its Standing Committee on Constitutional and Legal Affairs; amended the second; and rejected the third and fourth. On 6 March 1974, the four proposed laws were passed a second time by the House of Representatives. On 13 March 1974 the Senate rejected the Constitution Alteration (Simultaneous Elections) and Constitution Alteration (Local Government Bodies) Bills; and, on 14 March 1974, rejected the Constitution Alteration (Democratic Elections) Bill and amended the Constitution Alteration (Mode of Altering the Constitution) Bill. On 21 March 1974 the Prime Minister announced that, acting under section 128 of the Constitution, the Governor-General had accepted the Government's advice to submit these four proposed laws to the electors of the States at referendums to be held on 18 May 1974, simultaneously with the general election. At these referendums electors in all States except New South Wales voted to reject the four proposed laws; electors in New South Wales voted in favour of all four proposed laws. Particulars of the voting at these referendums are shown in Year Book No. 60, page 91.

### **The Parliaments of the States**

This chapter contains summarised information on the Parliaments of each State, the numbers of Houses and members, and salaries payable. For greater detail reference should be made to individual State Year Books.



*Membership of State Parliaments.* The following table shows the party distribution in each of the various State Parliaments at June 1976.

STATE PARLIAMENTS: MEMBERSHIP, BY PARTY AFFILIATION, JUNE 1976

Party	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.
UPPER HOUSE						
Australian Country Party (C.P.)	13	..	..	..	..	..
Australian Labor Party (A.L.P.)	24	9	..	10	9	2
Independent (Ind.)	1	..	..	..	..	17
Liberal Party of Australia (L.P.)	22	26	..	11	18	..
National Country Party (N.C.P.)(a)	..	..	..	..	3	..
National Party of Australia (Victoria) (N.P.A.)	..	5	..	..	..	..
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>19</b>
LOWER HOUSE						
Australian Country Party (C.P.)	18	..	..	1	..	..
Australian Labor Party (A.L.P.)	50	21	11	23	22	21
Independent (Ind.)	1	..	1	1	..	..
Independent Labor (Ind. Lab.)	..	1	..	..	..	..
Liberal Party of Australia (L.P.)	29	52	30	21	23	14
National Country Party (N.C.P.)(a)	..	..	..	..	6	..
National Party (N.P.)	..	..	39	..	..	..
National Party of Australia (Victoria) (N.P.A.)	..	7	..	..	..	..
New Liberal Movement (N.L.M.)	..	..	..	1	..	..
North Queensland Party (N.Q.P.)	..	..	1	..	..	..
Vacancy	1	..	..	..	..	..
<b>Total</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>35</b>

(a) Formerly the National Alliance Party. (b) Upper House abolished in 1922.

For corresponding particulars for the Commonwealth Parliament, see page 88.

Number and salaries and allowances of members of the legislatures, Commonwealth parliaments, June 1976

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTS: MEMBERS AND ANNUAL SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES, JUNE 1976

Members in—	Cwlth	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total
NUMBER OF MEMBERS								
Upper House	64	60	40	(a)	21	30	19	234
Lower House	127	99	81	82	47	51	35	522
<b>Total</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>756</b>
ANNUAL SALARY (\$)								
Upper House	20,000	9,000	19,500	(a)	16,500	18,005	16,582	
Lower House	20,000	19,660	19,500	18,980	16,500	18,005	16,582	
ELECTORAL ALLOWANCES (\$)								
Upper House	(b)4,100	(c)3,280	(d)4,180– 5,990	(a)	4,000	(d)4,800– 9,000	(d)1,824– 4,311	
Lower House	(b)4,100	(d)4,750– 7,100	(d)4,180– 5,990	(d)3,140– 7,670	(d)2,500– 5,100	(d)4,200– 8,400	(d)2,487 5,804	

(a) Abolished in 1922. (b) Certain additional allowances are also provided for holders of parliamentary offices etc. (c) Referred to as an expense allowance. An additional \$39 per sitting day is payable to members who live outside the metropolitan area. (d) Allowance payable depends on location of electorate and, for Victoria and Tasmania, size of electorate. A special expense allowance for members in N.S.W., ranging from \$2,275 to \$2,840, is paid to members representing country electorates.

### Outlay on parliamentary government

The table below shows, in broad groups, the expenditure incurred in the operation of the parliamentary system in Australia, comprising the Governor-General and Governors, the Ministries, the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, and electoral activities; *it does not attempt to cover the expenditure on Commonwealth and State administration generally.* Only broad groups are shown, but even these are not entirely comparable because of differences in accounting procedures and in the presentation of accounts. Expenditure under the head of Governor-General or Governor includes salaries of Government House staffs and maintenance of residences, official establishments, grounds, etc., and expenditure on capital works and services.

#### OUTLAY ON PARLIAMENTARY GOVERNMENT, 1974-75 (\$'000)

Expenditure group	Cwlth	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total
Governor-General or Governor(a)	952	343	591	477	352	304	348	3,368
Ministry(b)	1,972	734	709	475	304	339	416	4,950
Parliament—								
Upper House(c)	1,581	639	798	..	310	555	310	4,193
Lower House(c)	3,197	1,927	1,622	1,770	719	927	483	10,645
Both Houses(d)	13,112	3,555	2,323	2,165	1,797	2,007	641	25,599
Miscellaneous(e)	8,190	689	739	431	206	241	79	10,576
Total, Parliament	26,081	6,809	5,482	4,367	3,033	3,729	1,512	51,013
Electoral(f)	8,978	144	269	1,012	156	301	159	11,019
Royal Commissions, Select Committees, etc.	2,961	..	143	1	51	191	25	3,372
Grand Total	40,944	8,031	7,194	6,332	3,895	4,865	2,461	73,722

(a) Salaries and other expenses, including maintenance of house and grounds. (b) Salaries, travelling and other expenses as ministers. (c) Allowances to members (including ministers' salaries as members), travelling and other expenses. (d) Government contribution to members' superannuation funds, printing, reporting staff, library, etc. (e) Services, furniture, stores, etc. (f) Salaries, cost of elections, etc.

#### OUTLAY ON PARLIAMENTARY GOVERNMENT

Year	Cwlth	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total
TOTAL (\$'000)								
1970-71	18,064	4,299	3,883	2,082	2,356	2,305	1,249	34,239
1971-72	18,432	4,520	3,475	2,717	2,436	2,486	1,327	35,393
1972-73	23,515	5,310	4,490	3,182	2,677	2,516	1,316	43,006
1973-74	36,990	7,378	5,218	4,340	3,190	4,213	1,935	63,263
1974-75	40,944	8,031	7,194	6,332	3,895	4,865	2,461	73,722

#### PER HEAD OF POPULATION

	(\$)							
1970-71	1.43	0.94	1.12	1.15	2.02	2.27	3.21	2.71
1971-72	1.43	0.97	0.98	1.47	2.06	2.38	3.38	2.74
1972-73	1.80	1.13	1.25	1.68	2.24	2.36	3.33	3.11
1973-74	2.79	1.56	1.44	2.23	2.64	3.88	4.85	4.77
1974-75	3.04	1.69	1.96	3.19	3.17	4.37	6.09	5.47

## Commonwealth Government Departments

For current detailed information on the Acts administered, the functions and the organisation of the Departments and Agencies of the Commonwealth Government see the *Commonwealth Government Directory* (latest issue 1977).

### Enactments of the Parliaments

In the Commonwealth Parliament all laws are enacted in the name of the Sovereign, the Senate, and the House of Representatives. The subjects with respect to which the Commonwealth Parliament is empowered to make laws are enumerated in the Constitution. In the States other than South Australia and Tasmania, laws are enacted in the name of the Sovereign by and with the consent of the Legislative Council (except in Queensland) and Legislative Assembly. In South Australia and Tasmania laws are enacted in the name of the Governor of the State, with the advice and consent of the Parliament in the case of South Australia, and of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly in the case of Tasmania. Generally, assent to Bills passed by the legislatures is given by the Governor-General or State Governor acting on behalf of, and in the name of, the Sovereign. In certain special cases Bills are reserved for the Royal assent. The Parliaments of the States are empowered generally, subject to the Commonwealth Constitution, to make laws in and for their respective States in all cases whatsoever. Subject to certain limitations they may alter, repeal, or vary their Constitutions. Where a law of a State is inconsistent with a law of the Commonwealth Parliament the latter prevails, and the former is to the extent of the inconsistency invalid.

#### The course of Commonwealth Parliament legislation

The actual legislation by the Commonwealth Parliament during 1975 is indicated in alphabetical order in *The Acts of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia passed during the year 1975 in the Second Session of the Twenty-ninth Parliament of the Commonwealth, with Appendix, Tables and Index*. A chronological table of Acts passed from 1901 to 1973 showing how they are affected by subsequent legislation or lapse of time is also available; this volume also contains a table of legislation of the Commonwealth Parliament passed from 1901 to 1973 in relation to the several provisions of the Constitution. Reference should be made to these for complete information.

The following figures indicate the variation over the years in the number of enactments of the Commonwealth Parliament since 1901. Seventeen Acts were passed in 1901, 36 in 1914, 38 in 1927, 87 in 1939, 109 in 1952, 156 in 1965, 157 in 1968, 223 in 1973, 166 in 1974 and 121 in 1975.

