

INTERCHANGE.

COMMERCE.

Customs and Excise.

By the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act (section 51) the power to make laws with respect to trade and commerce with other countries and among the States was conferred on the Federal Parliament, and by the same Act (section 86) the collection and control of duties of Customs and Excise passed to the Executive Government of the Commonwealth on 1st January, 1901. The first Commonwealth Customs Tariff was introduced by Resolution on 8th October, 1901, from which date the duties came into effect. The Tariff Act was assented to on 16th September, 1902. Extensive alterations of duties were made by Tariffs brought down on 8th August, 1907, and 3rd December, 1914. The present Tariff which also very materially altered previous duties came into operation on 25th March, 1920, and was assented to on 16th December, 1921. Amendments affecting a large number of the duties of that Tariff have since been made. There are three scales of duties—British Preferential, Intermediate, and General. The first relates to goods which are the produce or manufacture of the United Kingdom, but its provisions may be applied wholly or in part to any of the British Dominions. The Intermediate Tariff may be applied to any part of the British Dominions, or to any foreign country.

Recorded Value of Imports and Exports.

The recorded value of goods imported represents the amount on which duty is payable or would be payable if the duty were charged *ad valorem*. Such amount is:—

- (a) the current domestic value in the country whence the goods were exported, or the actual price paid or to be paid, if higher; plus
- (b) all charges paid, to be paid, or ordinarily payable for placing the goods free on board at port of export; plus
- (c) ten per cent. of the total of (a) and (b) as representing cost of insurance, freight and other charges.

When the value of imported goods is shown on invoices in any currency other than British, the equivalent value in British currency is ascertained according to the commercial rates of exchange. The value of goods exported is taken to represent the value in the principal markets of the State in the ordinary commercial acceptance of the term.

Oversea
Imports and
Exports.

The total values and the values per head of population of imports from and exports to oversea countries for the ten years 1918-19 to 1927-28 are set forth hereunder :—

VALUE OF OVERSEA IMPORTS AND EXPORTS,
1918-19 TO 1927-28.

Year.	Merchandise.	Specie and Bullion.*	Total.	Per Head of Population.
IMPORTS (OVERSEA).				
	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1918-19	35,026,311	..	35,026,311	24 7 4
1919-20	33,785,847	2,440	33,788,287	22 9 6
1920-21	57,607,798	979	57,608,777	37 14 0
1921-22	36,343,061	8,995	36,352,056	23 8 10
1922-23	46,724,379	4,721	46,729,100	29 7 8
1923-24	49,566,219	26,424	49,592,643	30 10 3
1924-25	49,747,319	4,542,371	54,289,690	32 15 3
1925-26	50,279,350	47,705	50,327,055	29 17 8
1926-27	55,420,734	140,202	55,560,936	32 9 2
1927-28†	47,663,950	247,363	47,911,313	27 10 3
EXPORTS (OVERSEA).				
	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1918-19	27,823,980	271,179	28,095,159	19 10 11
1919-20	42,117,153	1,007,787	43,124,940	28 13 9
1920-21	34,868,871	3,090	34,871,961	22 16 5
1921-22	34,633,478	10,704	34,644,182	22 6 10
1922-23	33,766,820	1,881	33,768,701	21 4 8
1923-24	29,611,749	799	29,612,548	18 4 5
1924-25	41,471,464	170,515	41,641,979	25 2 7
1925-26	33,251,037	66,264	33,317,301	19 15 8
1926-27	34,981,662	5,211	34,986,873	20 8 9
1927-28†	31,639,958	88,600	31,728,558	18 4 5

* Includes gold, silver, and bronze specie, and gold and silver bullion.

† The figures for this year are subject to slight revision.

The aggregate trade of the year 1928 (£79,639,871) represents a decrease in imports of £7,649,623, and also in exports of £3,258,315, as compared with the totals of the preceding year.

Percentage
of Common-
wealth Trade.

Victoria's portion of the value of Commonwealth trade for each of the last ten years is shown in the table which follows :—

Year.	Commonwealth Trade—			Victoria's Portion of Commonwealth Trade—		
	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£	%	%	%
1918-19 ..	102,335,159	113,963,976	216,299,135	34·2	24·7	29·2
1919-20 ..	98,974,292	149,823,509	248,797,801	34·1	28·8	30·9
1920-21 ..	163,801,826	132,158,912	295,960,738	35·2	26·4	31·2
1921-22 ..	103,066,436	127,846,535	230,912,971	35·3	27·1	30·7
1922-23 ..	131,757,835	117,870,147	249,627,982	35·5	28·6	32·2
1923-24 ..	140,618,293	119,487,164	260,105,457	35·3	24·8	30·4
1924-25 ..	157,143,296	162,030,159	319,173,455	34·5	25·7	30·1
1925-26 ..	151,638,178	148,771,934	300,410,112	33·2	22·4	27·8
1926-27 ..	164,716,594	145,140,367	309,856,961	33·7	24·1	29·2
1927-28* ..	147,944,970	143,213,070	291,158,040	32·4	22·2	27·4

* The figures for this year are subject to slight revision.

Principal
Imports.

The principal articles imported from overseas countries into Victoria during each of the last four years are shown below in the order in which they appear in the statistical classification of 21 classes.

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM OVERSEA COUNTRIES INTO VICTORIA DURING THE FINANCIAL YEARS 1924-25 TO 1927-28.

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	£	£	£	£
CLASS I.—FOODSTUFFS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN, BUT EXCLUDING LIVING ANIMALS.				
Butter	45	166,382	204,269	113,664
Cheese	13,080	35,375	52,079	60,789
Fish—				
Preserved in Tins ..	332,298	335,419	414,628	289,655
All other	105,143	106,332	105,922	124,112
Meats	134,823	173,739	189,749	166,006
All other Animal Foodstuffs	10,877	11,405	15,071	15,146
Total, Class I. ..	596,266	828,652	981,718	769,372

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM OVERSEA COUNTRIES
INTO VICTORIA, 1924-25 TO 1927-28—*continued.*

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	£	£	£	£
CLASS II.—FOODSTUFFS OF VEGETABLE ORIGIN; NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND SUBSTANCES USED IN MAKING.				
Caramel, Caramel Paste, Cocoa Butter, &c. ..	60,894	82,821	79,327	93,078
Cocoa and Chocolate ..	126,158	139,706	83,731	129,801
Coffee and Chicory ..	64,115	80,507	60,569	64,925
Confectionery ..	27,230	31,272	42,350	41,916
Fruits, Dried ..	39,465	41,262	47,709	47,853
Fruits, Fresh ..	1,725	533	8,469	9,347
Fruits &c., Preserved ..	29,079	43,192	60,604	17,968
Grain and Pulse—				
Rice ..	67,938	145,026	96,554	58,719
All other.. ..	17,998	152,223	105,983	70,675
Hops ..	3,533	5,788	2,839	13
Mustard ..	27,308	28,434	23,266	20,938
Nuts, Edible ..	143,250	182,808	154,315	152,673
Pickles and Sauces ..	14,281	16,389	18,269	16,585
Sago and Tapioca ..	29,824	17,866	20,957	19,375
Spices ..	90,319	75,061	94,077	90,475
Tea ..	1,298,213	1,128,547	1,166,783	986,456
All other Vegetable Foodstuffs	97,171	121,714	139,722	151,482
Total, Class II. ..	2,138,501	2,293,149	2,205,524	1,972,279
CLASS III.—SPIRITUOUS AND ALCOHOLIC LIQUORS.				
Ale, Beer, and Porter, &c. ..	61,397	61,813	64,840	58,958
Spirits (Beverages)—				
Brandy ..	40,834	33,593	33,059	32,101
Gin ..	40,163	47,095	40,941	83,287
Whisky ..	253,434	325,066	197,184	192,688
Other ..	11,816	10,995	12,867	10,044
Wine (Fermented)—				
Sparkling ..	29,932	25,197	23,666	17,023
Other ..	10,940	12,710	9,783	10,446
Total, Class III. ..	448,516	516,469	382,340	404,547
CLASS IV.—TOBACCO AND PREPARATIONS THEREOF.				
Tobacco—				
Manufactured ..	19,217	24,197	25,894	33,154
Unmanufactured ..	564,650	447,619	568,368	591,658
Cigars ..	35,208	40,879	35,735	32,110
Cigarettes ..	81,405	123,919	144,726	152,738
Snuff ..	274	375	708	267
Total, Class IV. ..	700,754	636,989	775,431	809,927

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM OVERSEA COUNTRIES
INTO VICTORIA, 1924-25 TO 1927-28—continued.

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	£	£	£	£
CLASS V.—LIVE ANIMALS ..	35,947	72,523	57,322	30,411
CLASS VI.—ANIMAL SUBSTANCES (MAINLY UNMANUFACTURED), NOT FOODSTUFFS.				
Gelatine and Glue of all kinds	19,655	17,255	22,841	15,850
Skins—				
Hides (Calf, Cattle, and Horse)	363,093	336,118	309,105	219,413
Other	80,531	107,678	143,071	185,572
Wool	143,481	118,547	405,954	823,047
All other Animal Substances ..	51,760	52,899	153,020	165,707
Total, Class VI. ..	658,520	632,497	1,033,991	1,409,589
CLASS VII.—VEGETABLE SUB- STANCES AND FIBRES.				
Fibres—				
Flax and Hemp	209,760	225,787	209,191	215,359
Kapok	100,290	106,971	117,451	102,525
All other	126,739	109,509	115,310	114,530
Grass or Straw, for hatmaking, furniture, mats, &c. ..	62,037	42,214	32,472	7,825
Gums and Resins	87,032	116,514	107,162	98,004
Pulp for Papermaking ..	55,493	70,412	54,751	125,846
Seeds	233,913	201,753	135,412	174,134
Tanning Substances	43,052	48,858	57,737	36,461
All other Vegetable Substances	44,774	45,084	43,867	46,141
Total, Class VII. ..	963,090	967,102	873,353	920,825
CLASS VIII.—(a) APPAREL; (b) TEXTILES; (c) MANUFACTURED FIBRES.				
(a) Apparel.				
Apparel—				
Blouses, Skirts, Costumes, &c.	204,603	174,990	188,275	162,692
Boots and Shoes	215,225	175,927	175,220	163,028
Corsets	61,085	51,122	37,037	26,193
Furs and other Skins—Dressed	230,309	215,733	386,557	452,225
Gloves	298,978	259,445	257,560	234,775
Hats and Caps	206,039	278,153	361,097	384,308
Hosiery and Knitted Apparel (including Socks and Stock- ings)	769,953	727,421	727,571	621,531
Men's and Boys' Outer Garments	78,864	69,852	73,289	63,271
Shirts, Collars, Ties, &c. ..	43,650	22,821	14,358	15,576
Trimmings	502,730	468,312	577,748	448,452
Other	467,869	324,272	347,678	289,063

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM OVERSEA COUNTRIES
INTO VICTORIA, 1924-25 TO 1927-28—continued.

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	£	£	£	£
CLASS VIII.—(a) APPAREL; (b) TEXTILES; (c) MANUFACTURED FIBRES—continued.				
(b) Textiles.				
Piece Goods—				
Canvas and Duck	340,823	389,821	345,517	275,133
Cotton and Linen	4,048,732	3,731,006	3,855,789	3,293,499
Hessians and other Jute Piece Goods	251,087	282,018	223,608	216,410
Silk	2,145,793	2,083,050	2,746,452	2,252,915
Velvets, Velveteens, Plushes, &c.	290,063	156,589	259,820	185,967
Woollen	1,380,020	962,761	1,114,725	1,041,740
Other	570,555	533,890	659,100	604,364
Floor Coverings—Carpets, Linoleums, Mats, &c. ..	1,044,122	877,882	991,024	893,024
Sewing and Embroidery Silks, &c.	478,066	337,181	362,700	253,554
All other Textiles	527,934	516,574	706,917	744,478
(c) Manufactured Fibres.				
Bags and Sacks—				
Bran, Chaff, and Compressed Fodder	100,664	128,703	123,937	158,580
Corn and Flour	1,043,274	970,043	1,089,429	870,176
All other	227,294	156,211	307,694	173,438
Cordage and Twines (excluding Metal Cordage)	54,546	52,815	62,125	68,205
Yarns—				
Cotton	316,882	285,850	548,394	433,177
Wool	573,861	221,712	361,820	186,591
Other	233,863	234,892	167,787	314,588
Total, Class VIII. ..	16,706,884	14,689,076	17,073,228	14,826,953
CLASS IX.—OILS, FATS, AND WAXES.				
Oils (in bulk)—				
Kerosene	225,079	229,859	312,823	269,281
Lubricating (Mineral) ..	273,384	307,306	349,803	292,122
Petroleum Spirit	1,708,898	2,076,763	1,861,476	1,494,582
All other Oils, Fats, and Waxes	458,595	564,708	680,470	538,082
Total, Class IX. ..	2,665,956	3,178,636	3,204,572	2,594,067
CLASS X.—PAINTS AND VARNISHES	230,283	241,218	275,419	263,173
CLASS XI.—STONES AND MINERALS, INCLUDING ORES AND CONCENTRATES	145,770	197,594	263,102	298,072

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM OVERSEA COUNTRIES
INTO VICTORIA, 1924-25 TO 1927-28—*continued.*

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	£	£	£	£
CLASS XII.—METALS, METAL MANUFACTURES, AND MACHINERY.				
<i>(a) Machines and Machinery.</i>				
Electrical Machinery and Appliances—				
Cable and Wire, Covered..	391,088	396,787	336,358	350,580
N.E.I.	1,425,943	1,474,308	1,956,299	1,520,961
Implements and Machinery (Agricultural, Horticultural, and Viticultural)	278,405	237,658	219,094	210,077
All other Machines and Machinery	1,970,700	2,174,751	2,480,525	2,342,213
<i>(b) Metals and Metal Manufactures, other than Machinery.</i>				
Alloys	110,128	135,476	146,300	120,455
Gas Appliances	24,927	26,148	44,830	41,622
Iron and Steel—				
Bar, Rod, Hoop, Ingots, Blooms, &c.	440,065	350,283	561,426	407,564
Girders, Beams, Channels, Joists, &c.	140,989	114,181	87,529	170,352
Pig and Scrap	89,318	62,513	44,594	44,889
Pipes and Tubes	338,372	375,795	474,652	398,214
Plate and Sheet	1,646,431	1,525,400	1,773,398	1,523,997
Railway and Tramway Material	15,479	22,019	19,170	47,957
Wire	325,305	269,992	278,107	225,653
Tools of Trade (not being Machines)	341,000	306,411	375,646	273,832
Vehicles—				
Motor Cycles, Tricycles, &c.	249,411	200,423	242,393	146,635
Bodies for Motor Cars, &c.	423,225	381,998	432,842	314,170
Chassis for Motor Cars, &c.	3,185,302	3,098,031	3,580,237	1,917,654
Other, and Parts	597,382	735,031	737,595	606,235
All other Metals and Metal Manufactures other than Machinery	1,861,433	2,022,278	1,909,124	1,607,850
Total, Class XII. ..	13,854,903	13,909,483	15,700,119	12,270,910

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM OVERSEA COUNTRIES
INTO VICTORIA, 1924-25 TO 1927-28—continued.

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	£	£	£	£
CLASS XIII. — RUBBER AND LEATHER AND MANUFACTURES THEREOF AND SUBSTITUTES THEREFOR.				
(a) <i>Rubber and Rubber Manufactures.</i>				
Rubber, Crude, Powdered or Reclaimed	437,033	1,474,312	1,525,646	1,228,774
Rubber Manufactures ..	610,131	770,770	650,053	411,338
(b) <i>Leather and Manufactures of Leather and Substitutes therefor.</i>				
Patent and Enamelled ..	79,397	47,472	41,844	16,480
All other	106,375	105,045	193,110	171,460
Total, Class XIII. ..	1,232,936	2,397,599	2,410,653	1,828,052
CLASS XIV.—WOOD AND WICKER, RAW AND MANUFACTURED.				
Timber—				
Dressed	707,636	763,072	745,668	507,083
Undressed	1,013,969	1,314,271	976,054	957,203
Wood and Wicker Manufactures, including Furniture ..	220,174	192,789	225,052	215,570
Total, Class XIV. ..	1,941,779	2,270,132	1,946,774	1,679,856
CLASS XV. — EARTHENWARE, CEMENTS, CHINA, GLASS, AND STONEWARE.				
Cement (Portland)	24,075	13,020	11,417	10,846
Earthenware, China, &c. ..	276,156	246,801	261,387	237,238
Glass and Glassware	388,302	392,358	379,530	322,335
All other Earthenware, Cements, China, Glass, and Stoneware.	83,981	85,477	123,256	90,472
Total, Class XV. ..	772,514	737,656	775,590	660,891

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM OVERSEA COUNTRIES
INTO VICTORIA, 1924-25 TO 1927-28—*continued.*

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	£	£	£	£
CLASS XVI.—PAPER AND STATIONERY.				
(a) <i>Paper—</i>				
Cardboard and other Paper				
Boards	77,261	74,964	92,065	95,900
Printing	1,021,762	1,064,736	1,175,117	1,061,242
Wrapping of all Colours ..	112,125	111,631	137,085	119,824
Writing and Typewriting ..	215,632	197,673	233,823	227,313
All other	197,954	188,617	224,733	203,713
(b) <i>Stationery and Paper Manufactures—</i>				
Books (Printed), Directories, &c.	358,476	420,468	408,457	422,350
All other.. .. .	373,368	391,489	436,009	477,788
Total, Class XVI. ..	2,356,578	2,449,578	2,707,289	2,608,130
CLASS XVII.—JEWELLERY, TIME-PIECES, AND FANCY GOODS.				
Fancy Goods	441,115	429,194	434,153	376,684
Jewellery, including Cameos, &c.	263,389	227,531	252,739	223,663
Watches, Clocks, Chronometers, &c.	201,101	199,504	225,777	189,819
Total, Class XVII.	905,605	856,229	912,669	790,166
CLASS XVIII.—OPTICAL, SURGICAL, AND SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS.				
Surgical and Dental Instruments, &c.	105,487	106,797	134,545	133,351
Talking Machines—Phonographs, &c.	153,715	188,574	125,806	61,536
All other Optical and Scientific Instruments	157,961	143,658	140,256	157,498
Total, Class XVIII. ..	417,163	439,029	400,607	352,385
CLASS XIX.—DRUGS, CHEMICALS, AND FERTILIZERS.				
Cream of Tartar	68,460	68,287	65,728	75,671
Dyes	102,053	85,103	125,746	89,288
Fertilizers	349,538	344,550	528,605	489,010
Oils, Essential (Non-spirituous) ..	39,345	42,028	56,923	43,363

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM OVERSEA COUNTRIES
INTO VICTORIA, 1924-25 TO 1927-28—*continued.*

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
CLASS XIX.—DRUGS, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS—<i>continued.</i>	£	£	£	£
Perfumery and Toilet Preparations	87,410	96,164	128,125	104,769
Proprietary Medicines	60,828	57,787	69,924	68,246
Sodium Salts	151,438	135,678	159,930	147,214
Spirits and Spirituous Preparations	97,688	112,582	110,281	104,373
Sulphur (Brimstone)	106,983	148,090	184,735	218,381
All other Drugs and Chemicals ..	406,676	411,199	468,606	407,463
Total, Class XIX.	1,470,419	1,501,468	1,898,603	1,747,778
CLASS XX.—MISCELLANEOUS.				
Arms, Ammunition, and Explosives	254,918	376,589	327,246	353,793
Bags, Baskets, Trunks, &c. ..	109,552	115,004	130,825	116,182
Brushware	109,394	110,397	177,939	133,948
Matches and Vestas	74,781	65,789	45,198	39,156
Musical Instruments, &c.—				
Pianos and Parts	397,888	307,678	382,936	208,132
Other and Parts	60,713	62,834	75,953	66,110
Soap	25,607	28,195	33,160	30,665
All other Articles	472,082	397,785	369,173	478,581
Total, Class XX. ..	1,504,935	1,464,271	1,542,430	1,426,567
CLASS XXI.—GOLD AND SILVER; AND BRONZE SPECIE.				
Gold	4,532,991	29,944	134,549	234,414
Silver	9,329	17,734	5,583	12,757
Bronze—Specie	51	27	70	192
Total, Class XXI. ..	4,542,371	47,705	140,202	247,363
Grand Total	54,289,690	50,327,055	55,560,936	47,911,313

The articles imported were mainly manufactured goods. Apparel, textiles, manufactured fibres, machinery, and manufactures of metal amounted to 57 per cent. of the total value of imports in the last five years. Excluding gold and bullion, &c., the imports for 1928 showed a decrease of £7,756,784, as compared with the previous year. The items showing the largest decreases were as follows:—Chassis for motor cars, etc., £1,662,583; textiles, £1,504,568; machines and machinery, £568,445; rubber, etc., £535,587; oils (in bulk), £468,117; manufactured fibres, £456,431; apparel, £285,276; iron and steel (plate and sheet), £249,401; timber (dressed), £238,585; and tea, £180,327. There was an increase of £417,093 in the value of wool imported—mostly of New Zealand origin.

The principal articles exported to oversea countries from Victoria during each of the last four years are shown hereunder in 21 divisions, in accordance with the statistical classification :—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES EXPORTED TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES FROM VICTORIA DURING THE FINANCIAL YEARS 1924-25 TO 1927-28.

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	£	£	£	£
CLASS I.—FOODSTUFFS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN, BUT EXCLUDING LIVING ANIMALS.				
Butter	4,051,632	2,542,626	2,611,855	2,447,774
Cheese	65,130	14,406	6,358	7,032
Meats—				
Bacon and Hams	17,055	18,206	11,090	8,383
Preserved by Cold Process—				
Beef	61,829	59,465	60,949	32,564
Lamb	905,743	1,263,511	1,053,502	639,486
Mutton	95,022	145,261	141,998	117,200
Rabbits and Hares	5,196	53,423	44,999	44,563
Preserved in Tins	33,011	65,639	27,601	23,780
Sausage Casings	49,952	186,213	189,127	147,359
Other	8,629	13,107	21,347	10,650
Milk and Cream	1,620,068	1,433,925	1,066,655	1,174,436
All other Animal Foodstuffs	6,193	28,038	50,986	30,681
Total, Class I.	6,919,460	5,823,820	5,286,467	4,683,908
CLASS II.—FOODSTUFFS OF VEGETABLE ORIGIN; NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND SUBSTANCES USED IN MAKING.				
Biscuits	61,807	100,761	66,519	65,247
Fruits, Dried	1,327,734	961,587	1,205,534	1,232,915
Fruits, Fresh	256,478	304,630	27,529	403,342
Fruits and Vegetables—Preserved	267,498	220,161	194,673	355,178
Grain and Pulse—				
Unprepared—				
Wheat	10,413,976	3,132,983	6,976,711	1,489,426
Other	93,014	23,031	50,592	63,709
Prepared—				
Flour (Wheaten)	2,408,542	2,177,935	2,123,361	2,115,398
Other	75,373	32,326	39,116	42,699
Jams and Fruit Jellies	16,840	18,310	13,105	12,195
Tea	53,931	40,232	28,063	42,467
All other Vegetable Foodstuffs	175,965	128,730	130,869	139,398
Total, Class II.	15,151,158	7,140,686	10,856,072	5,961,974

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES EXPORTED TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES
FROM VICTORIA, 1924-25 TO 1927-28—*continued.*

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
CLASS III.—SPIRITUOUS AND ALCOHOLIC LIQUORS.. ..	£ 55,119	£ 100,377	£ 135,025	£ 203,617
CLASS IV.—TOBACCO AND PREPARATIONS THEREOF.. ..	286,122	363,563	256,277	241,192
CLASS V.—LIVE ANIMALS	61,421	24,961	35,383	53,431
CLASS VI.—ANIMAL SUBSTANCES (MAINLY UNMANUFACTURED). NOT FOODSTUFFS.				
Skins—				
Hides (Calf, Cattle, Horse)	164,890	121,322	161,222	264,213
Opossum	54,032	163,028	161,190	135,356
Rabbit and Hare	349,956	579,000	381,334	549,802
Sheep	1,523,606	1,340,173	1,317,783	1,848,248
Other	65,757	70,440	84,594	85,164
Wool—				
Greasy	12,858,063	13,552,856	12,779,536	13,407,193
Scoured and Washed	1,459,918	1,533,187	1,266,412	1,687,505
Tops	128,397	316,757	259,998	148,637
All other Animal Substances	20,864	21,878	16,524	15,523
Total, Class VI.	16,625,483	17,698,641	16,428,593	18,141,641
CLASS VII.—VEGETABLE SUBSTANCES AND FIBRES	48,652	50,068	41,237	57,362
CLASS VIII.—(a) APPAREL; (b) TEXTILES; AND (c) MANUFACTURED FIBRES.				
Boots and Shoes	2,455	2,363	5,111	3,394
All other Apparel	38,505	31,347	41,564	47,589
All other Textiles, including Bags, Cordage, Yarns, &c.	109,052	76,330	90,115	109,014
Total, Class VIII.	150,012	110,040	136,790	159,997
CLASS IX.—OILS, FATS, AND WAXES.				
Tallow—Unrefined	441,986	399,783	355,498	224,643
All other Oils, Fats, and Waxes	152,711	110,590	43,484	41,500
Total, Class IX.	594,697	510,373	398,982	266,143

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES EXPORTED TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES
FROM VICTORIA, 1924-25 TO 1927-28—*continued.*

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
CLASS X.—PAINTS AND VARNISHES	£ 6,784	£ 3,869	£ 6,365	£ 4,494
CLASS XI.—STONES AND MINERALS, INCLUDING ORES AND CONCENTRATES	50,293	21,365	10,366	15,379
CLASS XII.—METALS, METAL MANUFACTURES, AND MACHINERY. (a) <i>Machines and Machinery</i> — Machines and Machinery ..	237,846	136,484	161,664	163,805
(b) <i>Metal and Metal Manufactures other than Machinery</i> —				
Iron and Steel	7,377	15,802	14,701	26,653
Lead—Pig and in Matte ..	2,292	1,827	418	3,326
Tin Ingots	19,722	55,532	66,206	48,969
Zinc—Bars, Blocks, &c. ..	296	194	16,549	23,545
All other Metals and Manufactures thereof	156,707	225,776	157,024	176,089
Total, Class XII. ..	424,240	435,615	416,562	442,387
CLASS XIII.—RUBBER AND LEATHER, AND MANUFACTURES THEREOF, AND SUBSTITUTES THEREFOR.				
Indiarubber and Manufactures ..	93,132	85,559	29,781	36,277
Leather and Manufactures ..	253,232	180,397	149,227	155,870
Total, Class XIII. ..	346,364	265,956	179,008	192,147
CLASS XIV.—WOOD AND WICKER, RAW AND MANUFACTURED ..	30,180	25,950	27,236	32,882
CLASS XV. — EARTHENWARE, CEMENTS, CHINA, GLASS, AND STONEWARE	15,536	13,823	9,550	14,394
CLASS XVI.—PAPER AND STATIONERY.				
Paper	27,690	23,871	20,443	13,689
Stationery	58,649	39,335	45,345	50,109
Total, Class XVI. ..	86,339	63,206	65,788	63,798

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES EXPORTED TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES
FROM VICTORIA, 1924-25 TO 1927-28—continued.

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
CLASS XVII.—JEWELLERY, TIME-PIECES, AND FANCY GOODS.	£	£	£	£
Precious Stones, Unset; Pearls, Cameos, &c. ..	11,312	6,713	7,610	29,794
All other Jewellery, Timepieces, and Fancy Goods ..	17,396	17,761	17,926	20,691
Total, Class XVII. ..	28,708	24,474	25,536	50,481
CLASS XVIII.—OPTICAL, SURGICAL, AND SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS..	56,031	63,598	60,754	61,689
CLASS XIX.—DRUGS, CHEMICALS, AND FERTILIZERS.				
Fertilizers—				
Ammonium Sulphate ..	10,088	10,230	10,941	4,359
Other	6,105	7,208	3,270	2,838
Medicines	7,308	33,141	146,020	5,391
Oil—Eucalyptus	62,252	61,742	54,245	81,089
All other Drugs and Chemicals ..	122,940	71,971	66,717	69,617
Total, Class XIX. ..	208,693	189,292	281,193	163,294
CLASS XX.—MISCELLANEOUS.				
Soap	221,165	204,163	206,865	211,081
All other Articles	105,007	117,197	117,613	618,667*
Total, Class XX. ..	326,172	321,360	324,478	829,748
CLASS XXI.—GOLD AND SILVER; AND BRONZE SPECIE.				
Gold	170,515	60,466	4,521	87,488
Silver .. ..	..	5,798	690	1,112
Total, Class XXI. ..	170,515	66,264	5,211	88,600
Australian produce	41,066,355	32,855,314	34,560,673	30,907,649
Other produce	575,624	461,987	426,200	820,909
Grand Total	41,641,979	33,317,301	34,986,873	31,728,558

* Including vessels transferred abroad, £519,200.

The export trade consists largely of agricultural and pastoral products. The value of wool, wheat, flour, and butter exported during the last five years amounted to about 74 per cent. of the total Australian produce exported for that period—wool alone represented 43 per cent. There was a decrease of £3,258,315 in the exports of 1928, as compared with the previous year. The items showing the chief decreases were:—Wheat, £5,487,285; meats, £526,628; butter, £164,081; medicines, £140,629; and tallow (unrefined), £130,855. The largest increases occurred in the following articles:—Wool,

£937,389; skins, £776,660; class xx. (miscellaneous), £505,270; fresh fruits, £375,813; preserved fruits and vegetables, £160,505; and milk and cream, £107,781.

Imports from and exports to principal countries. The value of Victorian trade with various overseas countries and the surplus of imports or exports in each case, during the year ended 30th June, 1928, are given below. In the tables which follow the imports have been assigned to the country of origin owing to the Customs Department having discontinued recording the country of shipment.

IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES, 1927-28.

Country.	Value of Imports into Victoria of the Produce of the Country mentioned.	Value of Exports from Victoria to the Country mentioned.	Excess of Imports (-) Exports (+).
BRITISH.	£	£	£
Great Britain and Northern Ireland ..	20,729,314	12,979,139	- 7,750,175
Canada	947,607	151,208	- 796,399
Ceylon	640,491	266,255	- 374,236
Hong Kong	1,933	106,762	+ 104,829
India	1,779,752	282,832	- 1,496,920
Irish Free State	81	51,205	+ 51,124
Malaya (British)	1,144,386	1,133,774	- 10,612
New Zealand	1,652,179	1,154,390	- 497,789
Pacific Islands	384,569	115,140	- 269,429
South African Union	121,622	333,808	+ 212,186
Other British Possessions	177,385	145,048	- 32,337
Total British Possessions	27,579,319	16,719,561	- 10,859,758
FOREIGN.			
Belgium	372,649	1,038,664	+ 666,015
China	209,036	114,503	- 94,533
Czecho-Slovakia	212,061	3,059	- 209,002
Egypt	4,179	565,575	+ 561,396
Finland	57,181	35,935	- 21,246
France	1,614,045	3,409,355	+ 1,795,310
Germany	1,848,323	1,966,704	+ 118,381
Italy	579,806	972,462	+ 392,656
Japan	1,195,155	2,483,649	+ 1,288,494
Netherlands	314,013	57,535	- 256,478
Netherlands East Indies	1,355,252	1,177,483	- 177,769
Norway	303,955	13,066	- 290,889
Persia	141,170	336	- 140,834
Peru	561	62,013	+ 61,452
Philippine Islands	92,687	38,602	- 54,085
Russia	38,022	752,415	+ 714,393
Sweden	692,981	73,759	- 619,222
Switzerland	886,756	4,871	- 881,885
United States of America	9,770,167	2,062,561	- 7,707,606
Other Foreign Countries	643,995	176,450	- 467,545
Total Foreign Countries	20,331,994	15,008,997	- 5,322,997
Grand Total	47,911,313	31,728,558	- 16,182,755

The value of the trade with the leading countries of the world in each of the last five years was as specified hereunder :—

**IMPORTS (CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO COUNTRY OF ORIGIN)
FROM PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES, AND EXPORTS DIRECT
THERETO, 1923-24 TO 1927-28.**

Country.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	Imports of Products or Manufactures of—				
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom*	22,923,002	23,867,972	22,100,081	23,680,151	20,729,314
Canada	1,543,897	1,022,490	1,198,063	1,209,914	947,607
India and Ceylon	2,008,835	2,580,414	2,637,029	2,943,629	2,420,243
Malaya (British)	240,870	379,777	1,260,622	1,304,047	1,144,386
New Zealand	1,202,647	1,057,004	1,118,750	1,295,657	1,652,179
South African Union	193,010	4,584,675	238,080	195,643	121,622
Other British Possessions	481,717	454,981	472,681	584,923	563,968
Belgium	331,223	348,799	307,225	335,785	372,649
China	293,412	265,830	231,662	228,401	209,036
Egypt	9,746	6,191	3,694	3,594	4,179
France	1,860,115	1,886,480	1,600,236	2,126,822	1,614,045
Germany	582,664	939,372	1,107,158	1,794,727	1,848,323
Italy	543,580	685,968	639,878	695,232	579,806
Japan	1,145,473	1,310,104	1,360,650	1,519,972	1,195,155
Netherlands	209,478	257,474	324,224	434,232	314,013
Netherlands East Indies	1,577,364	1,769,793	1,749,867	1,693,954	1,355,252
Norway	682,207	696,126	548,192	514,493	303,955
Philippine Islands	75,631	77,760	127,199	72,595	92,687
Russia	13,686	18,302	14,064	25,724	38,022
Sweden	799,805	520,071	636,220	667,413	692,981
Switzerland	1,029,798	1,008,153	817,705	1,093,549	886,756
United States of America	11,220,595	9,306,692	10,868,473	12,087,684	9,770,167
Other Foreign Countries	623,888	745,262	964,702	1,052,795	1,054,963
Total	49,592,643	54,289,690	50,327,055	55,560,936	47,911,313
	Exports to—				
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom*	12,852,761	18,781,126	14,082,439	13,844,874	12,979,139
Canada	74,558	63,395	84,663	104,520	151,208
India and Ceylon	312,334	635,364	556,243	494,238	549,087
Malaya (British)	817,368	819,192	1,160,622	1,027,076	1,133,774
New Zealand	1,406,618	1,589,996	1,787,777	1,478,166	1,154,390
South African Union	621,908	1,004,077	365,522	399,519	333,808
Other British Possessions	429,673	428,703	378,669	402,084	418,155
Belgium	692,233	970,792	494,392	968,640	1,038,664
China	362,187	145,171	141,592	115,790	114,503
Egypt	760,376	944,210	661,974	1,145,212	565,575
France	2,801,079	5,205,757	3,855,842	3,551,518	3,409,355
Germany	652,787	1,043,907	725,505	1,882,772	1,966,704
Italy	1,357,588	2,575,374	1,042,467	1,942,458	972,462
Japan	2,821,192	1,825,592	2,343,115	2,905,735	2,483,649
Netherlands	248,018	340,228	37,280	186,003	57,535
Netherlands East Indies	914,308	1,348,037	1,115,521	1,098,811	1,177,483
Norway	31,321	17,015	83,198	2,501	13,066
Philippine Islands	53,146	35,649	25,923	34,059	38,602
Russia				948	752,415
Sweden	72,936	67,885	27,505	26,060	73,759
Switzerland	3,348	517	2,371	8,008	4,871
United States of America	2,086,626	3,208,812	3,984,687	2,908,782	2,062,561
Other Foreign Countries	240,183	591,180	409,994	459,094	277,793
Total	29,612,548	41,641,979	33,317,301	34,986,873	31,728,558

*Great Britain and Northern Ireland since 1923-24.

Trade with United Kingdom. Nearly 41 per cent. of the total value of the exports in 1928 were sent to Great Britain and Northern Ireland, whilst 43 per cent. of the imports were their products or manufactures. The chief articles of United Kingdom origin imported in the last five years and the principal articles exported direct thereto in the same period were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES INTERCHANGED WITH
THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1923-24 TO 1927-28.

Articles.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1924.	1925.*	1926.*	1927.*	1928.*
<i>Imported into Victoria (of United Kingdom origin).</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Whisky	245,891	253,091	324,532	196,270	192,369
Apparel and Attire	895,478	1,100,614	864,723	752,040	584,240
Trimmings and Ornaments ..	144,185	136,359	143,810	134,821	94,811
Piece Goods—					
Cotton and Linen	3,451,274	3,627,899	3,295,167	3,319,207	2,898,547
Woolen	1,423,623	1,251,429	850,302	911,848	868,888
Silk	237,915	305,073	338,884	452,376	438,681
Canvas and Duck	328,021	323,881	342,110	321,758	269,590
Velvets, and Lace for Attire ..	250,168	256,746	136,547	122,506	142,558
Other	335,273	355,205	357,441	464,225	432,160
Floor Coverings	1,078,911	1,000,075	838,998	933,786	824,461
Sewing and Embroidery Silks, &c. ..	407,719	408,052	293,138	312,949	218,496
Yarns	788,226	1,049,626	635,240	954,411	775,903
Machines and Machinery	2,164,259	2,192,286	2,083,474	2,346,755	2,092,712
Metals and Metal Manufactures—					
Iron and Steel	2,723,455	2,748,131	2,401,098	2,727,763	2,563,403
Vehicles and Parts	839,172	1,065,681	1,284,278	1,548,185	803,800
Other	1,773,682	1,534,781	1,540,597	1,459,511	1,265,502
Rubber and Rubber Goods	160,164	206,834	280,703	288,423	144,799
Paper	1,001,360	1,195,431	1,122,409	1,200,936	1,004,891
Books	308,337	321,068	381,442	360,833	370,220
Dyes	99,404	92,909	78,915	94,873	76,637
All other Articles	4,266,480	4,442,801	4,511,273	4,776,675	4,666,646
Total	22,923,002	23,867,972	22,100,081	23,680,151	20,729,314
<i>Exported from Victoria to United Kingdom.</i>					
Butter	2,055,754	3,442,588	1,934,801	2,012,500	1,806,740
Meats—					
Beef, Mutton and Lamb	679,607	1,075,596	1,417,784	1,206,875	741,005
Rabbits and Hares	8,049	4,526	52,177	44,350	43,345
Preserved in tins	2,979	17,767	52,636	4,041	13,027
Milk and Cream	8,870	111,667	31,922	28,535	11,082
Fruits—all kinds	1,038,037	1,588,458	1,242,905	1,157,952	1,569,278
Wheat and Flour	1,725,689	4,536,944	1,301,400	2,483,284	981,397
Hides and Skins	1,031,611	1,124,305	1,159,554	1,019,060	1,323,717
Wool	5,297,501	5,973,351	6,061,382	4,888,821	5,092,864
Tallow, unrefined	35,300	131,926	128,918	139,190	52,745
Tin Ingots	63,286	17,565	39,075	65,399	48,365
Leather, &c.	113,422	90,140	37,699	38,593	50,595
All other Articles	792,656	666,293	622,186	756,274	1,244,979
Total	12,852,761	18,781,126	14,082,439	13,844,874	12,979,139

* The figures since 1923-24 relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Trade with
India and
Ceylon.

The value of the trade with India and Ceylon was £2,969,330 in 1928, and was less than in the previous year by £468,537. There was a decrease in imports of £523,386, and an increase in exports of £54,849. The principal articles interchanged during the last five years were as follows :—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES INTERCHANGED WITH INDIA AND CEYLON, 1923-24 TO 1927-28.

Articles.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Imported into Victoria (of Indian and Cingalese origin).</i>					
Cocoa Beans	11,608	14,323	11,822	11,027	12,982
Coffee	15,953	21,672	19,618	19,677	23,732
Rice	97,672	55,451	131,902	86,116	49,260
Nuts	38,427	38,337	35,869	41,925	36,541
Tea	522,342	479,091	572,558	762,314	575,280
Hides and Skins.. .. .	17,958	14,646	7,069	26,731	49,774
Fibres	38,590	45,246	39,442	44,217	30,663
Gums and Resins	21,123	36,701	29,788	13,503	19,664
Seeds	25,193	120,261	76,556	44,245	59,932
Hessians	139,461	223,469	247,893	186,969	149,800
Floor Coverings	14,102	10,548	9,814	11,530	19,635
Bags and Sacks	924,498	1,367,833	1,249,427	1,412,160	1,195,646
Oils in Bulk	6,978	8,352	10,829	8,542	7,652
Waxes	1,816	3,647	6,895	6,528	2,300
Rubber, &c.	12,854	40,560	65,452	152,576	67,145
All other Articles	120,260	106,277	122,195	115,569	129,237
Total	2,008,835	2,580,414	2,637,029	2,943,629	2,420,243
<i>Exported from Victoria to India and Ceylon.</i>					
Butter	17,562	10,842	12,463	12,497	18,890
Meats	5,239	14,762	9,026	19,990	8,693
Milk and Cream	25,488	159,010	215,103	30,019	36,490
Biscuits	4,475	5,372	6,888	7,518	5,815
Hay and Chaff	2,472	10,326	10,294	14,080	7,300
Fruits (preserved in liquid)	1,452	2,537	2,546	860	1,898
Wheat, Flour, and Oatmeal	81,952	121,759	130,207	262,712	207,895
Jams and Jellies.. .. .	3,656	2,828	5,612	3,260	2,667
Horses	5,606	12,090	12,012	16,062	28,076
Wool	111,817	103,884	14,790	23,480	50,075
Tallow	14,272	33,377	29,611	31,966	13,889
Leather, &c.	2,469	3,228	3,168	2,428	2,321
Soap	5,477	4,949	6,830	6,499	6,637
Specie and Bullion .. .. .	..	108,639	53,804	500	87,332
All other Articles	30,397	41,261	43,889	62,367	73,109
Total	312,334	635,364	556,243	494,238	549,087

The value of the trade with New Zealand for the year ended 30th June, 1928, was £2,806,569. The exports thereto amounted to £1,154,390, and represented 3·6 per cent. of the total oversea exports. The principal articles of trade during the last five years were as follows:—

VALUE OF CHIEF IMPORTS OF NEW ZEALAND ORIGIN
AND OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES EXPORTED DIRECT TO
THAT COUNTRY, 1923-24 TO 1927-28.

Articles.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Imported into Victoria (of New Zealand origin).</i>					
Butter	61,807	9	166,371	204,260	113,622
Fish	33,894	39,360	32,872	37,870	52,391
Milk and Cream .. .. .	..	2,551	5,021	5,458	6,565
Meats	24,727	16,437	17,435	29,275	33,694
Hops	4,927	1,510	5,002	2,833	..
Animals (horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs)	45,882	7,722	15,597	23,968	11,062
Hides and Skins	351,750	328,150	315,788	263,617	212,936
Wool	284,099	142,317	25,011	182,742	590,986
Flax and Hemp	70,380	78,595	67,183	86,005	60,743
Oakum and Tow	15,523	36,214	25,687	24,219	18,992
Seeds	35,161	63,246	55,193	38,736	34,084
Timber	180,865	262,561	273,792	145,067	123,027
All other Articles	90,632	78,332	115,798	251,607	394,077
Total	1,202,647	1,057,004	1,118,750	1,295,657	1,652,179
<i>Exported from Victoria to New Zealand.</i>					
Fruits, all kinds	119,499	189,486	166,101	170,083	156,514
Grain and Pulse—					
Wheat	142,611	108,379	435,943	199,772	138,188
Flour	495	30,117	86,861	276,890	30,358
Barley	4,091	4,854	2,634	893	..
Oats	32,592	26,429	6,141	7,992	634
Rice and Rice Meal	17,826	17,645	14,427	13,521	16,742
Tea	45,869	51,069	39,761	26,312	39,855
Spirituous and Alcoholic Liquors	14,667	18,980	22,559	18,311	14,145
Tobacco manufactured	281,799	284,727	361,429	253,908	236,012
Apparel	19,611	13,734	14,223	19,693	22,705
Piece Goods	30,771	34,508	24,233	25,516	35,421
Oils	49,707	114,650	79,733	7,959	3,984
Machines and Machinery	42,643	76,008	46,058	71,895	55,169
Metal manufactures	62,179	62,873	57,652	50,564	44,990
Rubber manufactures	121,550	92,150	84,601	27,277	22,124
Leather, &c.	37,840	30,046	16,456	7,388	9,726
Books	23,213	21,070	15,159	15,992	10,100
Drugs and Chemicals	45,067	40,995	26,006	27,236	35,829
Photographic goods and materials	36,456	41,780	49,117	47,758	46,204
All other Articles	278,132	330,496	238,683	209,106	235,690
Australian produce	1,120,998	1,230,261	1,542,859	1,309,090	961,837
Other produce	285,620	359,735	244,918	169,076	192,553
Total	1,406,618	1,589,996	1,787,777	1,478,166	1,154,390

The trade with Belgium was suspended in 1918 and 1919, and has not yet recovered its pre-war proportion, which was 3 per cent. of the total oversea trade of Victoria.

The principal articles of trade with Belgium in the last five years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES INTERCHANGED WITH BELGIUM, 1923-24 TO 1927-28.

Articles.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
<i>Imported into Victoria (of Belgian origin).</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Gloves	6,398	12,871	20,322	16,879	17,119
Piece Goods	25,552	30,991	30,601	39,566	38,841
Electrical Machinery, &c. ..	1,510	5,249	5,922	13,058	24,569
Copper	6,110	3,377	2,873	8,197	6,720
Iron and Steel	13,735	18,707	14,001	17,728	6,432
Vehicles	38,274	29,875	19,198	19,080	1,630
Glass and Glassware	125,575	126,015	123,844	80,595	55,312
Paper	33,969	34,627	25,886	25,787	24,711
Cameos and Precious Stones ..	17,044	15,036	6,425	3,663	10,556
Arms, Ammunition, and Explosives	9,511	9,550	11,496	13,545	17,267
All other Articles	53,545	62,501	46,657	92,687	169,492
Total	331,223	348,799	307,225	335,785	372,649
<i>Exported from Victoria to Belgium.</i>					
Wheat	22,177	434,464	53,688	334,226	69,579
Hides and Skins	102,276	45,309	53,928	38,840	106,306
Wool	501,125	417,542	358,462	528,594	798,616
Ores	525	2,585	940	227	..
Tallow	4,990	19,755	17,838	22,624	13,239
Cameos and Precious Stones ..	957	2,198	1,189	3,167	2,888
All other Articles	60,183	48,939	8,347	40,962	48,036
Total	692,233	970,792	494,392	968,640	1,038,664

Trade with
Netherlands
East Indies.

The Netherlands East Indies accounted for 3·2 per cent. of Victoria's oversea trade in 1928. The chief articles interchanged during the last five years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES INTERCHANGED WITH
NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES, 1923-24 TO 1927-28.

Articles.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
<i>Imported into Victoria (of Netherlands East Indies origin).</i>					
	£	£	£	£	£
Coffee and Chicory	21,083	23,615	32,757	26,450	24,410
Sago and Tapioca	18,057	6,751	4,555	1,131	3,365
Spices	8,665	9,292	9,559	4,771	8,093
Tea	608,300	777,466	532,442	379,425	393,744
Tobacco—unmanufactured	50,330	13,851	27,780	30,342	62,856
Hides and Skins	1,037	2,191	2,852	16,242	13,083
Fibres	126,270	130,368	135,274	162,755	158,023
Seeds	8,038	19,900	16,567	15,619	11,401
Oils	678,669	718,147	846,966	884,528	569,913
Rubber, crude	18,178	33,920	99,053	135,188	79,445
All other Articles	38,737	34,292	42,062	37,503	30,910
Total	1,577,364	1,769,793	1,749,867	1,693,954	1,355,252
<i>Exported from Victoria to the Netherlands East Indies.</i>					
Butter	413,620	413,730	451,169	415,862	454,913
Meats	18,803	14,131	17,722	10,292	4,923
Milk and Cream	90,624	448,128	93,233	106,974	107,857
Biscuits	29,806	40,419	74,608	45,385	43,512
Fruits, and fruit juices	25,114	22,155	28,230	31,329	35,660
Grain and Pulse	248,496	308,051	360,590	401,264	425,595
Machines and Machinery	15,561	2,298	2,378	4,124	2,871
Leather, &c.	48,631	48,151	39,474	38,895	53,315
Ammonium Sulphate .. .. .	.. .. .	9,733	4,640	.. .. .	.. .. .
All other Articles	23,653	41,241	43,477	44,683	48,837
Total	914,308	1,348,037	1,115,521	1,098,811	1,177,483

Trade with
France.

In 1928 the value of the trade with France was £5,023,400, or 6·3 per cent of the oversea total. Details of the exports to France and of the goods of French origin received in the past five years are given in the appended table:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES INTERCHANGED WITH FRANCE, 1923-24 TO 1927-28.

Articles.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
<i>Imported into Victoria (of French origin.)</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Brandy	47,169	40,038	32,701	32,777	32,074
Wine	27,753	33,593	28,716	26,974	20,549
Gums and Resins	12,602	7,353	28,321	37,996	29,014
Apparel—					
Trimmings and Ornaments ..	163,993	139,077	124,613	154,315	104,866
Gloves	27,525	23,571	31,249	36,245	18,605
Other	150,677	231,896	203,560	339,052	344,601
Piece Goods	781,405	722,235	611,104	865,495	612,859
Oils	14,181	11,529	14,594	18,041	18,513
Electrical Machinery and Appliances	4,187	15,354	16,087	24,900	13,170
Motor Cars and Parts	186,912	162,254	94,046	105,175	28,637
Rubber Manufactures	57,114	61,980	63,155	61,963	38,174
Stationery and Paper Manufactures	43,623	19,160	26,455	37,937	48,204
Pipes (smoking)	23,418	22,652	13,044	16,552	16,240
Cream of Tartar	24,029	22,385	23,797	15,488	16,937
Perfumery and Toilet Preparations	19,626	24,983	23,538	34,902	23,092
All other Articles	275,901	343,420	265,226	321,010	248,510
Total	1,880,115	1,886,480	1,600,236	2,126,822	1,614,045
<i>Exported from Victoria to France.</i>					
Butter	26,172	14,717	1,835	4,200	62
Wheat and Flour	179,041	2,175,197	6,274	474,062	81,053
Hides and Skins	408,672	532,139	536,182	493,749	784,029
Wool	2,148,671	2,453,911	3,279,225	2,563,910	2,516,682
Zinc Bars, &c.	21,300				
Tallow (unrefined)	999	11,393	3,032	2,697	11,381
All other Articles	16,224	18,400	29,294	12,900	16,148
Total	2,801,079	5,205,757	3,855,842	3,551,518	3,409,355

Trade with
Germany.

The trade with Germany in 1927-28 amounted to 4·8 per cent. of the total with oversea countries, in the year prior to the war (1913) the percentage was 8·4. Wool was the chief item exported to Germany, and during the past five years accounted for 66·5 per cent. of the total exports to that country—the percentage for 1927-28 being 75·4.

The principal articles interchanged during the last five years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES INTERCHANGED WITH
GERMANY, 1923-24 TO 1927-28.

Articles.	Value in year ended 30th June—				
	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
<i>Imported into Victoria (of German origin).</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Apparel—					
Gloves	48,907	143,177	120,339	107,136	89,135
Other	45,787	75,264	109,893	269,891	335,611
Piece Goods	42,187	56,899	71,021	191,517	188,121
Machines and Machinery ..	88,680	98,254	133,545	202,513	262,993
Metals and Metal Manufac- tures—					
Vehicles	33,912	17,087	8,752	12,659	23,101
Platedware and Cutlery ..	6,095	19,298	24,305	33,293	26,011
Other	25,425	57,766	132,698	266,467	180,168
Paper	8,580	9,265	22,764	44,812	48,836
Fancy Goods	28,541	63,160	70,662	81,997	72,984
Timepieces	12,238	30,202	37,077	38,148	39,341
Optical, Surgical, and Scientific Instruments	24,645	21,549	26,565	43,858	50,557
Drugs, Chemicals, and Fer- tilizers	19,641	31,961	46,096	90,079	78,479
Musical Instruments	116,390	178,824	112,659	106,163	66,865
All other Articles	81,636	136,666	190,782	306,194	386,121
Total	582,664	939,372	1,107,158	1,794,727	1,848,323
<i>Exported from Victoria to Germany.</i>					
Sausage Casings	2,339	1,789	15,315	5,858	3,088
Fruits (all kinds)	3,692	20,351	35,483	321	98,377
Wheat and Flour	10,930	512,410	54,481	325,186	83,585
Wool	544,020	315,892	507,601	1,321,404	1,482,222
Hides and Skins	39,569	111,112	60,405	162,605	228,310
Tallow	5,739	26,279	..	16,559	1,828
Casein	12,575	16,773	8,501	5,659	14,387
Eucalyptus Oil	5,791	7,719	10,314	21,142	30,889
All other Articles	28,132	31,582	33,405	24,038	24,018
Total	652,787	1,043,907	725,505	1,882,772	1,966,704

The value of Japanese goods received in 1927-28 represented only 2·5 per cent. of the total oversea imports, as compared with 8·8 per cent. in 1918-19. The principal articles interchanged during the last five years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES INTERCHANGED WITH JAPAN, 1923-24 TO 1927-28.

Articles.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
<i>Imported into Victoria (of Japanese origin).</i>	£	£	£.	£	£
Grass or Straw, &c. ..	15,497	11,016	6,302	5,333	2,580
Hosiery and Knitted Articles ..	19,029	21,405	6,643	1,200	1,377
Shirts, Collars, Pyjamas, &c. ..	2,039	2,983	180	9	..
Socks and Stockings ..	4,038	5,439	9,477	8,820	9,887
Buttons, Buckles, &c. ..	12,761	15,388	21,485	18,817	15,504
Cosies, Cushions, &c. ..	1,557	893	679	319	314
Piece Goods—Silk ..	669,628	782,184	762,429	931,104	726,377
" " Cotton and Linen ..	159,853	211,441	222,444	165,300	109,995
" " Other ..	14,065	6,347	24,171	21,767	3,276
Oils ..	6,261	5,914	5,197	4,696	10,718
Electrical Machinery and Appliances ..	6,798	3,787	410	744	340
Timber ..	13,159	35,736	34,768	44,759	39,280
Chinaware ..	20,622	18,235	26,156	28,688	29,174
Glass and Glassware ..	21,805	15,822	19,590	20,347	16,303
Fancy Goods ..	29,668	22,153	25,809	20,800	15,870
All other Articles ..	148,603	151,361	194,910	246,769	214,160
Total ..	1,145,473	1,310,104	1,360,650	1,519,972	1,195,155
<i>Exported from Victoria to Japan.</i>					
Butter ..	3,644	939	564	95	65
Milk and Cream ..	328,343	162,462	105,630	61,095	58,499
Grain and Pulse ..	968,554	323,666	1,054,784	842,297	128,897
Wool ..	1,416,989	1,259,470	1,094,858	1,899,254	2,205,080
Tallow (unrefined) ..	55,983	30,318	45,895	42,765	55,280
Casein ..	20,800	16,543	23,070	24,474	14,759
Fertilizers ..	5,412	1,130	8,115	13,323	4,100
All other Articles ..	31,517	31,064	10,199	22,432	17,019
Total ..	2,821,192	1,825,592	2,343,115	2,905,735	2,483,649

Trade with
United States
of America.

The value of the trade with the United States in 1928 was £11,832,728, or 14·9 per cent. of the value of the Victorian oversea trade. As compared with the year 1927 the value of this trade was less by £3,163,738, there having been a decrease

in imports of £2,317,517, and also in exports of £846,221. The principal articles included in the trade with the United States in the last five years were as follows :—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES INTERCHANGED WITH THE UNITED STATES, 1923-24 TO 1927-28.

Articles.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Imported into Victoria (of United States origin).</i>					
Sausage Casings	49,150	65,169	107,003	82,285	65,815
Tobacco, &c.	834,916	541,201	423,658	526,777	549,859
Gums and Resins	13,662	22,619	34,170	27,382	23,829
Apparel—					
Socks and Stockings	131,411	83,279	114,922	144,964	150,687
Gloves	48,754	17,532	10,215	7,193	5,613
Other	240,032	204,042	156,048	177,712	154,626
Textiles—					
Piece Goods	244,158	176,594	274,545	396,768	326,530
Other	88,811	75,560	74,212	123,933	93,143
Manufactured Fibres and Yarns	61,869	59,471	84,244	165,266	88,762
Oils	1,435,465	1,603,232	1,855,778	1,760,771	1,650,951
Machines and Machinery	1,525,756	1,276,774	1,583,024	1,948,895	1,584,608
Metals and metal manufactures—					
Vehicles and parts	2,550,731	2,602,346	2,564,476	2,823,542	1,959,538
Iron and Steel	177,819	179,838	175,252	308,954	114,257
Tools of Trade	213,312	166,647	138,403	171,423	116,237
Other	520,553	378,403	422,218	453,507	373,727
Rubber, &c.	344,156	268,563	338,134	231,142	130,936
Leather, &c.	113,531	90,329	64,668	116,419	87,547
Timber	1,169,650	635,594	929,071	764,990	748,170
Paper	99,826	79,734	76,374	86,404	81,301
Stationery	126,360	121,694	122,540	132,813	130,078
Jewellery, Timepieces, and Fancy Goods	117,102	72,649	84,380	112,293	83,021
Optical, Surgical, and Scientific Instruments	142,570	155,350	149,475	156,217	142,719
Arms, Ammunition, and Explosives	33,010	32,518	70,292	63,177	44,607
Instruments—Musical	256,625	198,859	192,191	289,770	149,715
All other Articles	676,316	700,695	823,180	1,015,087	913,891
Total	11,220,595	9,806,692	10,868,473	12,087,684	9,770,167
<i>Exported from Victoria to the United States.</i>					
Sausage Casings	16,537	45,049	159,187	168,441	139,435
Hides and Skins	90,259	281,777	427,036	362,618	392,643
Wool	1,906,917	2,808,723	3,193,089	2,304,047	1,419,526
Tallow			21,690		17,993
Platinum—Bars, Blocks, &c.	4,911	16,256	50,914	12,177	3,895
Eucalyptus Oil	15,889	16,489	13,713	14,054	22,404
All other Articles	52,113	40,518	69,058	47,445	66,665
Total	2,086,626	3,208,812	3,934,687	2,908,782	2,062,561

Destination of
principal
articles
exported.

Wool, wheat and flour, skins, butter, fruits (all kinds), and milk and cream were the six principal articles exported from Victoria in 1928—their value being equal to nearly

86 per cent. of the total exports. The countries which received these products are shown in the following statement:—

DESTINATION OF THE PRINCIPAL ARTICLES EXPORTED IN 1927-28.

Destination.	Wool.	Wheat and Flour.	Skins.	Butter.	Fruits (all kinds).	Milk and Cream.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	5,092,864	981,397	1,323,717	1,806,740	1,569,278	11,082
Canada ..	13,470	..	9,114	62	110,699	..
Hong Kong ..	..	67,949	..	3,590	3,637	14,088
India and Ceylon ..	50,075	207,881	..	16,890	6,097	36,490
Irish Free State ..	..	46,266	..	..	..	..
Malaya (British) ..	..	134,542	..	75,750	3,547	822,822
Malta ..	..	37,204	..	..	..	1,807
Mauritius ..	..	48,896	..	8,800	120	332
New Zealand ..	5,365	168,546	1,900	..	156,514	447
South African Union ..	..	208,621	..	17,685	1,915	27,554
Other British Countries ..	..	18,082	..	1,778	2,463	2,262
Africa, Portuguese East ..	..	65,146	..	1,186	1,150	..
Belgium ..	798,616	69,579	106,306	7,341	30	..
China ..	504	2,179	19	26,976	2,450	57,313
Egypt ..	..	535,354	..	14,557	2,487	454
Finland ..	33,054	..	2,881	..	..	..
France ..	2,516,682	81,053	784,029	62	113	67
Germany ..	1,482,222	83,585	228,310	217	98,377	..
Italy ..	834,771	108,059	12,315	..	..	..
Japan ..	2,205,030	128,507	3,359	65	49	58,499
Netherlands ..	5,075	15,914	13,186	..	16,878	..
Netherlands East Indies ..	..	423,762	..	454,913	11,639	107,857
Norway ..	..	12,997	..	..	..	..
Peru ..	..	62,013	..	..	..	..
Philippine Islands ..	..	5,731	..	4,988	565	9,651
Russia ..	752,415	..	..	..	..	..
Siam ..	..	21,003	..	5,305	6	23,696
Sweden ..	23,754	43,057	3,349	..	844	..
United States of America ..	1,419,526	..	392,643	..	61	..
Other Foreign Countries ..	9,912	27,501	1,655	869	2,516	15
Total ..	15,243,335	3,604,824	2,882,783	2,447,774	1,991,435	1,174,436

The value of the above-mentioned six articles added to that of the next principal item (meats) represented 89 per cent. of the total exports. The value of meats exported amounted to £1,023,985, of which £809,343 was sent to Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Customs and
Excise
Revenue.

The following statement shows the overseas trade and the gross revenue collected at Victorian ports and inland stations, during the year 1927-28:—

**OVERSEA TRADE AND GROSS REVENUE COLLECTED
AT VICTORIAN PORTS AND INLAND STATIONS, 1927-28.**

Heading.	Melbourne.	Geelong.	Portland.	Warrnam- bool.	Inland Sta- tions.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Oversea Trade—						
Imports ..	47,090,292	680,642	67,066	73,313	..	47,911,313
Exports ..	28,720,490	1,260,758	795,755	951,555	..	31,728,558
Total ..	75,810,782	1,941,400	862,821	1,024,868	..	79,639,871
Gross Revenue—						
Customs ..	8,907,887	131,911	2,466	9,563	..	9,051,827
Excise ..	2,926,077	12,600	..	704	24,726	2,964,107
Other sources	21,106	21	18	95	19	21,259
Total ..	11,855,070	144,532	2,484	10,362	24,745	12,037,193*

* After deducting £436,184 for Drawbacks, &c., the net revenue was £11,601,009.

**Interstate
Trade.**

On the 13th September, 1910, the Commonwealth Government abandoned the collecting and recording of information relating to Interstate imports and exports, but at the Statisticians' Conference, held in 1926 at Perth, it was resolved that action should be taken by each Statistician, with the exception of West Australia and Tasmania (where schemes for collecting Interstate trade statistics are already in force), with a view to obtaining a record of the principal items of Interstate trade.

Monthly returns of twelve specified articles (quantities only) interchanged between Victoria and the other States, have been received from the Harbor Trusts, Railways Department, Ports and Harbors Department, and the Department of Agriculture. The tabulated totals of these items for the year 1927-28, excluding all oversea cargo interchanged, are shown in the following table :—

INTERSTATE TRADE OF 12 SPECIFIED ARTICLES (QUANTITIES ONLY).

Imported into Victoria from other States during 1927-28 by—					
Article.	Victorian Railways, and Traffic by Road (Live Stock).*	Port of Melbourne (including Interstate imports transhipped to Victorian ports only).†	Port of Geelong	Ports of Portland and Warrnam- bool.	Total.
Butter ..	tons. 399	tons. 1,669	tons. ..	tons. ..	tons. 2,068
Coal ..	9	1,075,733	81,765	23,337	1,180,844
Flour ..	7,858	492	..	..	8,350
Fruit, fresh ..	17,148†	4,338	..	..	21,486
Fruits, dried ..	220	516	..	..	736
Oats ..	3,149	3,180	..	..	6,329
Onions..	70	1	..	..	71
Potatoes ..	168	159	..	..	327
Wheat ..	28,278	61	..	..	28,339
Wool ..	23,961	7,043	159	..	31,163
Cattle ..	No. 110,545	No. 9,108	..	..	No. 119,653
Sheep ..	2,071,260	3,202	..	..	2,074,462

Exported from Victoria to other States during 1927-28 by—					
Article.	Victorian Railways, and Traffic by Road (Live Stock).*	Port of Melbourne.§	Port of Geelong.	Ports of Portland and Warrnam- bool.	Total.
Butter ..	tons. 545	tons. 2,715	tons. ..	tons. ..	tons. 3,260
Coal ..	941	199	..	..	1,140
Flour ..	5,633	6,280	..	..	11,913
Fruit, fresh ..	17,054	4,599	..	..	21,653
Fruit, dried ..	1,107	3,024	..	..	4,131
Oats ..	1,502	4,240	400	..	6,142
Onions ..	7,999	14,575	6,529	..	29,103
Potatoes ..	28,121	13,701	..	..	41,822
Wheat ..	1,088	10,186	..	..	11,274
Wool ..	770	9,039	160	908	10,877
Cattle ..	No. 46,583	No. 48	..	..	No. 46,631
Sheep ..	1,501,331	24,028	..	..	1,525,359

* New South Wales and South Australia only.

† Including 8,851 tons from Queensland rewaybilled at Wallangarra.

‡ Excluding Interstate imports transhipped to Oversea and Interstate ports, as follows:—

Transhipped to—	Butter.	Coal.	Fruit (Fresh).	Fruit (Dried).	Oats.	Pota- toes.	Wheat.	Wool.
Oversea Ports	tons. 206	tons. 33,978	tons. 123	tons. 17	tons. 16	tons. ..	tons. ..	tons. 3,220
Interstate Ports	3	43,883	13	23	..	1,538	6	6
Total ..	209	77,861	136	40	16	1,538	6	3,226

§ Including Coastal cargo transhipped at Melbourne to Interstate ports, viz.:—Fruit (Fresh), 6 tons; Oats, 1 ton; Onions, 796 tons; and Wool, 182 tons.

SHIPPING.

Victorian shipping as dealt with in the succeeding tables refers to vessels trading with other States and overseas countries; the tonnage quoted is net. Vessels trading on the Victorian coast and on the River Murray have not been taken into consideration. In the particulars of the shipping at Victorian ports (page 489) and at the port of Melbourne (page 492) coastal shipping is included.

The number of vessels entered and cleared, and their total tonnage in each of the last five years were as follows :—

OVERSEA AND INTERSTATE SHIPPING, 1923-24 TO 1927-28.

Heading.	Year ended 30th June—				
	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Vessels Entered—					
Number	2,666	2,577	2,470	2,667	2,589
Tons	6,782,495	6,807,357	6,485,561	7,187,147	6,844,809
Average tonnage ..	2,544	2,642	2,626	2,694	2,644
Vessels Cleared—					
Number	2,676	2,605	2,447	2,666	2,608
Tons	6,749,873	6,876,355	6,494,779	7,180,748	6,869,313
Average tonnage ..	2,522	2,640	2,654	2,693	2,634

The tonnage of vessels entered and cleared during 1927-28 was the second highest on record, but was less than the previous record in 1926-27 by 342,338 and 311,435 tons respectively. For the twelve months ended 30th June, 1928, steamers numbered 2,572 of the vessels entered, and 2,591 of the vessels cleared, their tonnage aggregating 6,820,140 and 6,844,641 respectively. The inward shipping included 17 vessels in ballast, of an aggregate tonnage of 32,974, whilst the outward shipping included 387 vessels in ballast, having an aggregate tonnage of 715,295.

Shipping with
principal
countries.

The more important of the countries having shipping communication with Victoria in 1927-28 are set out in the following statement :—

SHIPPING WITH PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES, 1927-28.

Countries.	Entered.				Cleared.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	Num-ber.	Net Tonnage.	Num-ber.	Net Tonnage.	Num-ber.	Net Tonnage.	Num-ber.	Net Tonnage.
Australian States	1,811	3,511,294	4	320	1,931	4,211,808	11	12,365
Great Britain	190	1,315,207	..	..	172	1,209,543	3	5,679
New Zealand	47	89,335	1	1,923	48	89,144	..	..
India	21	82,116	..	..	12	47,194	..	..
Straits Settlements	42	140,060	..	..	40	130,543	..	..
Other British	94	262,263	..	..	87	259,948	..	..
Total British Countries	2,205	5,400,275	5	2,243	2,350	5,948,189	14	18,044
Japan	48	165,425	..	..	50	172,999	..	..
Dutch East Indies	15	46,684	..	..	38	125,043	..	..
United States	165	632,435	7	12,089	52	205,745	1	2,911
Other Foreign	139	575,321	5	10,337	101	392,674	2	3,717
Total Foreign Countries	367	1,419,865	12	22,426	241	896,461	3	6,628
Total	2,572	6,820,140	17	24,669	2,591	6,844,641	17	24,672

Nationality of
vessels.

The nationality of vessels entered and cleared at Victorian ports for the year 1927-28 was as shown hereunder :—

NATIONALITY OF SHIPPING, 1927-28.

Nationality.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
British—				
Australian	1,599	2,256,775	1,608	2,249,175
Great Britain	567	3,177,896	571	3,194,486
Canadian	33	120,431	36	131,153
Hong Kong	17	45,268	16	42,684
New Zealand	44	75,780	45	76,340
South African	4	10,332	4	10,332
Other British	1	1,922	1	1,922
Total British	2,265	5,688,404	2,281	5,706,092
Foreign—				
Danish	8	26,267	9	28,997
Finnish	5	10,572	5	10,572
French	10	47,432	11	49,075
German	55	209,585	54	207,706
Netherlands	31	111,300	31	109,059
Italian	30	129,189	30	129,239
Japanese	47	159,978	48	164,315
Norwegian	53	172,612	53	170,665
Swedish	23	67,134	23	67,524
United States	62	222,336	63	226,019
Total Foreign	324	1,156,405	327	1,163,221
Total	2,589	6,844,809	2,608	6,869,313

Shipping
entered at
Victorian
Ports.

Particulars of shipping—Oversea, Interstate, and Coastwise—which entered at each port of Victoria are given in the following statement for the year ended 30th June, 1928 :—

VESSELS ENTERED AT EACH OF THE VICTORIAN PORTS, 1927-28.

Direction.	Melbourne.		Cunning- hame (Lakes Entrance).		Geelong.		Portland.		Warrnam- bool.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
Oversea—										
Steam ..	733	3,217,958	..	..	28	90,888	..	..	..	..
Sailing ..	12	22,913	..	..	1	1,436	..	..	..	..
Inter-State—										
Steam ..	1,719	3,386,401	..	..	75	102,949	3	8,588	14	13,356
Sailing ..	3	240	..	..	1	80	..	..	..	..
Oversea <i>via</i> Ports—										
Steam ..	17	53,724	..	..	31	115,610	5	18,048	..	..
Inter-State <i>via</i> Ports—										
Steam ..	27	52,061	..	..	9	18,192	7	27,769	3	4,077
Local (within the State)—										
Steam ..	1,205	307,705	50	4,900	421	112,399	77	31,259	127	43,897
Sailing ..	183	8,511	..	..	35	12,411	..	..	..	..
Total—										
Steam ..	3,701	7,017,849	50	4,900	564	440,038	92	85,664	144	61,330
Sailing ..	198	31,664	..	..	37	13,927	..	..	..	..
Grand Total	3,899	7,049,513	50	4,900	601	453,965	92	85,664	144	61,330

NOTE.—“Ports” mean Victorian ports.

Vessels on
Victorian
register.

The number of vessels on the Victorian register at 31st December, 1927, their net tonnage, and the ports of registration are given in the statement which follows :—

VESSELS ON THE VICTORIAN REGISTER, 1927.

Port of Registration.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	Number.	Net Tonnage.	Number.	Net Tonnage.	Number.	Net Tonnage.
Melbourne ..	257	187,379	132	31,734	389	219,113
Geelong ..	3	432	2	36	5	468
Port Fairy ..	3	621	..	..	3	621
Total ..	263	188,432	134	31,770	397	220,202

During 1927 there were added to the register 12 steamers with net tonnage of 10,509, whilst 6 steamers having net tonnage of 7,345, and 3 sailing vessels having tonnage of 751 were taken off the register.

Ferry Service. The Williamstown City Council owns one steamer which is engaged in the transport of passengers between Port Melbourne and Williamstown. It is licensed to carry 342 passengers. During the year 1927-28 the approximate number of passengers carried was 250,000, whilst the total revenue and expenditure amounted to £4,914 and £7,758 respectively. There were 10 persons employed, and the total mileage was 22,880.

Cargo discharged and shipped. Statistics relating to the tonnage of cargo discharged and shipped in Victoria during the year ended 30th June, 1928, are shown hereunder. The first table gives the tonnage of Interstate and Oversea cargo handled at each port in the State, and the second tabulation shows only the tonnage of oversea cargo discharged and shipped in Victoria according to the nationality of the vessels carrying.

**TONNAGE OF INTERSTATE AND OVERSEA CARGO DIS-
CHARGED AND SHIPPED AT EACH PORT DURING
THE YEAR 1927-28.**

Port.	Discharged.		Shipped.	
	Interstate.	Oversea.	Interstate.	Oversea.
	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.
Melbourne	1,848,283	1,723,910	646,967	574,718
Geelong	79,032	66,440	19,011	67,194
Portland .. .. .	..	6,832	..	9,650
Warrnambool	24,249	..	3,938	..
Total	1,961,564	1,797,182	669,916	651,562

**TONNAGE OF OVERSEA CARGO DISCHARGED AND SHIPPED
IN VICTORIA DURING THE YEAR 1927-28, ACCORDING
TO THE NATIONALITY OF THE VESSELS
IN WHICH SUCH CARGO WAS CARRIED.**

Nationality of Vessels Carrying Cargo.	Tonnage.	
	Discharged.	Shipped.
Australian	83,184	35,057
Great Britain	1,053,079	357,439
Canadian	29,545	15,535
Hong Kong	7,861	5,806
New Zealand	35,870	45,912
South African	22,925	1,803
Other British .. .. .	..	932
Total British	1,232,464	462,534
Danish	31,341	..
Finnish	15,160	5,981
French	12,756	..
German	63,975	25,992
Holland	31,439	45,517
Italian	25,707	21,081
Japanese	35,005	36,008
Norwegian	160,769	26,389
Swedish	59,086	16,407
United States of America	129,480	11,653
Total Foreign	564,718	189,028
Grand Total	1,797,182	651,562

PORT OF MELBOURNE.

Port of Melbourne. The Port of Melbourne is under the control of the Melbourne Harbor Trust, which has 11·55 miles of wharfs, piers and jetties in the River Yarra, Victoria Dock, and Hobson's Bay. The area of these wharfs is 74 acres, of which 28 acres are under sheds. The constitution of the Trust and the revenue and expenditure are shown in part "Municipal Statistics."

Port improvement. The widening of the Yarra for 5,488 feet between the middle swinging basin and Victoria Dock entrance is now nearing completion, and a contract for the last 990 feet of this work, which includes demolition of existing wharfs, dredging and reconstruction with modern wharfs, has been advertised. The total estimate for this work is £425,000, and £337,256 had been expended

by 31st December, 1927. Work on the new Station Pier at Port Melbourne is almost completed. The amount expended on this Pier up to 31st December, 1927, was £479,300, and the completed structure with sheds and dredging is estimated to cost £600,000. Construction work has been completed on the Appleton Dock River Berths, and reclamation of the area in the rear of the new wharfs is almost finished. Satisfactory progress was made with the new concrete wharf on the south side of the Yarra below Victoria Dock entrance, and an expenditure of £51,769 on this work has been made. At Williamstown, a contract for £36,266 has been let for extending Nelson Pier by 413 feet, and so providing for two additional berths. The reconstruction of the Gem Pier has been completed.

An active policy of improvements to roads has been pursued, and contracts aggregating £22,000 have been entered into for the reconstruction in concrete, bituminous concrete or wood blocks, of sections of Normanby-road, Pigott-street, and Lorimer-street.

Dredging. The material dredged and disposed of during 1927 amounted to 3,713,127 barge yards, viz., 1,314,697 barge yards from the Bay within the Trust's boundary, and 2,398,430 barge yards from the River Yarra, Victoria and Appleton Docks. Since the establishment of the Trust, the river dredgings have amounted to 49,096,522 barge yards, and the Bay dredgings to 42,797,132 barge yards, making a total of 91,893,654 barge yards. Of the dredgings, 70,935,212 barge yards were deposited in deep water, and 20,958,442 barge yards were landed and deposited for reclamation work. The average cost of dredging, towing, and depositing in 1927 was 15·11 pence per barge yard.

Berthing Accommodation. There is berthing space of 49,363 feet, the whole of which has a good depth of water ranging from 13 feet to 37 feet—7,280 feet at Williamstown, 5,580 feet at Port Melbourne, 19,220 feet in River Yarra, 11,760 feet in Victoria Dock, 1,710 feet in Appleton Dock River Berths, and 3,813 feet in Maribyrnong River.

Trade of the Port. In the year 1927, vessels to the number of 4,018 (3,700 steamers, 19 oversea sailing vessels, and 299 other sailing vessels), with registered gross tonnage aggregating 12,428,890 berthed within the Port. The tonnage of imports in 1927 was 3,852,303, and that of exports 1,467,418. These figures include Interstate and Coastal tonnage, which amounted to 1,882,793 in the case of imports, and 683,325 in the case of exports. Coal forms a great part of the Interstate imports. Exclusive of transshipments to Interstate and other vessels, mainly for their own consumption, 1,038,897 tons of coal were imported during 1927.

POSTS, TELEGRAPHS, AND TELEPHONES.

Rates of postage.

The following are the principal postal charges within the Commonwealth, as from 1st October, 1923:—

Letters	1½d. per ounce
Letter-cards	Single, 1½d. each
Post-cards	Single, 1d. each
Printed papers (other than newspapers)	1d. per 4 ounces
Books printed in Australia	1d. per 8 ounces
Books printed outside Australia	1d. per 4 ounces
Magazines printed and published in Australia each	1d. per 8 ounces
Magazines printed and published outside Australia each	1d. per 4 ounces
Commercial papers, patterns, samples, and merchandise as prescribed	1d. per 2 ounces
Newspapers printed and published in Australia each	1d. per 10 ounces
Newspapers printed and published outside Australia each	1d. per 4 ounces

The rate of postage on letters to all places within the British Empire is the same as applies to places within the Commonwealth, viz., 1½d. per ounce. To the United States of America and all foreign countries the rate of postage is 3d. for the first ounce, and 1½d. for each additional ounce.

Cable rates.

The ordinary rate for cabling to the United Kingdom is 2s. per word, and the deferred rate is 1s. per word. Deferred cablegrams are transmitted only after the despatch of non-urgent private cablegrams and press cablegrams. In January, 1913, the Pacific Cable Board instituted a tariff for week-end cable letters which is available between Australia and the United Kingdom. The rate is now 7½d. per word, with a minimum charge of 12s. 6d. Week-end messages may be lodged up to midnight on Saturday, and are deliverable on Tuesday morning, or if practicable on Monday. These messages are also available to Canada at a charge of 5½d. per word, with a minimum charge of 9s. 7d. per message. A new service via either "Pacific" or "Eastern" has been instituted, and is known as "Daily Letter Telegram." The rate to the United Kingdom is 9d. per word, with a minimum charge of 15s. per message. Messages by this service are accepted any day except Sunday, and are subject to a normal delay of 48 hours.

Wireless (Beam) rates.

Wireless communication with the United Kingdom was established via "Beam" on 8th April, 1927. The ordinary rate is 1s. 8d. per word, and the deferred rate is 10d. per word. For daily letter telegrams the charge is 6d. per word with a minimum charge of 10s., and for week-end letter telegrams the charge is 5d. per word with a minimum charge of 8s. 4d.

Postal Returns.

The following table shows the destination of letters, newspapers, packets, and parcels posted in Victoria, whether for delivery inside the Commonwealth or to oversea countries. The recording of the numbers of letters, &c., received from other States

has been discontinued, only those received in Victoria from outside the Commonwealth being given :—

POSTAL RETURNS : 1922-23 TO 1926-27.

Service.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1926-27.
Number of Post Offices open (exclusive of Receiving and Telephone Offices)	1,736	1,774	1,785	1,792	1,821

LETTERS AND POSTCARDS.

Posted for Delivery—					
Within the Commonwealth..	157,552,117	169,736,677	177,065,374	182,858,200	197,549,400
Outside the Commonwealth	5,246,566	7,253,801	8,323,470	9,660,600	9,680,800
Total	162,798,683	176,990,478	185,388,844	192,518,800	207,230,200
Received from—					
Outside the Commonwealth	14,102,942	16,263,751	18,485,872	19,311,500	19,755,000

REGISTERED LETTERS AND ARTICLES.

Posted for Delivery—					
Within the Commonwealth..	1,566,130	1,689,094	1,706,602	1,714,752	2,362,500
Outside the Commonwealth	81,966	91,757	112,499	111,905	118,596
Total	1,648,096	1,780,851	1,819,101	1,826,657	2,481,096
Received from—					
Outside the Commonwealth	132,574	131,560	125,321	162,796	176,073

NEWSPAPERS.

Posted for Delivery—					
Within the Commonwealth..	33,120,157	35,042,439	37,986,920	38,865,700	38,914,400
Outside the Commonwealth	1,368,343	1,413,324	2,085,108	2,826,000	3,044,000
Total	34,488,500	36,455,763	40,072,028	41,691,700	41,958,400
Received from—					
Outside the Commonwealth	2,775,606	3,785,421	4,756,226	4,860,700	4,870,700

PACKETS.

Posted for Delivery—					
Within the Commonwealth..	11,947,310	12,831,486	15,382,190	17,437,100	17,678,400
Outside the Commonwealth	310,219	333,601	413,053	423,100	489,200
Total	12,257,529	13,165,087	15,795,243	17,860,200	18,167,600
Received from—					
Outside the Commonwealth	588,805	796,493	1,068,803	1,206,400	1,141,500

PARCELS.

Posted for delivery—					
Within the Commonwealth..	2,072,153	2,007,259	2,324,398	2,320,200	2,416,000
Outside the Commonwealth	53,504	69,783	44,595	46,600	50,500
Total	2,125,657	2,077,042	2,368,993	2,366,800	2,466,500
Received from—					
Outside the Commonwealth	122,929	122,566	128,506	135,000	161,000

N.B.—Particulars relating to year 1927-28 have not been compiled.

The number of letters and other postal articles dealt with by the Dead Letter Office in Victoria during the year ended 30th June, 1928, was as follows:—

1. Returned direct to the sender or delivered—

(a) Letters, lettercards and postcards addressed—				No.
(i) Within the Commonwealth	..	..	..	357,569
(ii) Beyond the Commonwealth	..	..	..	13,536
Total	..	..	..	<u>371,105</u>

(b) Packets and circulars addressed—

(i) Within the Commonwealth	..	..	..	219,309
(ii) Beyond the Commonwealth	..	..	..	3,972
Total	..	..	..	<u>223,281</u>

2. Destroyed in accordance with the Act—

(a) Letters, lettercards and postcards addressed—

(i) Within the Commonwealth	..	..	..	92,511
(ii) Beyond the Commonwealth	..	..	..	6,424
Total	..	..	..	<u>98,935</u>

(b) Packets and circulars addressed—

(i) Within the Commonwealth	..	..	..	36,982
(ii) Beyond the Commonwealth	..	..	..	77,945
Total	..	..	..	<u>114,927</u>

3. Returned as unclaimed to other countries—

(a) Letters, lettercards and postcards	..	..	..	36,923
(b) Packets and circulars	..	..	..	32,398
Total	..	..	..	<u>69,321</u>

Money and valuables to the amount of £39,036 were found in postal articles sent to the Dead Letter Office as undeliverable. Postal articles (33,089) were posted without address, and of that number 180 contained money and valuables to the extent of £2,761.

**Money Orders
and Postal
Notes.**

The following table shows the total number and value of money orders and postal notes issued and paid in Victoria in each of the last five years :—

MONEY ORDERS AND POSTAL NOTES, 1923-24 TO 1927-28.

Heading.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1926-27.	1927-28.
Number of Money Order Offices open	616	640	661	680	695
Money Orders issued—					
Inland .. { Number ..	426,716	441,152	459,172	478,621	495,407
{ Amount £	2,238,532	2,338,892	2,424,209	2,513,771	2,593,090
Inter-State .. { Number ..	78,676	82,854	84,568	87,362	86,932
{ Amount £	464,133	498,011	511,899	496,273	499,437
International .. { Number ..	73,537	73,966	76,101	82,729	84,532
{ Amount £	260,011	250,643	256,432	281,719	280,349
Total .. { Number ..	578,929	597,972	619,841	648,712	666,871
{ Amount £	2,962,676	3,087,546	3,192,630	3,291,763	3,372,876
Money Orders Paid—					
Inland .. { Number ..	417,165	444,721	463,582	475,011	488,738
{ Amount £	2,236,254	2,346,425	2,431,019	2,520,942	2,595,093
Inter-State .. { Number ..	132,281	133,514	139,044	145,105	151,088
{ Amount £	673,527	712,955	736,803	754,694	787,883
International .. { Number ..	35,660	37,100	36,556	35,233	37,368
{ Amount £	144,850	149,429	139,566	130,916	137,881
Total .. { Number ..	585,106	620,335	639,182	655,349	677,194
{ Amount £	3,054,631	3,208,709	3,307,388	3,406,652	3,520,857
Postal Notes—					
Sold .. { Number ..	4,448,002	4,346,270	4,619,497	4,589,488	4,715,578
{ Amount £	1,388,015	1,447,297	1,572,587	1,665,216	1,704,911
Inland, Issued and Paid .. { Number ..	2,618,976	2,796,744	2,935,129	2,904,339	3,013,348
{ Amount £	930,079	998,214	1,049,904	1,089,324	1,137,816
Victorian—Paid in .. { Number ..	1,804,695	1,532,740	1,684,368	1,667,734	1,696,586
other States .. { Amount £	420,519	444,328	522,683	570,909	565,855
Of other States— { Number ..	363,350	381,525	397,546	393,681	432,192
Paid in Victoria { Amount £	135,989	142,718	151,953	156,366	164,025

Of the orders issued in 1927-28, 6,848 for £26,267 were payable in New Zealand, and 60,010 for £173,451 were payable in the United Kingdom. The orders paid included 19,043 for £59,544 issued in New Zealand, and 12,637 for £56,960 issued in the United Kingdom.

**Telegraphs
and
Telegrams.**

There are 2,365 telegraph offices in the State, 115 of which are attached to the railway service. The number of telegrams sent from Victorian offices, and the number received by them, in each of the last five years, were as follows :—

**TELEGRAMS DESPATCHED AND RECEIVED, 1923-24
TO 1927-28.**

Heading.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1926-27.	1927-28.
	No	No.	No.	No.	No.
Telegrams despatched—					
Inland	2,813,300	2,910,978	4,244,806*	4,219,656*	3,999,927*
Inter-State ..	1,297,652	1,336,764			
International—					
Cable	197,290	214,048	230,408	227,832	162,072
Wireless (Beam) ..	..	..	..	12,954	80,919
Total ..	4,308,242	4,461,790	4,475,214	4,460,442	4,242,918
Telegrams received—					
Inter-State ..	1,302,006	1,302,067	4,198,437†	4,066,662†	3,857,209†
International—					
Cable	205,568	216,734	221,879	217,229	168,483
Wireless (Beam) ..	..	..	..	9,154	56,047
Total ..	1,507,574	1,518,801	4,420,316	4,293,045	4,081,739

* Signifies "Within the Commonwealth."

† Includes "Inland."

Telephones.

The connexion of one subscriber to a telephone office constitutes an exchange. There were 1,573 telephone exchanges on 30th June, 1928, as compared with 1,518 in the previous year. The actual number of subscribers' lines on the date mentioned was 108,678, with 147,788 instruments connected, which represented 8·39 to every 100 persons in the State. Telephone bureaux for the use of the public are placed in prominent positions in or near public buildings, post offices, railway stations, &c. The number of these on 30th June, 1928, was 2,203.

Details of wireless licences issued in Victoria for the year ended 30th June, 1928, are shown hereunder. The licences issued to broadcast listeners in Victoria represented 51 per cent. of the total for Australia.

**Wireless
Licences issued.**

WIRELESS LICENCES ISSUED IN VICTORIA, 1927-28.

Class of Licence.						Number.
Coast	..	..	..	..	..	1
Ship	..	..	..	..	..	56
Land	..	..	..	..	..	3
Broadcasting A	..	..	..	..	..	2
Broadcasting B	..	..	..	..	..	2
Broadcast Listeners—						
Ordinary	..	..	..	..	..	137,503
Experimental—						
Transmitting and Receiving	..	..	..	..	..	154
Receiving only	..	..	..	..	..	101
Portable	..	..	..	..	..	2
Special	..	..	..	..	..	7

Post Office
revenue and
expenditure.

Particulars concerning the revenue and expenditure of the Post and Telegraph Department in Victoria for the years 1922-23 to 1926-27 are contained in the following table:—

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT IN VICTORIA, 1922-23 TO 1926-27.

Particulars.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1926-27.
<i>Revenue.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Postage	1,417,267	1,256,509	1,230,737	1,306,183	1,383,227
Money Order Commission	42,837	46,454	49,175	51,381	59,646
Poundage on Postal Notes	8,908	9,778	10,598	11,511	12,376
Private Boxes and Bags	78,637	118,269	112,478	96,277	96,383
Miscellaneous					
Total Postal	1,547,649	1,431,010	1,402,988	1,465,352	1,551,632
Telegraph	303,992	*311,621	335,640	339,033	345,896
Telephones	846,610	943,595	1,033,242	1,143,906	1,310,880
Grand Total†	2,698,251	2,686,226	2,771,870	2,948,291	3,208,408
<i>Expenditure.</i>					
Salaries and Contingencies—					
Salaries	1,198,594	1,270,996	1,433,088	1,390,080	1,444,929
Conveyance of Mails	205,687	220,780	239,415	258,157	267,345
Contingencies	369,157	427,111	501,435	558,568	549,805
Miscellaneous	21,697	17,607	21,844	20,639	20,057
Pensions and Retiring Allowances	45,309	46,840	49,476	51,621	52,108
Rents, Repairs, Maintenance, Fittings, &c.	25,279	32,928	31,001	35,186	32,845
Supervision of Public Works	344	403	382	..	..
Proportion of Audit Expenses	2,905	3,014	2,999	2,813	2,902
Unforeseen Expenditure	26	15	53	..	..
New Works—					
Telegraph and Telephone	559,128	918,824	1,030,482	1,533,577	1,088,911
New Buildings, &c.	26,219	98,197	109,951	127,685	58,349
Interest on Transferred Properties	42,493	43,194	43,241	42,957	42,779
Total Expenditure‡	2,496,838	3,079,909	3,468,367	4,021,233	3,567,030

* Excluding Radio receipts.

† Actual collections.

‡ Actual payments, which includes loan expenditure as follows:—£416,901 in 1922-23, £787,323 in 1923-24, £1,140,433 in 1924-25, £1,661,262 in 1925-26, and £1,147,260 in 1926-27.

RAILWAYS.

**Victorian
Railways,
length and
cost.**

All railways in Victoria available for general traffic are, with the two exceptions referred to on page 509, the property of the State, and are under the management of three Commissioners appointed by the Government.

The succeeding tables relate to the State railways, the Road Motor Services, and the St. Kilda-Brighton and Sandringham-Beaumaris Electric Tramways—all of which are under the control of the Railways Commissioners. The operations of the tramways mentioned are also shown separately on page 506. The usual motive power is steam, but electric traction is used on the suburban lines (with the exception of a small section of the Outer Circle line between East Camberwell and Deepdene), and on the 9·79 miles of tramways referred to above. The gauge of the lines is 5 ft. 3 in., with the exception of 121·77 miles (·21 double and 121·56 single), of which the gauge is 2 ft. 6 in.; and 4·61 miles (2·22 miles double and 2·39 single) of electric street tramway, the gauge of which is 4 ft. 8½ in. The following table shows the length of double and single lines, the cost of construction, and the average cost per mile at the close of each of the last five years :—

**RAILWAYS, LENGTH AND COST OF CONSTRUCTION,
1923-24 TO 1927-28.**

Heading.	Year ended 30th June—				
	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Length of Lines opened to 30th June—					
Double Lines (miles)	336·25	336·28	336·28	336·28	336·28
Single Lines (miles)	4,151·69	4,200·60	4,344·25	4,355·50	4,412·81
Total	4,487·94	4,536·88	4,680·53	4,691·78	4,749·09
Cost of Construction	£ 41,409,905	£ 41,967,054	£ 43,102,954	£ 43,693,034	£ 44,432,267
Average Cost per mile	9,227	9,250	9,209	9,313	9,356

In addition to the lines embraced in this table the following were in course of construction at 30th June, 1928 :—

5 ft. 3 in. Gauge.	Miles.
South Kensington to West Footscray	2½
Albion to Broadmeadows	8½
*Yarrawonga to Oaklands	37
Darling to Glen Waverley	5¾
Nowingi to Millewa South	35½
*Euston to Lette	30
Total	119¼

and the following lines had been authorized, but their construction had not been commenced :—

5 ft. 3 in. Gauge.					Miles.
*Mildura to Gol Gol	..	..	..	..	22
La La Siding to Big Pat's Creek..	..	..	..	..	2½
Orbost to Brodribb	..	..	..	..	6
Casterton to Nangula	..	..	..	..	9
Total	..	..	..	..	39½

*Under Border Railways Act No. 3194.

Total capital cost of railways and equipment.

The total capital cost of all lines constructed and in course of construction, works, rolling-stock and equipment of the Railways Department at 30th June in each of the last five years was as follows :—

TOTAL CAPITAL COST OF RAILWAYS, ETC., AND EQUIPMENT, 1923-24 TO 1927-28.

Year Ended 30th June—	Railways.		Electric Tramways.		Road Motor Services.	Total Capital Cost.
	Lines Opened.*	Lines in Progress of Construction.	Lines Opened.	Lines in Progress of Construction.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1924 ..	65,928,093	325,009	284,890	..	..	66,537,992
1925 ..	67,176,049	563,042	294,732	61	..	68,033,884
1926 ..	68,911,902	175,260	295,984	26,162	16,749	69,426,057
1927 ..	70,301,304	419,824	329,426	..	37,931	71,088,485
1928 ..	72,297,261	501,818	336,215	..	25,502	73,160,796

* Including at 30th June, 1928, the cost of surveys for lines not constructed (£437,984), and cost of lines now closed for traffic (£300,190).

The loan liability of the Railways Department is represented by stock and debentures outstanding to the nominal amount of £73,419,566, on which the annual interest payable is £3,461,772, or at the average rate of 4·715 per cent. The nominal amount of loans, however, was

reduced by £2,733,931—the cost of flotation, together with the discount at time of flotation. It has been computed that, whilst the nominal rate of interest on loans outstanding was 4·715 per cent., the real interest on the net proceeds of current loans available for railway construction, &c., was 4·897 per cent.

In addition to the proceeds from loans, contributions amounting, at 30th June, 1928, to £4,056,927 (on which no interest is charged) have been made from Consolidated Revenue for capital purposes.

**Railway
traffic.**

The mileage and the traffic of the railways since 30th June, 1923, are given in the following table:—

RAILWAYS—MILEAGE AND TRAFFIC, 1923-24 TO 1927-28.

Heading.	Year ended 30th June—				
	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Miles Constructed ..	4,487·94	4,536·88	4,680·53	4,691·78	4,749·09
Dismantled ..	36·14	36·14	36·14	36·14	36·14
" Closed to Traffic ..	11·62	11·62	11·62	11·62	6·40
" Open for Traffic ..	4,440·18	4,489·12	4,632·77	4,644·02	4,706·55*
Train Mileage ..	17,245,219	18,172,188	18,267,000	18,781,264	19,302,971
Passenger Journeys ..	175,030,787	173,656,504	175,354,111†	177,102,686†	172,350,327†
Goods and Live Stock Carried (Tons) ..	8,309,543	8,959,556	8,728,496	9,234,923	8,117,961

* Including 5·22 miles (Fawknor to Somerton) closed in 1903, but re-opened on 5th March, 1928.

† Including 17,504 in 1925-26, 198,362 in 1926-27, and 497,314 in 1927-28, by the Road Motor Services.

The mileage given in preceding tables relates to lines of railway, irrespective of the number of tracks, the actual length of which has been opened for traffic at 30th June, 1928, was 5,071·47 miles of main tracks, and 1,012·94 miles of sidings.

The number of passengers carried in 1927-28 was 172,350,327. Compared with the previous year (the highest on record) there were decreases of 4,149,397 and 901,914 in metropolitan-suburban and in country passenger journeys respectively. Several Road Motor Coach services have been inaugurated, and these accounted for 497,314 passengers, which have been omitted from the above comparisons. The tonnage of goods and live stock carried (8,117,961) was 1,116,962 less than in 1926-27. The items of goods carried in 1927-28 showing greatest tonnage were stone, gravel, and sand, 1,758,760 tons; firewood, 659,697 tons; and wheat, 618,501 tons. Live stock carried in the same year had an aggregate weight of 661,216 tons, and comprised 39,029 horses, 537,216 cattle, 9,759,017 sheep, and 346,128 pigs.

**Flinders-street
Station
Traffic.**

A barrier tally of passengers leaving and entering the three metropolitan stations was taken under normal conditions early in February, 1927. The average daily number of passengers who travelled to and from Flinders-street and Prince's-bridge—which are connected and may be considered as one station—was 317,393, while the highest daily figure recorded for both stations combined was 332,254. In the following table is given an approximation to the average number of passengers who travelled daily to and from the three metropolitan stations in certain specified years from 1909 to 1927:—

Year.	Average Number of Passengers per Week-day at Stations—				
	Flinders-street.	Prince's-bridge.	Total for Flinders-street and Prince's-bridge.	Spencer-street (Suburban only).	Total for Three Stations.
1909 ..	129,449	20,099	149,548	14,546	164,094
1911 ..	145,257	20,740	165,997	20,670	186,667
1914 ..	182,870	27,403	210,273	21,636	231,909
1918 ..	161,363	26,033	187,396	21,836	209,232
1922 ..	209,181	31,958	241,139	44,469	285,608
1924 ..	238,303	44,548	282,851	42,564	325,415
1927 ..	269,372	48,021	317,393	40,634	358,027

The figures for Flinders-street and Prince's-bridge include both suburban and country travellers, but only suburban passengers are included in the numbers for Spencer-street.

The number of trains handled on an ordinary week-day at Flinders-street is approximately 2,800, and at Prince's-bridge 400.

**Railway
receipts and
expenditure.**

The receipts and working expenses of the Railway Department during the last five financial years were as follows:—

RAILWAY RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1923-24 TO 1927-28.

Heading.	Year ended 30th June—				
	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts—					
Passenger, &c., Business—					
Passenger Fares*	5,396,088	5,450,444	5,497,109	5,748,514	5,488,652
Parcels, &c. ..	486,397	501,109	513,842	532,900	525,569
Other ..	97,548	99,448	132,109	131,303	131,713
Goods, &c., Business—					
Goods ..	4,534,931	5,070,969	4,777,686	5,519,649	4,894,706
Live Stock ..	523,406	550,060	636,326	649,743	711,909
Minerals ..	146,189	154,493	151,439	174,704	158,515
Miscellaneous—					
Dining Car and Refreshment Services ..	345,161	407,848	439,543	476,631	471,928
Sale of Electrical Power ..	225,452	218,797	145,026	58,157	35,204
Rentals ..	119,300	124,883	156,546	141,503	145,089
Other ..	151,515	252,232	293,940	327,665	389,754
Total ..	12,025,987	12,830,283	12,743,566	13,760,769	12,953,039
Working Expenses—					
Way and Works ..	1,873,563	1,976,968	1,941,699	2,289,580	2,119,381
Rolling-stock ..	3,231,168	3,512,573	3,604,566	3,757,319	3,671,092
Transportation† ..	2,880,700	3,121,115	3,184,207	3,384,729	3,273,646
Electrical Engineering Branch ..	538,547	564,264	466,770	410,671	355,770
Pensions and Gratuities ..	206,366	215,087	219,396	215,105	213,080
Payment to the Superannuation Fund ..	..	..	18,712	78,575	122,870
Other ..	252,536	314,448	397,890	385,053	410,297
Total ..	8,982,880	9,704,455	9,833,240	10,521,032	10,166,136
Net Receipts ..	3,043,107	3,125,828	2,910,326	3,239,737	2,786,903
Percentage of Expenses to Receipts	74·70	75·64	77·16	76·45	78·48

* Including Road Motor Services, £3,911 in 1925-26, £37,531 in 1926-27, and £60,246 in 1927-28.

† Including Road Motor Services, £3,930 in 1925-26, £49,069 in 1926-27, and £78,812 in 1927-28.

The receipts for 1927-28 were £807,730 less than those received in 1926-27. Passenger business decreased by £266,783, and goods, &c., business by £578,966.

The amount of interest on current loans allocated to railways, together with the expenditure incurred by the Treasury in connexion with the payment of such interest, is compared with the net revenue of the Department for the last five years in the following statement :—

RAILWAY INTEREST CHARGES AND EXPENSES AND NET REVENUE, 1923-24 TO 1927-28.

Year.			Interest, &c.	Net Revenue.	Surplus(+) or Deficit(-)
			£	£	£
1923-24	..	..	3,015,455	3,043,107	+ 27,652*
1924-25	..	..	3,099,885	3,125,828	+ 25,943
1925-26	..	..	3,092,695	2,910,326	- 182,369
1926-27	..	..	3,287,277	3,239,737	- 47,540
1927-28	..	..	3,340,612	2,786,903	- 553,709

* This is subject to a deduction of £136,417, which has been written off. After making this deduction there is a deficit of £108,765. The former amount (£136,417) represents the losses on non-paying lines for which credit was taken in revenue accounts of previous years, but which was not paid by the Government to the Railways Commissioners.

The earnings, expenses, and net profits per average mile of railway worked for each of the last five years were as follows :—

RAILWAY RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE PER AVERAGE MILE OPEN, 1923-24 TO 1927-28.

Heading.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1926-27.	1927-28.
Average Number of Miles Open for Traffic	4,377	4,455	4,534	4,636	4,671
	£	£	£	£	£
Gross Earnings per Mile	2,747	2,880	2,811	2,968	2,773
Expenses per Mile	2,052	2,178	2,169	2,269	2,176
Net Profits per Mile	695	702	642	699	597

This table does not take account of the interest payable on railway loans and expenses of paying the same, which are given in the preceding table.

**Railway
Rolling-stock.**

Particulars of the rolling-stock at 30th June, 1928, are shown in the next statement :—

RAILWAY ROLLING-STOCK AT 30TH JUNE, 1928.

Vehicles.	Broad-Gauge.	Narrow-Gauge.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.
Locomotives—			
Steam	642	19	661
Electric	2	..	2
Steam Cranes	15	..	15
Rail Motors	78	..	78
Steam Coaching Stock	1,736	55	1,791
Electric Coaching Stock	866	..	866
Electric Tramway Stock	36	..	36
Goods Waggons	19,166	242	19,408
Service Stock	797	1	798
Road Motor Vehicles	28	..	28

The capital cost of the broad-gauge stock was £13,347,382, of the narrow-gauge stock £109,539, and of the electric street tramway stock £101,846.

Railway staff. The number of officers and employees in the railway service and the amount of salaries and wages (excluding travelling and incidental expenses) paid in each of the last five financial years were as set forth below :—

RAILWAY STAFF—NUMBERS, SALARIES, ETC.

Year.	Number of Employees at end of Year.			Amount of Salaries and Wages Paid during Year.
	Permanent.	Supernumerary.	Total.	
1922-24 ..	19,057	8,562	27,619	£ 6,651,251
1924-25 ..	18,798	10,354	29,152	6,969,519
1925-26 ..	19,091	9,834	28,925	7,273,485
1926-27 ..	21,982	7,463	29,450	7,792,554
1927-28 ..	21,401	6,705	28,106	7,551,103

Note.—Particulars relating to the Construction Branch employees are not included above.

The results of operating the St. Kilda-Brighton and Sandringham-Beaumaris Electric Tramways for 1927-28 are detailed in the following statement. As these tramways are controlled by the Railways Commissioners, particulars relating to them have been included in all the preceding railway tables.

ELECTRIC STREET TRAMWAYS, 1927-28.
(Under the control of the Railways Commissioners.)

Heading.				St. Kilda-Brighton Electric Tramway.	Sandringham- Beaumaris Electric Tramway.
Average Mileage of Tramway Worked	..			5.18	4.61
Car Mileage	..	..	..	566,243	189,785
Number of Passengers Carried	..	..		5,561,619	1,716,524
				£	£
Gross Revenue	..	..	..	55,202	15,076
Working Expenses	..	..	..	46,661	14,834
Interest Charges	..	..	..	9,525	6,817
Net Result	..	..	..	Loss 984	Loss 6,575
Capital Expenditure at 30th June, 1928—				£	£
Construction of Line	..	..		132,177	102,191
Rolling-stock	..	..	..	70,005	31,842

The provisions of the *Motor Omnibus (Urban and Country) Act 1927* limited the scope of activity of the Road Motor Services. At 30th June, 1928, the following routes were in operation:—Melbourne and Geelong, Geelong and Queenscliff, Melbourne and Belgrave and Monbulk, Lilydale and Warburton, East Camberwell and Deepdene, and a goods service between Melbourne and Geelong. Since the close of the financial year

the passenger service between Melbourne and Geelong has been withdrawn. Particulars relating to the Road Motor Services operating during 1927-28 are given in the following table:—

ROAD MOTOR SERVICES, 1927-28.
(Under the control of the Railways Commissioners.)

Heading.	Year ended 30th June, 1928.
Car Mileage No.	852,015
Passenger Journeys No.	497,314
Gross Revenue £	61,702*
Working Expenses £	78,812
Interest Charges £	2,751
Net Result £	<i>Loss</i> 19,861
Capital Expenditure at 30th June, 1928 ..	25,502

* Passenger fares, £60,246; and other revenue, £1,456.

Railway accidents.

The following table shows the number of persons killed or injured in railway accidents and the amount paid in compensation, damages, &c., for the years 1926-27 and 1927-28:—

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS, 1926-27 and 1927-28.

Nature of Accident.	1926-27.		1927-28.	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Train Accidents—				
Passengers .. .. .	..	12	..	15
Accidents on Line (other than Train Accidents)—				
Passengers	4	171	9	148
Employees	2	32	1	13
Other Persons	1	3	..	..
Shunting Accidents—				
Passengers .. .. .	..	..	..	1
Employees	1	40	12	25
Other Persons	2	5	1	8
Employees proceeding to and from Duty	4	1	..	..
Accidents to Persons at Crossings ..	11	25	17	22
Trespassers	28	3	20	6
Total	53	292	60	238
Compensation, Damages, &c., Paid	£ 38,330		£ 11,223	

A statement of freight rates, operative on 1st October, 1928, in respect of commodities affecting rural producers, has been supplied by the General Passenger and Freight Agent of the Victorian Railways, and is appended hereto. The rates shown are the lower rates provided for carriage at owners' risk.

VICTORIAN RAILWAY GOODS RATES.

Commodities.	50 Miles.	100 Miles.	150 Miles.	200 Miles.	250 Miles.	300 Miles.	350 Miles.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Rate per Ton.							
Agricultural Produce, in specified truck loads*	6 8	10 3	12 2	13 7	14 7	15 7	16 9
Dairy Produce, consisting of Butter, Milk, Cream, Cheese (boxed), (minimum, 1 ton), and Eggs ..	12 9	23 10	31 10	40 0	45 8	51 2	56 11
Hams and Bacon (minimum, 1 ton) ..	14 2	26 4	35 3	44 5	50 8	56 10	63 2
Milk, in 4-ton lots ..	11 2	20 2	26 6	32 8	37 2	41 11	46 6
Fresh Fruit ..	8 6	15 2	19 10	24 7	27 11	31 6	35 0
Fresh Meat, in 5-ton lots; Fencing Wire, in trucks loaded to full carrying capacity, less 5 per cent.; Woolpacks and Cornsacks, in truck loads of 8 or 12 tons ..	12 5	22 5	29 5	33 3	41 4	46 7	51 8
Poultry (living) ..	17 9	32 11	44 1	55 6	63 5	71 1	78 11
Wool (greasy or scoured) ..	25 9	50 3	64 9	73 9	83 6	92 9	102 3
Binder Twine, in truck loads of 8 tons ..	22 4	43 2	62 10	77 8	92 10	100 0	107 2
Agricultural Machinery and Implements, Binder Twine ..	27 0	52 3	78 3	97 3	116 6	129 0	142 3
Fencing Wire, in truck loads of 6 and 8 tons ..	17 10	34 6	50 3	62 2	74 3	80 0	85 9
Wire Netting, in specified truck loads ..	6 6	11 5	15 9	18 5	21 6	23 10	26 1
Manures, in trucks loaded to full carrying capacity, less 5 per cent. ..	3 8	5 7	7 0	8 3	9 8	11 0	11 7
Rate per Truck.							
Live Stock (other than pigs) ..	60 6	116 6	136 6	179 6	224 0	267 0	311 0
Pigs ..	54 5	104 10	122 10	161 7	201 7	240 4	279 11

* Agricultural Produce includes Wheat, Oats, Barley, Maize, Beet, Onions, Hay, Straw, Chaff, Compressed Fodder, Flour, Bran, Pollard, Peas, Potatoes, Sharps, Pig Feed, and Malt; also Wine and Fruit, if produced in the Commonwealth and consigned direct for export.

Fares on
Victorian
railways.

A summary of passenger fares, operative on 1st October, 1928, has been obtained from the Railway Department, and is given in the following table:—

VICTORIAN RAILWAY PASSENGER FARES.

Distance.	Single.		Return.		Return.*	
	1st Class.	2nd Class.	1st Class Ordinary.	2nd Class Ordinary.	1st Class Holiday Excursion.	2nd Class Holiday Excursion.
Miles.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
50	10 3	6 10	20 6	13 8	17 1	11 5
100	19 10	13 3	39 8	26 6	33 2	22 2
150	29 5	19 7	58 10	39 2	49 3	32 10
200	39 8	26 5	79 4	52 10	66 4	44 2
250	49 6	33 1	99 0	66 2	82 8	55 2
300	55 5	36 11	110 10	73 10	92 8	61 8
350	61 4	40 10	122 8	81 8	102 2	68 2

*Tickets issued only at week-ends and on dates specially advertised.

Cheap excursion tickets, at the rate of 2½d. per mile for first class return and 1½d. per mile for second class return, are issued to and from Melbourne and the various country stations as may be advertised from time to time.

From the 1st October to the 30th April each year return tourist tickets are issued to various holiday resorts from all stations throughout Victoria at holiday excursion fares, and are available for two months from date of issue.

Municipal railway. A railway between Kerang and Koondrook, owned and worked by the municipality of the Shire of Kerang, is open for general traffic. This railway, which has a 5 ft. 3 in. gauge, is 13 miles 75 chains in length, and, up to the end of 1927, cost £37,824 for construction and equipment. For the year 1927 the gross receipts were £7,784 and the working expenses, including interest, £6,585. The train mileage for the same year was 9,406, the number of passenger-journeys was 10,313, and the tonnage of goods and live stock carried was 22,428.

Private railway. Another railway in Victoria, not belonging to the State system, is one of 3-ft. gauge and 12 miles in length between Yarra Junction and Powelltown. It was constructed principally for private use, but, in addition to serving its immediate purpose, it is engaged in the general business of transportation of passengers and goods. Up to 30th June, 1928, the cost of construction was £80,101, and for the year ended on the same date the receipts and working expenses (exclusive of depreciation and interest on capital) were £11,836 and £13,275 respectively. The above construction and maintenance cost includes the cost of about 8 miles of

steel tramway continuation beyond Powelltown. This tramway is used for haulage of the logs of the company to which the line belongs and of sawn timber of other sawmillers, but not for passenger traffic. The freights on the extension line are included in the above receipts. The train mileage for the year between Powelltown and Yarra Junction was 22,252, and the passenger-journeys numbered 14,088.

TRAMWAYS.

Victorian tramways (excl. Railways).

The various tramway systems in the State comprise 30·060 miles of cable lines, double track, and 141·637 miles of electric lines, of which 105·651 miles are double, and 35·986 miles single track.

The electric street tramways, St. Kilda to Brighton and Sandringham to Beaumaris, under the management of the Victorian Railways Commissioners, are not referred to in this connexion, being included under the heading "Railways," page 506, and "All Victorian Tramways," page 515.

The subjoined table contains particulars relating to all tramways in Victoria (with the above exceptions) for each of the last five years:—

VICTORIAN TRAMWAYS, 1923-24 TO 1927-28.

(Exclusive of St Kilda-Brighton and Sandringham-Beaumaris Electric Street Tramways.)

Financial Year.	Miles of Track Open.		Tram Mileage.	Passenger Journeys.	Traffic Receipts.	Working Expenses.	Number of Rolling-stock.	Number of Persons employed.
	Double.	Single.						
1923-24	105·360	41·499	23,242,072	229,771,075	£ 1,956,904	£ 1,641,339	1,502	5,887
1924-25	111·686	40·562	25,052,876	236,899,796	2,019,391	1,737,317	1,571	5,986
1925-26	120·716	39·610	24,424,938	235,350,941	2,128,689	1,745,528	1,444	5,989
1926-27	126·511	39·076	24,561,284	227,419,311	2,507,676	1,751,797	1,284	5,965
1927-28	135·711	35·986	25,133,548	225,192,156	2,517,786	1,756,777	1,299	5,761

Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Acts. On 7th January, 1919, the Royal Assent was given to the Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Act, which is administered by a Board consisting of seven members appointed by the Governor in Council. The Board now has control of all the tramways in the metropolitan area, with the exception of the St. Kilda-Brighton and Sandringham-Beaumaris electric systems, which are managed by the Railways Commissioners.

The Board is empowered to borrow up to £4,750,000 by the issue of stock or debentures secured upon its revenues and undertakings, this being in addition to the transferred liabilities attaching to the tramways vested in it. Power is given to have an overdraft not exceeding £400,000. The Board has exercised its power to borrow to the extent of £4,250,000.

The Board has prepared a general scheme for the future development of tramways in the metropolis, which has been approved by the Railways Standing Committee. The scheme includes provision for the construction of about 100 single track miles of electric tramway, but, before the Board can actually construct any of such tramways, a "Special construction scheme" dealing with the proposed route must be approved by the Railways Standing Committee and authorized by Parliament. Authority has, however, been given to the Board to construct certain tramways already approved by the Governor in Council or Parliament, without further formality.

The Act provides that the Board shall pay to the Consolidated Revenue each year a sum equivalent to the Government's contributions to the Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital, the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board, and certain specified municipalities pursuant to the *Licensing Act* 1916. The payments under this obligation for the year ended 30th June, 1928, amounted to £109,252. The surplus on the operations of any year, after transferring not less than 4 per cent. nor more than 6 per cent. of the capital cost of the undertaking to Reserve Funds and carrying to the credit of the succeeding year such sum, not exceeding £10,000, as the Board thinks fit, is to be distributed amongst 29 constituent Metropolitan Councils in accordance with a scheme of distribution to be adopted by the Board. Any sum received by a municipality in pursuance of this arrangement is to be applied only to such purposes as the Governor in Council shall approve. No distribution to the Municipalities has been made since 30th June, 1920.

Pursuant to the *Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Act* 1923, municipal councils may require the Board to submit a special construction scheme to the Railways Standing Committee dealing with any route included in the general scheme. In the event of such route being approved by the Committee, and its construction being authorized by Parliament, the Board shall construct the line under a guarantee against loss on operation from the council or councils concerned for a period of five years. The council or councils shall pay each year from the Municipal fund any losses in respect of which a guarantee has been given, and a council may, if not forbidden by the ratepayers, recoup itself by the levy of a "tramway betterment rate" over the whole or a portion of the district served.

Melbourne and
Metropolitan
Tramways.

The following table contains detailed particulars of the
operations of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways
Board for the year 1927-28:—

Tramway.	Track Open—		Vehicle Mileage.	Passenger Journeys.	Traffic Receipts.*	Working Expenses.	Rolling Stock.	Persons Employed.
	Double.	Single.						
Cable—	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	No.	£	£	No.	No.
Melbourne	27·810	..	7,884,749	77,024,069	789,784	570,050	704	1,784
Northcote	2·250	..	525,779	5,980,690	46,773	38,011	34	88
Total Cable	30·060	..	8,410,528	83,004,759	836,557	608,061	738	1,872
Electric—								
Eastern system† ..	71·198	4·740	10,986,455	97,451,621	1,160,122	762,643	361	2,493
Northern system‡ ..	12·481	1·778	2,368,803	20,636,890	247,007	161,842	58	595
Footscray	3·568	·892	334,222	3,895,083	35,380	26,637	18	56
Essendon	11·254	2·826	1,526,216	10,822,078	149,480	105,944	56	455
Total Electric	98·501	10·236	15,215,696	132,805,672	1,591,989	1,057,066	493	3,599
Grand Total (Tramways)	128·561	10·236	23,626,224	215,810,431	2,428,546	1,665,127	1,231	5,471
<hr/>								
	Route Mileage.							
Motor Omnibuses ..	6·110		636,731	4,542,902	48,098	57,840	56	39

* Gross revenue from tramways amounted to £2,445,868, and from motor omnibuses to £48,232.

† Prahran and Malvern (including St. Kilda and South Melbourne), and Hawthorn tramways.

‡ Coburg and Preston tramways.

In addition to traffic receipts (£2,476,644), there was revenue from advertising, rents, &c., of £7,243 from cable tramways, £10,079 from electric tramways, and £134 from motor buses, making a gross revenue for the year of £2,494,100.

The gross surplus on the year's operations, including motor omnibuses, was £771,133. Out of this had to be paid interest on loans, rates, &c., leaving available for appropriation an amount of £445,178. As this sum was insufficient to meet all statutory payments, after allowing for £1,928 carried forward from the previous year, the sum of £25,133 had to be transferred from General Reserve Account to meet the deficit. After this was done, the following appropriations were made :—Consolidated Revenue, £109,252; Fire Insurance Reserve Account, £7,000; Renewals Reserve Account, £290,000; and Loans Redemption and Sinking Fund Accounts, £65,987.

Up to 30th June, 1928, the capital cost of the tramways vested in the Tramways Board, including stores on hand, amounted to £7,401,527, of which £1,685,390 was expended on cable, £5,603,818 on electric tramways, and £112,319 on motor omnibuses.

In the next statement interesting comparisons are made between the cable, electric, and bus systems, the receipts per mile, the cost of working, &c., being shown for the year 1927-28 :—

System.	Average Traffic Receipts.			Percentage of Working Expenses to Total Revenue.	Average Working Expenses per Vehicle Mile, including Power Cost.	Average Distance per Penny.
	Per Vehicle Mile.	Per Mile of Single Track.	Per Passenger.			
	d.	£	d.		d.	Miles.
Cable ..	23·872	13,914	2·419	72·06	17·351	·956
Electric ..	25·110	7,682	2·877	65·98	16·674	·900
Bus	18·129	3,888	2·540	119·92	21·801	·600

**Metropolitan
Tramways
Traffic.**

Particulars in relation to the traffic of the metropolitan tramways for each of the last five years are given in the following statement:—

**MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN TRAMWAYS, 1923-24
TO 1927-28.**

Financial Year.	Track Open.		Tram Mileage.	Passenger Journeys.	Traffic Receipts.	Working Expenses.	Rolling- stock.	Persons employed.
	Double.	Single.						
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	No.	£	£	No.	No.
1923-24	99·965	17·801	21,984,885	221,892,070	1,870,288	1,566,996	1,433	5,673
1924-25	106·306	16·172	23,712,432	223,752,078	1,935,098	1,661,274	1,493	5,764
1925-26	115·336	15·229	23,051,639	226,900,053	2,045,014	1,663,280	1,365	5,762
1926-27	121·031	14·786	23,205,337	218,837,383	2,424,170	1,666,307	1,218	5,743
1927-28	128·561	10·236	23,626,224	215,810,431	2,428,546	1,665,127	1,231	5,471

The towns, other than the metropolis, having tramway systems are:—Bailarat, with 13·85 miles of electric lines (1·42 double and 12·43 single track); Bendigo, with 8·79 miles of electric lines (1·79 double and 7·00 single track); and Geelong, with 10·26 miles of electric lines (3·94 double and 6·32 single track).

The traffic particulars of these lines for each of the last five years are summarized below:—

COUNTRY TRAMWAYS, 1923-24 TO 1927-28.

Financial Year.	Track Open.		Tram Mileage.	Passenger Journeys.	Traffic Receipts.	Working Expenses.	Rolling- stock.	Persons employed.
	Double.	Single.						
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	No.	£	£	No.	No.
1923-24	5·395	23·698	1,257,187	7,879,005	86,616	74,343	69	214
1924-25	5·380	24·390	1,340,444	8,147,718	84,293	76,043	78	222
1925-26	5·380	24·390	1,373,299	8,450,888	83,675	82,248	79	227
1926-27	5·480	24·290	1,358,947	8,581,928	83,506	85,490	66	222
1927-28	7·150	25·750	1,507,324	9,381,725	89,240	91,650	68	290

Summary of All Victorian Tramways. A summary of the operations for the past two years relating to the foregoing tramway systems and the electric tramways under the control of the Railways Commissioners is appended :—

ALL VICTORIAN TRAMWAYS, 1926-27 AND 1927-28.

Heading.	1926-27.	1927-28.
Route Mileage Open—Double .. miles	133·911	143·101
Single .. miles	41·466	38·386
Total .. miles	175·377	181·487
Cost of Construction and Equipment £	7,137,222	7,602,225
Interest Payable on Capital Cost of Construction and Equipment .. £	288,496	319,103
Gross Revenue—		
Traffic Receipts £	2,577,632	2,587,417
Other £	20,067	19,481
Total Revenue £	2,597,699	2,606,898
Working Expenses £	1,815,074	1,818,272
Net Earnings £	782,625	788,626
Net Profit or Loss after Paying Working Expenses and Interest .. £	Profit 494,129	Profit 469,523
Tram Miles Run miles	25,314,799	25,889,576
Passenger Journeys No.	235,085,987	232,470,299
Staff Employed—		
Salaried No.	720	714
Wages No.	5,378	5,172
Total Staff .. No.	6,098	5,886
Rolling Stock No.	1,320	1,335

LICENSED VEHICLES.

Licensed vehicles in Melbourne. The licensing and regulating of vehicles used as hackney carriages plying for hire within the City of Melbourne and within the distance of eight miles from the corporate limits of the City of Melbourne is controlled by the Melbourne City Council.

The appended statement contains details of vehicles licensed annually during the last five years.

LICENSED VEHICLES IN MELBOURNE, 1924 TO 1928.

Heading.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
<i>For Passenger Traffic.</i>					
Waggonettes, Drags (4 wheel) ..	410	286	203	158	142
Hansom Cabs	95	61	31	20	14
Motor Cars (Taxicabs, Service Cars and Motor Cabs) ..	882	842	994	1,114	949
Motor Omnibuses	72	170	175	152	127
„ Chars-a-bancs	331	85	115	101	66
Total	1,790	1,444	1,518	1,545	1,298
<i>For Conveyance of Goods within the corporate limits of the City of Melbourne only.</i>					
Drivers licensed	3,182	3,226	2,922	2,960	2,694

Complete statistics regarding motor omnibus traffic are not yet available. This is due to the great number of bus proprietors who have ceased operations during the currency of the year in which they have been registered, as well as to the incompleteness of many of the returns received.

The use of motor cars, motor vehicles, and traction engines engaged in haulage on any highway in Victoria is regulated by the following Acts, viz.:—Motor Car Act No. 2702; Motor Omnibus Acts Nos. 3378 and 3439; and the Highways and Vehicles Acts Nos. 3379, 3448, and 3575.

All Motor Vehicles and Traction Engines must be registered with the Chief Commissioner of Police, and the registrations renewed annually, and all motor vehicles plying for hire in the City of Melbourne are also required to be licensed by the Melbourne City Council.

The annual registration fee for motor vehicles (excluding motor cycles and omnibuses) is calculated on the power-weight unit, i.e., the sum of the horse-power and the weight in hundredweights of the motor

car unladen and ready for use. Fees chargeable under the above-mentioned Acts are as follows :—

Vehicle, &c.	Rate Chargeable—
(a) Ordinary Motor Cars ..	3s. per power-weight unit, with a minimum fee of £3 each.
(b) Motor Cycles ..	Flat rate of £1 each.
(c) Trailers and Side Cars attached to Motor Cycles ..	Flat rate of 10s. each.
(d) Trailers attached to Motor Cars	From £1 to £4 each, according to unladen weight and type of tires.
(e) Motor Vehicles for Hire and Commercial Use	From 4s. per power-weight unit to 8s. 9d. per power-weight unit, according to the number of wheels, unladen weight, and type of tires and wheels. Special rates are levied on vehicles used by primary producers solely for carrying their produce, &c. Rates on commercial vehicles are less 10 per cent. where the vehicle is wholly of British or Australian manufacture, or both.
(f) Motor Omnibuses ..	Flat rate of £5 each, plus additional fees ranging from £1 5s. to £4 10s. per passenger seat, if running on certain defined routes in the Melbourne District. For omnibuses running on routes prescribed as "developmental routes" the additional fee is 10s. per seat.
(g) Traction Engines ..	From £6 to £15 each, according to weight and if used for haulage purposes on any highway. Those owned by municipalities are exempted.
(h) Drivers' and Riders' Licences, Dealers' Licences, &c.	Drivers' and Riders' licences, 5s. each; Dealers' licences, £5 each; Transfers, 2s. 6d. each; and Duplicates, 1s. each.

The total registrations of motor vehicles, &c., and the revenue received therefrom by the Police Department during 1927-28, are shown in the appended table :—

REGISTRATIONS OF MOTOR VEHICLES, ETC., 1927-28.

Heading.	Registrations.	Revenue.
	No.	£
Motor Cars	126,120	854,797
Motor Cycles	24,015	24,015
Omnibuses	208	7,391
Traction Engines	142	1,421
Side Cars	7,827	3,913
Trailers	440	805
Total Vehicle Registrations ..	158,752	892,342

REGISTRATIONS OF MOTOR VEHICLES, ETC., 1927-28—*continued.*

Heading.	Registrations.	Revenue.
	No.	£
Drivers' and Riders' Licences	188,057	47,009
Dealers' Licences	312	1,560
Transfers	38,119	4,765
Duplicates	3,520	176
Total Other Registrations ..	230,008	53,510
Total All Registrations ..	388,760	945,852

Traffic
Accidents.

The Police Department has tabulated a return of the Traffic accidents (vehicle, horse and improper riding), known to the Police, which occurred in the public streets of Victoria during the calendar year 1927. Details showing total accidents, and number of persons killed and injured, are as follows:—

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS IN VICTORIA, 1927.

Cause of Traffic Accident.	Total Accidents.	Persons Affected.		
		Killed.	Injured.	Total Killed and Injured.
Vehicles—	No.	No.	No.	No.
Aeroplane	1	1	..	1
Bicycle	105	3	89	92
Motor Bus	34	..	23	23
Motor Car	5,236	200	2,798	2,998
Motor Cycle	317	42	355	397
Train	52	20	..	20
Tram (Cable and Electric) ..	236	24	173	197
Other Vehicles	167	24	128	152
Horses—				
Bolting	21	1	11	12
Loose	2	..	2	2
Ridden	35	7	28	35
Improper riding upon, or getting on or off trams, or other vehicles in motion	60	9	51	60
Total Traffic Accidents— (Vehicle, Horse and Improper Riding)	6,266*	331	3,658	3,989
Ages of Persons killed or injured—				
Under 10 years .. ..	..	37	240	277
Ten to 14 years .. ..	..	13	195	208
Over 14 years .. ..	..	281	3,223	3,504
Total .. ..	..	331	3,658	3,989

* Of the 6,266 traffic accidents shown above, 1,564 occurred in the City of Melbourne, 3,730 in the Suburbs, and 972 in the Country Districts; and 4,705 occurred during the hours of daylight.