

VICTORIAN YEAR-BOOK

1925-26.

A. M. LAUGHTON,

GOVERNMENT STATIST.

This page was added on 11 January 2013 to include the Disclaimer below.
No other amendments were made to this Product

DISCLAIMER

Users are warned that this historic issue of this publication series may contain language or views which, reflecting the authors' attitudes or that of the period in which the item was written, may be considered to be inappropriate or offensive today.



Victorian Year-Book

1925-26

By

A. M. LAUGHTON,

F.I.A., F.F.A., F.S.S.,

GOVERNMENT STATIST

FORTY-SIXTH ISSUE.

By Authority:

H. J. GREEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, MELBOURNE.

[2s. 6d.]

CONTENTS.

	PAGES
MAP OF VICTORIA.	
INTRODUCTION	1 to 9
CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT	9 to 34
FINANCE	35 to 86
POPULATION	87 to 122
VITAL STATISTICS—	
MARRIAGES	123 to 135
BIRTHS	135 to 144
DEATHS	145 to 194
MUNICIPAL STATISTICS	195 to 248
ACCUMULATION	249 to 282
LAW AND CRIME	283 to 314
SOCIAL CONDITION	315 to 400
INTERCHANGE	401 to 456
MAP ILLUSTRATING THE PRODUCTION OF EACH DISTRICT.	
PRODUCTION—	
LAND SETTLEMENT, WATER SUPPLY, ETC.	457 to 490
AGRICULTURAL AND PASTORAL PURSUITS	491 to 543
MINING	543 to 553
MANUFACTURES	554 to 596
STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR VICTORIA, 1836 TO 1926	597 to 623
APPENDIX	624
GENERAL INDEX	625 to 647

P R E F A C E.

THIS is the forty-sixth issue of the *Victorian Year-Book*.

The main object of the work is to show the progress made by the State during the year under review, and with this end the particulars appertaining to that year are compared with those relating to previous years. An endeavour is made to present such information as will assist legislators, publicists, and others in forming an opinion in regard to the most suitable methods to be adopted in the future in developing the natural resources of the State and promoting the welfare of the people.

The first part shows the progress of the State since the early days of settlement, and contains a description of the Constitution, as well as an epitome of Acts passed during 1925 by the State Parliament, lists of members of Parliament, and an addendum to an article which appeared in the 1924-25 issue of this work on the Flora of the State, &c. Parts II., III., V., VI., and IX. deal with the wealth and progress of the community, as indicated by the growth of population, and by increases in bank deposits, in amounts assured with life offices, in volume of trade, &c., and details are given of the revenue and expenditure of the Government, and of municipalities. Parts IV., VII., and VIII. contain statistics relating to births, marriages and deaths, crime, education, charitable institutions, and other cognate subjects. In Part X. a detailed account is given of the agricultural, mineral, manufacturing, and other productions of the State. The various parts were issued as soon as completed. The information in all parts has been brought up to the latest possible date, on many subjects to the middle of the year 1926, and in a few instances to a later date.

In part "Finance," the operations of the Government business undertakings in their relation to State Revenue and Expenditure are shown in a table which also gives the revenue and expenditure relating to other matters. For statistical purposes the meaning of the term

Co-operative Societies has been extended so as to include those trading companies which are co-operative in principle, and details of membership, income, expenditure, &c., are given under the headings Producers' Societies and Consumers' Societies respectively.

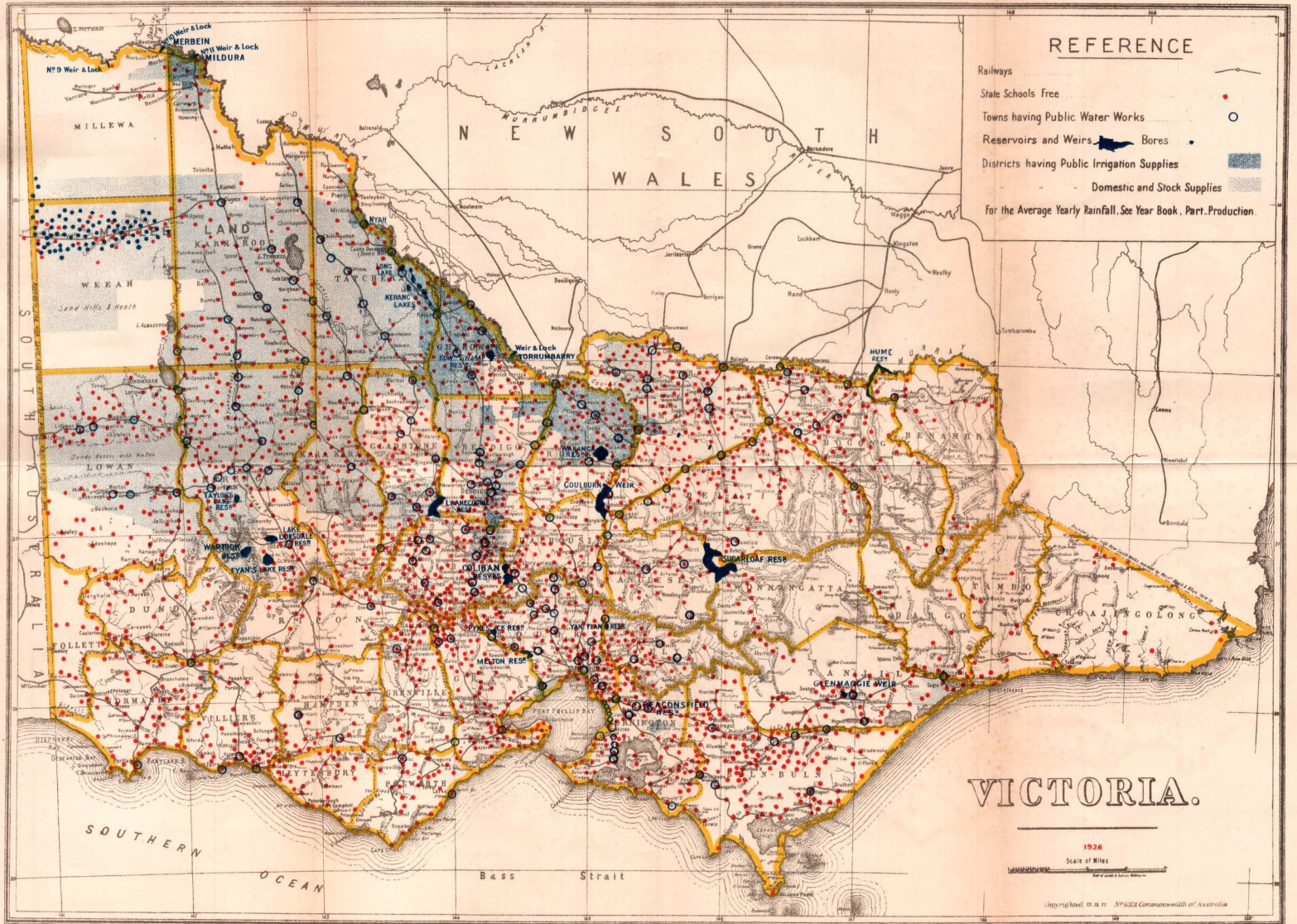
A census of fruit trees was taken during the year at the request of the Department of Agriculture for the purpose of ascertaining what were the principal varieties grown in the different districts of the State, and what was the approximate number of each variety. Summarized results of the census are given in part "Production."

I have to thank the heads of Government Departments and the various experts who have supplied information and in other ways assisted in the preparation of this book. I also wish to thank the members of my staff for their hearty co-operation and for the valuable assistance received from them, and in particular I desire to express my appreciation of the work performed by Mr. J. B. Hourigan (Assistant Government Statist) in supervising the preparation of the parts.

The figures and other material in each portion of the book have been carefully examined and checked. If, however, any errors be detected, I shall be pleased to receive information as to their nature and position.

A. M. LAUGHTON,
Government Statist.

Office of the Government Statist,
Melbourne, 31st March, 1927.



REFERENCE

- Railways
 - State Schools Free
 - Towns having Public Water Works
 - Reservoirs and Weirs
 - Bores
 - Districts having Public Irrigation Supplies
 - Domestic and Stock Supplies
- For the Average Yearly Rainfall. See Year Book. Part. Production.

VICTORIA.

1926

Scale of Miles
0 10 20 30 40 50

Copyrighted. In. n. n. N.P. 6322 Commonwealth of Australia

By Authority: H. J. Green, Govt. Printer, Melb.

Victorian Year-Book, 1925-26.

INTRODUCTION.

GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION, AREA, AND CLIMATE.

Area of Victoria. Victoria is situated at the south-eastern extremity of the Australian continent, of which it occupies about a thirty-fourth part, and it contains about 87,884 square miles, or 56,245,760 acres. It is bounded on the north and north-east by New South Wales, from which it is separated by the River Murray, and by a straight line running in a south-easterly direction from a place near the head-waters of that stream, called The Springs, on Forest Hill, to Cape Howe. On the west it is bounded by South Australia, the dividing line being about 242 geographical miles in length, approximating to the position of the 141st meridian of east longitude, and extending from the River Murray to the sea. On the south and south-east its shores are washed by the Southern Ocean, Bass Strait, and the Pacific Ocean. It lies between the 34th and 39th parallels of south latitude and the 141st and 150th meridians of east longitude. Its extreme length from east to west is about 420, its greatest breadth about 250, and its extent of coast-line nearly 600 geographical miles. Great Britain, exclusive of the islands in the British Seas, contains 88,756 square miles, and is therefore slightly larger than Victoria.

The southernmost point in Victoria, and in the whole of the Australian continent, is Wilson's Promontory, which lies in latitude 39 deg. 8 min. S., longitude 146 deg. 26 min. E.; the northernmost point is the place where the western boundary of the State meets the Murray, latitude 34 deg. 2 min. S., longitude 140 deg. 58 min. E.; the point furthest east is Cape Howe, situated in latitude 37 deg. 31 min. S., longitude 149 deg. 59 min. E.; the most westerly point is the line of the whole western frontier, which, according to the latest correction, lies upon the meridian 140 deg. 58 min. E., and extends from latitude 34 deg. 2 min. S. to latitude 38 deg. 4 min. S., a distance of 242 geographical miles.

Climate. From its geographical position, Victoria enjoys a climate more suitable to the European constitution than any other State upon the Continent of Australia. In the seventy years ended with 1925 the maximum temperature in the shade recorded at the Melbourne Observatory and the Weather Bureau was 111·2 deg. Fahr.,

on the 14th January, 1862; the minimum was 27 deg., on the 21st July, 1869; and the mean was 58·4 deg. Upon the average, on only four days during the year does the thermometer rise above 100 deg. in the shade, and on 19·5 days the temperature reaches 90 deg. or over; generally, on about two nights during the year it falls below freezing point. Sultry nights are of rare occurrence. It is only occasionally that a high minimum is recorded. The minimum reading approximates to 70 deg. on an average on only two nights in any one year. The maximum temperature in the sun ever recorded (*i.e.*, since 1859) was 178·5 deg., on the 14th January, 1862. The mean atmospheric pressure noted, first at the Observatory 91 feet above the sea level, and later at the Weather Bureau 115 feet above sea level, was, during the sixty-eight years ended with 1925, 30·012 inches; the average number of days on which rain fell each year was 137, and the average yearly rainfall was 25·65 inches. The mean relative humidity of the atmosphere is 68 per cent.; on very warm days it is often 12 per cent., and it has been as low as 2 per cent. The severity of the heat is not felt so much as it would be if there were a relatively high wet bulb, as the temperature by such bulb seldom exceeds 75 deg. The average number of hours of sunshine daily is 6·2, and fogs occur, on an average, on only 19 days in the year.

MOUNTAINS AND HILLS, RIVERS AND LAKES.

Mountains and Hills. The highest mountain in Victoria is Mount Bogong,* situated in the county of the same name, 6,509 feet above the sea-level; the next highest peaks are—Mount Feathertop, 6,306 feet; Mount Nelson, 6,170 feet; Mount Fainter, 6,160 feet; Mount Hotham, 6,100 feet; Mount McKay, 6,030 feet; and Mount Cope, 6,027 feet; all situated in the same county; also the Cobboras, 6,030 feet, situated between the counties of Benambra and Tambo. These, so far as is known, are the only peaks which exceed 6,000 feet in height; but, according to a list which appears in the *Year-Book* for 1915-16, there are 39 peaks between 5,000 and 6,000 feet high, and 40 between 4,000 and 5,000 feet high; it is known, moreover, that there are many peaks rising to upwards of 4,000 feet above the level of the sea whose actual heights have not yet been determined.

Rivers. With the exception of the Yarra, on the banks of which the metropolis is situated; the Murray; the Goulburn, which empties itself into the Murray about eight miles to the eastward of Echuca; and the La Trobe and the Mitchell, with, perhaps, a few other of the Gippsland streams, the rivers of Victoria are not navigable except by boats. They, however, drain the watershed of large areas of country, and many of the streams are used as feeders to

* The highest mountain on the Australian Continent is Mount Kosciusko, in New South Wales, one peak of which is 7,328 feet high.

permanent reservoirs for irrigation and water supply purposes. The Murray, which forms the northern boundary of the State, is the largest river in Australia. Its total length is 1,520 miles, for 1,200 of which it flows along the Victorian border. Several of the rivers in the north-western portion of the State have no outlet, but are gradually lost in the absorbent tertiary flat country through which they pass.

Lakes. Victoria contains numerous salt and fresh-water lakes and lagoons; but many of these are nothing more than swamps during dry seasons. Some of them are craters of extinct volcanoes. Lake Corangamite, the largest inland lake in Victoria, covers 90 square miles, and is quite salt, notwithstanding that it receives the flood waters of several fresh-water streams. It has no visible outlet. Lake Colac, only a few miles distant from Lake Corangamite, is a beautiful sheet of water, $10\frac{1}{2}$ square miles in extent, and quite fresh. Lake Burrumbeet is also a fine sheet of fresh water, embracing 8 square miles. The Gippsland lakes—Victoria, King, and Reeve—are situated close to the coast, and are separated from the sea by only a narrow belt of sand. Lake Wellington, the largest of the Gippsland lakes, lies to the westward of Lakes Victoria and King, and is united to the first-named by a narrow channel. South-east of Geelong is Lake Connemara, which is connected with the sea at Point Flinders.

A list of mountains and hills, rivers and lakes in Victoria appears in the *Victorian Year-Book* for 1915-16. This was revised by the late Surveyor-General, Mr. A. B. Lang, and contains information in regard to heights, lengths, and areas respectively.

FLORA OF VICTORIA.

An article on the "Flora of Victoria" by J. W. Audas, Esq., F.L.S., F.R.M.S. (National Herbarium, Melbourne), appeared in the *Year Book* for 1924-25, on pages 13 to 24.

ADDENDUM TO THE ABOVE ARTICLE.

Supplied by Mr. Audas in May, 1926.

A number of species new to Science were added to the list of the Flora during the year 1925-26.

Bassia parviflora Anderson. "Small-flowered Salt-bush" (*Chenopodiaceae*). Indigenous to Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia.

Bassia patentiuspis Anderson. "Spreading Salt-bush" (*Chenopodiaceae*). Indigenous to Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia and Western Australia.

Bassia tricuspis, Anderson. "Three-spined Salt-bush" (*Chenopodiaceae*). Indigenous to Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia and Western Australia.

During the period twelve species not previously recorded for this State have been added to the list of native Flora.

- Alsophila Rebeckae* F.v.M., "Wig Tree Fern" (*Filicales*).
Dryopteris glabella C. Chr., "Smooth Shield Fern" (*Filicales*).
Eucalyptus unilata R. T. Baker, "Island Blue Gum" (*Myrtaceae*).
Hymenophyllum rarum R. Br., "Rare Filmy Fern" (*Filicales*).
Loranthus Miquelii Lehm., "Long-leaf Mistletoe" (*Loranthaceae*).
Loranthus Preissii Miq., "Wire-leaf Mistletoe" (*Loranthaceae*).
Microtis oblonga Rogers, "Oblong Leek Orchid" (*Orchidaceae*).
Prasophyllum Colemanae Rogers, "Lilac Leek Orchid" (*Orchidaceae*).
Prasophyllum gracile Rogers, "Slender Leek Orchid" (*Orchidaceae*).
Pterostylis decurva Rogers, "Curved Greenhood" (*Orchidaceae*).
Trichomanes caudata Brackenridge, "Tailed Bristle Fern" (*Orchidaceae*).

CHANGES IN NOMENCLATURE.

A number of changes in the names of the Victorian flora have been made in accordance with the Vienna Botanical Rules of Nomenclature, viz. :—

Acacia argyrophylla Hook (*Acacia brachybotrya* Benth.) (*Leguminosae*).

For *Bassia diacantha* read *Bassia uniflora* (R. Br.) F.v.M.

Delete *B. lanicuspis*, *B. biflora*, *B. divaricata*, *B. echinopsila*, and *B. enchylaenoides*.

Loranthus vitellinus Sieb. (*Loranthus longiflorus* Desv.) (*Loranthaceae*).

Pelargonium inodorum Willd. (*Pelargonium australe* Willd.) (*Geraniaceae*).

Phrygilanthus celastroides Eichl. (*Loranthus celastroides* Sieb.) (*Loranthaceae*).

CORRECTIONS.

The following corrections have been made in the Census of Victorian plants :—

Delete *Prasophyllum album* Rogers.

Callistachys elliptica Vent., *C. alpestris* Ktze., *C. procumbens* (F.v.M.), Engl., *C. triloba* (F.v.M.), Engl., for *Oxylobium* spp.

Drosera Planchonii Hook, f, for *D. Menziesii* R. Br.

Acacia Victoriae Benth., for *A. sentis* F.v.M.

Dillwynia uncinata (Turcz.), J. M. Black, for *D. patula* F.v.M.

Eutaxia microphylla (R. Br.), J. M. Black, for *E. empetrifolia* Schl.

Templetonia stenophylla F.v.M. for *T. Muelleri* Benth.

Transpose *Geranium pilosum* Forst. and *G. dissectum* L.

Phebalium squameum (Labill) Engler., for *P. Billardieri* A. Juss.

Gymnosporia for *Celastrus*.

Correa rubra (Smith) J. M. Black, for *C. speciosa* Andrews, "Red Correa."

Stackhousia monogyna Labill, for *S. linarifolia* A. Cunn.

Callistemon citrinus (D.C.), Stapf., for *C. lanceolatus* D.C.

Thryptomene calycina (F.v.M.), Stapf., for *T. Mitchelliana* F.v.M.

EXOTICS.

NEW PLANTS RECORDED DURING 1925-26.

Nine introduced plants have been recorded as growing wild for the first time, viz. :—

Ballota nigra L., "Black Horehound" (*Labiatae*), a native of Europe, Asia and North Africa. It has no economic value.

Gomphocarpus arborescens R. Br., "Cape Milkweed" (*Asclepiadaceae*). An introduction from South Africa. It has no economic value.

Mimulus luteus L., "Common Monkey Flower" (*Scrophulariaceae*). A native of North and South America. An ornamental plant and an escape from cultivation.

Peganum Harmala L., "Wild Syrian Rue" (*Zygophyllaceae*). A tall herbaceous plant indigenous to the Mediterranean region of Europe and Africa, and extending into Thibet. The seeds of *Peganum Harmala* were used by the ancient Greeks in the treatment of eye diseases. In modern times it has been used as an emmenagogue, anthelmintic and sedative. The plant should be attacked and not allowed to spread as it may become a serious weed.

Hyoscyamus niger L., "Black Henbane" (*Solanaceae*). An introduction from Europe and Himalayan regions. An annual or biennial with stems 1 to 3 feet high. It is a well known medicinal plant from which hyoscyamin is obtained. Hyoscyamin is an anodyne and hypnotic and is poisonous.

Oxalis bifurca Lodd, "Forked Wood Sorrel" (*Oxalidaceae*). Native to South Africa. It is a highly obnoxious weed, and is apt to spread in neglected pastures.

Lithospermum fruticosum L., "Prostrate Gromwell" (*Borraginaceae*). Native to the Mediterranean regions. It is not a serious weed and is easily kept down by good cultivation.

Iva axillaris Pursh., "Marsh Elder" (*Compositae*). Native to North America. A perennial with herbaceous stems, from 1 to 2 feet high. Common in the saline soils from Nebraska to the Dakotas, British Columbia, California and New Mexico. It is a very pernicious weed, difficult to suppress because of its extensive system of tough, woody root stocks which send up many fruiting stalks, causing it to form dense patches, crowding and starving all other growth. It intrudes in most crops and thrives almost anywhere, but seems to have a preference for soil that is alkaline. The whole plant has a rank, unpleasant odor, causing it to be disliked by grazing animals.

Silene noctiflora L., "Night Flowering Catchfly" (*Caryophyllaceae*). Native to Europe and Asia. First cultivated in gardens because of its fragrance and beauty, but now a widespread pest. It is a viscid hairy annual, from 1 to 3 feet tall, with white or pinkish flowers, opening at night. According to Pammels' "Manual of Poisonous Plants," it is suggested that the "Night Flowering Catchfly" may be poisonous.

CORRECTIONS.

The following corrections have been made in "The Weeds, Poison Plants and Naturalized Aliens of Victoria."

Bartschia for *Bartsia*.

Bellardia Trixago for *Bartsia Trixago*.

Sinapis arvensis for *Brassica Sinapistrum*.

Festuca myuros for *F. myurus*.

Glaucium flavum Crantz for *G. luteum* Scop.

Melilotus indicus (L.), Allion, for *M. parviflora*.

Melilotus albus for *M. alba*.

Coronopus procumbens Gilib., for *Senebiera Coronopus* Poir.

Coronopus didyma (L.), Smith, for *S. didymus* Pers.

Medicago arabica (L.), Willd., for *M. maculata*.

Medicago hispida includes *M. denticulata*. Delete latter.

Silybum Marianus (L.), Gaertn., for *Carduus Marianus* L.

Cirsium arvense (L.), Scop., for *Carduus arvensis* L.

Cirsium lanceolatus for *Carduus lanceolatus*, Scop.

Lochnera rosea (L.), Reichb., for *Vinca rosea* L.

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY OF VICTORIA.

An article on the "Physical Geography and Geology of Victoria," by W. Baragwanath, Esq., Director of Victorian Geological Survey, appeared in the *Year Book* for 1924-25 on pages 3 to 13.

THE FAUNA OF VICTORIA.

An article on the "Fauna of Victoria," by the late T. S. Hall, M.A., D.Sc. (University of Melbourne), and J. A. Kershaw, Esq., F.Z.S., Curator of the National Museum, Melbourne, appeared in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, and addenda thereto by Mr. Kershaw in the *Year-Books* for 1918-19 and 1920-21.

THE HISTORY OF VICTORIA.

An article on this subject contributed by Ernest Scott, Professor of History in the University of Melbourne, appeared in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 1 to 31.

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE OF LEADING EVENTS.

The *Year-Book* for 1916-17 contained, on pages 31 to 50, a chronological table of leading events in Victorian history for the years 1770 to 1900 inclusive, and of leading events in Victorian and other history for the years 1901 to 1916 inclusive. The leading events in the eight years 1917 to 1924 were given in the volumes relating to those years.

Some of the principal events in Victorian and other history during 1925 are given in the table which follows :—

1925. 1st February	..	Great fire at the Melbourne Town Hall. Concert hall and large organ destroyed. Damage estimated at £40,000.
7th February	..	It was announced that the coal production of New South Wales for 1924 constituted a record, viz., 11,618,216 tons.
23rd March	..	In a collision with an electric railway parcels van at Highett eight persons travelling on a motor car were killed.
24th March	..	The Federal Government decided that two new 10,600 ton cruisers for the Royal Australian Navy are to be built in Scotland.
26th March	..	The foundation stone of a bridge over Sydney Harbour laid. It is estimated that the cost will amount to £4,500,000 and that the bridge will be completed in December, 1931.
30th March	..	The Ford Motor Company of Canada acquired 100 acres on the northern shore of Corio Bay, Geelong, for the erection of a motor body building factory.
— April	..	Mr. Calvin Coolidge took office as President of the United States.
1st May	..	Marshal von Hindenburg elected President of the German Republic.
23rd May	..	Death of the Earl of Ypres (Field Marshal Lord French), who led the British Expeditionary Force in France at the beginning of the Great War.
9th June	..	Arrival in Melbourne of the Marchese de Pinedo, Italian airman, with Chief Warrant Officer Campanelli, on a flying tour from Rome to Tokio.
23rd July	..	A United States fleet consisting of 43 vessels under the command of Admiral Robert E. Coontz, entered Port Philip Heads. A similar number of vessels visited Sydney at the same time.
26th July	..	Ex-Senator W. A. Trenwith died at Camberwell.
29th September	..	The Empire Press Conference opened in Melbourne. Lord Burnham, President of the Empire Press Union, presided.
3rd October	..	C. Web Gilbert, Australian sculptor, died in Melbourne, aged 56 years.
8th October	..	Lord Stonehaven, new Governor-General of Australia arrived in Melbourne.
4th November	..	Patrick Hannan, discoverer of the Kalgoorlie gold-field, died at Brunswick, Melbourne, aged 83 years.
20th November	..	Death of Queen Alexandra, widow of King Edward VII., and mother of King George V., aged 80 years.
3rd December	..	The Commonwealth redemption loan of £67,000,000 closed. The amount was over-subscribed.
„ „	..	Death at Devon, England, of Sir Lauchlan Mackinnon, for many years general manager of the <i>Argus</i> and <i>Australasian</i> , aged 77 years.

PROGRESS OF STATE SINCE 1850.

The following table has been prepared to illustrate the advance made by the State since 1850—the year immediately preceding the separation of the Colony from New South Wales. The subsequent years are census years except the last :—

STATISTICS OF VICTORIAN PROGRESS, 1850 TO 1925.

	1850.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1921.	1925.
Population, 31st December ..	76,162	541,800	747,412	879,886	1,157,678	1,209,900	1,339,893	1,550,686	1,684,017
Revenue £	259,133	2,592,101	3,734,422	5,186,011	8,343,588	7,712,099	9,372,617	19,054,475	24,804,887
Expenditure from Revenue ..	196,440	3,092,021	3,659,534	5,108,642	9,128,699	7,672,780	9,362,291	18,941,698	24,170,483
Public Funded Debt £	..	6,345,060	11,994,800	22,426,502	43,638,897	49,546,275	57,983,764	97,317,531	131,169,565
Gold produced oz.	..	1,967,453	1,355,477	858,850	576,400	789,562	542,074	114,602	51,837
Wool produced lbs.	16,345,468	22,640,745	37,177,646	45,970,560	76,503,635	73,235,138	101,803,644	90,250,571	106,787,897
Butter produced .. .. "	..	..	..	..	16,703,786	46,857,572	66,500,474	64,938,458	100,849,382
Agriculture—									
Land in cultivation .. acres	52,341	427,241	793,918	1,582,998	2,512,593	3,647,459	5,386,247	6,425,250	6,976,664
Wheat bushels	556,167	3,607,727	4,500,795	8,714,377	13,679,268	12,127,382	34,813,019	39,468,625	47,364,495
Oats "	99,535	2,136,430	3,299,889	3,612,111	4,455,551	6,724,900	9,699,127	10,407,191	9,572,003
Wine gallons	4,621	47,568	713,589	539,191	1,554,130	1,981,475	1,362,420	2,222,305	1,368,765
Live Stock—Horses .. No.	21,219	84,057	181,643	278,195	440,696	392,237	472,080	487,603	473,236
" Cattle "	378,806	628,092	799,509	1,286,677	1,812,104	1,602,384	1,547,569	1,575,159	1,605,554
" Sheep "	6,032,783	6,239,258	10,002,381	10,267,265	12,928,148	10,841,790	12,882,665	12,171,084	12,649,898
" Pigs "	9,260	43,480	177,447	239,926	286,780	350,370	333,281	175,275	288,509
Total Imports—Value .. £	744,925	13,532,452	12,341,995	16,718,521	21,711,608	18,927,340	28,150,198*	..	..
" Exports—Value .. £	1,041,796	13,828,606	14,557,820	16,252,103	16,006,743	18,646,097	29,896,275*	..	..
Imports, Oversea—Value .. £	..	10,991,377	9,201,942	11,81,567	13,802,598	12,686,880	21,850,963	57,608,777	54,294,705
Exports "	..	12,209,794	12,843,451	12,318,128	11,403,922	13,075,259	18,015,716	34,371,961	41,680,909
Shipping tonnage	195,117	1,090,002	1,355,025	2,411,902	4,715,109	6,715,911	9,907,046	9,314,944	13,683,712
Railways open miles	..	214	276	1,247	2,764	3,238	3,496	4,274	4,491
Telegraph wire "	..	2,586	3,472	6,626	13,989	15,356	16,405	31,243	38,388
Postal business—Letters .. No.	381,651	6,109,929	11,716,166	26,308,347	62,526,448	83,673,499	159,092,011	180,797,030	205,819,138
" Newspapers "	381,153	4,277,179	5,172,970	11,440,732	22,729,005	27,043,344	36,125,728	31,660,811	44,828,254
Savings Bank Deposits .. £	52,697	582,796	1,117,761	2,569,438	5,715,687	9,662,006	18,213,040	48,262,058†	59,136,813†
Factories—									
Number of "	..	531	1,740	2,488	3,141	3,249	4,873	6,532	7,425
Hands employed "	..	4,395	19,468	43,209	52,225	66,529	102,176	140,743	154,158
Value of machinery, plant, land, and buildings .. £	..	..	4,725,125	8,044,296	16,472,859	12,298,500	16,613,348	35,492,735	61,031,975
Value of articles produced .. £	..	..	..	13,370,836	22,390,251	19,478,780	36,660,854	106,098,294	118,177,398
State Education—									
Number of Primary schools ..	61	671	988	1,757	2,233	1,967	2,059	2,334	2,503
Expenditure on Education .. £	..	162,547	274,384	546,285	726,711	701,034	1,052,418	2,117,151	2,899,942
Total value of rateable property in municipalities £	..	29,638,091	50,166,078	87,642,459	203,351,360	185,101,993	265,083,727	399,502,745	539,711,198
Friendly Societies—									
Number of members "	..	7,166	35,706	47,908	89,269	101,045	145,439	143,421	154,609
Total funds .. .. £	..	..	213,004	475,954	961,933	1,370,604	2,246,996	3,354,650	4,065,808

NOTE.—In a few instances in the earlier years, where it is not possible to give figures for the exact date or period shown, those for the nearest dates or periods are given. Gold was discovered in 1851, in which year the return was 145,137 oz. Butter figures were not collected prior to 1891.

* These figures relate to the calendar year 1909. Owing to the Commonwealth authorities having discontinued the keeping of records of Inter-State trade the value of the total imports and exports of the State are not available for a later year.

† Including deposits in the Commonwealth Savings Bank.

The population of the State at the end of 1850 was 76,162; at the end of 1925 it had increased to 1,684,017. During the period 1850-1925 the revenue steadily increased from £259,433 to £24,304,887. There was no public debt until after the separation of the State from New South Wales. In 1861 the State indebtedness was £6,345,060; in 1925 the funded debt had reached £131,169,565, which has been spent on revenue-yielding and other works of a permanent character. The land in cultivation in 1850 was 52,300 acres; it now amounts to 6,976,664 acres. The value of oversea imports in 1861 was £10,991,377; in 1924-25 it was £54,294,705. Oversea exports amounted to £12,209,794 in 1861, and to £41,680,909 in 1924-25. No railways or telegraphs were in existence up to the end of 1855; in 1861 there were 214 miles of railway open, and in 1925 there were 4,491 miles; 2,586 miles of telegraph wires had been erected up to 1861, and 38,388 miles up to the 30th June, 1925. Postal business in letters and newspapers has expanded rapidly during the period covered by the table, and there has also been a large increase in Savings Bank deposits, which rose from £52,697 in 1850 to £59,136,813 in 1925.

The expenditure on education amounted to £162,547 in 1861, and had increased to £2,899,942 in 1924-25. Members of friendly societies numbered 7,166 in 1861 and 154,609 in 1924-25—the funds amounting to £213,000 in 1871 and £4,035,803 in 1924-25. Hands employed in factories rose from 19,468 in 1871 to 154,158 in 1924-25. The total value of rateable property in municipalities, which was £29,600,000 in 1861, was £539,711,198 in 1924-25.

CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT.

The Present Constitution.

After the establishment of the Federal Government it became evident that the representation of the States in the States Houses was excessive, and steps were taken to reform the States Constitutions. Accordingly an Act "to provide for the Reform of the Constitution" was passed in Victoria and reserved for the Royal assent on 7th April, 1903. After an interval of some months the Royal assent was proclaimed on 26th November, 1903. This Act, entitled *The Constitution Act 1903*, provided for a reduction in the number of responsible Ministers from ten to eight, and in their salaries from £10,400 to £8,400 (since increased to £10,000); and decreased the number of members of the Legislative Council from 48 to 35, including one special representative for the State railways and public servants; but increased the number of electoral provinces from fourteen to seventeen, each being now represented by two members elected for six years—one retiring every three years by rotation, except at a general election, when one-half of the members are to be elected for only three years. The

Reform Act .
1903.

property qualification of members of the Council was reduced from £100 to £50 as the annual value of the freehold, and that of electors qualifying as lessees or occupying tenants from an annual value of £25 to one of £15. A reduction was also made in the number of members of the Legislative Assembly from 95 to 68—including two to be specially elected by the railway officers, and one by the State public servants—and in that of the electoral districts from 84 to 65. The Constitution was again amended in 1906 by the repeal of the provisions in the Act of 1903 relating to the separate representation of railway officers and State public servants. The Assembly now consists of 65 and the Council of 34 members.

Power is given to any Minister who is a member of the Assembly to sit in the Council or *vice versa*—in order to explain the provisions of any measure connected with any department administered by him. The Council is empowered to suggest alterations in any Appropriation Bill once at each of three stages of the Bill, viz.—(a) when in Committee, (b) on the Report of the Committee, and (c) on the third reading. The remedy provided to meet disagreements between the two Houses is the simultaneous dissolution of both after a Bill has been twice submitted to, and rejected by the Council—viz., once before, and once after a dissolution of the Assembly in consequence of such first rejection.

The Governor acts under the authority of Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, and according to Royal instructions issued by the Colonial Office. He is the official head of the Legislature, and assents in the name of the Crown to all Acts passed by the Parliament, reserving for the Royal assent certain Bills, such as those relating to divorce or to the granting of land or money to himself. The only matters in which the exercise of any discretion is required on the part of the Governor are (a) the assenting to or dissenting from or reserving of Bills passed by the Parliament; (b) the granting or withholding of a dissolution of Parliament when requested by a Premier; and (c) the appointment of a new Ministry.

When a Ministry is defeated in Parliament on an important measure or at the polls, its members almost invariably tender their resignations to the Governor, whose duty it is in such a case to announce his intention of accepting them. The outgoing Premier generally suggests to the Governor, as his successor, the name of the most prominent of his opponents, usually the leader of the Opposition. Thereupon the Governor “sends for” the individual suggested, who, if he feels in a position to carry on the Government, endeavours to form a Ministry. If he fails, he informs the Governor of the fact, and some one else is applied to. The distribution of the portfolios is first arranged by the proposed Ministers themselves, and afterwards submitted to the Governor for approval, who always adopts it, unless the list contains the name of some one

Forming a
new Ministry.

against whom very serious objections exist, or foreshadows a new and revolutionary arrangement.

Granting a dissolution. When a Ministry finds that it is unable to carry on the affairs of the country in the manner it deems essential for the well-being of the community, when it is defeated on a measure which it considers vital, or when it has not a proper working majority, the Premier may, instead of advising the Governor to "send for" some one else, ask for a dissolution; and the principle which guides a Governor in granting or refusing such a request is the probability of success for the Ministry in the event of its being granted. In regard to these matters, however, the instructions issued to the Governor are elaborate and definite; and it is very rarely that any personal exercise of discretion is necessary. In other matters the Governor acts on the advice of the Executive Council.

The Executive Council. The Executive Council consists of two classes of members, viz. :—(a) Members forming the Ministry of the day, whether salaried or honorary; (b) all ex-Ministers who have not actually resigned or vacated their seats. The latter Councillors take no active part, as such, in the deliberations of the Ministry, the title being merely an honorary distinction. The expression "Governor in Council," occurring so frequently in Victorian Acts, means the Governor by and with the advice of such members of the Executive Council as are included in the former category mentioned above. Even in its active phase, that of the existing Ministry, the Executive Council has two shapes, the formal and the informal. The latter, which is spoken of as the "Cabinet," is the real core and essence of the Government. In its private meetings at the Premier's office no one is admitted but the actual Ministry of the day, no record of the meetings transpires, and no official notice is ever taken of the proceedings. The former is presided over by the Governor, and attended by the Clerk of the Council, who keeps a formal record of its proceedings and deliberations, which are frequently published with the names of its members prefixed. Here the decisions of the Cabinet are put into official form.

Responsible Ministers. The number of salaried Ministers is now limited to eight, and their salaries to £10,000 (Act No. 3118); four at least must be members of the Council or Assembly, but not more than two shall be members of the Council nor more than six of the Assembly. Although only four Ministers are required to be members of either House, in practice all members of a Ministry are always members. The head of the Ministry—the Premier, a merely titular distinction—has usually filled the office of Treasurer as well, and may occupy any office.

The Parliament. The Parliament consists of two Chambers, the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly. The general power of legislation is conferred upon "His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the said Council and Assembly."

By Section 56 of The Constitution Act it was provided that—"All Bills for appropriating any part of the revenue of Victoria, and for imposing any duty, rate, tax, rent, or impost shall originate in the Assembly, and may be rejected, but not altered, by the Council." There was great difference of opinion as to the interpretation of this section, it being held by many that the words "all Bills for appropriating" (revenue) "and for imposing" (taxes) signified Bills having for their principal object the authorizing of payments or the granting of supply; it was also contended that legislation which merely incidentally or consequentially authorized the collection of money or the payment of officials could be dealt with as ordinary legislation by the Council. This matter was dealt with by Section 30 of *The Constitution Act* 1903, which, on a consolidation of Acts, became Section 33 of *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1915 (No. 2632). This section declares that a Bill shall not be deemed for appropriating, &c., or for imposing, &c., by reason only of its containing provisions "for the imposition or appropriation of fines or other pecuniary penalties or for the demand or payment or appropriation of fees for licences or fees for services under such Bill." In regard to the latter portion of Section 56 of The Constitution Act, providing that Money Bills must originate in the Assembly, and may be rejected but not altered by the Council, the new Act provides, as in the Commonwealth Constitution, that the Council may suggest alterations, as mentioned previously.

It is also provided by Section 57 of The Constitution Act that Appropriation Bills must have been first recommended by a message of the Governor to the Assembly before they can be introduced. The Governor, of course, acts in this matter on the advice of the Ministry.

The Council—called the Upper House—now consists of 34 members. The State is divided into seventeen electoral provinces, each returning two members. At the first election the member in each constituency who, of the two elected, receives the higher number of votes retains his seat for six years, whilst the other member retains his seat for three years only, subject, of course, to the dissolution of both Houses in case of a deadlock, as previously described. One-half of the members thus retire every three years. Women are eligible for membership under the provisions of Act No. 3337, which was proclaimed on 12th May, 1924. To be qualified for membership, a candidate must be of the age of 30 years, and a natural-born subject, or, if not natural-born, must have been naturalized and resident in Victoria for ten years, and must have been beneficially entitled to a freehold estate in Victoria of the clear annual value according to municipal valuation of £50 for one year "previously to" his or her election. *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1922 (No. 3218) provides for the reimbursement of expenses of members of the Legislative Council at the rate of £200 per annum. The following

The
Legislative
Council.

persons aged 21 or over, if they are natural-born subjects, or naturalized for three years and resident in Victoria for twelve months, are entitled to vote for the Council in the electoral division on the rolls of which their names appear:—The owner of a freehold rated at an annual value of £10; the owner of a leasehold created originally for five years or the occupying tenant of land, rated at £15 annual value; graduates of a British University, matriculated students of the University of Melbourne, barristers and solicitors, legally-qualified medical practitioners, duly appointed ministers of religion, certificated schoolmasters, and naval and military officers, active and retired. Qualified ratepayers are enrolled automatically from the municipal rolls. Persons claiming in respect of a professional and residential qualification must take out electors' rights for the division in which they reside. The Victorian Adult Suffrage Act, which received the Royal assent on 31st March, 1909, provides for womanhood suffrage in elections for the Council under the same property and other conditions as relate to men.

The
Legislative
Assembly.

The Assembly, commonly called the Lower House, now consists of 65 members. For the whole of the seats single electorates are now provided. Each Assembly expires by effluxion of time at the end of three years from its first meeting, but may be sooner dissolved by the Governor. To be qualified for election to the Assembly, a candidate must be a natural-born subject or a person who has been naturalized for five years and resident in Victoria for two years. Women are eligible for membership in accordance with the provisions of Act No. 3337. The following persons are ineligible:—Judges, ministers of religion, Government contractors, uncertificated insolvents, holders of offices of profit under the Crown (except Ministers), and persons who have been attainted of treason, or convicted of felony or infamous offence in the British dominions. A member vacates his seat, if he resigns; is absent for a whole session without permission of the House; takes any oath or declaration of allegiance or adherence to a foreign power, or becomes a subject of a foreign State; becomes bankrupt, insolvent, or a public defaulter; is attainted of treason, or convicted of felony, &c.; becomes *non compos mentis*; or enters into a Government contract. Universal suffrage is in force for the Assembly, all persons over the age of 21 years, natural-born or naturalized, being allowed a vote, if they have been resident in Australia for at least six months continuously, in Victoria for at least three months, and in any subdivision for at least one month. An Act to amend the law relating to Parliamentary elections was passed on 22nd December, 1923. It provided that arrangements might be made jointly by the State of Victoria and the Commonwealth that the electoral rolls might be used for Commonwealth elections as well as for elections for the Legislative Assembly. The first roll was composed of the persons on the Commonwealth roll, together with persons entitled to be enrolled for the Assembly. Persons enrolled in respect of residence may

also be enrolled in another subdivision for lands or tenements situated therein. Enrolment is compulsory which, however, does not apply to enrolment in respect of a property qualification. No person is entitled to have his name on more than two rolls, and a person cannot vote more than once at an Assembly election. The franchise was extended to women by the *Adult Suffrage Act* 1908, assented to in March, 1909. A member of the Assembly receives reimbursement of his expenses in relation to his attendance at the rate of £500 per annum. The Assembly is presided over by a Speaker, who is elected at the first meeting after every general election, and vacates his seat by expiry or dissolution of the House, and by death, resignation, or a removing vote of the House. When the Assembly resolves itself into a Committee of the whole House to consider the details of any measure, it is presided over by a Chairman of Committees. The Assembly cannot proceed to business unless twenty members, exclusive of the Speaker, are present; the Speaker has a casting but no substantive vote.

To facilitate the exercise of the franchise in sparsely-populated districts, the *Voting by Post Act* 1900 was passed on 17th October, 1900. This measure enabled any elector who was resident, or was likely to be staying, on the polling day, more than five miles from the nearest polling booth, or who was prevented by reason of sickness or infirmity from voting personally, to obtain a ballot-paper entitling him to vote by post for any candidate in his district standing for either House of Parliament. The Act came into force on 1st December, 1900, and was to continue in force for a term of three years, and thence until the end of the next session of Parliament. Subsequent Acts continued the measure to 31st December, 1910. The *Electoral Act* 1910, now incorporated in *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1915 (No. 2632), makes permanent provision for voting by post at elections for either House. If an elector satisfies the returning officer that he resides five miles or, in the case of a mountainous division, at least three miles from the nearest polling booth, or has reason to believe that he will not be within five miles of the nearest polling booth on the day of the election during the hours of polling, or that on account of ill-health or infirmity he will be prevented from voting personally, a postal ballot-paper may be issued to him. At the State elections held on 30th August, 1921, 9,676 persons voted by post, representing 2·97 per cent. of the total votes recorded, and at the elections held on 26th June, 1924, 8,069 persons voted similarly, this number being 2·18 per cent. of the total votes polled.

By an Act originally passed on 24th December, 1903, now incorporated in *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1915 (No. 2632), it is provided that the electoral expenses (other than personal expenses incurred in travelling and attending election meetings) of a candidate for the Legislative Council

Limitation of election expenses.

and Legislative Assembly shall not exceed £400 and £150 respectively. A limitation is also placed upon the matters in respect of which such sums may be expended. No electoral expenses shall be incurred by or on behalf of a candidate except in respect of:—(1) The expenses of printing, advertising, publishing, issuing, and distributing addresses and notices, and purchase of rolls. (2) The expenses of stationery, messages, postage, and telegrams. (3) The expenses of holding public meetings, and hiring halls for that purpose. (4) The expenses of committee rooms. (5) One scrutineer at each polling booth, and no more. (6) One agent for any electoral province or district.

ELECTIONS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, 1925.

At the triennial elections for the Legislative Council, held on 4th June, 1925, eight seats were contested, nine members being returned unopposed. The following table shows the number of electors on the rolls for each province and the number who voted in the provinces where elections were held:—

NUMBER OF ELECTORS AND VOTES POLLED AT THE TRIENNIAL ELECTIONS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON 4TH JUNE, 1925.

Province.	Number of Electors on Rolls.	Number of Electors who voted.			In-formal Votes.	Number who voted by Post.	Proportion of Electors who voted.
		Rate-payers.	Non-ratepayers.	Total.			
East Yarra ..	52,417	11,517	1	11,518	108	125	21·97
Melbourne ..	22,844	..	..	..	..	..	..
" East ..	20,379	..	..	..	..	..	..
" North ..	47,913	..	..	..	..	..	..
" South ..	29,634	9,984	4	9,988	288	72	33·70
" West ..	31,429	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bendigo ..	10,959	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gippsland ..	17,248	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson ..	11,453	4,595	..	4,595	18	93	40·12
Northern ..	15,520	6,290	3	6,293	174	147	40·55
North-Eastern ..	13,193	..	..	..	..	..	..
North-Western ..	20,575	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southern ..	16,141	4,760	10	4,770	67	115	29·55
South-Eastern ..	42,095	..	..	..	..	..	..
South-Western ..	21,203	7,144	..	7,144	58	214	33·69
Wellington ..	11,234	6,367	4	6,371	58	465	56·71
Western ..	15,273	5,354	..	5,354	76	91	35·06
	399,510						
Less uncontested provinces (9)	226,635						
Total ..	172,875	56,011	22	56,033	847	1,322	32·41

ELECTIONS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1924.

Elections. Legislative Assembly. At the elections for the Legislative Assembly held on 26th June, 1924, there were contests in 45 of the 65 constituencies, each returning one member. The number of electors on the rolls was 900,427—433,357 males and 467,070 females—and in contested districts 59·24 per cent. of the number entitled recorded their votes, the proportion for males being 63·02 per cent. and for females 55·72 per cent. The following table shows the number of electors, the votes polled, and the percentage of the latter to the former in the different electoral districts :—

NUMBER OF ELECTORS AND VOTES POLLED FOR THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AT THE GENERAL ELECTION ON 26TH JUNE, 1924.

Electoral District.	Number of Electors on Rolls at Date of General Election.			Electors who Voted.					
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Percentage of Number on the Roll.		
							Males.	Females.	Total.
Abbotsford ..	6,656	7,854	14,510				No contest.		
Albert Park ..	9,318	11,113	20,431	5,862	6,212	12,074	62·91	55·90	59·10
Allandale ..	2,514	2,702	5,216				No contest.		
Ballaarat East	4,300	5,456	9,756	3,349	3,974	7,323	77·88	72·84	75·06
Ballaarat West	4,331	6,218	10,549	3,276	4,215	7,491	75·64	67·79	71·01
Barwon ..	6,022	6,333	12,355	3,780	3,587	7,367	62·77	56·64	59·63
Benalla ..	3,644	3,464	7,108	2,187	1,723	3,910	60·01	49·74	55·01
Benambra ..	3,633	3,067	6,700	2,164	1,490	3,654	59·57	48·58	54·54
Bendigo East	3,623	4,581	8,204	2,541	3,016	5,557	70·14	65·84	67·74
Bendigo West	4,165	4,852	9,017	3,234	3,496	6,730	77·65	72·05	74·64
Boroondara ..	27,955	35,168	63,123	13,250	14,895	28,145	47·40	42·35	44·69
Borong ..	4,301	3,555	7,856	2,203	1,559	3,762	51·22	43·85	47·89
Brighton ..	13,710	16,826	30,536	7,845	8,804	16,649	57·22	52·32	54·52
Brunswick ..	13,071	14,717	27,788				No contest.		
Bulla ..	6,209	5,601	11,810	4,208	3,162	7,370	67·77	56·45	62·40
Carlton ..	5,518	6,249	11,767				No contest.		
Castlemaine and Maldon ..	2,886	3,360	6,246	2,230	2,304	4,534	77·27	68·57	72·59
Collingwood ..	6,536	7,676	14,212				No contest.		
Dalhousie ..	3,292	3,412	6,704	2,755	2,747	5,502	83·69	80·51	82·07
Dandenong ..	9,802	9,703	19,505	5,599	4,494	10,093	57·12	46·32	51·75
Daylesford ..	3,032	3,153	6,185	2,637	2,483	5,120	86·97	78·75	82·78
Dundas ..	4,263	3,993	8,256	3,294	2,798	6,092	77·27	70·07	73·79
Eaglehawk ..	2,849	3,012	5,861	1,726	1,583	3,309	60·58	52·56	56·46
East Melbourne	5,389	5,549	10,938	2,872	2,819	5,691	53·29	50·80	52·03
Essendon ..	17,256	19,783	37,039	11,352	11,225	22,577	65·79	56·74	60·95
Evelyn ..	6,185	6,046	12,231	3,298	2,606	5,904	53·32	43·10	48·27
Fitzroy ..	5,660	6,693	12,353				No contest.		
Flemington ..	11,662	12,051	23,713				No contest.		
Geelong ..	7,134	8,271	15,405	5,392	5,785	11,177	75·58	69·94	72·55

NUMBER OF ELECTORS AND VOTES POLLED FOR THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AT THE GENERAL ELECTION ON 26TH JUNE, 1924
—continued.

Electoral District.	Number of Electors on Rolls at Date of General Election.			Electors who Voted.					
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Percentage of Number on the Roll.		
							Males.	Females.	Total.
Gippsland East	3,465	2,669	6,134				No contest.		
Gippsland Nth.	4,849	4,694	9,543	3,389	3,097	6,486	69·89	65·98	67·97
Gippsland Sth.	5,310	4,435	9,745				No contest.		
Gippsland West	5,024	4,361	9,385	3,399	2,596	5,995	67·66	59·53	63·88
Glenglg ..	4,548	4,474	9,022	3,696	3,217	6,913	81·27	71·90	76·62
Goulburn Valley	4,575	4,349	8,924				No contest.		
Grenville ..	2,104	2,152	4,256	1,639	1,573	3,212	77·90	73·09	75·47
Gunbower ..	5,053	4,125	9,178	3,411	2,606	6,017	67·50	63·18	65·56
Hampden ..	6,021	5,552	11,573	3,632	2,782	6,414	60·32	50·11	55·42
Hawthorn ..	13,530	18,613	32,143	8,730	10,478	19,208	64·52	56·29	59·76
Jika Jika ..	19,519	22,029	41,548	12,031	10,920	22,951	61·64	49·57	55·24
Kara Kara ..	3,053	2,905	5,958				No contest.		
Korong ..	3,434	3,084	6,518	2,267	1,878	4,145	66·02	60·89	63·59
Lowan ..	5,466	5,004	10,470	3,840	3,170	7,010	70·25	63·35	66·95
Maryborough	3,099	3,261	6,360	2,422	2,304	4,726	78·15	70·65	74·31
Melbourne ..	4,227	3,511	7,738	2,427	2,011	4,438	57·42	57·28	57·35
Mornington ..	9,315	7,751	17,066	5,434	3,954	9,388	58·34	51·01	55·01
Nth. Melbourne	7,501	8,414	15,915				No contest.		
Ovens ..	2,455	2,425	4,880	1,861	1,701	3,562	75·80	70·14	72·99
Polwarth ..	6,068	5,426	11,494	4,076	3,279	7,355	67·17	60·43	63·99
Port Fairy ..	3,795	3,518	7,313				No contest.		
Port Melbourne	7,686	7,749	15,435				No contest.		
Prahran ..	8,147	11,281	19,428	5,541	6,995	12,536	68·01	61·96	64·50
Richmond ..	7,663	8,718	16,381				No contest.		
Rodney ..	5,875	5,319	11,194	3,614	2,770	6,384	61·51	52·08	57·03
Stawell and Ararat ..	3,911	3,999	7,910	3,012	2,873	5,885	77·01	71·84	74·40
St. Kilda ..	15,125	20,807	35,932				No contest.		
Swan Hill ..	12,598	8,715	21,313	6,468	3,940	10,408	51·34	45·21	48·83
Toorak ..	9,626	14,815	24,441	4,928	6,728	11,656	51·19	45·41	47·69
Upper Goulburn	4,205	3,555	7,760	3,218	2,437	5,655	76·53	68·55	72·87
Walhalla ..	4,697	3,100	7,797	2,726	1,451	4,177	58·04	46·81	53·57
Wangaratta ..	3,682	3,483	7,165				No contest.		
Waranga ..	3,397	3,061	6,458				No contest.		
Warrenheip ..	2,775	2,417	5,192				No contest.		
Warrnambool ..	4,675	4,731	9,406	3,338	3,073	6,411	71·40	64·90	68·13
Williamstown ..	11,968	12,090	24,058				No contest.		
Totals ..	433,357	467,070	900,427	..	..	..	..	..	..
Less twenty uncontested districts ..	131,612	142,565	274,177	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	301,745	324,505	626,250	190,153	180,810	370,963	63·02	55·72	59·24

**Preferential
Voting.**

The preferential system of voting was adopted where there were more than two persons standing for the same electorate. By the method in vogue previous to 1911 it was not unusual for a candidate to be elected who had received the support of only a minority of those voting. Under the present system a candidate is returned only if the result shows that the majority of those who have voted prefer him to the candidate who has received the next lower number of votes.

In filling up the ballot-paper electors are required to place the figure "1" opposite the name of the candidate whom they wish to see elected, the figure "2" opposite the name of the one whom they would prefer should the first not be returned, the figure "3" opposite their next choice, and so on. After it is known how many first preference votes have been given to the various candidates, if no candidate has received an absolute majority the candidate who has received the fewest first preference votes is declared defeated. The ballot-papers of such defeated candidate are then examined with the view of ascertaining to what candidates the second preferences have been given, and these second preferences are allotted to the persons to whom they relate. Each remaining candidate thus receives, in addition to the first preferences accorded to him, the second preferences in his favour appearing on ballot-papers of the candidate who has been defeated. If there are still more than two candidates left, the procedure described above is repeated, the candidate occupying the lowest place being declared defeated, until it is found that one candidate has received an absolute majority of votes.

In eighteen of the contests in the election of June, 1924, there were more than two candidates. In ten of these the candidate who received the greatest number of votes had an absolute majority of the total first preferences recorded, and consequently a second count was unnecessary. In the eight remaining cases the distribution of ballot-papers of defeated candidates among non-defeated candidates next in order of voters' preference was put into operation, with the result that the candidates returned received an absolute majority of the votes recorded. In four of these cases the candidate who occupied the highest position on the first count was displaced after the second and subsequent preferences had been distributed.

The following are the proportions of electors who voted at the last twenty-four general elections of the State Lower House in districts in which the elections were contested :—

PROPORTION OF VOTERS AT GENERAL ELECTIONS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1866 TO 1924.

Year of General Election.	Proportion of Electors of Contested Districts who voted. Per cent.	Year of General Election.	Proportion of Electors of Contested Districts who voted. Per cent.
1866	55·10	1897	70·33
1868	61·59	1900	63·47
1871	65·02	1902	65·47
1874	61·00	1904	66·72
1877	62·29	1907	61·26
1880 (Feb.)	66·56	1908	53·64
1880 (July)	65·85	1911	63·61
1883	64·96	1914	53·92
1886	64·70	1917	54·21
1889	66·58	1920	63·70
1892	65·12	1921	57·26
1894	70·59	1924	59·24

Duration of Parliaments and Sessions.

The first session of the twenty-seventh Parliament commenced on 6th September, 1921, and that Parliament was dissolved on 28th May, 1924.

The first session of the twenty-eighth Parliament was opened on 8th July, 1924, and was closed on 9th January, 1925. The second session was opened on 8th July, 1925, and was closed on 12th January, 1926. The third session was opened on 30th June, 1926.

The following is a statement of the duration in days of each Parliament since the establishment of responsible government, the

number of days in session during each Parliament, and the percentage of the latter to the duration :—

**DURATION OF PARLIAMENTS AND SESSIONS,
1856 TO 1924.**

Number of Parliament.	Period.	Duration of Parliament.	Days In Session.	
			Number.	Percentage to Duration.
		Days.		
1st	1856-8	991	691	69·7
2nd	1859-60	637	566	88·8
3rd	1861-4	1,091	728	66·7
4th	1864-5	378	366	96·8
5th	1866-7	686	391	57·0
6th	1868-70	1,048	734	70·0
7th	1871-3	1,049	639	60·9
8th	1874-6	1,072	700	65·3
9th	1877-9	993	684	68·9
10th	1880	49	46	93·9
11th	1880-2	926	802	86·6
12th	1883-6	1,088	543	49·9
13th	1886-9	1,091	653	59·9
14th	1889-92	1,093	636	58·2
15th	1892-4	845	524	62·0
16th	1894-7	1,089	684	62·8
17th	1897-00	1,088	586	53·9
18th	1900-02	671	358	53·4
19th	1902-3	436	300	68·8
20th	1904-7	968	509	52·6
21st	1907-8	518	327	63·1
22nd	1909-11	1,021	548	53·7
23rd	1911-14	1,066	584	54·8
24th	1914-17	1,056	614	58·1
25th	1917-20	1,037	592	57·1
26th	1920-21	270	86	31·9
27th	1921-24	936	494	52·8

STATE ACTS PASSED DURING 1925.

The following is a short synopsis of the Acts passed by the State Parliament during 1925 :—

Act No.	Date.	
3391 ..	9th July ..	.. This Act applied £2,746,447 out of the Consolidated Revenue to the service of the year 1925-26.
3392 ..	27th July ..	.. This Act applies £644,219 out of the Consolidated Revenue to the service of the year 1924-25.
3393 ..	31st August	.. The <i>Great Ocean Road Lands Act 1925</i> amends the Great Ocean Road Lands Acts Nos. 3094 and 3250.
3394 ..	2nd September	.. This Act applies £1,337,910 out of the Consolidated Revenue to the service of the year 1925-26.

Act No.	Date.	
3395 ..	21st September	.. The <i>Judgments (Reciprocity) Act 1925</i> facilitates the enforcement in Victoria of judgments and awards in the superior courts of parts of His Majesty's Dominions outside the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth of Australia and amends the Supreme Court Acts.
3396 ..	..	.. The <i>Act No. 391 Amendment Act 1925</i> provides for the amendment or variation of allowances under the Act of the Parliament of Victoria providing for the abolition of State aid to religion.
3397 ..	..	.. The <i>Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement) Act 1925</i> to come into force on a day to be fixed by proclamation, facilitates the enforcement in Victoria of maintenance orders made in England and Northern Ireland and other parts of His Majesty's Dominions and Protectorates and <i>vice versa</i> .
3398 ..	1st October	.. The <i>Game Act 1925</i> , to be read with the principal Act of 1915, gives power to the Governor in Council to alter the close season periods for native game and makes a number of other amendments in the original Act.
3399 ..	..	.. This Act applies £1,461,560 out of the Consolidated Revenue to the service of the year 1925-26.
3400 ..	12th October	.. The <i>Echuca Land Act 1925</i> relates to certain land in the Borough of Echuca permanently reserved from sale as a site for court house purposes and to the buildings thereon.
3401 ..	..	.. The <i>Poisons Act 1925</i> , to be read with the Act of 1915, makes the law more stringent as far as the sale of poisons is concerned, and provides penalties for the unlawful possession of certain narcotic substances.
3402 ..	26th October	.. The <i>Victorian Wheat-growers Corporation Limited (Government Guarantee) Act 1925</i> enables the Treasurer of Victoria to arrange for the repayment of certain moneys to be advanced by banks to the Victorian Wheat-growers Corporation Limited in connexion with the marketing of wheat of the seasons 1925-26 to 1927-28 inclusive.
3403 ..	..	.. The <i>Victorian Loan Act 1925</i> authorizes the raising of £1,800,000 to be expended as follows:—For irrigation and water supply works and for drainage and flood protection works in country districts and for works under the River Murray Waters Acts, £1,600,000; for public works and other purposes, £150,000; and for the purchase and supply of wire netting, £50,000.
3404 ..	..	.. The <i>Water Supply Loans Application Act 1925</i> sanctions the issue and application of £1,600,000 available under Loan Acts for irrigation and water supply works, drainage and flood protection works in country districts and for works under the River Murray Waters Acts.

Act No.	Date.	
3405	.. 2nd November	.. This Act applies £1,314,904 out of the Consolidated Revenue to the service of the year 1925-26.
3406	.. ..	.. The <i>Horse Breeding Act</i> 1925 amends the principal Act of 1919.
3407	.. ..	.. The <i>Anzac Day Act</i> 1925 provides that the 25th April each year be observed as a public and bank holiday in Victoria in commemoration of the first landing on Gallipoli of troops from the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand.
3408	.. 24th November	.. The <i>Superannuation Act</i> 1925 makes provision on a contributory basis for superannuation benefits for public and railway servants and for benefits for certain of their dependants. A full account of this Act is given in Part Finance of this volume.
3409	.. 2nd December	.. The <i>Conveyancing Act</i> 1925, to be read with the principal Act of 1915, makes provision with respect to presumptions of survivorship in regard to claims to property.
3410	.. ..	.. This Act applies £1,386,941 out of the Consolidated Revenue to the service of the year 1925-26.
3411	.. 7th December	.. The <i>University Act</i> 1925 amends the principal Act of 1915.
3412	.. ..	.. The <i>Geelong (Harbor Trust) Land Act</i> 1925 provides for the permanent reservation of certain land in the parish of Corio, county of Grant.
3413	.. 15th December	.. The <i>Tambo Land Act</i> 1925 revokes the permanent reservation of certain land in the parish of Tambo as a site for camping and affording access to water, and provides for the temporary reservation of portion thereof for purposes of public recreation and portion as a site for camping and affording access to water.
3414	.. ..	.. The <i>Malvern Land Act</i> 1925 provides for the revocation of the permanent reservation of certain land situate at Malvern and the permanent reservation of such land for municipal purposes, and for the transfer to the Crown of certain other land situate at Malvern now used for municipal purposes and the permanent reservation thereof for purposes of public recreation.
3415	.. 24th December	.. The <i>Fisheries Act</i> 1925 amends the principal Act of 1915.
3416	.. ..	.. The <i>Teachers Act</i> , 1925 amends the law relating to State schools and teachers. The classification and remuneration of teachers are amongst the principal matters dealt with by this measure.
3417	.. ..	.. The <i>Railway Loan Application Act</i> 1925 sanctions the issue and application of £2,350,000 available under Loan Acts for railway and other purposes.
3418	.. ..	.. The <i>Dried Fruits Act</i> 1925 amends the principal Act of 1924.

Act. No.	Date.	
3419	.. 24th December	.. The <i>Land Tax Act 1925</i> fixes the rate of land tax for the year 1926 at $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on every pound sterling of the unimproved value where the unimproved value exceeds £250 and imposes a super-tax equal to 5 per cent. of the amount of land tax payable, the minimum tax payable to be 2s. 6d.
3420 The <i>Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Act 1925</i> , to be read with the principal Act of 1918, increases the borrowing powers of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board from £3,000,000 to £4,000,000.
3421 The <i>Street Trading Act 1925</i> , to come into operation on 1st July, 1926, and to be administered by the Children's Welfare Department, provides for the regulation of street trading.
3422 The <i>Closer Settlement Act 1925</i> amends the principal Act of 1915.
3423 The <i>Public Works Loan Application Act 1925</i> sanctions the issue and application of £332,600 available under Loan Acts for public works and other purposes.
3424	.. 31st December	.. The <i>Municipal Endowment Act 1925</i> provides that the municipal endowment for the year ending 30th June, 1926, be £50,000.
3425 The <i>Country Roads Act 1925</i> , to be read with the Act of 1915 and amending Acts, makes further provision with respect to main roads and developmental roads.
3426 The <i>Warburton (La La Extension) to Big Pat's Creek Railway Construction Act 1925</i> authorizes the construction by the State of a line of railway from Warburton (La La Extension) to Big Pat's Creek.
3427 The <i>Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works (Finances) Act 1925</i> increases the borrowing powers of the Board from £13,750,000 to £16,750,000, and provides superannuation and other benefits for officers of the Board and other persons.
3428 The <i>Municipal Sinking Funds Act 1925</i> , to be read with the <i>Local Government Act 1915</i> , relates to the investment of municipal sinking funds.
3429 The <i>Melbourne Harbour Trust Act 1925</i> increases the borrowing powers of the Trust from £3,000,000 to £4,000,000.
3430 The <i>Fire Brigades Act 1925</i> , to be read with the Act of 1915, authorizes the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board to borrow a further sum not exceeding £50,000 for new buildings, additions and other works.
3431 The <i>Victorian Loan (Public Works) Act 1924 Amendment Act 1925</i> amends the schedule to the Act of 1924.

Act No.	Date.	
3432 ..	31st December	.. The <i>State Electricity Commission (Funds and Accounts) Act 1925</i> amends section 6 of the Act of 1922 by extending from 1925 to 1928 the time for repayment of excess of expenditure by Commission to Treasurer for the year 1922-23 and makes provision for the payment of interest.
3433 The <i>Victorian Loan (Electricity Supply) and Application Act 1925</i> authorizes the raising of £1,841,000 for works and undertakings of the State Electricity Commission of Victoria and sanctions the issue and application of such money.
3434 The <i>Railways Act 1925</i> makes provision for the appointment of certain persons temporarily employed in the Railway Department to permanent positions therein.
3435 The <i>Metropolitan Town Planning Commission Act 1925</i> amends the Act of 1922 by extending its operation to 31st December, 1927, by increasing the number of members of the Commission from nine to ten, and by increasing the amount that may be expended from £7,500 to £15,000.
3436 The <i>Income Tax Act 1925</i> , to be read with the Acts of 1914 and 1915 and amending Acts, and to come into force on 31st December, 1925, fixes the rates of income tax for the year ending 30th June, 1926. Incomes of £200 and under are not taxable. On incomes from £201 to £500 there is an exemption of £200 which, however, does not apply to companies. Incomes from personal exertion are taxed 3½d. in the £1 up to £500; where such income exceeds £500, for every £1 up to £500, 4½d.; for every £1 over £500 and up to £1,000, 5½d.; for every £1 over £1,000 and up to £1,500, 6½d.; and for every £1 over £1,500, 7½d. Taxes on incomes from property are double these rates. Additional taxes are levied on incomes (excluding those of companies) from £800 to £1,000 of 10 per cent.; from £1,000 to £1,250 of 12½ per cent.; from £1,250 to £2,200 of 15 per cent.; from £2,200 to £5,000 of 20 per cent. and exceeding £5,000 of 25 per cent. of the amount of tax otherwise chargeable. Companies (other than mutual life assurance companies) are taxed at the rate of 1s. 4d. in the £1. Mutual life assurance companies are taxed at the rate of 1s. in the £1 in respect to their mutual life assurance business and at the rate of 1s. 4d. in the £1 on all other business. Any married taxpayer ordinarily resident in Victoria whose income does not exceed £300* may deduct £50 from his income from personal exertion for the maintenance of his wife provided that she has not an income of her own exceeding £100 per annum. The amount that may be deducted from income for the maintenance of children under 16 years of age is £50. The minimum income tax payable is fixed at 5s.

Act No.	Date	
3437	.. 31st December	.. The <i>Sewerage Districts Act</i> 1925 amends the principal Act of 1915 by providing that notice of application to construct sewerage works must be given to the Commission of Public Health and that copies of plans, &c., must be lodged with the Commission. Other amendments relate to the qualifications of engineers, payment of interest, &c.
3438 The <i>Victorian Loan (Country Sewerage) Act</i> 1925 authorizes the raising of £32,000 for sewerage works in country districts and sanctions the issue and application of such moneys.
3439 The <i>Motor Omnibus Act</i> 1925 amends the principal Act of 1924.
3440 The <i>Geelong Gas Company's Act</i> 1925 amends the Act of 1858 by extending the limit of the company's operations to a radius of 10 miles from the Geelong Town Hall. The capital of the company is increased to £250,000 in £1 shares.
3441 This Act applies £8,548,098 out of the Consolidated Revenue to the service of the year 1925-26 and appropriates supplies granted during the session amounting to £17,440,079 to the service of the Government.

OFFICIAL AND PARLIAMENTARY.

The following statement shows the names and periods of **Governors of Victoria.** office of Governors and Acting Governors of the State since the first appointment of Mr. Charles Joseph La Trobe as Superintendent, in 1839 :—

GOVERNORS OF VICTORIA.

Name.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.
Charles Joseph La Trobe ...	30th Sept., 1839 ...	5th May, 1854
John Vesey Fitzgerald Foster (acting)	8th May, 1854 ...	22nd June, 1854
Captain Sir Charles Hotham, R.N., K.C.B.	22nd June, 1854 ...	31st Dec., 1855
Major-General Edward Macarthur (acting)	1st January, 1856...	26th Dec., 1856
Sir Henry Barkly, K.C.B. ...	26th December, 1856	10th September, 1863
Sir Charles Henry Darling, K.C.B.	11th September, 1863	7th May, 1866
Brigadier-General George Jackson Carey, C.B. (acting)	7th May, 1866 ...	15th August, 1866

GOVERNORS OF VICTORIA—continued.

Name.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.
The Honorable Sir John Henry Thomas Manners-Sutton, K.C.B.	15th August, 1866...	2nd March, 1873
Sir William Foster Stawell, Kt. (acting)	3rd March, 1873 ...	19th March, 1873
Sir George Ferguson Bowen, G.C.M.G.	31st March, 1873 ...	22nd February, 1879
Sir Redmond Barry, Kt. (acting) ...	3rd January, 1875...	10th January, 1875
Sir William Foster Stawell, Kt. (acting)	11th January, 1875	14th January, 1876
The Most Honorable George Augustus Constantine Phipps, Marquis of Normanby, G.C.M.G., P.C.	27th February, 1879	18th April, 1884
Sir William Foster Stawell, Kt. (acting)	18th April, 1884 ...	15th July, 1884
Sir Henry Brougham Loch, { G.C.M.G., K.C.B.	15th July, 1884 ... 18th October, 1889	8th March, 1889 15th November, 1889
Sir William Cleaver Francis Robinson, G.C.M.G. (acting) {	9th March, 1889 ... 16th November, 1889	17th October, 1889 27th November, 1889
The Right Honorable John Adrian Louis Hope, Earl of Hopetoun, G.C.M.G.	28th November, 1889	12th July, 1895
The Honorable John Madden, LL.D. { (acting)	26th January, 1893 27th March, 1895 ...	11th May, 1893 24th October, 1895
The Right Honorable Baron Brass-y, K.C.B.	25th October, 1895	31st March, 1900
The Honorable Sir John Madden, { K.C.M.G., LL.D. (acting)	29th December, 1896 23rd March, 1898 ...	16th February, 1897 21st October, 1898
The Honorable Sir John Madden, K.C.M.G., LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor (acting)	15th January, 1900	10th December, 1901
Sir George Sydenham Clarke, K.C.M.G., F.R.S.	10th December, 1901	24th November, 1903
The Honorable Sir John Madden, K.C.M.G.; LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor (acting)	24th November, 1903	25th April, 1904
Major-General Hon. Sir Reginald Arthur James Talbot, K.C.B.	25th April, 1904 ...	6th July, 1908
The Honorable Sir John Madden, G.C.M.G., LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor (acting) {	20th March, 1907 ... 6th July, 1908 ... 19th May, 1911 ... 28th August, 1913...	18th November, 1907 27th July, 1908 24th May, 1911 23rd February, 1914
Sir Thomas David Gibson Carmichael, Baronet, K.C.M.G.	27th July, 1908 ..	19th May, 1911
Sir John Michael Fleetwood Fuller, Baronet	24th May, 1911 ..	31st January, 1914
Sir Arthur Lyulph Stanley, K.C.M.G.	23rd February, 1914	30th January, 1920*

GOVERNORS OF VICTORIA—continued.

Name.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.
Sir William Hill Irvine, K.C.M.G., Lieutenant Governor (acting) }	30th July, 1919 .. 1st April, 1923 .. 7th April, 1926 ..	24th February, 1921 24th October, 1923 28th June, 1926
The Right Hon. the Earl of Stradbroke, K.C.M.G., C.B., C.V.O., C.B.E.†	24th February, 1921	7th April, 1926
Lieutenant-Colonel The Right Hon. Arthur Herbert Tennyson Baron Somers, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., M.C.	28th June, 1926	

NOTE.—Captain William Lonsdale, formerly of the 4th Regiment, was appointed Police Magistrate of the District of Port Phillip on 9th September, 1836, and assumed office on the 29th of the same month. In that capacity he was in charge of the District until the appointment of Mr. C. J. La Trobe as Superintendent. Subsequently, Captain Lonsdale acted as Superintendent during the temporary absence of Mr. La Trobe, who was called on to administer the Government of Tasmania from the 13th October, 1846, to the 25th January, 1847. Sir William H. Irvine was appointed Lieutenant-Governor, to act in the absence of the Governor, by Commission dated 11th May, 1918.

* On leave of absence for six months from 30th July, 1919.
† On leave of absence from 1st April, 1923, to 24th October, 1923.

The following list shows the names of Ministers who held office from the separation of the Colony from New South Wales in 1851 up to the establishment of responsible government in 1855:—

MINISTERS PRIOR TO RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT.

Name of Minister.	Office.	Date of Assumption of Office.
William Lonsdale	Colonial Secretary	15th July, 1851
Alastair Mackenzie	Colonial Treasurer ..	
Charles Hotson Ebdon	Auditor-General ..	
Robert Hoddle	Surveyor-General ..	
Alexander McCrae	Chief Postmaster ..	
William Foster Stawell	Attorney-General ..	
Redmond Barry	Solicitor-General ..	
James Horatio Nelson Cassell	Collector of Customs	13th April, 1852
Edward Eyre Williams	Solicitor-General ..	21st July, 1852
James Croke	Solicitor-General ..	30th September, 1852
Frederick Armand Powlett	Colonial Treasurer ..	11th October, 1852
Hugh Culling Eardley Childers	Auditor-General ..	1st July, 1853
Andrew Clarke	Surveyor-General ..	20th July, 1853
John Vesey Fitzgerald Foster	Colonial Secretary	20th July, 1853
William Lonsdale	Colonial Treasurer	5th December, 1853
Hugh Culling Eardley Childers	Collector of Customs	8th December, 1853
Edward Grimes	Auditor-General	4th January, 1854
Robert Molesworth	Solicitor-General ..	12th December, 1854
William Clark Haines	Colonial Secretary	

In the next list will be found the names of the Ministers, 1855 to 1926. Premiers of the several Governments from 1855 to the present date:—

MINISTRIES SINCE RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT.

Number of Ministry and Name of Premier.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.	Duration of Office.
			<i>Days.</i>
1. William Clark Haines...	28th November, 1855	11th March, 1857 ...	469
2. John O'Shanassy ...	11th March, 1857 ...	29th April, 1857 ...	49
3. William Clark Haines... ..	29th April, 1857 ...	10th March, 1858 ...	315
4. John O'Shanassy ...	10th March, 1858 ...	27th October, 1859	596
5. William Nicholson ...	27th October, 1859...	26th November, 1860	396
6. Richard Heales ...	26th November, 1860	14th November, 1861	353
7. John O'Shanassy ...	14th November, 1861	27th June, 1863 ...	590
8. James McCulloch ...	27th June, 1863 ...	6th May, 1868 ...	1,775
9. Charles Sladen ...	6th May, 1868 ...	11th July, 1868 ...	66
10. James McCulloch ...	11th July, 1868 ...	20th September, 1869	436
11. John Alexander Mac- Pherson	20th September 1869	9th April, 1870 ...	201
12. James McCulloch ...	9th April, 1870 ...	19th June, 1871 ...	436
13. Charles Gavan Duffy...	19th June, 1871 ...	10th June, 1872 ...	357
14. James Goodall Francis	10th June, 1872 ..	31st July, 1874 ...	781
15. George Briscoe Kerferd	31st July, 1874 ...	7th August, 1875 ...	372
16. Graham Berry ...	7th August, 1875 ...	20th October, 1875	74
17. Sir James McCulloch	20th October, 1875..	21st May, 1877 ...	579
18. Graham Berry ...	21st May, 1877 ...	5th March, 1880 ...	1,019
19. James Service ...	5th March, 1880 ...	3rd August, 1880 ...	151
20. Graham Berry ...	3rd August, 1880 ...	9th July, 1881 ...	340
21. Sir Bryan O'Loghlen...	9th July, 1881 ..	8th March, 1883 ...	607
22. James Service ...	8th March, 1883 ...	18th February, 1886	1,078
23. Duncan Gillies ...	18th February, 1886	5th November, 1890	1,722
24. James Munro ...	5th November, 1890	16th February, 1892	469
25. William Shiels ...	16th February, 1892	23rd January, 1893	343
26. James Brown Patterson	23rd January, 1893	27th September, 1894	612
27. Sir George Turner, P.C., K.C.M.G.	27th September, 1894	5th December, 1899	1,895
28. Allan McLean ...	5th December, 1899	19th November, 1900	350
29. Sir George Turner, P.C., K.C.M.G.	19th November, 1900	12th February, 1901	85
30. Sir Alexander James Peacock, K.C.M.G.	12th February, 1901	10th June, 1902 ...	483
31. William Hill Irvine ...	10th June, 1902 ...	16th February, 1904	616
32. Sir Thomas Bent, K.C.M.G.	16th February, 1904	8th January, 1909	1,789
33. John Murray ...	8th January, 1909	18th May, 1912 ...	1,226
34. William Alexander Watt	18th May, 1912 ...	9th December, 1913	205

MINISTRIES SINCE RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT—*continued.*

Number of Ministry and Name of Premier.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.	Duration of Office.
			Days.
35. George Alexander Elmslie	9th December, 1913	22nd December, 1913	13
36. William Alexander Watt	22nd December, 1913	18th June, 1914 ...	178
37. Sir Alexander James Peacock, K.C.M.G.	18th June, 1914 ...	29th November, 1917	1,260
38. John Bowser ...	29th November, 1917	21st March, 1918 ...	112
39. Harry Sutherland Wightman Lawson	21st March, 1918 ...	7th September, 1923	1,996
40. Harry Sutherland Wightman Lawson	7th September, 1923	19th March, 1924	194
41. Harry Sutherland Wightman Lawson	19th March, 1924	28th April, 1924 ...	40
42. Sir Alexander James Peacock, K.C.M.G.	28th April, 1924...	18th July, 1924 ...	81
43. George Michael Prendergast	18th July, 1924...	18th November, 1924	123
44. John Allan ...	18th November, 1924		

Allan Ministry. On 12th November, 1924, a motion of no-confidence in the Labour Ministry was proposed in the Legislative Assembly by Mr. John Allan, leader of the Country Party, and was carried by 34 votes to 28. On 18th November a Ministry, with Mr. Allan as Premier, assumed office. It consisted of the following members :—

ALLAN MINISTRY.

Name.	Office.
Allan, John	Premier and Minister of Water Supply.
Peacock, Sir Alexander J., K.C.M.G.	Treasurer, Minister of Public Instruction, and Minister of Labour.
Argyle, Stanley Seymour, M.R.C.S.	Chief Secretary and Minister of Public Health.
Eggleston, Frederick William ..	Attorney-General, Solicitor-General, Minister of Railways, and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works.
Downward, Alfred	President of the Board of Land and Works, Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey, and Minister of Immigration.
Richardson, Horace Frank, M.L.C.	Minister of Forests and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works.
Goudie, George Louis, M.L.C. ..	Commissioner of Public Works, Minister of Mines, and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works.
Bourchier, Murray William James, C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D.	Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Markets.
*Harris, Dr. John Richards, M.L.C.	Minister without Portfolio.
McGregor, Martin, M.L.C. ..	Minister without Portfolio.
McDonald, James	Minister without Portfolio.
Mackrell, Edwin Joseph	Minister without Portfolio.

* This position was originally held by the Hon. W. P. Crockett, who resigned office on 30th June, 1925.

The names of members and of officers of Parliament and of the constituencies which the members represent are given below:—

MEMBERS OF THE STATE PARLIAMENT, 1926.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

President : Hon. Sir F. G. Clarke, K.B.E.

Name of Province.	Name of Member.	Date of Retirement.
Bendigo	Hon. J. Sternberg	1928
	Hon. H. Keck	1931
East Yarra	Hon. J. K. Merritt	1928
	Hon. W. H. Edgar (Chairman of Committees)	1931
Gippsland	Hon. M. McGregor (Minister without Portfolio)	1928
	Hon. G. M. Davis	1931
Melbourne	Hon. H. H. Smith	1928
	Hon. H. I. Cohen, K.C.	1931
Melbourne East	Hon. J. P. Jones	1928
	Hon. D. L. McNamara	1931
Melbourne North	Hon. E. L. Kiernan	1928
	Hon. W. J. Beckett	1931
Melbourne South	Hon. T. H. Payne	1928
	Hon. Sir F. G. Clarke, K.B.E. (President)	1931
Melbourne West	Hon. R. Williams	1928
	Hon. J. H. Disney	1931
Nelson	Hon. T. Beggs	1928
	Hon. E. G. Bath	1931
Northern	Hon. R. H. S. Abbott	1928
	Hon. G. J. Tuckett	1931
North-Eastern	Hon. Dr. J. R. Harris (Minister without Portfolio)	1928
	Hon. A. M. Zwar	1931
North-Western	Hon. W. P. Crockett	1928
	Hon. G. L. Goudie (Commissioner of Public Works and Minister of Mines)	1931
Southern	Hon. W. C. Angliss	1928
	Hon. W. L. R. Clarke	1931
South-Eastern	Hon. W. Tyner	1928
	Hon. A. E. Chandler	1931
South-Western	Hon. H. F. Richardson (Minister of Forests)	1928
	Hon. H. Hitchcock	1931
Wellington	Hon. F. W. Brawn	1928
	Hon. A. Bell	1931
Western	Hon. M. Saltau	1928
	Hon. E. J. White	1931

Clerk of the Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Council: H. H. Newton, J.P.

Clerk Assistant: W. R. Heywood.

Usher, Accountant, and Clerk of Committees: P. T. Pook.

Clerk of the Records: H. B. Jamieson.

Clerk of the Papers: L. V. Hoyle.

MEMBERS OF THE STATE PARLIAMENT, 1926—*continued.*

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Speaker : Hon. J. Bowser.

Name of Electoral District.	Name of Member.
Abbotsford	Hon. G. C. Webber.
Albert Park	A. K. Wallace.
Allandale	Hon. Sir A. J. Peacock, K.C.M.G. (Treasurer, Minister of Public Institution, and Minister of Labour).
Ballaarat East	W. J. McAdam.
Ballaarat West	Hon. Major M. Baird.
Barwon	E. Morley.
Benalla	Hon. J. J. Carlisle.
Benambra	Hon. H. Beardmore.
Bendigo East	L. J. Clough.
Bendigo West	A. E. Cook.
Boroondara	E. W. Greenwood.
Borong	D. Allison.
Brighton	O. R. Snowball.
Brunswick	J. R. Jewell.
Bulla	R. T. Hjorth.
Carlton	R. H. Solly.
Castlemaine and Maldon	Hon. H. S. W. Lawson.
Collingwood	Hon. T. Tunnecliffe.
Dalhousie	R. T. Pollard.
Dandenong	Hon. F. Groves.
Daylesford	J. McDonald.
Dundas	Hon. W. Slater.
Eaglehawk	A. A. Dunstan.
East Melbourne	A. A. Farthing.
Essendon	F. Keane.
Evelyn	W. H. Everard.
Fitzroy	M. M. Blackburn.
Flemington	J. J. Holland.
Geelong	W. Brownbill.
Gippsland East	A. E. Lind.
Gippsland North	J. W. McLachlan.
Gippsland South	W. West.
Gippsland West	A. L. N. Walter.
Glencig	E. E. Bond.
Goulburn Valley	Colonel M. W. J. Bouchier, C.M.G., D.S.O. (Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Markets).

MEMBERS OF THE STATE PARLIAMENT, 1926—*continued.*THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY—*continued.*

Name of Electoral District.	Name of Member.
Grenville	A. Hughes, M.C.
Gunbower	Hon. H. Angus.
Hampden	Hon. D. S. Oman.
Hawthorn	Hon. Sir W. M. McPherson.
Jika Jika	Hon. J. Cain.
Kara Kara	Hon. J. W. Pennington.
Korong	I. J. Weaver.
Lowan	Hon. M. E. Wettenhall.
Maryborough	G. C. Frost.
Melbourne	T. Hayes.
Mornington	Hon. A. Downward (Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey and Minister of Immigration).
North Melbourne	Hon. G. M. Prendergast.
Ovens	Hon. A. A. Billson (Chairman of Committees).
Polwarth	Hon. J. McDonald (Minister without Portfolio).
Port Fairy	Hon. H. S. Bailey.
Port Melbourne	J. L. Murphy.
Prahran	A. R. Jackson.
Richmond	E. J. Cotter.
Rodney	Hon. J. Allan (Premier and Minister of Water Supply).
St. Kilda	Hon. F. W. Eggleston (Attorney-General, Solicitor-General and Minister of Railways).
Stawell and Ararat	Hon. R. F. Toutcher.
Swan Hill	Hon. F. E. Old.
Toorak	Hon. Dr. Stanley S. Argyle (Chief Secretary and Minister of Public Health).
Upper Goulburn	Hon. E. J. Mackrell (Minister without Portfolio).
Walhalla	Hon. S. Barnes.
Wangaratta	Hon. J. Bowser (Speaker).
Waranga	Hon. J. Gordon.
Warrenheip	Hon. E. J. Hogan.
Warnambool	J. D. Deany.
Williamstown	Hon. J. Lemmon.

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly: W. R. Alexander, J.P.

Clerk Assistant and Clerk of Private Bills: T. R. Gilchrist.

Clerk of Committees and Serjeant-at-Arms: W. R. Barstow, J.P.

Clerk of the Papers: F. E. Wanke.

Reader and Clerk of the Record: G. R. Webb.

Accountant and Assistant Clerk of Committees: P. P. Conlan.

Chief *Hansard* Reporter: A. H. Angel.

Librarian (Acting): E. L. Frazer.

FOREIGN CONSULS.

The following is a return of Consuls-General and Consuls for Victoria of foreign countries :—

CONSULS-GENERAL.

Country.	Name.
Argentine	Bartoli, U. A.
China	Ouei Tze-King.
Colombia	Lyle, M.
Germany	Busing, Dr. Hans.
Honduras	Mattei, Senor Don Rafael Medina (Hon.)
Norway	Arentz, E. K. B.
Swiss Confederation	Stahel, G. (Hon.).

CONSULS.

Austria	Hauser, L. (Hon.).
Belgium	Vauerkelen, R.
Chili	Le Plastrier, C. W.
Denmark	Holdenson, P. J.
France	Turck, R.
Greece	Maniachi, A. V. (Hon.).
Guatemala	De Bavay, Auguste.
Italy	Grossardi, Commendatore A
Japan	Fullarton, D. B. (Hon.).
Mexico	McKinley, A. (Hon.).
Netherlands	Wright, F. H. (Hon.).
Nicaragua	Medina, R.
Norway	Schreuder, A. T. (Hon.).
Panama	Kelson, V. J. (Acting).
Peru	Vargas, Senor L. A.
Portugal	Thomson, J. (Hon.).
Salvador	Karagheusian, V. N. T. (Hon.).
Spain	Don Gustavo de Sostoa y Sthamer.
"	Cave, H. (Hon.).
Sweden	Helin, H. (Hon.).
United States	Anderson, N. L.
Uruguay	Benjamin, L. S. (Hon.).

VICE-CONSULS.

Argentine	Mackay, S.
Brazil, United States of	Sheppard, H. A
Czecho-Slovakia	Peacock, E. R. (Hon.).
Denmark	Belcher, E. N. (Geelong).
Finland	Sleigh, H. C. (Hon.).
Germany	Fricke, H. H. F.
Italy	Vitali, L. B. (Hon.).
Japan	Black, P. J. (Hon.).
Norway	Howard, J. (Hon.).
Paraguay	Fraser, W. S.
United States	Moran, J. E
"	Wasson, T. C.
"	Costello, W. T.

TRADE COMMISSIONERS.

The following Trade Commissioners have been appointed by the countries mentioned to represent them in Victoria :—

Representing—

United Kingdom	..	..	Dalton, R. W.
Canada	..	..	Ross, D. H.
New Zealand	..	..	Manson, H. J.
United States	..	..	Foster, J. B.

FINANCE.

State Finance. Under the Constitution Act the revenues of the State are payable into Consolidated Revenue, but certain of these revenues have been hypothecated by various Acts of Parliament for specified purposes, and are payable into special accounts or funds kept at the State Treasury. Apart from these special funds (shown below) the financial transactions are concerned with one or other of three Funds, viz.:—(a) Consolidated Revenue Fund, (b) Trust Funds, and (c) Loan Funds. The Treasurer's Finance Statement of revenue and expenditure relates to the Consolidated Revenue Fund, but in the succeeding tables the public revenue of certain special funds or accounts is included. Payments from Consolidated Revenue are made either under the authority of an Annual Appropriation Act passed by the Legislature, or by a permanent appropriation under a Special Act. The special appropriations represent services such as interest on the public debt, contributions to the redemption funds, the salaries of the Governor, the Judges and some other officials, State pensions, endowments to municipalities, etc. The expenditure under special appropriations during the year 1924–25 amounted to £7,428,559.

Below is given a concise statement of the chief special funds (excluding Redemption and Sinking funds) kept at the Treasury:—

SPECIAL FUNDS (EXCLUDING SINKING FUNDS) KEPT AT THE TREASURY.

Fund.	Act No.	Remarks.
The Assurance Fund	2740, sec. 239	Established for the purpose of assuring and indemnifying the Government in granting a clear title on land brought under the Transfer of Land Act. A contribution of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in the £ is levied on all lands brought under the Act.
The Closer Settlements Fund	2629	Created for the purposes of civilian closer settlement. All moneys received under the Closer Settlement Acts, except proceeds of loans raised by the Government, are paid into this Fund. The receipts consist chiefly of amounts paid by settlers as instalments of principal and interest in respect of land and advances granted to them. Payments from the Fund are made for redemption of loans raised under the Closer Settlement Acts by the Government, interest on such loans, and administration expenses. Power is given also to apply the Fund to payments for the purchase of land, advances to settlers, and improvement of land.

SPECIAL FUNDS (EXCLUDING SINKING FUNDS) KEPT AT THE TREASURY
—continued.

Fund.	Act No.	Remarks.
The Discharged Soldiers Settlement Fund	2916	Functions similarly to the Closer Settlements Fund except that it relates to settlement of discharged soldiers.
The Discharged Soldiers Concessions Fund	2988	Established to meet concessions granted under the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Acts. The soldiers are allowed to occupy land for the first three years free of charge, and interest at the rate of 5 per cent. only is charged on the cost of the land and advances, the Government having raised loans for the purposes of the Acts at a higher rate. The cost of the concessions is made good to the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Fund by proceeds of loans raised by the Government, and these loans are redeemed by payments from the Concessions Fund. The State Government contributes annually the sum of £75,000 to the Fund, and the Commonwealth Government, for a period of five years in each instance, pays annually to the Fund an amount equal to 2½ per cent. on loan moneys made available by it to the State for Discharged Soldiers Settlement.
The Country Roads Board Fund	2635	<p>Established for the maintenance of main roads. This account is credited with all moneys paid to the Treasurer by any municipality in respect of permanent works and the maintenance of main roads; amounts received by the Board under the provisions of the Country Roads Act; annual Government subsidy of £10,000; all fees and fines, less the cost of collection, paid under the <i>Motor Car Act 1915</i>; fees, less the cost of collection, received by the Crown in respect of unused roads and water frontages under part 39 of the <i>Local Government Act 1915</i>, and all moneys which, as provided by Sections 481 and 485 of the said Act, are to be paid into the said Fund; and fees paid on the registration or renewal of registration of traction engines. The money to the credit of the Fund is applied as follows:—</p> <p>(a) 6 per cent. per annum on the amount due by the municipalities in respect of permanent works is applied in payment of interest on half the amount borrowed under the provisions of the Country Roads Act at the rate of 4½ per cent. per annum, the balance being paid into a Sinking Fund until half the amount borrowed is paid off.</p> <p>(b) The balance, after the payment of the said 6 per cent., is applied in payment of the cost of maintenance of main roads, and in payment of any liabilities incurred by the Board under the provisions of the Act.</p>

SPECIAL FUNDS (EXCLUDING SINKING FUNDS) KEPT AT THE TREASURY
—continued.

Fund.	Act No.	Remarks.
Developmental Railways Account	2640	Established for the construction of developmental railways. The chief source of revenue is the proceeds of the sale of lands by auction, exclusive of Mallee lands, and interest paid by municipalities under the Developmental Roads Act 2944. The Fund is required to pay the interest on the Developmental Roads liability under Act No. 2944.
Licensing Fund	2683 and various amendments	Is controlled by the Licences Reduction Board. All the State licence fees in connexion with the sale and manufacture of liquor, together with Court fees, fines, and forfeitures under the Licensing Act, constitute the revenue. The expenditure consists of:— (a) The administration expenses of the Board; (b) Allowances to and expenses of Licensing Inspectors, Licensing Prosecutions, and Clerks of Licensing Courts; (c) Compensation for licences taken away or surrendered; (d) Annual statutory payments to specified municipalities; and (e) Annual transfer of £23,000 to the Police Superannuation Fund. The 1922 Act provides for an annual increment in the Fund of £20,000. Any surplus over and above this increment is transferred on 30th June to Consolidated Revenue.
Police Superannuation Fund	2709	Established to pay superannuation allowances and gratuities, &c., to members of the Police Force who joined it prior to 25th November, 1902. The revenue consists of an annual subsidy of £2,000, an annual transfer of £23,000 from the Licensing Fund, a deduction of 2½ per cent. from the pay of members, and 50 per cent. of the fines inflicted in Courts of Petty Sessions; should the foregoing prove insufficient, the deficiency is provided from Consolidated Revenue. In 1924–25 the amount so provided was £66,000.
Police Pensions Fund	3316	Established to provide pensions, &c., for all members of the Police Force not already entitled to them, i.e., those who joined it after 25th November, 1902. The revenue is derived from an annual payment of £50,000 from Consolidated Revenue, a deduction of 2½ per cent. from the pay of members, interest on surplus moneys invested, and such additional sum as may be paid into the Fund from Consolidated Revenue to ensure its solvency.

SPECIAL FUNDS (EXCLUDING SINKING FUNDS) KEPT AT THE TREASURY
—continued.

Fund.	Act No.	Remarks.
The Super-annuation Fund	3408	Established to make provision for superannuation benefits on a contributory basis from 1st January, 1926, for State public servants and railway employees. See page 57.
The Port Phillip Pilot Sick and Superannuation Fund	2688	Established to provide pensions for pilots. It is maintained by deductions from pilots' earnings and the annual income derived from investment of the moneys belonging to the Fund. There is no contribution from the Government.
The State Accident Insurance Fund	2496	Receives and disburses all moneys (including expenses of administration) on account of the State Accident Insurance Office, which conducts Workers' Compensation Insurance. The General Reserve is invested in Victorian Stock.
Mallee Land Account	2676	The revenue of this Fund is derived from land sales, rents, &c., in the Mallee. The total revenue can only be used for redemption of Victorian Stock or Debentures. It is thus a Sinking Fund, and is referred to in this connexion on page 77.
The Railway Accident and Fire Insurance Fund	2716	This Fund was established as a reserve to meet the cost incurred by the Railways Department in connexion with:—(a) The injury or death of any person by reason of an accident due to the neglect or default of the Department; (b) Compensation to employees injured on duty; (c) Damage to property by fire; and (d) Damage to or loss of goods while in the possession of the Department for transportation. The Fund is regularly credited with an amount equal to ten shillings per centum of the Railway Revenue, subject to the condition that the amount at the credit of the Fund shall not exceed £100,000.
Metropolitan Roads Fund	3378	Established to receive the additional fees paid by motor omnibuses, as well as all moneys (less cost of collection) received by the licensing authority, under the provisions of the <i>Motor Omnibus Act</i> 1925. Moneys standing to the credit of the fund shall be allocated and paid to the several municipalities wherein the motor omnibuses are used, and shall be applied by the councils of those municipalities towards the construction, renewals, &c., of the streets or roads.

Under the Local Government Act the municipalities have power to levy rates, and are assisted with grants by the State Government. Particulars regarding municipal finance are given in another section of the *Year-Book*. Allied to the municipalities are the Boards and Trusts which control water supply, irrigation, and sewerage, and have rating powers in connexion therewith. There are also the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board and the Country Fire Brigades Board, which are concerned with fire extinction in the metropolis and urban districts, and derive their revenues from the State Government, the Municipalities, and Insurance Companies; and the Melbourne and Geelong Harbour Trusts, which are intrusted with the management of those respective ports, and derive their revenues mainly from wharfage rates.

A summary of the transactions for the financial year 1924-25 in the Consolidated Revenue Fund and in the special funds referred to above gives the following result:—

Revenue deficit at 30th June, 1924	£	922,082
Less surplus revenue, 1923-24, appropriated (Act 3341)		100,000
		<hr/>
		822,082
Revenue, 1924-25	24,304,887	
Expenditure, 1924-25	24,170,483	
	<hr/>	
Surplus for the year		134,404
Revenue deficit at 31st December, 1925		<hr/>
		687,678*

* The revenue deficit at 30th June, 1925, was £797,082, as only £25,000 of the year's surplus had then been disbursed, but by 31st December, 1925, the balance (£109,404) was appropriated in accordance with Act No. 3341.

The Revenue and Expenditure Account is a statement of cash transactions, the revenue representing actual receipts less refunds, and the expenditure actual payments made during the year. The accumulated revenue deficiency had its beginning in the year 1890-91, when it amounted to £206,843, and in the course of the next five years it was added to year by year, until it reached its greatest magnitude (£2,711,436) on 30th June, 1896. On 30th June, 1914, the amount was £251,652, but by the 30th June, 1916, it was increased to £1,642,091. An Act (No. 3341), passed on 21st May, 1924, provides for a yearly appropriation of £25,000 from revenue towards the reduction of the deficit, and by section 13 of the same Act the excess of receipts over expenditure for any financial year is also applied thereto by the following 31st December. At the 31st December, 1925, the accumulated revenue deficiency amounted to £687,678.

The differences between the amounts of revenue and expenditure shown above and those given in the Treasurer's Finance Statement arise from the use of a different method of classification for statistical purposes, the particulars of which for 1924-25 are as follows :—

Items.	Public Revenue.	Public Expenditure.
	£	£
Total according to Treasurer's Finance Statement ..	23,991,408	23,882,004
<i>Add public revenue of the following funds—</i>		
Mallee Land Account—appropriated to Loan		
Redemption purposes	96,999	96,999
Country Roads Board Fund	425,613	425,613
Licensing Fund*	150,434	150,434
Police Superannuation Fund	12,954	12,954
Assurance Fund	2,838	2,838
<i>Deduct—</i>		
Appropriation to reduction of deficit		25,000
Loss on non-paying railways	140,359	140,359
Payment to Railway Department on account of reduced Freight Charges	155,000	155,000
Railway Subsidy to State Coal Mine	80,000	80,000
Total	24,304,887	24,170,483

* Excluding £218,334 transferred to Revenue under Section 39 of Act No. 3259.

Compiled on the above basis, the revenue and expenditure of the State for the last ten years are shown in the next statement :—

STATE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE: 1915-16 TO 1924-25.

Year ended 30th June—	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Year ended 30th June—	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£		£	£
1916 ..	11,470,875	11,683,363	1921 ..	19,054,475	18,941,698
1917 ..	11,813,879	11,795,295	1922 ..	20,357,733	20,297,279
1918 ..	12,672,787	12,631,169	1923 ..	21,634,677	21,611,309
1919 ..	13,044,088	12,979,407	1924 ..	23,075,968	23,050,968
1920 ..	15,866,184	15,752,459	1925 ..	24,304,887	24,170,483

The expenditure in this statement includes considerable sums appropriated to pay off liabilities of former years, and to form sinking funds to meet outstanding loans. Such appropriations and the amount of revenue applied in reduction of the accumulated deficiency are detailed in the succeeding table.

**REVENUE DEVOTED TO PAYING OFF OLD LIABILITIES,
ETC., 1915-16 TO 1924-25.**

Year ended 30th June—	ORDINARY REVENUE APPROPRIATED.		Total.
	Towards reduction of the accumulated revenue deficit.	Towards Redemption Funds to meet outstanding loans.	
	£	£	£
1916	20,327	266,599	286,926
1917	18,584	296,345	314,929
1918	41,618	299,578	341,196
1919	64,681	301,466	366,147
1920	113,725	359,100	472,825
1921	112,777	508,344	621,121
1922	85,454	402,724	488,178
1923	258,170	421,166	679,336*
1924	125,000	484,825	609,825
1925	134,404	563,287	697,691
Total (10 years) ..	974,740	3,903,434	4,878,174

* In addition, £129,148 was expended to recoup the Developmental Railways Account.

In addition to the above appropriations there were surpluses in the financial years 1917-18, 1918-19, 1919-20, 1920-21, and 1923-24, which were applied towards payment for public works or to other purposes of a public nature.

Heads of State Revenue. Details of the sources of the revenue for the last five financial years are given in the following statement :—

HEADS OF STATE REVENUE, 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

Heads of Revenue.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
	£	£	£	£	£
Commonwealth Sub- sidy	1,878,449	1,918,967	1,969,772	2,014,746	2,055,834
State Taxation—					
Income Tax ..	1,591,198	1,443,209	1,514,256	1,702,483	2,076,656
Land Tax ..	331,756	372,060	392,594	412,165	421,662
Probate and Suc- cession Duties ..	702,468	706,181	697,482	798,315	802,333
Betting Taxation (Stamp duties, licences, and percentage) ..	110,158	169,007	185,309	186,141	170,998
Other Stamp Duties	835,940	779,430	950,896	1,011,966	963,307

HEADS OF STATE REVENUE, 1920-21 TO 1924-25—*continued.*

Heads of Revenue.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
State Taxation— <i>cont.</i> —	£	£	£	£	£
Motor Car Act ..	(Included under "Fees, Fines, &c." below.)				
Liquor Taxation and Licences ..	244,814	290,884	302,574	320,331	343,524
Other Licences ..	28,645	28,613	32,173	43,007	39,360
Duties on Bank Notes ..	1,854	1,790	1,762	1,750	1,740
Public Works and Services—					
Railways ..	9,848,061	10,751,173	11,289,956	11,922,195	12,549,878
Water Supply ..	406,666	415,540	447,459	443,384	439,442
Harbour Trusts, Wharfage, &c.	145,938	156,747	199,379	207,692	213,510
State Coal Mine ..	416,892	591,380	468,855	568,897	428,579
State Electricity Commission ..	..	58,111	253,288	255,195	295,572
Interest on properties transferred to Commonwealth	103,789	86,013	80,378	80,844	80,760
Beet Sugar Works	68,670	52,624	74,678	92,231	129,732
Brown Coal Sales*	85,581	55,543	57,081	61,921	23
Other ..	65,925	82,119	99,082	109,598	125,034
Land—					
Land Sales, Rents, Penalties, &c.† ..	568,539	453,011	437,341	461,250	438,241
Interest on Loans—					
Closer Settlement Discharged Soldiers Settlement Acts ..	176,782	163,998	143,249	177,969	235,660
Fees, Fines, &c.—					
Motor Car Act ..	98,135	118,672	165,804	233,300	418,840
Other ..	219,833	213,825	267,439	266,292	261,894
Tramways Act 2995 (Sec. 88) ..	84,355	98,107	93,010	92,998	106,211
Sale of Books and Documents, &c., (Govt. Printer) ..	82,697	90,084	82,504	83,531	85,915
Agriculture Department—					
Victoria Dock Cool Stores ..	52,474	23,316	28,556	18,898	29,365
All other ..	48,241	49,189	49,461	54,384	52,322
Miscellaneous ..	392,737	360,810	336,454	341,327	366,249
Total ..	19,054,475	20,357,733	21,634,677	23,075,968	24,304,887
Per Head of Population ..	£ s. d. 12 9 5	£ s. d. 13 2 6	£ s. d. 13 12 1	£ s. d. 14 3 11	£ s. d. 14 13 4

* Transferred to the State Electricity Commission on 1st April, 1924.

† Excluding proceeds of land by auction, which are payable into the Developmental Railways Account; such payments amounted to £13,607 in 1920-21, £20,043 in 1921-22, £29,786 in 1922-23, £25,588 in 1923-24, and £22,982 in 1924-25.

The revenue for 1924-25 represents an increase of £1,228,919 on that for the previous year. The chief increases were under the following headings:—Railways, £627,683; State Taxation, £343,422; and Motor Car Act Fees, £185,540. The receipts from the State Coal Mine were £143,180 less than in 1923-24. The payments to the State by the Federal Government during the last fifteen years have been computed on the basis of a fixed payment of 25s.* per head of population in the State, whereas in preceding years the Federal Government paid over to the State at least three-fourths of the net revenue from Customs and Excise duties.

STATE EXPENDITURE.

The following table shows for the last five years the principal heads of expenditure from State Revenue:—

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE FROM STATE REVENUE: 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

Heads of Expenditure.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>General Government.</i>					
Governor	8,777	10,064	10,029	9,694	9,376
Parliament and Ministry	103,494	106,147	96,047	110,028	100,841
Civil Establishment	372,560	393,683	396,149	450,254	437,374
Pensions and Gratuities†	489,636	503,065	534,009	580,181	621,695
<i>Law, Order, and Protection.</i>					
Judicial and Legal ..	226,608	227,303	233,169	253,285	259,216
Police	533,920	533,986	540,037	663,319	622,331
Penal Establishments and Gaols	75,981	74,161	80,363	101,122	99,732
<i>Education, &c.</i>					
State Schools, &c. ..	1,659,663	1,755,834	1,755,395	1,819,852	1,885,826
Technical Schools ..	92,001	100,693	182,495	217,539	236,008
University	37,975	40,175	49,975	56,450	64,398
Libraries, &c. .. .	33,500	34,108	36,261	38,367	41,574
Art and Science .. .	9,305	9,630	7,437	7,370	10,540
<i>Recreation and Health.</i>					
Parks, Gardens, and Public Resorts ..	36,939	29,341	26,637	31,843	34,464
Public Health .. .	80,848	97,599	93,995	93,878	109,401
Charitable Institutions, &c. .. .	818,539	829,514	832,882	890,840	1,026,789

* This is subject to a slight reduction on account of a special payment to Western Australia. The reduction in 1924-25 was about 2½d. per head of population.

† For details, see page 55.

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE FROM STATE REVENUE: 1920-21 TO
1924-25—continued.

Heads of Expenditure.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
<i>Crown Lands, &c.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Crown Lands ..	207,760	221,565	236,022	268,216	253,062
Agriculture and Stock	244,968	275,107	305,832	347,502	391,931
Mining ..	538,855	678,785	559,465	657,520	472,539
<i>Public Works.</i>					
Railways ..	7,857,380	8,117,070	8,275,909	8,818,314	9,525,842
Water Supply ..	165,145	185,656	215,110	219,105	229,049
Harbours, Rivers, and					
Lights ..	93,929	98,984	91,438	97,071	112,338
Roads and Bridges ..	6,068	16,948	5,371	6,900	40,795
Country Roads Board	170,638	191,424	229,343	293,523	455,613
State Electricity					
Commission ..	32,015	112,608	144,193	14,826	20,936
Municipal Endow-					
ment, &c.* ..	118,214	120,081	119,542	122,384	143,101
Works and Buildings,					
n.e.i. ..	56,675	65,476	85,588	103,350	145,094
Interest and Expenses					
of Public Debt ..	3,882,095	4,579,665	5,355,575	5,669,970	5,905,947
Redemption Funds,					
&c. ..	508,344	402,724	421,166	484,825	563,287
Discharged Soldiers					
Concessions Fund	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
<i>Other Expenditure.</i>					
Mint Subsidy ..	40,000	33,500	30,000	25,000	26,000
Fire Brigades ..	45,615	48,909	48,215	53,433	58,433
Immigration ..	11,985	18,135	18,896	27,378	26,798
Licences Reduction					
Board, including					
Compensation ..	91,063	72,210	60,730	56,168	43,663
Railway passes to					
Blind and Incapaci-					
tated Soldiers ..	10,428	5,325	5,043	7,253	9,263
Surplus Revenue ap-					
propriated to "Re-					
venue Services" ..	56,936	..	363,949	232,216	..
Miscellaneous ..	148,939	232,804	90,042	146,992	112,227
Total ..	18,941,698	20,297,279	21,611,309	23,050,968	24,170,483
Per Head of Population	£ s. d. 12 7 11	£ s. d. 13 1 9	£ s. d. 13 11 9	£ s. d. 14 3 8	£ s. d. 14 11 9

* Including annual payment from Licensing Fund.

Compared with the previous year the ordinary expenditure of the State for 1924-25 showed an increase of £1,119,515. The heads of expenditure showing the largest increases were—Railways, £707,528;

Interest and Expenses of Public Debt, £235,977; Country Roads Board, £162,090; Charitable Institutions, etc., £135,949; and Education, £98,768. There was a decrease of £184,981 in the expenditure on Mining.

In regard to the surpluses of various years which are included in the preceding table under the item "Surplus Revenue Expenditure. Revenue Appropriated to Revenue Services" it is interesting to note to what purposes the money so appropriated was applied in subsequent years. Up to 30th June, 1925, the total amount appropriated was £2,936,307, of which all but £101,042 had been expended. The following table shows the details of such expenditure for each of the last four years and the total up to 30th June, 1925 :—

SURPLUS REVENUE EXPENDITURE.

Service.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	Total to 30th June, 1925.
	£	£	£	£	£
Capital Services—					
Railways .. ..	..	..	..	..	250,696
Other .. ..	..	..	..	..	64,170
Revenue Services—					
Railways .. ..	..	..	..	..	497,729
Education—					
State schools ..	1,133	6,935	..	..	340,692
Other	45,629	12,914	4	..	136,812
Crown Lands (including reclamation, drainage, &c.)	26	..	..	..	149,480
Harbours, rivers, and lights .. ..	..	..	..	..	117,293
Roads and bridges ..	3,049	1,657	753	750	112,980
Mining Development, &c. .. ..	..	..	..	..	85,000
Railways salaries (arrears)	70,846	1,195	1,455	..	73,496
Public Health	1,151	132	6	..	34,627
Charitable Institutions ..	15,351	2,975	1,000	33,753	139,979
Redemption of Treasury Bonds and Unfunded Debt	25,000	..	234,802	..	503,802
Developmental Railways Account—Refund .. ..	..	..	129,148	..	129,148
Miscellaneous	2,176	17,307	2,064	401	199,361
Total	164,361	43,115	369,232	34,904	2,835,265

The following table sets out in a different form to pages 41 and 43 the heads of State Revenue and Expenditure, but specially shows the operations of the Government Business undertakings in their relation to State Revenue and Expenditure.

STATE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1924-25.

STATE REVENUE.		STATE EXPENDITURE.	
Particulars.		Particulars.	
	£		£
Taxation (excl. Motor Fees) ..	4,819,580	Public Debt Charge (excl. interest paid on business undertakings)	2,366,277
Land Revenue (excl. State Saw Mills) ..	412,284	Lands and Survey (excl. Forests Commission) ..	73,784
Business Undertakings—		Business Undertakings (incl. interest paid by State)—	
Railways ..	12,549,878	Railways (incl. Pensions)	12,826,319*
Water Supply and Sewerage (incl. interest) ..	439,442	Water Supply and Sewerage	859,585
Electric Power Supply (interest only) ..	295,572	Electric Power Supply ..	312,831
Harbours (incl. Melb. Harbour Trust contribution) ..	213,510	Harbours, Rivers, and Lights ..	159,838
State Coal Mine (incl. interest) ..	428,579	State Coal Mine ..	424,530
Beet Sugar Works ..	129,732	Beet Sugar Works ..	106,519
Cool Stores ..	42,568	Cool Stores ..	80,833†
Newport Seasoning Works ..	10,577	Newport Seasoning Works ..	11,197
State Saw Mills ..	15,380	State Saw Mills ..	17,058
Wire Netting Manufacture ..	19,929	Wire Netting Manufacture ..	21,268
Lighterage and Explosives ..	3,948	Explosives ..	7,583
Storage of Gunpowder ..	8,720		
Melbourne Tramways Board Contribution ..	106,211	Mines (excl. State Coal Mine) ..	57,157
		Agriculture (excl. Cool Stores and Beet Sugar) ..	235,572
		Forests (excl. Newport Seasoning and Saw Mill Works) ..	151,023
		Justice ..	259,216
		Penal Establishments ..	99,732
		Police (incl. Pensions) ..	776,285
		Grants to Municipalities ..	143,101
		Education, &c. ..	2,238,346
		Public Health ..	109,401
		Hospitals and Charitable Institutions ..	1,026,789
		Parliament (incl. Governor, Elections, &c.) ..	110,217
		Pensions and Gratuities (other than Police and Railways) ..	249,900
		Civil Establishment ..	437,374
		Country Roads Board ..	455,613
		Other ..	553,045
Total Revenue ..	24,304,887	Total Expenditure ..	24,170,483

* Including subsidy of £80,000 to State Coal Mine.

† Including expenditure on Export Development.

INCOME TAX.

State
Income Tax.

An income tax was first imposed in Victoria in 1895, and, although originally fixed for a period of three years, it has, with certain amendments and alterations, been retained and continued from year to year until the present time. Incomes assessed for tax in any year are those earned, derived, or received in Victoria in the preceding year, and are divided into two classes, viz.:— (1) those derived from personal exertion, and (2) those derived from property. The former consist of salaries, wages, stipends, fees, commissions, bonuses, pensions, superannuation or retiring allowances earned in or derived from Victoria, and all incomes arising or accruing from any profession, trade, or business carried on in Victoria; whilst the latter comprise incomes from all other sources. In computing the taxable income certain deductions are allowed from the assessable income, the principal of which are outgoings and losses incurred in the production of the income, life assurance premiums not exceeding £50, and calls or contributions actually paid into any mining company registered under the *Companies Act* 1915, or to any company in liquidation.

For each of the years 1919–20 to 1922–23 the minimum income subject to tax was £201, and the exemption allowed on incomes between £201 and £500 was £150. No exemption was allowed on incomes exceeding £500 or to companies. The rate of tax for individuals on the amount of taxable income from personal exertion up to but not exceeding £500 was 3d. in the £. Where the taxable income exceeded £500 the rates on incomes from personal exertion were 4d. for every £ of the taxable amount thereof up to £500, 5d. for every £ between £501 and £1,000, 6d. for every £ between £1,001 and £1,500, and 7d. for every £ over £1,500. The rates on incomes from property were respectively double the rates on incomes from personal exertion. In the case of life assurance companies the tax was 12d. in the £ on 30 per cent. of the premium income from ordinary business and on 15 per cent. of that from industrial business. In the case of mining companies the tax was 12d. in the £ on the total amount of dividends declared and debenture interest paid. In the case of other companies liable to tax the rate was 12d. in the £ on the profits.

Taxpayers whose incomes did not exceed £800 per annum were allowed the following deductions from their incomes for the years 1921-22 and 1922-23 :—(a) £30 in respect of each child under 16 years of age ; (b) certain expenses during illness ; (c) friendly society contributions ; and (d) funeral and burial expenses not exceeding £20.

On incomes for the year 1923-24 the exemption on amounts of from £201 to £500 was £200 (instead of £150 as formerly). A super-tax was imposed on incomes (excluding companies) over £800. The amount of super-tax was as follows —

From £800 to £1,000	..	..	..	10 per cent.
„ 1,001 „ 1,250	..	..	..	12½ „
„ 1,251 „ 2,200	..	..	..	15 „
„ 2,201 „ 5,000	..	..	..	20 „
Exceeding £5,000	..	..	..	25 „

Companies (other than Mutual Life Assurance Companies) were taxed at the rate of 15d. in the £1 of the taxable amount of income. Mutual Life Assurance Companies were taxable at the rate of 12d. in the £1 in respect of their Mutual Life Assurance business, and at the rate of 15d. in the £1 on all other business.

On incomes not exceeding £800 an additional deduction of £50 was allowed to a married taxpayer for the maintenance of his wife provided that she had not an income of her own exceeding £100 per annum. The amount deductible from income in respect of children under sixteen years of age was increased from £30 to £50.

For the purpose of simplifying the collection of income tax, the *Income Tax Amendment Act 1923* was passed on 22nd December, 1923. This Act provides that the Victorian Income Tax Department shall be the collecting authority for the income tax payable in the State under Commonwealth law. In cases where income is received in two or more States, no alteration has been made—the tax being assessed and collected by the Central Office of the Commonwealth Income Tax Department.

In previous issues of this part the particulars relating to income tax assessments, &c., have been taken from the Income Tax Report, which only gave an analysis as at the 30th June of each year.

In the following table the figures have been amended, and they now represent complete details of the assessments on incomes for each of the five years specified :—

INCOME TAX ASSESSMENTS.

Heading.	On Incomes of—				
	1919 20.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.
Number of Assessments:					
Individuals ..	89,584	132,859	123,768	153,519	127,818
Companies ..	1,742	2,026	2,265	2,678	2,890
Total, Distinct Taxpayers ..	91,326	134,885	126,033	156,197	130,708
Taxable Incomes:				£	£
Individuals ..				46,227,420	38,509,468
Companies ..	Not available			16,122,969	16,372,972
Total ..	..	..	..	62,350,389	54,882,440
Tax payable:	£	£	£	£	£
Individuals ..	749,204	755,366	759,204	936,515	970,815
Companies ..	722,817	579,995	699,840	805,996	1,014,945
Total* ..	1,472,021	1,335,361	1,459,044	1,742,511	1,985,760
Per taxpayer:	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Individuals ..	8 7 3	5 13 8	6 2 8	6 2 0	7 11 11
Companies ..	414 18 8	286 5 6	308 19 7	300 19 4	351 3 10
Average tax payable in the £ on taxable incomes by—	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Individuals ..	Not available			4.86	6.05
Companies ..	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	14.88

* For actual collections in the following financial year, see page 41.

The total net incomes of taxpayers in 1923-24, who were assessed to pay tax, amounted to £75,614,240, but, as 103,659 taxpayers were allowed the £200 exemption, the amount available for taxation was £54,882,440.

The total number of individuals and companies who paid tax on their incomes for 1923-24 is detailed, under specified grades of taxable income, in the following table:—

TOTAL NUMBER OF TAXPAYERS (1923-24 INCOMES).

Taxable Incomes.	Individuals.				Companies.	Grand Total.
	Personal Exertion.	Property.	Combined Personal and Property.	Total.		
£						
Not exceeding 100	66,729	3,678	295	70,702	491	71,193
101 to 200	20,169	1,995	500	22,664	190	22,854
201- 350	8,673	1,126	553	10,352	224	10,576
351- 500	20	2	16	38	175	213
501- 700	3,435	1,061	4,337	8,833	188	9,021
701-1,000	2,181	654	2,972	5,807	235	6,042
1,001-1,200	888	253	1,427	2,568	112	2,680
1,201-1,500	708	190	1,310	2,208	132	2,340
1,501-2,000	578	204	1,137	1,919	151	2,070
2,001-2,400	229	60	509	798	87	885
2,401-3,000	164	73	444	681	134	815
3,001-4,000	131	50	420	601	130	731
4,001-5,000	73	19	170	262	97	359
5,001-6,000	41	11	85	137	79	216
6,001-7,400	18	5	56	79	65	144
7,401 and over ..	28	25	116	169	400	569
Total ..	104,065	9,406	14,347	127,818	2,890	130,708

Of the individual taxpayers, 81·4 per cent. obtained their incomes wholly from personal exertion, 7·4 per cent. from property, and 11·2 per cent. from personal exertion and property combined. Seventy-three per cent. of the individual taxpayers were in receipt of taxable incomes not exceeding £200, but the tax paid by them amounted to only 8·9 per cent. of the total for individuals.

In the succeeding statement particulars of the sources of taxable incomes for 1923-24 are arranged in order of groups of taxable incomes :—

TAXABLE INCOMES (1923-24 INCOMES).

Taxable Incomes.	Individuals.				Companies.	Grand Total.
	Personal Exertion.	Property.	Combined Personal and Property.	Total.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Not exceeding 100	2,930,464	170,821	18,562	3,119,847	19,587	3,139,434
101 to 200	2,858,675	290,090	75,613	3,224,978	27,536	3,252,514
201 - 350	2,132,357	278,947	139,617	2,550,921	60,985	2,611,906
351 - 500	7,723	753	7,101	15,577	74,446	90,023
501 - 700	2,011,213	623,099	2,532,463	5,166,775	112,518	5,279,293
701 - 1,000	1,876,546	546,889	2,548,354	4,971,789	201,041	5,172,830
1,001 - 1,200	971,785	276,239	1,556,575	2,804,599	122,487	2,927,086
1,201 - 1,500	944,491	251,865	1,748,431	2,944,787	174,853	3,119,640
1,501 - 2,000	997,998	349,279	1,948,846	3,296,123	261,550	3,557,673
2,001 - 2,400	493,830	131,964	1,112,630	1,738,424	190,699	1,929,123
2,401 - 3,000	435,906	194,375	1,188,947	1,819,228	361,274	2,180,502
3,001 - 4,000	450,905	168,735	1,433,882	2,053,522	448,542	2,502,064
4,001 - 5,000	325,188	85,592	755,638	1,166,418	430,894	1,597,312
5,001 - 6,000	223,526	61,583	466,564	751,673	435,862	1,187,535
6,001 - 7,400	119,437	32,959	372,202	524,598	431,959	956,557
7,401 and over ..	308,205	447,883	1,604,121	2,360,209	13,018,739	15,378,948
Total ..	17,088,249	3,911,673	17,509,546	38,509,468	16,372,972	54,882,440

The division showing the highest amount of taxable income of individuals is that from £501 to £700; it is followed closely by that from £701 to £1,000. Fifty per cent. of the taxable income of individuals was earned by persons in receipt of taxable incomes not exceeding £1,000. The great bulk of the taxable income of companies was earned by a few of the larger ones—400, which were in receipt of £7,401 and upwards, having had a taxable income representing 79·5 per cent. of the total for all companies.

The complete figures relating to the tax payable on the 1923-24 incomes are set out hereunder:—

TAX PAYABLE ON 1923-24 INCOMES.

Taxable Incomes.	Individuals.				Companies.	Grand Total.
	Personal Exertion.	Property.	Combined Personal and Property.	Total.		
£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Not exceeding 100	38,221	4,308	325	42,854	1,206	44,060
101 to 200	34,949	7,226	1,321	43,496	1,709	45,205
201 - 350	25,665	6,958	2,309	34,932	3,782	38,714
351 - 500	118	19	134	271	4,631	4,902
501 - 700	33,622	21,485	48,309	103,416	7,023	110,439
701 - 1,000	36,657	21,309	55,709	113,675	12,544	126,219
1,001 - 1,200	20,865	11,890	37,024	69,779	7,641	77,420
1,201 - 1,500	21,748	11,690	44,739	78,177	10,927	89,104
1,501 - 2,000	25,010	17,598	53,461	96,069	16,346	112,415
2,001 - 2,400	13,518	7,216	32,989	53,723	11,918	65,641
2,401 - 3,000	12,827	11,393	37,302	61,522	22,580	84,102
3,001 - 4,000	13,741	10,314	47,941	71,996	28,034	100,030
4,001 - 5,000	10,368	5,107	26,934	42,409	26,931	69,340
5,001 - 6,000	7,508	4,147	17,486	29,141	27,241	56,382
6,001 - 7,400	4,027	2,247	13,769	20,043	26,922	46,965
7,401 and over ..	10,799	31,856	66,657	109,312	805,510	914,822
Total ..	309,643	174,763	486,409	970,815	1,014,945	1,985,760

Companies with taxable incomes of £7,401 and over were assessed for an amount which represented 40.6 per cent. of the total tax payable; for all companies the proportion was 51 per cent. The tax payable by persons in the group £501 to £1,000 was 22 per cent. of the total for individuals. Exclusive of the amount payable by companies, 32 per cent. of the tax payable was derived from personal exertion, 18 per cent. from property, and 50 per cent. from personal exertion and property combined.

In addition to the State Income Tax there is a Commonwealth Income Tax, which was first imposed on incomes earned in the financial year 1914-15. The tax collected by the Commonwealth Government, in the year 1924-25, amounted to £11,136,344, and it is estimated that the payments made on Victorian income would be about £3,007,000.

LAND TAX.

State Land Tax.

The State Land Tax Act of 1915 provides for a tax on the unimproved value of land and for the assessment of land and other purposes. Unimproved value for the purposes of this Act means the sum which might be expected to be realized at the time of valuation if the land were offered for sale on such terms as a seller might in ordinary circumstances be expected to require, and assuming that the improvements (if any) had not been made. The nature of the

taxation is a duty upon land for every pound sterling of the unimproved value thereof, as assessed under the Act, at a rate declared for each year by Act of Parliament. Previously to 1923 the rate of tax was one halfpenny on every pound sterling of the unimproved value of all land having an unimproved value exceeding £250, but since the year mentioned an increased amount has been payable—a super-tax of 5 per cent. having been added to the old rate. No tax is chargeable when the total unimproved value of all lands owned does not exceed £250. Where the assessed unimproved value exceeds the amount of exemption (£250) the exemption diminishes at the rate of £1 for every £1 of such excess, so as to leave no exemption when the unimproved value amounts to, or exceeds £500.

The Assessment Roll on 31st December of each of the last five years showed the following particulars :—

		Taxpayers.		Net Tax Payable.	
		No.		£	
1921	103,237	..	335,566
1922	108,269	..	353,370
1923	114,614	..	392,434
1924	120,107	..	415,693
1925	127,199	..	444,174

Commonwealth Land Tax. In addition to the State Land Tax there is upon the lands in the State a Commonwealth Land Tax, which was assented to on 17th November, 1910. The following particulars of land tax assessment for Victoria for the financial year 1922-23 have been furnished by the Federal Commissioner of Land Tax. The estates assessed numbered 5,253, of which 4,789 belonged to resident and 464 to absentee taxpayers. The unimproved value of these estates, as ascertained by the Department, was £53,190,652, comprising town land and country land of the following respective values :—£20,950,526 and £32,240,126. The tax payable was £322,939. In addition there were 1851 Central Office taxpayers who owned land in more than one State. The Victorian land owned by these taxpayers was valued at £9,561,314 unimproved value, on which a tax of £164,664 was payable.

RAILWAY REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Victorian Railways, financial results. A summary of the results of the working of the Victorian Railways during the last five years is given in the appended statement. The figures have been taken from the Railway Report and represent the actual business done each year, not the receipts and payments brought to account by the Treasury within the year. They include particulars of the St. Kilda-Brighton and Sandringham-Black Rock Electric Street Tramways.

RAILWAY BALANCES : 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

Item.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
	£	£	£	£	£
Gross Revenue ..	9,851,909	10,857,853	11,413,782	12,025,987	12,830,283
Working Expenses ..	7,911,834	8,092,565	8,238,744	8,776,514	9,489,368
Pensions, Gratuities, &c. ..	182,036	194,581	203,470	206,366	215,087
Net Receipts ..	1,758,039	2,570,707	2,971,568	3,043,107	3,125,828
Interest on Cost of Construction ..	2,409,674	2,589,816	2,951,385	3,015,455	3,099,885
Surplus (+) or Deficit (-)	-651,635	-19,109	+20,183	+27,652*	+25,943

* Subject to deduction of an amount of £136,417 which has been written off. This represents a loss on non-paying lines in previous years. The net result was, therefore, a deficit of £108,765.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT AND FIRE INSURANCE FUND.

The establishment of a permanent fund to be kept at the Treasury, and called the Railway Accident and Fire Insurance Fund, was effected by provision in the *Railways Act* 1907 (now the *Railways Act* 1915). This provision requires the Railways Commissioners to pay into such fund the sum of 10s. for every £100 sterling of the revenue of the Victorian Railways until the fund amounts to £100,000, at which amount it is to be maintained. During the year ended 30th June, 1925, the receipts of the fund amounted to £48,079, whilst the payments made therefrom were £8,865 for compensation, damages, costs, &c., to persons other than employees injured; £18,234 as compensation on account of injuries to or deaths of employees; and £17,837 as compensation for goods or parcels lost, and for damages caused by fire, &c. The balance at the credit of the Fund on 30th June, 1925, was £100,000.

PENSIONS AND GRATUITIES.

During the year 1924-25, the Government expended on pensions, gratuities, etc., the sum of £621,695. Of this amount, £467,741 was spent on ex-public servants who had contributed nothing towards their pensions. The remainder represents payments from State revenue to the Police Superannuation Fund and the Police Pensions Fund. The following table gives details of the expenditure for the year 1924-25:—

Cost of
Pensions and
Gratuities.

**GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON PENSIONS,
GRATUITIES, ETC., 1924-25.**

Division of Service.	Special Appropriations.		Annual Votes.		Total.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
		£		£		£
Education Department	1,032	137,205	7	190	1,039	137,395
Railways	1,511	204,593	94	5,640	1,605	210,233
Defence	2	221	..	..	2	221
Lunacy	21	2,545	..	..	21	2,545
Under Constitution Act	1	1,500	..	..	1	1,500
Officers of Parliament	1	509	..	..	1	509
County Court Judges..	1	750	..	..	1	750
Under Civil Service Act						
160	153	35,962	..	..	153	35,962
Under Public Service						
Act 773	162	41,010	..	..	162	41,010
Commonwealth Service						
—Officers of trans-						
ferred Departments	325	27,863	..	..	325	27,863
Various allowances ..	..	..	19	971	19	971
Total Pensions and						
Superannuation						
Allowances ..	3,209	452,158	120	6,801	3,329	458,959
Compensations and Gra-						
tuities	4	755	} 11	4,489	15	5,244
				3,538		3,538*
Police Superannuation						
Fund—						
Subsidy .. ..	..	2,000	..	66,000	..	68,000
Transferred from						
Licensing Fund ..	..	..	..	23,000	..	23,000
Fines .. ..	..	..	..	12,954	..	12,954
Police Pensions Fund—						
Subsidy	..	..	..	50,000	..	50,000
Total amount ..	..	454,913	..	166,782	..	621,695

* Signifies amounts paid to officers on retirement at age 60 years, being equivalent to four weeks' pay.

This fund is maintained by an annual subsidy of £2,000 from the Consolidated Revenue; by a moiety of the fines inflicted by the Courts of Petty Sessions; by a deduction, not exceeding 2½ per cent., from the pay of the members of the Force entitled to pensions; by transfers from the Licensing Fund under the provisions of Act No. 2855; and, should the foregoing sources prove insufficient, by a further grant in aid from the Consolidated Revenue.

**Police
Superannuation
Fund.**

During the year 1924-25 the total receipts of the fund amounted to £107,493, consisting of £103,954 from Government revenue as shown in the preceding table, £3,433 from members of the force, and £56 balance brought forward. Payments out of the Fund amounted to £103,333 (562 pensions for £94,247 and 10 gratuities for £9,086), thus leaving a balance of £4,160 at 30th June, 1925.

Pensions are payable out of this fund only to those members of the Police Force who joined it prior to the 25th November, 1902.

This Act, which came into operation on 1st January, 1924, provides for pensions to those members of the Police Force who have joined it since 25th November, 1902, as well as to persons who may enter the Force in the future. Retirement is compulsory for senior constables and constables on attaining age 55; for sergeants, inspectors, and superintendents on attaining age 60, and for the Chief Commissioner on attaining age 65, except that in special cases any such person may be required to serve for a further period not exceeding five years. The ordinary pension payable on attainment of the retiring age varies from one-fourth of the annual pay at the date of retirement after 15 years' service to two-thirds of such annual pay after 30 or more years' service. Retirement on a medical certificate entitles a member of the Force to a pension for life after completion of 10 years' service, and to a gratuity after a service of less than 10 years. Except in the cases mentioned below, the amount of the pension which is payable on retirement on a medical certificate is, for like durations of service of not less than 15 years, the same as the amount of an ordinary pension payable on attainment of the retiring age. If a member of the Force is incapacitated for the performance of duty owing to an injury received in the execution of duty without his own default, he shall be entitled to a special pension for life which, except in a few instances, is larger than the ordinary pension and, in certain specified circumstances, is the full amount of salary. Provision is made for widows and children, the ordinary pension for a widow being approximately from £40 to £60 per annum, and the allowance for children under sixteen years of age, from £10 to £15 per annum.

A deduction of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum is made from the pay of every member of the Force. When a member leaves the Force of his own accord after having completed 25 years' service or by reason of his having reached the age for compulsory retirement (whichever first happens) and does not receive a pension or gratuity, there shall be paid to him the whole of the rateable deductions which have been made from his pay without any interest thereon.

All pensions, gratuities, and allowances to members or their dependants shall be paid out of a special fund to be kept at the Treasury and to be known as the Police Pensions Fund. Into this fund shall be

paid (a) an annual amount of £50,000 from Consolidated Revenue, (b) the deduction of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. from the pay of members which is referred to above, (c) all interest on surplus moneys in the fund invested as provided, and (d) all other moneys payable into the fund under the Act or any future Act.

All surplus moneys are to be invested in Victorian Government stock or debentures in the name of the Treasurer, and shall carry interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum.

The Government Statist shall make an actuarial valuation of the fund at least once in three years, and shall certify each year what additional sum, if any, is required to be paid into the fund from Consolidated Revenue in order to provide that the assets shall be sufficient to meet the liabilities. Any such additional sum shall be appropriated and paid into the fund.

The receipts of the fund for the year amounted to £60,190 as follows:—Deductions from pay, £7,626; special appropriation, £50,000; interest on investment, £649; and £1,915 balance brought forward. Pensions paid during the year amounted to £269, and there was a balance of £84,921 at 30th June, 1925, of which £80,000 was invested.

In the year 1924–25, there were paid out of the Port Phillip Sick and Superannuation Fund, 21 pensions amounting to £2,584, £96 for sick allowances, and £1,236 for gratuities. The Government does not contribute to this Fund, it being maintained by deductions from pilots' earnings and the annual income derived from investment of the moneys belonging to the fund.

**Port Phillip
Pilot Fund.**

**South Africa
Contingent
pensions.**

Pensions to members and relatives of members of the South African war contingents amounted to £618 in 1924–25.

**The
Superannua-
tion Fund.**

An Act (No. 3408) to make provision on a contributory basis for superannuation benefits for State public servants and railway employees was passed by the State Parliament on 24th November, 1925. The date of commencement of the Act was 25th November, 1925, and contributions were made payable as from the 1st January, 1926, which date is the "appointed day." Pensions were made payable as from the same date. A fund has been established into which is paid the contributions of officers and the amounts received from the Government; also the income derived from investments. The benefits provided by the Act are paid from the fund.

Board of Management.—The fund is managed by a Board consisting of four members appointed by the Governor in Council for a term of five years. One of the members so appointed is Chairman of the Board, and one a qualified actuary. One member is elected by officers in the railway service and one by officers in the other services.

Retiring Age.—The maximum age for retirement is 65 years for males, and in the case of females, 60 or 65, at their option. An officer who is contributing for a pension payable at the age of 65 years may retire at any time after reaching the age of 60 years, and draw a pension which is the actuarial equivalent of a full pension. If he so desires, he may pay to the fund the actuarial equivalent of the amount necessary to complete his payments to a later age and draw a higher rate of pension.

Contributions by Officers.—All officers in the various services, except those with existing pension rights, “twilighters,” and those who were not less than 65 years of age on 1st January, 1926, are required to contribute to the Superannuation Fund. An officer over the age of 65 years on 1st January, 1926, cannot contribute to the fund. He will be entitled on retirement to a free pension of a maximum amount of £104 per annum. Officers over the age of 30 years are entitled to contribute for a pension of £104 per annum at the rate prescribed for age 30. For higher amounts they pay half the full contribution required. Officers aged 30 and under contribute half the cost of their pensions.

Payments by Government.—The Government reimburses to the fund the proportion of each pension which represents the equivalent of the difference between the payment made by the contributor each year and the full annual contribution required to provide the pension.

Amount of Pension.—A unit of pension is £26 per annum. The amount of pension for which an officer may contribute is regulated by his salary. For example, a person aged 25 next birthday, whose salary exceeds £260 and does not exceed £312, makes a fortnightly contribution of 8s. 4d. for a pension of £130 per annum with half pension for his widow, and £13 per annum for each child under 16 until that age is attained. The pension to the officer commences at age 65, or on retirement before that age if that should take place by reason of ill-health or incapacity. The number of units an officer can take varies from a minimum of two (£52 per annum) to a maximum of twelve (£312 per annum).

Pensions to Widows and Children.—The widow and children of an officer who was a contributor or a pensioner at date of death are entitled to the following benefits:—

Widow.—One half the rate of pension for which the officer was contributing, or one half the rate of pension being drawn (as the case may be) at date of death, subject to a minimum of £26 per annum. Such pension ceases on re-marriage.

Children.—£13 per annum in respect of each child under the age of 16 years until that age is attained.

Retirement on the Ground of Ill Health.—Upon retirement on the ground of ill health or incapacity, if such ill health or incapacity is not due to contributor's own fault, a full pension is payable. If, however, the ill health or incapacity is due to his own fault he is entitled to the return of his contributions or a pension based on his contributions, at his option.

Officers with Existing Pension Rights.—A person may exchange such right for rights in the new scheme, thus enabling him to secure benefits for his widow and children under 16 years of age, and he may purchase from the Board a pension equivalent to the difference, if any, between the actuarial value of his existing right and the amount of pension for which he would have been entitled to contribute if he had not had an existing right. A widow's pension up to £52 per annum and a children's pension of £13 per annum for each child under 16 years of age may be purchased by an officer with an existing pension right or by a "twilighter."

Twilighters.—This term embraces the persons who entered the Public Service between the 31st December, 1881, and the 31st December, 1884, or who entered the Railway Service between the 1st November, 1883, and 31st December, 1884. The pension payable to a "twilighter" is one-half the amount that would have been payable if he had had the full pension right provided by Act No. 160, subject to a maximum of £312 per annum and a minimum of £104 per annum. If a full pension computed under Act No. 160 is less than £104, then the lesser amount is payable.

A "twilighter" who retired prior to the 1st July, 1924, and was then over 65 years of age, is entitled to a pension on the above basis payable from 1st January, 1926, but such pension does not carry reversionary rights to widow or children.

A "twilighter" who retired on or after 1st July, 1924, and before 1st January, 1926, is entitled to a pension calculated as stated above, and the first four units of such pension will carry widow's and children's benefits. The widow's pension will be at the rate of £52 per annum, and the payment to children under 16 years of age will be £13 each year.

A "twilighter" who is employed on 1st January, 1926, and who retires on or after attaining the maximum age for retirement, which is 65 years for males and 60 years for females, or who retires on the ground of ill health, will be entitled to a pension equal to one half the amount that would have been payable had he had full pension rights under Act No. 160, subject to a maximum of £312 per annum and a minimum of £104 per annum, or the amount of pension which would have been payable under the Act referred to, whichever is the lower. This pension will not carry widow's or children's benefits, but these may

be secured on terms prescribed by the Board, as well as a further pension representing the difference between the pension provided and that on the salary basis fixed by the Act.

Assurance Policies.—No officer will be required in future to effect an insurance on his life. Policies now held by the various authorities will be returned to the assured. Any moneys invested by an officer in lieu of assurance will be repaid on such officer becoming a contributor. On the application of an officer the Board may take over his assurance policy. If it decides to do so it will pay the premiums on the policy and at maturity date hand to the assured the proceeds thereof, less premiums paid by it with 4 per cent. compound interest.

EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION.

During the year 1924-25 the State expended on education generally the sum of £2,899,942, including £476,930 from loan moneys. The former amount includes the interest payable on loan moneys expended on buildings and expenditure in connexion with pensions and gratuities. The expenditure in each of the last five years, as detailed in the report of the Minister of Public Instruction, was as follows:—

STATE EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION: 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

Expenditure on—	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
	£	£	£	£	£
Education—					
Primary	1,232,440	1,283,499	1,324,144	1,355,876	1,380,209
Intermediate	20,175	27,610	46,679	48,570	52,336
Secondary (including Scho'arships)	107,498	110,397	119,624	125,337	129,748
Special Subjects	49,214	56,930	49,719	54,324	50,472
Training of Teachers	26,353	26,768	26,797	28,440	32,775
Administration	63,252	66,549	69,335	69,932	74,511
Buildings (State Schools).. .. .	176,099	322,471	349,562	481,372	531,571
<i>Technical Schools</i> (including Building Grants)	192,215	229,261	223,978	260,969	292,891
<i>University</i> (including Building Grants)	67,498	113,111	117,197	97,837	77,934
Interest payable on Loan Moneys expended on Buildings	64,404	82,369	97,582	106,800	137,737
Miscellaneous (including Pensions and Gratuities)	118,003	120,694	124,444	133,756	139,758
Total	2,117,151	2,439,659	2,549,061	2,763,213	2,899,942*
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Per head of population	1 7 9	1 11 6	1 12 1	1 14 0	1 15 0

* In addition, £37,714 paid by students in fees during the calendar year 1924 was expended on technical education.

The foregoing statement deals with the expenditure by the State on education generally, and includes expenditure connected with the

University and technical schools, but the statement which follows relates to that portion of the expenditure which has been incurred in connexion with the State schools of Victoria, primary and secondary, excluding the amounts expended on technical schools and scholarships, in each of the last five years:—

EXPENDITURE IN CONNEXION WITH STATE SCHOOLS:
1920-21 TO 1924-25.

Items.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
	£	£	£	£	£
Education:					
Primary—					
Day Schools, including Central Schools	1,226,049	1,276,840	1,317,224	1,347,531	1,371,491
Night Schools	44	38	5	..	..
Schools for Deaf Mutes and Blind and Feeble-minded Children	4,391	4,612	5,571	6,070	6,563
Grant to Collingwood Playground	100	100	100	..	..
Subsidized Schools	556	609	244	275	155
Free Kindergarten Union	1,000	1,000	1,000	2,000	2,000
State Schools Horticultural Society	300	300	..	..	..
	1,232,440	1,283,499	1,324,144	1,355,876	1,380,209
Intermediate—					
Higher Elementary Schools	19,791	27,134	32,950	35,149	36,807
Evening Continuation Classes	385	476	410	42	502
Schools of Domestic Arts	*	*	13,319	12,929	15,027
Secondary—					
High Schools	97,785	101,535	112,291	117,971	122,390
	117,961	129,145	158,970	166,541	174,726
Special Subjects—					
Domestic Arts	24,789	28,025	15,909	17,153	17,690
Manual Training	19,460	21,784	24,998	26,656	21,880
Physical Training	1,125	1,302	1,212	1,273	835
Medical Inspection	2,893	4,690	5,541	5,345	6,350
Dressmaking and Needlework	379	404	388	430	488
School Gardening and Plantations	568	725	891	2,189	2,173
Singing .. .. .	..	..	780	1,278	1,056
	49,214	56,930	49,719	54,324	50,472
Training of Teachers—					
Teachers' College	16,023	16,155	17,212	18,473	20,679
Miscellaneous	10,330	10,613	9,585	9,967	12,096
	26,353	26,768	26,797	28,440	32,775
Administration	63,252	66,549	69,335	69,932	74,511
Buildings—					
Primary Schools	126,112	275,205	296,858	423,494	452,680
" (expended by School Committees)	11,112	11,201	13,199	16,697	16,777
Rents	6,999	8,234	6,876	8,500	10,475
Higher Elementary Schools	18,656	12,950	10,342	20,414	31,681
High Schools	13,220	14,881	22,287	12,277	19,959
	176,099	322,471	349,562	481,372	531,571
Interest payable on Loan Moneys expended on State School Buildings	62,597	75,292	84,958	95,808	121,494
Pensions and Gratuities	117,950	120,644	123,594	132,979	139,708
Total	1,845,866	2,081,298	2,187,079	2,385,272	2,505,406

* Included under heading "Special subjects."

The following return summarizes the expenditure and revenue connected with the Victorian State Schools, and shows the cost per scholar in average attendance for each of the last ten years :—

COST OF INSTRUCTION IN VICTORIAN STATE SCHOOLS :
1915-16 TO 1924-25.

Year.	Expenditure by the State.	Revenue of the Education Department.	Net Expenditure.	Number of Scholars— Average Attendance.	Cost per Scholar to the State.
	£	£	£		£ s. d.
1915-16 ..	1,329,272	26,403	1,302,869	167,989	7 15 1
1916-17 ..	1,229,456	28,477	1,200,979	167,588	7 3 4
1917-18 ..	1,211,346	30,577	1,180,769	167,653	7 0 10
1918-19 ..	1,265,750	21,666	1,244,084	171,640	7 5 0
1919-20 ..	1,502,885	23,917	1,478,968	168,314	8 15 9
1920-21 ..	1,845,866	26,520	1,819,346	167,627	10 17 1
1921-22 ..	2,081,298	25,439	2,055,859	177,487	11 11 8
1922-23 ..	2,187,079	25,450	2,161,629	183,045	11 16 2
1923-24 ..	2,385,272	24,979	2,360,293	179,848	13 2 6
1924-25 ..	2,505,466	24,682	2,480,784	184,606	13 8 9

This table includes the amount payable each year as interest on loan moneys expended on State School buildings.

COMMONWEALTH FINANCE IN VICTORIA.

Commonwealth Finance. A statement of the Commonwealth revenue and expenditure in Victoria for the last five years is given below:—

COMMONWEALTH REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE IN THE STATE OF VICTORIA (ESTIMATED) : 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

Heads of Revenue and Expenditure.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
REVENUE.	£	£	£	£	£
Customs Duties ..	7,345,609	5,835,394	7,648,521	8,226,378	8,167,185
Excise Duties ..	2,525,847	2,644,585	2,700,312	2,764,938	2,823,889
Income Tax* ..	4,203,000	4,533,000	3,485,000	2,986,000	3,007,000
Post, Telegraph, &c.	2,272,719	2,558,972	2,698,251	2,686,226	2,771,870
War-time Profits Tax*	495,000	280,000	72,000	18,000	..
Land Tax* ..	492,436	525,000	464,000	467,000	580,000
Succession Duties* ..	435,873	367,000	434,000	489,000	511,000
War Postage ..	56,000	..	..	..	..
Entertainments Tax	203,769	222,210	208,240	212,011	223,555
Miscellaneous ..	981,747	1,095,839	783,676	956,447	788,501
Total ..	19,012,000	18,062,000	18,494,000	18,806,000	18,873,000
EXPENDITURE.					
Trade and Customs*	272,500	216,000	388,000	259,000	249,000
Post, Telegraph, &c.	1,950,548	2,213,126	2,079,937	2,292,536	2,327,934
Payment to the State Government ..	1,878,449	1,918,967	1,969,772	2,014,746	2,055,824
Other Expenditure (including Defence, War and Repatriation Services, &c.)	13,802,503	13,397,907	13,201,291	14,925,668	14,701,232
Total ..	17,905,000	17,746,000	17,639,000	19,492,000	19,334,000

* Estimated.

COMMONWEALTH AND STATE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The total Government revenue and expenditure within the State of Victoria is obtained by combining State and Commonwealth receipts and expenditure. This has been done in the following table, in which are given figures relating to the principal items:—

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF COMMONWEALTH AND STATE COMBINED: 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

Heads of Revenue and Expenditure.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
REVENUE.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs and Excise	9,871,456	8,479,979	10,348,833	10,991,316	10,991,074
Post, Telegraph, &c.	2,272,719	2,558,920	2,698,251	2,686,226	2,771,870
State Railways	9,848,061	10,751,173	11,289,956	11,922,195	12,549,878
State Taxation ..	3,846,833	3,791,174	4,077,046	4,476,158	4,819,580
Other sources ..	10,348,957	10,919,468	9,744,819	9,791,327	9,989,651
Total Revenue..	36,188,026	36,500,766	38,158,905	39,867,222	41,122,053
EXPENDITURE.					
Trade and Customs	272,500	216,000	388,000	259,000	249,000
Post, Telegraph, &c.	1,950,548	2,213,126	2,079,937	2,292,536	2,327,934
State Railways ..	7,857,380	8,117,070	8,275,909	8,818,314	9,525,842
Public Instruction*..	1,789,639	1,896,702	1,987,865	2,093,841	2,186,232
Public Debt (Victoria)—					
Interest and Ex-					
penses ..	3,882,095	4,579,665	5,355,575	5,669,970	5,905,947
Redemption ..	508,344	402,724	421,166	484,825	563,287
Other Expenditure..	18,707,743	18,699,025	18,772,085	20,909,686	20,690,407
Total Expenditure	34,968,249	36,124,312	37,280,537	40,528,222	41,448,649

* Primary and Technical Schools, and University.

COMMONWEALTH, STATE, AND LOCAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

A statement of the ordinary revenue and expenditure and of the loan expenditure of the Federal Government in Victoria, also of the State Government and of municipal and local bodies, during the last five years, will be found in the next table. From the totals of revenue and expenditure the amounts received by one body from another have been deducted.

COMMONWEALTH, STATE, AND LOCAL REVENUE AND
EXPENDITURE : 1921 TO 1925.

Heading.	Financial Year ended in—				
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
<i>Revenue.</i>					
	£	£	£	£	£
Government—					
Federal* ..	19,012,000	18,062,000	18,494,000	18,806,000	18,873,000
State ..	16,949,396	18,190,935	19,401,637	20,805,420	22,006,348
Municipal ..	3,460,727	3,890,390	4,362,983	4,847,899	5,426,507
Other Local Authorities—					
Harbor Trusts ..	548,008	652,839	745,088	785,799	818,800
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works	846,071	923,234	1,095,004	1,069,898	1,178,862
Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board	1,626,078	1,841,170	1,930,798	1,889,513	1,968,785
Fire Brigades Boards ..	68,865	75,262	71,999	75,934	90,564
Other† ..	129,879	167,168	182,485	174,454	194,425
Total ..	42,641,024	43,802,998	46,283,994	48,454,917	50,557,291
<i>Ordinary Expenditure.</i>					
Government—					
Federal* ..	17,905,000	17,746,000	17,639,000	19,492,000	19,334,000
State ..	16,836,619	18,131,481	19,378,269	20,780,420	21,871,944
Municipal ..	3,466,396	3,804,947	4,089,749	5,093,809	5,747,882
Other Local Authorities—					
Harbor Trusts ..	506,624	565,157	638,626	697,946	762,559
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works	856,243	954,315	987,209	1,083,016	1,189,285
Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board	1,629,740	1,835,550	1,929,728	2,023,840	2,201,031
Fire Brigades Boards ..	70,338	77,456	73,168	72,608	88,178
Other† ..	135,120	164,085	179,002	188,440	185,007
Total ..	41,406,080	43,278,991	44,914,751	49,432,079	51,379,886

* Estimated. † Ballarat Water Commission and Sewerage Authority; Bendigo Sewerage Authority; Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust; and First Mildura Irrigation Trust.

COMMONWEALTH, STATE, AND LOCAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE :
1921 TO 1925—continued.

Heading.	Financial Year ended in—				
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
<i>Loan Expenditure.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Government—					
Federal* ..	5,812,000	1,740,000	1,665,000	2,220,000	2,064,000
State ..	11,095,158	11,804,990	8,764,306	8,407,526	7,940,589
Municipal ..	480,166	702,310	885,303	1,146,166	1,184,890
Other Local Authorities—					
Harbor Trusts ..	188,960	201,534	278,312	414,195	660,302
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works	423,692	740,943	703,852	888,269	1,211,912
Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board	..	100,000	..	400,000	908,916
Fire Brigades Boards ..	23,782	25 205	1,443	1,201	19,048
Other ..	59,466	67,543	134,516	126,223	111,745
Total ..	18,083,224	15,382,525	12,432,732	13,603,580	14,101,402
<i>Expenditure—Grand Total ..</i>	<i>59,489,304</i>	<i>58,661,516</i>	<i>57,347,483</i>	<i>63,035,659</i>	<i>65,481,288</i>
Per Head of Popula- tion—					
Revenue ..	£ s. d. 27 18 2	£ s. d. 28 4 11	£ s. d. 29 2 1	£ s. d. 29 16 3	£ s. d. 30 10 1
Ordinary Expen- diture ..	27 2 0	27 18 2	28 4 11	30 8 3	31 0 1
Loan Expenditure	11 16 8	9 18 5	7 16 4	8 7 5	8 10 2

* Estimated.

PUBLIC DEBT.

The following statement shows the result of loan transactions including Treasury Bonds in aid of revenue to 30th June, 1925, with the exception of Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Debentures taken over, which are not treated in the Treasury accounts as a loan raised by the State :—

LOANS RAISED AND REDEEMED TO 30th JUNE, 1925.

	£
Cash received	272,669,153
Discount and expenses after deducting premiums	3,302,804
	<hr/>
Securities issued	275,971,957
Add temporary advance pending loan flotation	2,724,000
	<hr/>
	278,695,957
Loans redeemed by—	£
Redemption loans	131,773,762
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board's repayments	2,389,934
Revenue (Special appropriations and Surplus Revenue)	4,404,200
Redemption Funds	6,380,369
Closer Settlement Fund	1,289,562
Coal Mines Sinking Fund	7,050
Discharged Soldiers Concessions Fund	1,040,600
Discharged Soldiers Settlement Fund	174,101
Discount (securities purchased under par)	67,814
	<hr/>
	147,527,392
	<hr/>
Loans outstanding on 30th June, 1925	131,168,565*

It will be seen that, upon the transactions to date (excluding the temporary advance referred to above), securities representing £275,971,957 have been issued, and that the amount of cash received has been £272,669,153. This means that the State has received £98 16s. 1d. in cash for every £100 bond given.

Excluding London debentures for £388,100 taken over with the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway and since paid off, the total amount of the loans which have been raised in London at varying rates of interest is £109,526,882. The amount which has been paid off by means of new loans is

* There are, in addition to this amount, the overdue debentures for £1,000, which are referred to further on.

£56,086,880, and by means of appropriations from revenue, &c., £3,588,498; a sum of £706,300 has been transferred to the Melbourne register, leaving a balance due in London on 30th June, 1925, of £49,145,204, consisting of debentures amounting to £2,262,575, and inscribed stock, £47,588,929. In addition there was an amount outstanding of £2,724,000, which was advanced temporarily in London pending flotation of loan, under Act No. 3200. The following table gives particulars respecting the various loans which have been raised in London:—

LOANS FLOATED IN LONDON.

Auth- orization Act No.	Nominal amount raised (amount for which securities have been issued).	Rate of In- terest.	When repay- able.	Loans paid off (including Redem- tion Loans).	Debt outstanding 30th June, 1925.			
					Inscribed Stock.	Debentures.	Total payable in—	
							London.	Mel- bourne.
	£	%		£	£	£	£	
(Period 1855 to 1888)	46,480,100	..		46,480,100	..	..	..
1196	3,000,000	3½	1921-26	..	..	2,905,150	94,850	
1032	4,000,000	3½	1023	4,000,000	3,000,000	..	..
1217	2,000,000	3½	1921-26	..	..	2,000,000	..	
1233	1,000,000	4½	1893	1,000,000	2,000,000	..	..
1287	2,107,000	4	1911	2,107,000	..	..	..
1560	4,600,000	3	1929-49	137,886	4,462,114	..	4,202,561	259,553
	4,976,476	3½	1929-49	244,519	4,731,957	..	4,625,695	106,262
	1,000,000	4	1940-60	20,300	979,700	..	979,700	..
	10,908,300	5	1932-42	..	11,958,168	..	11,833,968	124,200
1562	1,049,868	5½	1935-45	..	2,850,400	..	2,839,749	10,651
	2,850,400	6½	1924-34	..	..	..	..	..
1574	2,302,363	3	1923-25	2,302,363	..	..	..
2026	1,000,000	3	1929-49	..	1,000,000	..	1,000,000	..
2167	500,000	4	1903	500,000	..	..	..
	149,600	5½	1924-34	..	..	149,600	..	
2635/2415	807,075	5	1945	..	..	807,075	..	
	1,500,000	3½	1929-49	..	1,500,000	..	1,500,000	..
2428	100,000	5½	1922	100,000	..	..	..
2480	2,000,000	4	1940-60	..	2,000,000	..	1,982,416	17,584
2480	1,465,300	4½	1920-25	1,450,410	14,890	..	14,890	..
2480	1,034,700	5½	1930-40	..	1,034,700	..	941,500	93,200
2530	284,700	5	1932-42	..	284,700	..	284,700	..
	2,215,300	5½	1930-40	..	2,215,300	..	2,215,300	..
2531	784,700	4½	1920-25	782,800	..	1,900	1,900	..
2794	550,000	5½	1922	550,000	..	..	..
	1,109,481	5½	1927	..	..	1,109,481	..	
2871	194,519	5½	1927	..	..	194,519	..	
3124	750,000	5½	1930-40	..	750,000	..	750,000	..
3233	850,000	4½	1940-60	..	850,000	..	850,000	..
	2,807,000	5	1932-42	..	2,807,000	..	2,807,000	..
3274	3,500,000	4½	1940-60	..	3,500,000	..	3,500,000	..
3345	1,650,000	4½	1940-60	..	1,650,000	..	1,650,000	..
	109,526,882	..	..	59,675,378	47,588,929	2,262,575	49,145,204	706,300
Add Temporary Advance pending flotation of Loan, Act 3200							2,724,000	..
Total London Loans							51,869,204	706,300

Loans
Floated in
Melbourne.

Excluding Victorian debentures for £63,000 taken over with the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway, of which £62,000 have since been paid off, the total amount of the loans which have been floated in Melbourne is £166,445,075. Of this amount £75,686,882 has been redeemed by loans, and £12,165,132 by revenue, &c., leaving due a balance of £78,593,061 on 30th June, 1925, consisting of debentures, £41,143,405, inscribed stock, £36,671,370, and Treasury bonds in aid of revenue, £778,286. In addition, outstanding inscribed stock for £706,300 has been transferred from the London to the Melbourne Register, so that of the debt outstanding the total amount payable in Melbourne was £79,299,361.

Purposes for
which
Outstanding
Loans were
raised.

The amount of the loans raised in London and Melbourne to 30th June, 1925, inclusive of Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Debentures taken over, was £276,423,057, and of this sum a total of £147,977,492 had been repaid at that date, viz., £15,753,630 out of the general revenue, and £132,223,862 out of the proceeds of redemption loans. The balance outstanding on 30th June, 1925, was £131,169,565, which includes an amount of £2,724,000 temporarily advanced in London. The purposes for which this amount was borrowed and the annual interest payable thereon are as follows:—

PURPOSES FOR WHICH OUTSTANDING LOANS WERE RAISED.

Loans Raised for—	Amount of Loans outstanding on 30th June, 1925.	Annual Interest Payable.
REVENUE-YIELDING WORKS.		
	£	£
Railways	67,007,065	3,067,096
Discharged Soldiers Settlement	21,188,534	1,208,157
Closer Settlement	5,974,114	264,833
Waterworks—Country	15,207,628	696,618
Country Roads—		
Main	3,075,346	156,970
Developmental	2,599,462	137,312
Road Construction—Percentage with Com- monwealth	239,275	12,654
Electricity Supply.. .. .	7,823,426	398,193
Harbours	533,429	23,092
Agriculture and Advances to Farmers, &c.	411,344	20,428
Mining Development	294,940	11,483
Graving Dock	206,144	8,421
Cool Stores, Outer Ports, &c.	926,023	45,528
Total Revenue-yielding Works	125,486,730	6,050,785

PURPOSES FOR WHICH OUTSTANDING LOANS WERE RAISED—*continued.*

Loans Raised for—	Amount of Loans outstanding on 30th June, 1925.	Annual Interest Payable.
OTHER WORKS.		
	£	£
State Schools, Technical Schools, and University	2,983,565	137,737
Public Offices, Law Courts, and Parliament Houses	230,019	8,778
Wire Netting	276,920	14,672
Loans to Municipalities (incl. Kerang Tramway)	361,426	17,356
Defence Works	112,510	3,875
Other Public Works and Buildings	305,341	10,890
Miscellaneous	391,328	19,743
Unapportioned	243,440	13,996
Total Other Works	4,904,549	227,047
In aid of Revenue	778,286	41,289
Net Borrowings	131,169,565	6,319,121

Of the proceeds of the loans outstanding on 30th June, 1925, sums not yet expended amounted in the aggregate to £635,189, of which £315,558 was for Public Works, Buildings, etc., £168,870 for Closer Settlement, £101,260 for Country Roads (Main and Developmental), and £49,501 for various other services. Of the amount of the loans which were raised for public works and are still outstanding, 96 per cent. was obtained for works of a revenue-yielding nature.

During the last ten years there has been a very large increase in the Public Debt, the actual increase having been £58,085,638, or 79 per cent. Below is given a statement showing the chief works and services for which the additional liabilities were incurred :—

PUBLIC DEBT—INCREASE IN TEN YEARS.

Work or Service for which raised.	Loans outstanding at 30th June—		Increase.
	1915.	1925.	
	£	£	£
Railways	52,398,601	67,007,065	14,609,664
Waterworks—Country	8,202,679	15,207,628	7,004,949
Metropolitan	1,559,786	..	*1,559,786
Discharged Soldiers Settlement .. .. .	..	21,188,534	21,188,534
Closer Settlement	4,822,279	5,974,114	1,151,835
Electricity Supply .. .. .	..	7,823,426	7,823,426
Country Roads	301,435	5,914,083	5,612,648
Harbours	420,000	533,429	113,429
Loans and Grants to Municipalities	164,021	361,426	197,405
Agriculture and Advances to Farmers, &c.	465,564	411,344	*54,220
Cool Stores, Outer Ports, &c.	308,554	926,623	617,469
State Schools, Technical Schools, and University	1,559,303	2,983,565	1,424,262
Public Offices, Law Courts, and Parliament Houses	510,018	230,019	*279,999
All other Works and Services	1,472,287	1,587,183	114,896
In Aid of Revenue	900,000	778,286	*121,714
Unapportioned .. .. .	..	243,440	243,440
Total	73,083,927	131,169,565	58,085,638

* Decrease.

The total amount of loans outstanding on 30th June, 1925, inclusive of Treasury bonds in aid of revenue, was £131,169,565, as mentioned above. Of this sum £43,406,980 was in the form of debentures; £47,588,929 of inscribed stock (London Register); £2,724,000 Temporary Advance pending flotation of loan (London) Act No. 3200; £36,671,370 of inscribed stock (Melbourne Register); and £778,286 of Treasury bonds in aid of revenue. Particulars concerning the due dates of loans outstanding on 30th June, 1925, are given in the following table. Where the Government has the option of redemption during a specified period the loans have been classified according to the latest date of maturity :—

Due Dates of Loans.

DUE DATES OF VICTORIAN LOANS ON 30TH JUNE, 1925.

Due Date (Financial Year.)	Payable in London.	Payable in Melbourne.	Total.
	£	£	£
Overdue	16,790	1,610	18,400
1925-26	4,905,150	7,346,170	12,251,320
1926-27	1,304,000	1,728,207	3,032,207
1927-28 .. .. .	..	7,219,233	7,219,233
1928-29 .. .. .	..	11,532,160	11,532,160
1929-30 .. .. .	..	18,765,456	18,765,456
1930-31 .. .. .	..	3,341,188	3,341,188
1931-32 .. .. .	..	1,122,950	1,122,950
1932-33 .. .. .	..	1,169,766	1,169,766
1933-34 .. .. .	..	5,425,535	5,425,535
1934-35	2,989,349	1,241,880	4,231,229
1935-36 .. .. .	..	300,000	300,000
1937-38 .. .. .	..	40,000	40,000
1939-40 .. .. .	..	312	312
1940-41	3,906,800	627,980	4,534,780
1941-42 .. .. .	..	423,600	423,600
1942-43	13,875,800	227,800	14,103,600
1944-45	807,075	400	807,475
1945-46	1,049,868	15,400	1,065,268
1946-47 .. .. .	..	202,000	202,000
1948-49	5,202,561	264,853	5,467,414
1949-50	6,125,695	106,262	6,231,957
1953-54 .. .. .	..	123,874	123,874
1959-60	2,962,116	17,584	2,979,700
1960-61	6,000,000	..	6,000,000
Government Option* .. .. .	..	6,070,066	6,070,066
Not yet fixed†			
(a) .. .. .	..	11,794,075	11,794,075
(b) .. .. .	..	92,000	92,000
(c) .. .. .	..	100,000	100,000
Temporary advance from Westminster Bank, London, pending flotation	2,724,000	..	2,724,000
Total	51,869,204	79,300,361	131,169,565

* At option of Government on giving twelve months' notice.

† Amounts received from Commonwealth for purposes of—(a) Discharged Soldier Settlement, and (b) Loans to Municipalities; and (c) on account of a loan to be floated.

Loans and interest payable in London and Melbourne.

An examination of the next table reveals interesting information in regard to the practice adopted when raising money in recent years. During the last 25 years the amount of loans due in Melbourne has grown from £4,669,306 to £79,300,361, while the amount due in London has shown little variation. With few exceptions, the new loans raised have been obtained locally, while further large amounts have been borrowed in the State for the redemption of London loans as they matured.

PUBLIC DEBT AND INTEREST PAYABLE THEREON IN LONDON AND MELBOURNE: 1900 TO 1925.

On 30th June—	Amount of Loans Payable in—		Annual Interest Payable in—	
	London.	Melbourne.	London.	Melbourne.
	£	£	£	£
1900 ..	44,655,579	4,669,306	1,735,307	152,046
1910 ..	39,012,436	16,564,289	1,419,579	560,520
1915 ..	41,333,738	31,750,189	1,520,762	1,131,811
1916 ..	42,160,566	34,614,466	1,562,884	1,270,886
1917 ..	42,907,086	35,218,309	1,604,171	1,327,518
1918 ..	43,437,719	36,157,927	1,633,681	1,407,419
1919 ..	43,400,300	38,631,629	1,632,372	1,547,192
1920 ..	42,406,040	45,241,699	1,637,615	1,902,108
1921 ..	38,709,050	58,608,781	1,527,541	2,780,300
1922 ..	42,708,244	66,390,955	1,761,734	3,324,535
1923 ..	45,685,997	72,876,032	1,933,000	3,641,693
1924 ..	48,551,314	75,557,012	2,158,199	3,740,433
1925 ..	51,869,204	79,300,361	2,319,486	3,999,635

The appended table shows the rates of interest which were payable on the public debt at 30th June, 1925, and the portions of the debt at each rate in London and Melbourne respectively :—

RATES OF INTEREST ON PUBLIC DEBT AT 30TH
JUNE, 1925.

Rate of Interest.	Amount Payable in—		
	London.	Melbourne.	Total.
%	£	£	£
Not bearing interest	16,790	1,610	18,400
7½ .. .. .	..	586,414	586,414
6/15/2 .. .. .	..	631,248	631,248
6/7/0 .. .. .	..	5,523,543	5,523,543
6 .. .. .	..	5,841,701	5,841,701
5¾ .. .. .	..	750,000	750,000
5½	8,200,149	15,096,622	23,296,771
5/6/11 .. .. .	..	3,563,724	3,563,724
5/5/3 .. .. .	..	1,581,146	1,581,146
5¼ .. .. .	..	7,869,845	7,869,845
5	15,732,743	18,153,169	33,885,912
4¾ .. .. .	..	100,000	100,000
4¾	6,000,000	85,980	6,085,980
4/14/5 .. .. .	..	3,900,000	3,900,000
4½ .. .. .	..	912,325	912,325
4¼ .. .. .	..	637,400	637,400
4	2,962,116	2,505,973	5,468,089
3¾ .. .. .	..	220,000	220,000
3½	11,030,845	6,836,540	17,867,385
3	5,202,561	4,463,121	9,665,682
Not fixed	2,724,000	100,000	2,824,000
Total	51,869,204	79,300,361	131,169,565
Average Rate of Interest	4·47%	5·04%	4·82%

Growth of Public Debt. While the public debt has increased from year to year a very noticeable feature is the rapid increase which has occurred during the last few years. As compared with 1890 the debt per head of population at 30th June, 1925, had increased by 114 per cent.; the interest payable per head had increased by 158 per cent. in the same period. In the following statement is shown the growth of the public debt and of the interest payable thereon since the date of the establishment of responsible government in 1855 :—

**GROWTH OF PUBLIC DEBT AND INTEREST:
1855 TO 1925.**

End of Financial Year in—	Loans Outstanding.			Amount per Head of Population.	
	Amount.	Annual Interest Payable.		Debt.	Annual Interest Payable.
		Total.	Average Rate per cent.		
	£	£		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1855 ..	480,000	28,800	6·00	1 6 4	0 1 7
1860 ..	5,118,100	306,405	5·99	9 10 4	0 11 5
1870 ..	11,924,800	688,740	5·78	16 8 3	0 19 0
1880 ..	20,056,600	1,004,436	5·01	23 11 9	1 3 7
1890 ..	41,377,693	1,649,465	3·99	36 19 11	1 9 6
1900 ..	49,324,885	1,887,353	3·83	41 6 8	1 11 8
1910 ..	55,576,721	1,980,099	3·56	43 6 8	1 10 10
1920 ..	87,647,739	3,539,723	4·04	57 19 1	2 6 10
1921 ..	97,317,831	4,307,841	4·43	63 5 11	2 16 0
1922 ..	109,099,199	5,086,269	4·66	69 9 3	3 4 10
1923 ..	118,562,029	5,575,067	4·70	73 15 0	3 9 4
1924 ..	124,108,326	5,898,632	4·75	75 13 9	3 11 11
1925 ..	131,169,565	6,319,121	4·82	79 3 2	3 16 3

In addition to the ordinary expenditure from revenue, certain sums are disbursed annually for various purposes from Loan Funds. The figures in the following table include all expenditure from the latter, whether the loans have been repaid or are still in existence. The table shows the details for each of the last four years and the total to date :—

EXPENDITURE FROM LOAN FUNDS.

Purpose.	Expenditure during the Year—				Total to 30th June, 1925.
	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	
	£	£	£	£	£
Railways	3,886,534	1,674,643	1,395,282	1,379,182	66,145,550
Water Supply—					
Country	968,047	1,210,485	1,415,109	1,405,623	15,923,080
Metropolitan ..	..	..	..	..	3,142,577
Closer Settlement ..	18	461,533	855,919	592,372	7,055,011
Discharged Soldiers Land Settlement ..	4,287,114	1,959,231	1,577,411	1,133,588	22,330,376
Country Roads ..	960,821	573,972	566,596	992,568	6,283,413
Electricity Supply ..	1,337,818	2,471,457	2,090,091	1,595,064	7,654,379
State Schools, University, &c. ..	281,037	329,882	359,511	476,930	3,218,618
State Coal Mine ..	Cr. 185	..	..	9,967	249,399
Seed and Fodder Advances to Farmers	..	..	..	..	604,615
Cool Storage—Advances to Companies, &c. ..	41,710	3,503	31	..	573,299
Municipalities—Loans, Advances, and Grants	38,600	..	3,350	12,881	1,128,514
Primary Products—Advances to Companies, &c. ..	59,821	..	..	7,500	326,101
Wire Netting ..	15,447	23,731	26,275	32,399	432,859
All other works and services ..	4,145	55,869	117,951	302,515	4,883,932
In aid of Revenue ..	..	..	..	..	2,919,652
Total	11,880,927	8,764,306	8,407,526	7,940,589	142,921,375*

* In addition to this amount, the sum of £858,942 was advanced from the Public Account Advances Account in 1924-25 and expended on the following:—Railways, £101,538; Water Supply, £65,944; Discharged Soldiers Land Settlement, £287,460; and Electricity Supply, £401,000.

The total interest paid (including all expenses of payment) on loans raised to 30th June, 1925, amounted on that date to about £115,000,000, of which £81,000,000 had been paid in London and £34,000,000 in Melbourne. The amount of interest and expenses paid during each of the last five financial years is shown in the next table :—

Interest paid on Loans.

INTEREST AND EXPENSES OF PUBLIC DEBT.

Year Ended 30th June.	Interest Paid on Loans in—		Interest Paid on Temporary Loans.	Commission on Payment of Interest in London.	Commission on Redemption, Expenses of Conversion, &c.	Total.
	London.	Melbourne.				
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1921 ..	1,648,984	2,162,261	56,670	7,658	6,522	3,882,095
1922 ..	1,541,747	2,927,931	100,600	9,387	..	4,579,665
1923 ..	1,765,579	3,563,982	3,701	15,274	7,039	5,355,575
1924 ..	2,066,948	3,589,245	1,917	6,905	4,955	5,669,970
1925 ..	2,104,561	3,790,631	1,190	6,757	2,808	5,905,947

SINKING FUNDS.

Sinking Funds. On 30th June, 1925, the sinking funds for repayment of the public debt amounted to £4,084,795. The balances to the credit of the various funds at that date are shown in the following table:—

	Balance at Credit.
	£
Mallee Land Account	50,008
Victorian Government Consolidated Inscribed Stock Redemption Fund	3,226,297
Victorian Loans Redemption Fund	445,999
Closer Settlement Redemption Fund	35,121
State Coal Mines Sinking Fund	112,802
Main Roads Sinking Fund	157,155
Railways Sinking Fund	38,007
Public Works Sinking Fund	13,240
Developmental Roads Sinking Fund	6,166
Total	4,084,795

By Act No. 2676 of 1915 the moneys accruing from licensing, leasing, or selling of land in the Mallee country or Mallee border are to be paid into the Treasury and placed to the credit of a separate account, to be called the "Mallee Land Account." The sums standing at credit of this account are available solely for the repurchase, redemption, or paying off of any Victorian stock or debentures. The amount in hand on 30th June, 1924, was £27,730, and during 1924-25 the receipts amounted to £96,999, and the expenditure to £74,721, so that the balance in the fund on 30th June, 1925, was £50,008.

By Act No. 1561 of 1898 it was enacted that a "Victorian Government Consolidated Inscribed Stock Redemption Fund" should be kept in the Treasury, and should be applied to the purchase or repurchase, and ultimately to the redemption of consolidated stock—that is, stock on the London Register—and to the payment of expenses connected with

such purchase or redemption. The fund is made up of money derived from special appropriations from revenue, from repayments by Water Trusts, and from the Mallee Land Account, &c. During 1924-25 the receipts of the fund amounted to £351,871. Transactions to 30th June, 1925, were as follows:—

THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT CONSOLIDATED INSCRIBED
STOCK REDEMPTION FUND: 30TH JUNE, 1925.

Transactions.	To 30th June, 1925.
RECEIPTS.	
	£
Waterworks Trusts	357,674
Mallee Land Account	1,154,000
Revenue	1,135,499
Interest on Investments	850,662
Miscellaneous	104,185
Total receipts	3,602,020
EXPENDITURE.	
Purchase of Stock	374,500
Commission, &c.	1,211
Investment Expenses	12
Total expenditure	375,723
Balance in the Fund	3,226,297
Amount of stock repurchased and cancelled	397,421

Of the balance in the fund, £3,220,872 was invested in Victorian Government debentures and stock, and £5,425 held in cash.

By Acts Nos. 1565 and 1796 it was provided that a "Victorian Loans Redemption Fund" should be kept in the Treasury and should be available for the purchase, repurchase, or redemption of Victorian Government stock and debentures payable at Melbourne, and for the payment of expenses, costs, &c., incurred. This fund is derived from special appropriations from revenue and repayments of advances made under any Act for "Resumption of Land in Mallee District," and of sundry loans made by the Government to municipalities, &c. During 1924-25 receipts amounted to £331,708, and £260,472 was expended in the purchase for cancellation of £263,940 stock and debentures.

**Victorian
Loans
Redemption
Fund.**

Transactions in the fund to 30th June, 1925, are shown in the following statement:—

THE VICTORIAN LOANS REDEMPTION FUND:
30TH JUNE, 1925.

Transactions.	To 30th June, 1925.
RECEIPTS.	
From Revenue	£ 3,188,475
Resumption of land in Mallee Districts and valuation of improvements	26,321
Payments by Municipalities	382,911
Geelong Municipal Waterworks Trust	265,000
Interest on Investments	200,055
Shipbuilding Yard (realization)	178,500
Sale of Dredge	4,288
Repayment of Loans—	
Bush fires relief	22,894
Floods relief	1,453
Seed advances	609,486
New pilot steamer	17,354
Yarrowee Channel	16,179
Wire netting	365,027
Cool Stores	64,135
Municipalities	319,605
Country roads	80,000
Cattle advances	57,563
Royal Agricultural Society	3,896
Primary products	70,293
Excess of face value of securities over amount invested	408
Total receipts	5,873,843
EXPENDITURE.	
Purchase of stock and debentures	5,427,844
Balance in the Fund	445,999
Amount of stock and debentures repurchased and cancelled	5,468,666

The balance in the fund was represented by Victorian Government debentures and stock having a face value of £442,546, and £3,453 held in cash.

With the approval of the Treasurer this Fund was established to write down the valuation of Closer Settlement Estates by £200,000. The sole revenue of the Fund is a sum of £10,000, which, in accordance with an arrangement entered into, it must receive each year from the profits of the Closer Settlement Fund. Up to 30th June, 1925, the revenue of the Fund had been applied in the cancellation of stock and debentures to the value of £64,879.

**Closer
Settlement
Redemption
Fund.**

Coal Mines Sinking Fund. By Act No. 2630 (Section 96) the net surplus profits of the State Coal Mines were applied in establishing the Coal Mines Sinking Fund. Up to 30th June, 1925, the receipts of that Fund amounted to £119,852. Stock and debentures to the value of £7,050 had been cancelled at par, and there was thus a balance of £112,802. Of this amount £106,566 was invested and £6,236 was held in cash.

Main Roads Sinking Fund. By Act No. 2635 (Section 39) a portion of the money to the credit of the Country Roads Board Fund is paid into the Main Roads Sinking Fund. The receipts of the latter Fund to 30th June, 1925, amounted to £157,155, all of which was invested.

Railways Sinking Fund. By Act No. 3309 of 1923 the surplus railway revenue of every financial year shall be placed to the credit of the Railways Sinking Fund until such sum amounts to 75 per cent. of the loan liability of the Victorian Railways. The moneys at the credit of the Fund shall be invested in Government securities bearing interest at 4 per cent. per annum and shall be available only for redemption of loans raised for railway purposes. Any uninvested moneys shall bear interest at 4 per cent. per annum, which interest shall be paid out of consolidated revenue. The amount at the credit of the Fund at 30th June, 1925, was £38,007, of which £12,320 was invested, and £25,687 was held in cash.

Public Works Sinking Fund. Under the provisions of Act No. 3201 of 1922 a Fund known as the "Public Works Sinking Fund" was established for the purpose of liquidating the liability on account of certain public works. The works specified in the Act are public offices, education buildings, hospitals for insane, gaols, police quarters, &c. The sum to be paid into the Fund annually shall be equal to 2 per cent. of the total loan expenditure at the end of the preceding financial year, except that it shall be 10 per cent. in the case of buildings, approaches, and improvements, for tourists' resorts. The moneys at the credit of the Fund shall be invested in Government securities at 4 per cent. per annum, and, when they are equal to the total amount expended out of loan moneys, shall be transferred to and placed to the credit of the Victorian Loans Redemption Fund. During 1924-25 a sum of £11,041 was paid into the Fund, the balance at credit at 30th June, 1925, being £13,240.

Developmental Roads Sinking Fund. By Act No. 3334 of 1923 a sum equal to $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum on the amount borrowed under the provisions of the *Developmental Roads Act* 1922 is to be paid into this Fund from consolidated revenue. The moneys in the Fund are to be invested in Government securities bearing interest at the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum. There was a credit of £6,166 in the Fund at 30th June, 1925, all of which was invested.

TRUST FUNDS.

In the succeeding table the liabilities and investments of the various Trust Funds held by the Treasurer are shown for each of the last five years, investments in Victorian securities being distinguished:—

Heading.	Year ended 30th June—				
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
<i>Liabilities.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
At Credit of—					
Public Debt Sinking Funds	2,579,019	2,754,540	2,993,432	3,560,225	4,084,795
Savings Bank Commissioners Trust Account	7,185,176	6,598,524	64,103	64,103	64,103
Other Trust Funds	5,001,669	3,859,723	4,131,498	4,436,882	5,206,083
Balance—From General Cash Account .. ..	..	..	..	195,447	..
Total	14,765,864	13,212,787	7,189,033	8,256,657	9,354,981
<i>Investments, Advances, &c.</i>					
Invested in Victorian Stock or Debentures	4,386,711	4,760,336	5,133,710	5,955,771	6,438,453
Other Investments, Fixed Deposits, &c... ..	7,537,255	6,952,503	454,503	474,053	479,054
Advances Made... ..	1,917,986	1,358,869	1,460,804	1,826,833	2,006,307
Cash Held	923,912	141,079	140,016	..	431,167
Total	14,765,864	13,212,787	7,189,033	8,256,657	9,354,981

The large falling off in the amount of these Funds between 1922 and 1923 is due to the Treasurer having handed back to the Savings Bank Commissioners the fixed deposit receipts of that institution which he formerly held. The only security which is now held by the Treasurer on account of the Savings Bank is fixed deposit stock in the E.S.A. Bank amounting to £64,103.

PUBLIC DEBTS OF AUSTRALIAN STATES.

The following is a statement of the public debts of the Australian States on 30th June, 1925, showing the amounts, the amounts per head of population, the total interest payable, the average rates per cent., and the rates *per capita*. Sinking Funds have not been deducted. Treasury Bills covering Revenue Deficits are included. Revenue Deficits which are not covered by Treasury Bills, overdrafts on Loan Account, and advances from Trust Funds are excluded.

Public Debts
of Australian
States.

PUBLIC DEBTS OF AUSTRALIAN STATES ON 30TH JUNE, 1925.

State.	Public Debt.		Interest Payable.		
	Amount.	Per Head of Population.	Amount.	Per Head of Population.	Average Rate per cent.
Victoria* ..	£ 131,169,565	£ s. d. 79 3 2	£ 6,319,121	£ s. d. 3 16 3	4.82
New South Wales ..	215,331,110	94 15 7	10,639,953	4 13 8	4.94
Queensland ..	96,389,067	112 14 2	4,617,534	5 8 0	4.79
South Australia ..	74,780,835	137 13 9	3,710,512	6 16 8	4.96
Western Australia ..	64,493,261	175 4 10	2,922,254	7 18 10	4.53
Tasmania ..	23,894,416	112 15 2	1,171,119	5 10 6	4.90

* Including £2,724,000 advance pending flotation of loan in London.

The public debt of the Commonwealth on 30th June, 1925, was £430,948,062, and that of the six States, £606,058,254. From the total of these a deduction of £71,135,472 must be made for debts included twice. The balance (£965,870,844) represents the liability of the Australian public at the date mentioned, which is equal to £162 17s. 11d. per head of the population.

The full indebtedness of the Government, municipalities, and corporations of Victoria for the year 1925 is shown in detail hereunder. From the municipal and corporation debts the amounts of loans from the Government have been excluded.

STATE AND LOCAL DEBTS, VICTORIA, 1925.

State and Local Debts.	£	£
State Public Debt—		
London Register	51,869,204	
Melbourne Register	79,300,361	
Other State Debt (Public Account Advances)	858,942	
Total State Debts		132,028,507
Municipal	7,050,913	
Harbor Trusts	3,204,288	
Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board ..	161,268	
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works	15,584,650	
Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board	3,384,724	
Ballarat Water Commission and Sewerage Authority	158,022	
Bendigo Sewerage Authority	176,156	
Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust ..	1,104,873	
First Mildura Irrigation Trust	105,029	
Total Debts of Municipalities and Corporations (excl. Government loans)		30,929,923
Gross Debts		162,958,430
Sinking Funds		5,441,120
Net Debt		157,517,310

This sum (£157,517,310) is equal to a net debt of £94 4s. 3d. per head of the population on 30th June, 1925.

COMMONWEALTH, STATE, AND LOCAL TAXATION.

Taxation. The subjoined table shows approximately, for the last five financial years, the amount of revenue collected under the various heads of taxation by the Commonwealth, the State, and local bodies in Victoria:—

TAXATION IN VICTORIA—COMMONWEALTH, STATE, AND LOCAL: 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

Heads of Taxation.	Amount Received.				
	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25
	£	£	£	£	£
Federal—					
Customs Duties ..	7,345,609	5,835,394	7,648,521	8,226,378	8,167,185
Excise Duties ..	2,525,847	2,644,585	2,700,312	2,764,938	2,823,889
Income Tax*	4,203,000	4,533,000	3,485,000	2,986,000	3,007,000
Land Tax*	492,436	525,000	464,000	467,000	580,000
Succession Duties*	435,873	367,000	434,000	489,000	511,000
War-time Profits Tax* ..	495,000	280,000	72,000	18,000	..
War Postage ..	56,000	..	..	..	..
Entertainments Tax	203,769	222,210	208,240	212,011	223,555
Total Federal Taxation ..	15,757,534	14,407,189	15,012,073	15,163,327	15,312,629
State—					
Income Tax ..	1,591,198	1,443,209	1,514,256	1,702,483	2,076,656
Land Tax ..	331,756	372,060	392,594	412,165	421,662
Probate and Succession Duties ..	702,468	706,181	697,482	798,315	802,333
Betting Taxation (Stamp duties, licences, and percentage) ..	110,158	169,007	185,309	186,141	170,998
Other Stamp Duties	835,940	779,430	950,896	1,011,966	963,307
Liquor Taxation and Licences ..	244,814	290,884	302,574	320,331	343,524
Other Licences ..	28,645	28,613	32,173	43,007	39,360
Duties on Bank Notes..	1,854	1,790	1,762	1,750	1,740
Total State Taxation ..	3,846,833	3,791,174	4,077,046	4,476,158	4,819,580
Municipal Taxation ..	2,167,757	2,399,256	2,671,783	2,963,431	3,278,598
Total Taxation	21,772,124	20,597,619	21,760,902	22,602,916	23,410,807

* Estimated.

The total State taxation shown above excludes licences issued under the Motor Car Act. The revenue received therefrom is included under the heading "Fees and Fines," and amounted to £98,135 in 1920-21, £118,673 in 1921-22, £165,804 in 1922-23, £233,300 in 1923-24, and £418,840 in 1924-25.

The taxation in Victoria per head of population by the Commonwealth, the State, and local bodies for each of the last five years was as follows:—

COMMONWEALTH, STATE, AND LOCAL TAXATION PER HEAD OF POPULATION: 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

Division.	Taxation per Head of Population in Victoria.				
	1920-21.	1921 22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Commonwealth	10 6 3	9 5 9	9 8 10	9 6 7	9 4 10
State	2 10 4	2 8 11	2 11 3	2 15 1	2 18 2*
Local	1 8 4	1 10 11	1 13 7	1 16 5	1 19 7
Total	14 4 11	13 5 7	13 13 8	13 18 1	14 2 7

* Including motor fees the taxation per head was £3 3s. 3d. in 1924-25.

While the estimated Commonwealth taxation imposed in Victoria was £9 4s. 10d. per head of population in 1924-25, the taxation in Australia levied by the Commonwealth Government was £8 19s. 11d. per head. The higher rate for Victoria was due to the amount of Customs duties actually collected in the State being much above the average collection on a population basis.

**Additional
Taxation for
Financial Year
1925-26.**

From 1st January, 1925, under the *Motor Omnibus Act* 1924, No. 3378, additional fees in the nature of a tax on passenger seating capacity are payable on the registration of motor buses plying for hire within eight miles of the corporate limits of the City of Melbourne. These fees range, from £3 7s. 6d. to £4 10s. per passenger seat and are in addition to the ordinary registration fee payable under the *Motor Car Act* 1915, which is now fixed under the Second Schedule of the *Highways and Vehicles Act*, No. 3379, at £5 per annum.

The provisions of the *Highways and Vehicles Act*, No. 3379, relating to registration fees of motor cars, &c., came into operation on 1st January, 1925. They require that the annual registration fee of motor cars, lorries, &c. shall be calculated on the power-weight unit, the charge ranging from 3s. per power-weight unit for ordinary motor cars to 5s. per power-weight unit for motor vehicles fitted with non-pneumatic tires.

The *Income Tax Act* 1925 fixed the rate of income tax on incomes earned during the year ended 30th June, 1925. The rate for individuals on the amount of taxable income from personal exertion up to but not exceeding £500 was increased to 3½d. in the £1. Where the taxable income exceeded £500 the rates on income from personal exertion were 4½d. for every £1 of the taxable amount thereof up to £500; 5½d. for every £1 between £501 and £1,000; 6½d. for every £1 between £1,001 and £1,500; and 7½d. for every £1 over £1,500. The rates on income from property are respectively double the rates on income from personal exertion.

In the case of companies (other than Mutual Life Assurance Companies) liable to tax the rate was increased from 15d. in the £1 to 16d. in the £1.

LICENCES.

Licences.

The following is a statement of the net revenue received from each description of licence during the year 1924-25. Municipal licences for slaughtering, dairies, noxious trades, &c., are excluded, also insurance licences (£67,261), and book-makers' licences (£13,870), the two last mentioned having been shown under Stamp Duties. Motor car licences (£418,840) are included under the heading "Fees and Fines."

**REVENUE OF STATE GOVERNMENT FROM LICENCES :
1924-25.**

Description of Licence.	Net Revenue Received.
	£
Spirit Merchants and Grocers	36,190
Victuallers	279,537
" Temporary	4,481
Railway Refreshment Rooms	2,181
Packet	129
Australian Wine	5,174
Billiard Table	5,910
Brewers	154
Vignerons	75
Club Certificates	7,259
Permits (Extra Bars and Extended Hours)	2,434
Auctioneers	23,848
Real Estate Agents	7,751
Tobacco and Cigars—Selling	2,195
Pawnbrokers	900
Hawkers	2,273
Carriage, Stage Carriage, Forwarding Agents	454
Marine Stores	191
Explosives	715
Race Clubs	726
Gold-buyers	173
Second-hand Dealers	653
Farm Produce Agents	207
Total	383,610

In addition to the preceding, there are other licences issued in Victoria by the Department of Trade and Customs ; the fees collected in respect of these during the calendar year 1925 were as follows :—

Description of Licence.	Amount of Fees collected.
	£
<i>Customs.</i>	
Carriage	298
Lighter and Boat	7
Custom House Agents	412
Warehouse	5,924
<i>Excise.</i>	
Distilling—	
General Distillers	200
Wine Distillers	150
Vignerons	57
Brewers	1,150
Manufacturing Tobacco, Cigars, Cigarettes, and Snuff	1,938
Starch	15

POPULATION.

Population of
Victoria, 1836
to 1925.

According to manuscript notes made by Captain Lonsdale (afterwards the first Colonial Secretary of Victoria), the first enumeration of the people of this State was made within a year after the arrival of Batman (29th May, 1835) by an officer from Sydney, George Stewart, who came in the revenue cutter *Prince George* with orders from His Excellency Sir Richard Bourke to report upon the state of things in the new district. It was then found (25th May, 1836) that the band of first arrivals consisted of 142 males and 35 females, or, in all, 177 residents of European origin. This was the first official census of what was at that time known as Port Phillip. The settlers came from Tasmania and New South Wales. The second enumeration was made on the 8th November of the same year (1836) by order of Captain Lonsdale, who on the 29th day of the previous September arrived in H.M.S. *Rattlesnake* (Captain Hobson), which anchored in that part of the port now called Hobson's Bay. Captain Lonsdale had been appointed police magistrate, with instructions to take general charge of the district. On the 5th October the *Stirlingshire* (brig) arrived with the remainder of the Government establishment, consisting of a detachment of Captain Lonsdale's regiment (the 4th), a principal officer of Customs, three surveyors, an officer in charge of commissariat stores, a small number of Crown prisoners for public service, and three constables. Notwithstanding these additions to the population, the census of the following month showed an increase of 47 persons only—making a total of 224 persons (186 males and 38 females). The third census was taken nearly two years later, in September, 1838, when it was ascertained that the number of inhabitants had increased to 3,511. At the end of 1840 it was estimated that the Port Phillip district contained 10,291 persons. During each of the years 1840 and 1841 the population was doubled, owing principally to the number of assisted immigrants who arrived in the district, and good progress continued to be made to the end of 1850, when the community numbered 76,162 persons.

The discovery of gold in 1851, however, was the greatest factor in populating Victoria. When the discoveries were announced diggers came in thousands from New South Wales, South Australia, and Tasmania, and later on crowds of emigrants from the United Kingdom and other European countries joined in the rush. America contributed its quota, even Californians leaving their own gold-bearing country to try their fortunes in Australia. Some idea of this influx may be gathered from the official figures, which show that the population numbered 463,135 at the end of 1857, or more than six times that of 1850. During the decade 1861 to 1870 the population increased by 188,752, all but 39,000 of which was due to the excess of births over deaths. In the next decennial period, 1871 to 1880, there was an increase of 133,468, but this would have been nearly 13,000 greater if the arrivals in had equalled the departures from the colony. Between 1881 and 1890 an addition of 273,000 was made to the population, about 112,000 of this number being due to immigration. The latter portion of this decennium is known as the "boom period," when land values were highly inflated, wages and prices were exceptionally high, and expenditure by the Government and the people generally was conducted on a most lavish scale. The inevitable reaction followed, and this is reflected in the records.

The net migration from the State during the ten years following 1890 amounted to 109,000 persons, the increase of 64,000 in the total population being accounted for by the fact that the births exceeded the deaths by 173,000. Most of the emigrants left for Western Australia, where gold had been discovered in large quantities. In 1902-3 a year of unexampled drought was experienced, which was felt severely by Victoria as well as all the other Eastern States. From 1903 to 1913 the seasons were usually good, with the result that employment was plentiful and that the State was able not only to retain its own people but also to attract a considerable number of immigrants from other States and countries. In the year 1914 there was a severe drought, and the outbreak of war led to the despatch of a large number of men to places outside Australia. The increase in population was therefore retarded in that year. Although there were record harvests in 1915 and 1916 there was a decrease of population in both of these years on account of the departure of soldiers for the front, and the practical cessation of

immigration. In 1917 and 1918 there were increases in spite of the fact that 20,633 soldiers left the State in the earlier and 4,532 in the later year to take part in the war. In 1919 there was a substantial addition to the population. The increases in the three years mentioned were entirely due to the return of soldiers to Victoria, the number who returned being 16,266 in 1917, 25,900 in 1918, and 77,468 in 1919. In the years 1920 to 1925, there were increases of 24,874, 22,777, 39,539, 35,155, 31,715, and 26,922 respectively, included in which were 3,474 soldiers and 2,763 assisted immigrants in the first-mentioned year, and about 4,000 assisted immigrants in 1921, 9,145 in 1922, 9,504 in 1923, 8,721 in 1924, and 8,589 in 1925. The subjoined table shows the population in various years from 1836 to 1925 :—

ESTIMATED POPULATION OF VICTORIA, 1836 TO 1925.

Year.	Estimated Population, 31st December.			Estimated Mean Population.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	
1836 (25th May) ..	142	35	177	} 200
1836 (8th Novr.) ..	186	38	224	
1840	7,254	3,037	10,291	8,056
1850	45,495	30,667	76,162	71,191
1855	234,450	129,874	364,324	338,315
1860	328,251	209,596	537,847	534,055
1870	398,755	327,844	726,599	713,195
1880	451,456	408,611	860,067	850,343
1890	596,064	537,202	1,133,266	1,118,500
1900	602,487	594,719	1,197,206	1,193,338
1901	608,436	601,464	1,209,900	1,203,137
1902	604,318	603,913	1,208,231	1,207,527
1903	599,950	604,792	1,204,742	1,205,296
1904	597,617	607,991	1,205,608	1,202,814
1905	598,134	612,287	1,210,421	1,206,046
1906	600,856	618,976	1,219,832	1,213,672
1907	605,775	627,032	1,232,807	1,225,503
1908	614,937	635,512	1,250,449	1,240,488
1909	631,021	646,001	1,277,022	1,261,169
1910	646,482	654,926	1,301,408	1,282,477
1911	668,818	671,075	1,339,893	1,320,661
1912	690,056	692,497	1,382,553	1,357,864
1913	707,444	707,972	1,415,416	1,395,958
1914	713,307	721,881	1,435,188	1,427,512
1915	694,210	730,235	1,424,445	1,431,632
1916	666,245	738,418	1,404,663	1,414,480
1917	671,075	745,985	1,417,060	1,411,381
1918	684,243	753,002	1,437,245	1,424,054
1919	739,956	763,079	1,503,035	1,473,013
1920	753,803	774,106	1,527,909	1,512,093
1921	764,905	785,781	1,550,686	1,537,008
1922	788,626	801,599	1,590,225	1,570,824
1923	806,546	818,834	1,625,380	1,607,773
1924	824,182	832,913	1,657,095	1,641,852
1925	838,693	845,324	1,684,017	1,671,467

The rates of increase in population in different years are given on page 116.

Population, 1925. The elements of increase in the population of Victoria during 1925 are shown in the following table :—

ESTIMATED POPULATION OF VICTORIA, 31st DECEMBER, 1925.

	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Estimated Population, 31st December, 1924.. ..	..	..	824,182	832,913	1,657,095
Births, 1925	18,592	17,330	..	..	..
Deaths, 1925	8,582	7,255	..	..	..
Natural Increase .. ..	..	..	10,010	10,075	20,085
Migration by Sea, 1925—					
Arrivals	43,408	34,079	..	..	..
Departures (as adjusted)	34,915	29,652	..	..	..
Gain Seawards .. ..	..	..	8,493	4,427	12,920
Migration by Land, 1925—					
Arrivals	192,390	99,286	..	..	..
Departures (as adjusted)	196,382	101,377	..	..	..
Loss Overland .. ..	..	..	3,992	2,091	6,083
Estimated Population, 31st December, 1925.. ..	..	..	838,693	845,324	1,684,017
Full-blooded aborigines at the date of the 1921 census, not included in the estimate .. ..	..	..	80	64	144

Increase of Population, 1891-1925.

The population of Victoria on 5th April, 1891, when the census of that year was taken, was 1,140,405; in 1901 it was 1,201,341; in 1911, 1,315,551; and, in 1921, 1,531,280. The table which follows shows the increase of

population by excess of births over deaths, and the loss by emigration in each year since the first-mentioned date :—

INCREASE OF POPULATION BY EXCESS OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS, AND LOSS BY EMIGRATION, 1891 TO 1925.

Year.	Natural Increase (i.e., Excess of Births over Deaths).	Loss by Emigration.	Net Increase.
1891 (from 5th April, Census)	15,859	+ 1,414	17,273
1892	21,980	11,058	10,922
1893	20,044	12,484	7,560
1894	18,828	12,698	6,130
1895	18,070	14,410	3,660
1896	16,464	22,134	- 5,670
1897	16,184	13,754	2,430
1898	11,477	11,127	350
1899	14,430	8,020	6,410
1900	15,564	7,828	7,736
1901 (to 31st March, Census)	3,613	+ 251	3,864
Total Intercensal period (10 years)..	172,513	111,848	60,665
1901 (from 1st April)	11,491	2,661	8,830
1902	14,284	15,953	- 1,669
1903	13,974	17,463	- 3,489
1904	15,370	14,504	866
1905	15,431	10,618	4,813
1906	15,607	6,196	9,411
1907	16,826	3,851	12,975
1908	15,331	+ 2,311	17,642
1909	17,108	+ 9,465	26,573
1910	16,705	+ 7,681	24,386
1911 (to 2nd April, Census)	4,694	+ 9,449	14,143
Total Intercensal period (10 years)..	156,821	42,340	114,481
1911 (from 3rd April)	13,116	+ 11,226	24,342
1912	19,207	+ 23,453	42,660
1913	20,496	+ 12,367	32,863
1914	19,719	+ 53	19,772
1915	19,186	29,929	- 10,743
1916	17,746	37,528	- 19,782
1917	18,478	6,081	12,397
1918	16,420	+ 3,765	20,185
1919	12,249	+ 53,541	65,790
1920	19,381	+ 5,493	24,874
1921 (to 4th April, Census)	4,679	1,308	3,371
Total Intercensal period (10 years)	180,677	+ 35,052	215,729
1921 (from 5th April)	14,747	+ 4,659	19,406
1922	21,133	+ 18,406	39,539
1923	18,658	+ 16,497	35,155
1924	19,637	+ 12,078	31,715
1925	20,085	+ 6,837	26,922

NOTE.—The plus sign (+) indicates that the arrivals in exceeded the departures from the State by the number against which it is placed.

Immigration
and
emigration,
1921-1925.

The following table shows the total migration by sea to and from Victoria during the five years 1921 to 1925 :—

RECORDED IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION BY SEA,
1921 TO 1925.

Year.	Immigrants.	Emigrants.	Excess of Immigrants.
1921	66,537	63,944	2,593
1922	81,903	66,355	15,548
1923	87,248	69,986	17,262
1924	88,467	72,458	16,009
1925	77,487	64,276	13,211

Migration
of Soldiers.

The number of soldiers belonging to the Australian Expeditionary Forces who arrived in Victoria from or left the State for oversea countries from the commencement of the war to the 31st December, 1920, is shown in the *Year-Book* for 1922-23, page 85.

Arrivals and
departures by
rail, 1921 to
1925.

The Inter-State railway passenger traffic, as well as the seaward traffic, is taken into account in framing estimates of population. The effect of the railway traffic during the past five years is shown in the following statement :—

RECORDED MIGRATION BY RAIL, 1921 TO 1925.

Year.	Arrivals.			Departures.			Excess of Arrivals.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1921	170,268	88,177	258,445	168,224	88,571	256,795	2,044	— 394	1,650
1922	168,025	86,986	255,011	164,280	86,998	251,278	3,745	— 12	3,733
1923	171,436	88,430	259,866	172,580	87,132	259,712	— 1,144	1,298	154
1924	181,969	93,441	275,410	182,857	95,561	278,418	— 888	2,120	3,008
1925	192,390	99,286	291,676	194,982	102,137	297,119	— 2,592	— 2,851	— 5,443

From the beginning of 1913 to 30th June, 1926, a systematic count was made of the passengers who travelled by rail between the States of Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, and South Australia. From 1st July, 1926, the count at the border station was abolished, and the interstate tickets issued by the various Railway Departments are from that time to be the data employed in the future in ascertaining the migration between the States on the mainland.

During 1925 Victoria lost by rail 3,476 persons to New South Wales and 1,967 to South Australia.

Gain by
immigration
from various
countries and
vice versa.

The net result of the recorded immigration and emigration by sea between Victoria and the neighbouring States, the United Kingdom, and foreign countries (exclusive of soldiers) during each of the five years ended 1925 is shown in the following table. Where a minus sign (—) appears, it indicates

that the emigrants exceeded the immigrants by the number against which it is placed :—

RECORDED NET IMMIGRATION TO VICTORIA BY SEA,
1921 TO 1925.

Year.	Excess of Immigration over Emigration between Victoria and—										Crews of Vessels.	Net Immigration.	
	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.	South Africa.	United Kingdom.	Other British Dominions.	United States.			Other Foreign Ports.
1921	- 158	- 649	9	175	- 2,228	413	- 163	5,876	- 8	10	105	- 789	2,593
1922	- 251	- 471	71	750	3,444	468	18	10,408	399	6	612	94	15,548
1923	450	- 355	- 116	764	3,610	592	127	11,181	563	15	431	..	17,262
1924	- 876	- 1,058	- 61	749	3,716	68	248	10,640	40	11	2,532	..	16,009
1925	- 959	- 1,442	- 142	64	3,405	- 433	135	10,736	- 10	7	1,880	..	13,211
Total	- 1,794	- 3,975	- 239	2,502	11,947	1,108	335	48,841	984	49	5,560	- 695	64,623

The net result of the seaward migration for the five years has been an increase to Victoria of 64,623 persons, the principal gains having been from the United Kingdom, Tasmania, Foreign ports, Western Australia, and New Zealand. New South Wales, Queensland, and South Australia attracted persons from this State during that period.

The number of persons who have been assisted to come to Victoria from the foundation of the State to the end of 1925 will be found in the next table :—

STATE-ASSISTED IMMIGRATION TO VICTORIA TO THE END
OF 1925.

Period.	Number of State-assisted Immigrants.	Period.	Number of State-assisted Immigrants.
1838-50	28,632	1911	6,776
1851-60	87,963	1912	15,119
1861-70	46,594	1913	12,146
1871-80	5,545	1914	7,496
1881-90	2	1915	1,724
1891-00 .. ..	..	1916	327
1901 .. ..	..	1917	146
1902 .. ..	..	1918	101
1903 .. ..	..	1919	139
1904 .. ..	..	1920	2,763
1905 .. ..	..	1921	3,987
1906 .. ..	..	1922	9,145
1907	127	1923	9,504
1908	360	1924	8,721
1909	652	1925	8,589
1910	1,690		
		Total	258,248

In 1925 the immigrants assisted by the Government numbered 8,589, of whom 3,730 were nominated and 4,859 selected. Of the immigrants 1,851 were married persons. The sex distribution of the State-assisted immigrants was—males 5,782, and females 2,807.

Upon the outbreak of war in August, 1914, instructions were issued by the Victorian Government that no men who were within the limits of the recruiting ages should be accepted for assisted passages by its representatives in England. Partly for this reason and partly because of the existence of prosperous conditions in Great Britain the number of assisted immigrants to Victoria was very small during the years 1915 to 1919.

A statement of the arrangements which have been made for assisting immigrants to come to Victoria is given in a later portion of this volume under the heading "Immigration, Intelligence, and Labour Bureau."

CENSUS OF 1921.

A census of Australia was taken on 4th April, 1921, under the general superintendence of the Commonwealth Statistician. The officer in charge of the collection in each State was the Commonwealth electoral officer for that State with the designation of "Deputy Supervisor of Census." Under him an enumerator was in charge of each Commonwealth electoral division, and under each enumerator there was a sub-enumerator in respect of each electoral subdivision or a group of subdivisions. In all cases the position of enumerator was filled by the divisional returning officer. Each subdivision was further cut up into collectors' districts for the actual work of collection. The collecting organizations for the States comprised six deputy supervisors, 75 enumerators, and about 1,100 sub-enumerators, and 7,000 collectors.

A deputy supervisor was appointed for each of the Territories, viz., Northern Territory, Federal Territory, Norfolk Island, and Papua, and for the late German New Guinea. In these cases the collectors worked under the immediate direction of the deputy supervisor.

The following statement shows the population of and number of dwellings in each of the municipalities of the State at the census of 4th April, 1921:—

POPULATION OF AND DWELLINGS IN EACH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF VICTORIA AS AT THE CENSUS OF 4TH APRIL, 1921.

Local Government Area.	Population.			Dwellings.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Built.	Being Built.	Total.
<i>Cities, Towns, and Boroughs—Metropolitan.</i>						
Brighton	9,491	11,744	21,235	4,620	59	4,679
Brunswick	21,339	23,145	44,484	9,685	91	9,776
Camberwell	10,703	13,132	23,835	5,729	124	5,853
Caulfield	18,667	22,026	40,693	9,672	162	9,834
Coburg	8,952	9,162	18,114	3,857	40	3,897
Collingwood	15,956	18,283	34,239	7,564	1	7,565
Essendon	16,525	18,744	35,269	8,050	36	8,086
Fitzroy	16,311	18,627	34,938	7,708	4	7,712
Footscray	16,785	16,990	33,775	7,147	46	7,193
Hawthorn	12,870	16,295	29,165	6,563	29	6,592
Kew	7,711	9,671	17,382	3,650	57	3,707
Malvern	14,054	18,252	32,306	7,626	127	7,753
Melbourne	51,084	52,167	103,251	21,533	22	21,555
Northcote	14,694	15,825	30,519	6,841	112	6,953
Oakleigh	2,932	3,144	6,076	1,366	17	1,383
Port Melbourne	6,495	6,594	13,089	2,806	2	2,808
Prahran	21,706	28,584	50,290	11,479	18	11,497
Richmond	20,606	22,565	43,171	9,505	6	9,511
Sandringham	5,142	6,174	11,316	2,761	63	2,824
South Melbourne	22,167	24,706	46,873	10,153	16	10,169
St. Kilda	16,736	21,843	38,579	8,307	64	8,371
Williamstown	9,916	9,526	19,442	4,335	30	4,365
Total	340,842	387,199	728,041	160,957	1,126	162,083
<i>Extra Metropolitan.</i>						
Ararat	2,306	2,347	4,653	857	2	859
Ballarat	9,359	11,856	21,215	4,950	12	4,962
Ballarat East	6,194	7,258	13,452	3,308	3	3,311
Bendigo	11,755	13,927	25,682	5,970	15	5,985
Carrum	2,490	2,735	5,225	1,850	17	1,867
Castlemaine	2,509	2,822	5,331	1,249	1	1,250
Clunes	510	715	1,225	354	1	355
Creswick	764	906	1,670	429	..	429
Daylesford	1,468	1,860	3,328	771	..	771
Dunolly	405	448	853	242	..	242
Eaglehawk	2,134	2,585	4,719	1,171	..	1,171
Echuca	1,836	1,909	3,745	859	1	860
Geelong	6,850	7,955	14,805	3,245	2	3,247
Geelong West	4,518	5,123	9,641	2,221	10	2,231
Hamilton	2,406	2,691	5,097	1,155	2	1,157
Hornham	1,805	1,985	3,790	833	12	845

POPULATION OF AND DWELLINGS IN EACH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA
OF VICTORIA AS AT THE CENSUS OF 4TH APRIL, 1921—*continued.*

Local Government Area.	Population.			Dwellings.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Built.	Being Built.	Total.
<i>Cities, Towns, and Boroughs—Extra Metropolitan—continued.</i>						
Inglewood	517	600	1,117	289	..	289
Koroit	856	904	1,760	364	..	364
Maryborough	2,216	2,528	4,744	1,172	2	1,174
Mentone and Mordialloc ..	2,629	3,045	5,674	1,361	7	1,368
Mildura	2,665	2,436	5,101	1,064	16	1,080
Newtown and Chilwell ..	3,312	3,928	7,240	1,596	5	1,601
Port Fairy	983	1,005	1,988	435	..	435
Portland	1,135	1,420	2,555	561	2	563
Queenscliff	1,102	1,384	2,486	502	..	502
Sale	1,766	2,003	3,769	824	6	830
Sebastopol	867	875	1,742	420	..	420
St. Arnaud	1,214	1,507	2,721	638	2	640
Stawell	2,041	2,372	4,413	1,046	1	1,047
Wangaratta	1,769	1,920	3,689	751	4	755
Warrnambool	3,718	4,012	7,730	1,655	4	1,659
Wonthaggi	2,809	2,361	5,170	1,045	19	1,064
Total	86,908	99,422	186,330	43,187	146	43,333
Total—Cities, Towns, and Boroughs ..	427,750	486,621	914,371	204,144	1,272	205,416
<i>Shires.</i>						
Alberton	3,114	2,508	5,622	1,339	5	1,344
Alexandra	1,890	1,464	3,354	920	1	921
Arapiles	1,198	1,126	2,324	480	..	480
Ararat	3,162	2,793	5,955	1,349	1	1,350
Avoca	1,658	1,649	3,307	818	4	822
Avon	1,287	1,097	2,384	543	3	546
Bacchus Marsh	1,738	1,561	3,299	675	9	684
Bairnsdale	3,888	3,831	7,719	1,794	3	1,797
Ballan	1,603	1,477	3,080	798	1	799
Ballarat	1,894	2,059	3,953	733	4	737
Bannockburn	1,345	1,244	2,589	633	..	633
Barrarbool	968	843	1,811	411	..	411
Barwon South	1,529	1,639	3,168	857	1	858
Beechworth	2,358	2,293	4,651	1,014	1	1,015
Belfast	1,322	1,166	2,488	524	..	524
Bellarine	2,040	1,969	4,009	969	4	973
Benalla	3,895	3,662	7,587	1,771	3	1,774
Berwick	4,832	4,119	8,951	2,156	10	2,166
Bet Bet	1,424	1,255	2,679	698	1	699
Birchip	1,014	836	1,850	395	2	397
Borong	2,532	2,219	4,751	1,056	2	1,058
Braybrook	2,335	2,096	4,431	944	75	1,019
Bright	2,044	1,958	4,002	1,000	..	1,000
Broadford	710	622	1,332	347	1	348

POPULATION OF AND DWELLINGS IN EACH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA
OF VICTORIA AS AT THE CENSUS OF 4TH APRIL, 1921—*continued.*

Local Government Area.	Population.			Dwellings.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Built.	Being Built.	Total.
<i>Shires—continued.</i>						
Broadmeadows ..	3,626	1,804	5,430	820	7	827
Bulla	1,264	1,337	2,601	370	..	370
Buln Buln	3,264	2,618	5,882	1,472	..	1,472
Bungaree	1,528	1,490	3,018	717	..	717
Buninyong	2,637	2,427	5,064	1,225	3	1,228
Charlton	1,325	1,140	2,465	535	..	535
Chiltern	1,063	1,077	2,140	536	..	536
Colac	6,248	5,851	12,099	2,662	23	2,685
Corio	2,256	1,685	3,941	766	8	774
Cranbourne	3,219	2,462	5,681	1,403	10	1,413
Creswick	1,505	1,539	3,044	774	..	774
Dandenong	3,439	3,441	6,880	1,583	27	1,610
Deakin	2,163	1,761	3,924	926	2	928
Dimboola	3,370	2,899	6,269	1,256	4	1,260
Donald	1,727	1,513	3,240	709	..	709
Doncaster	1,342	1,242	2,584	670	3	673
Dundas	1,788	1,699	3,487	794	1	795
Dunmunkle	2,486	2,097	4,583	982	2	984
Eltham	2,092	1,981	4,073	1,104	1	1,105
Euroa	1,994	1,914	3,908	898	1	899
Ferntree Gully	3,372	3,632	7,004	2,255	37	2,292
Flinders	2,505	2,250	4,755	1,237	3	1,240
Frankston and Hastings ..	2,299	2,347	4,646	1,431	2	1,433
Gippsland South	2,615	2,058	4,673	1,037	1	1,038
Gisborne	1,089	1,286	2,375	564	..	564
Glenelg	2,815	2,664	5,479	1,235	4	1,239
Glenlyon	1,638	1,783	3,421	847	2	849
Gordon	1,717	1,433	3,150	708	1	709
Goulburn	1,145	1,001	2,146	506	1	507
Grenville	1,557	1,565	3,122	803	..	803
Hampden	5,370	5,133	10,503	2,282	6	2,288
Healesville	1,550	1,864	3,414	710	5	715
Hcidelberg	7,942	8,674	16,616	3,420	43	3,463
Heytesbury	2,326	2,123	4,449	961	1	962
Huntly	1,696	1,402	3,098	767	1	768
Kara Kara	1,649	1,392	3,041	709	4	713
Karkaroc	3,139	2,354	5,493	1,210	5	1,215
Keilor	663	528	1,191	265	..	265
Kerang	5,697	4,779	10,476	2,353	12	2,365
Kilmore	942	848	1,790	431	..	431
Korong	2,611	2,262	4,873	1,141	2	1,143
Kowree	1,748	1,550	3,298	792	2	794
Kyneton	3,341	3,630	6,971	1,705	4	1,709
Lawloit	1,150	1,016	2,166	443	..	443
Leigh	807	716	1,523	387	..	387

POPULATION OF AND DWELLINGS IN EACH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA
OF VICTORIA AS AT THE CENSUS OF 4TH APRIL, 1921—*continued.*

Local Government Area.	Population.			Dwellings.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Built.	Being Built.	Total.
<i>Shires—continued.</i>						
Lexton	894	729	1,623	414	..	414
Lilydale	4,651	4,758	9,409	2,463	35	2,498
Loddon East	971	800	1,771	407	..	407
Lowan	1,906	1,722	3,628	772	..	772
Maffra	3,082	2,571	5,653	1,282	9	1,291
Maldon	1,508	1,630	3,138	764	..	764
Mansfield	2,119	1,874	3,993	980	2	982
Marong	3,053	2,822	5,875	1,342	1	1,343
Melton	786	644	1,430	341	..	341
Metcalfe	1,350	1,323	2,673	647	1	648
Mildura	4,891	3,189	8,080	2,189	9	2,198
Minhamite	1,017	863	1,880	468	24	492
Mirboo	892	646	1,538	367	..	367
Moorabbin	3,786	3,657	7,443	1,499	19	1,518
Mornington	987	1,215	2,202	588	2	590
Mortlake	1,497	1,414	2,911	697	4	701
Morwell	2,105	1,580	3,685	969	1	970
Mt. Rouse	1,361	1,348	2,709	597	..	597
Mulgrave	1,600	1,610	3,210	714	3	717
Murray Upper	1,169	942	2,111	460	1	461
McIvor	1,744	1,590	3,334	811	..	811
Narracan	3,810	3,110	6,920	1,671	3	1,674
Newham and Woodend ..	984	1,108	2,092	481	..	481
Newstead and Mt. Alex- ander	1,356	1,344	2,700	733	..	733
Numurkah	3,000	2,765	5,765	1,327	..	1,327
Nunawading	6,238	6,393	12,631	2,855	52	2,907
Ormeo	1,303	1,065	2,368	665	2	667
Orbost	2,204	1,624	3,828	999	1	1,000
Otway	2,339	1,701	4,040	997	4	1,001
Oxley	2,172	1,776	3,948	864	1	865
Phillip Island and Woolamai	2,721	2,379	5,100	1,111	2	1,113
Poowong and Jeetho	3,891	3,286	7,177	1,657	4	1,661
Portland	2,742	2,525	5,267	1,260	3	1,263
Preston	4,717	4,953	9,670	2,102	86	2,188
Pyalong	370	331	701	189	..	189
Ripon	1,730	1,700	3,430	803	..	803
Rochester	3,397	2,889	6,286	1,399	7	1,406
Rodney	3,913	3,481	7,394	1,642	7	1,649
Romsey	1,690	1,503	3,193	800	..	800
Rosedale	2,260	1,920	4,180	1,002	4	1,006
*Rutherglen	2,086	1,859	3,945	885	..	885
Seymour	2,028	1,778	3,806	870	2	872

*The borough of Rutherglen has been amalgamated with the shire, and the figures which are given above relate to the municipality in its altered form. In Census publications the population of the borough is shown as Males 572, Females 588—Total 1,160; and that of the shire as Males 1,514, Females 1,271—Total 2,785.

POPULATION OF AND DWELLINGS IN EACH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA
OF VICTORIA AS AT THE CENSUS OF 4TH APRIL, 1921—*continued.*

Local Government Area.	Population.			Dwellings.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Built.	Being Built.	Total.
<i>Shires—continued.</i>						
Shepparton	4,019	3,692	7,711	1,685	5	1,690
Stawell	1,840	1,510	3,350	802	..	802
Strathfieldsaye	1,687	1,687	3,374	788	..	788
Swan Hill	6,723	4,830	11,553	2,721	16	2,737
Talbot	646	736	1,382	388	..	388
Tambo	2,235	1,993	4,228	929	1	930
Towong	2,412	1,915	4,327	1,008	2	1,010
Traralgon	1,729	1,609	3,338	791	4	795
Tullaroop	1,314	1,264	2,578	637	..	637
Tungamah	2,402	2,098	4,500	1,030	2	1,032
Upper Yarra	3,017	2,512	5,529	1,308	10	1,318
Violet Town	960	924	1,884	461	2	463
Walpeup	3,278	2,195	5,473	1,199	5	1,204
Wangaratta	1,268	1,117	2,385	525	..	525
Wannon	1,519	1,322	2,841	636	3	639
Warang	2,909	2,462	5,371	1,321	2	1,323
Warragul	2,543	2,412	4,955	1,048	4	1,052
Warrnambool	4,256	3,978	8,234	1,760	..	1,760
Werribee	3,737	3,299	7,036	1,559	7	1,566
Whittlesea	1,835	1,645	3,480	788	..	788
Wimmera	2,346	1,810	4,156	870	2	872
Winchelsea	2,247	2,061	4,308	980	1	981
Wodonga	1,368	1,185	2,553	608	7	615
Woorayl	3,311	2,656	5,967	1,358	4	1,362
Wycheproof	2,428	1,785	4,213	1,000	..	1,000
Yackandandah	1,515	1,412	2,927	677	2	679
Yarrowonga	1,354	1,265	2,619	611	..	611
Yea	1,488	1,208	2,696	646	10	656
Total—Shires	322,205	288,782	610,987	141,842	737	142,579
SUMMARY.						
Cities, Towns and Boroughs	427,750	486,621	914,371	204,144	1,272	205,416
Shires	322,205	288,782	610,987	141,842	737	142,579
Not Incorporated	106	68	174	64	..	64
Whole State	750,061	775,471	1,525,532	346,050	2,009	348,059
Shipping	4,663	1,085	5,748	..	..	..
Total Population	754,724	776,556	1,531,280	346,050	2,009	348,059

Population in
each District.

The enumerated populations of the districts of Victoria at the last two census dates are shown hereunder :—

ENUMERATED POPULATIONS OF THE VARIOUS DISTRICTS
OF VICTORIA AT THE CENSUSES OF 1911 AND 1921.

District.	1911.			1921.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Central ..	358,360	388,532	746,892	465,671	510,370	976,041
North Central	37,256	37,268	74,524	30,946	31,645	62,591
Western ..	69,746	68,792	138,538	67,178	67,380	134,558
Wimmera ..	31,636	28,067	59,703	30,533	27,940	58,473
Mallee ..	17,247	11,806	29,053	25,896	19,032	44,928
Northern ..	67,819	63,988	131,807	62,066	59,767	121,833
North-Eastern	30,795	27,488	58,283	25,902	23,577	49,479
Gippsland ..	38,650	33,296	71,946	41,869	35,760	77,629
Shipping ..	4,082	723	4,805	4,663	1,085	5,748
Total ..	655,591	659,960	1,315,551	754,724	776,556	1,531,280

In only three districts were increases shown in the intercensal period. The population of the Central District, which includes Melbourne and suburbs, advanced by 229,149; that of the Mallee District by 15,875; and that of the Gippsland District by 5,683 during the decennium. All the northern districts lost population during the period mentioned, and the Wimmera District, in which large quantities of wheat are grown, had 1,230 fewer residents in 1921 than in 1911.

The populations enumerated in each county of the State at the Censuses of 1911 and 1921 are given in the following statement, and the increases or decreases are shown:—

POPULATION OF COUNTIES IN VICTORIA,
1911 AND 1921.

County.	Enumerated Population in—						Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1921 compared with 1911.					
	1911.			1921.			Males.	Females.	Total.			
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.						
Anglesey ..	4,772	4,180	8,952	5,508	4,581	10,089	+	736	+	401	+	1,137
Benambra ..	3,625	2,957	6,582	3,359	2,722	6,081	—	266	—	235	—	501
Bendigo ..	26,771	27,729	54,500	22,924	24,606	47,530	—	3,847	—	3,123	—	6,970
Bogong ..	14,681	13,224	27,905	11,639	10,668	22,307	—	3,042	—	2,556	—	5,598
Borong ..	16,289	14,562	30,851	16,173	14,721	30,894	—	116	+	159	+	43
Bourke ..	295,309	327,502	622,811	328,958	433,810	822,769	+	93,650	+	106,308	+	199,958
Buln Buln ..	22,283	18,774	41,057	24,546	20,344	44,890	+	2,263	+	1,570	+	3,833
Croajingo- long ..	1,510	1,190	2,700	1,684	1,275	2,959	+	174	+	85	+	259
Dalhousie ..	8,917	8,724	17,641	8,086	8,117	16,203	—	831	—	607	—	1,438
Dargo ..	3,077	2,441	5,518	2,353	2,050	4,403	—	724	—	391	—	1,115
Delatite ..	11,491	10,574	22,065	10,171	9,655	19,826	—	1,320	—	919	—	2,239
Dundas ..	5,298	5,152	10,450	5,330	5,258	10,588	+	32	+	106	+	138
Evelyn ..	9,026	8,265	17,291	12,460	12,090	24,550	+	3,434	+	3,825	+	7,259
Follett ..	1,372	1,339	2,711	1,611	1,552	3,163	+	239	+	213	+	452
Gladstone ..	8,752	7,961	16,713	6,516	5,939	12,455	—	2,236	—	2,022	—	4,258
Grant ..	34,991	36,486	71,477	35,677	38,110	73,787	+	686	+	1,624	+	2,310
Grenville ..	20,503	23,567	43,070	17,621	19,791	37,412	—	2,882	—	2,776	—	5,658
Gunbower ..	5,083	4,181	9,264	6,258	5,357	11,615	+	1,175	+	1,176	+	2,351
Hampden ..	6,707	6,188	12,895	6,443	6,244	12,687	—	264	—	56	—	208
Heytesbury ..	3,705	3,261	6,966	4,090	3,764	7,854	+	385	+	503	+	888
Kara Kara ..	8,265	7,274	15,539	7,627	7,195	14,822	—	638	—	79	—	717
Karkaroc ..	9,618	6,562	16,180	16,267	11,882	28,149	+	6,649	+	5,320	+	11,969
Lowan ..	7,082	6,231	13,313	6,733	6,024	12,757	—	349	—	207	—	556
Millewa ..	56	28	84	49	21	70	—	7	—	7	—	14
Moirs ..	16,814	15,028	31,842	14,878	13,623	28,501	—	1,936	—	1,405	—	3,341
Mornington ..	19,034	16,279	35,313	28,575	26,360	54,935	+	9,541	+	10,081	+	19,622
Normanby ..	5,909	6,007	11,907	5,857	5,922	11,779	—	43	—	85	—	128
Polwarth ..	7,367	6,533	13,900	7,981	7,173	15,154	+	614	+	640	+	1,254
Ripon ..	7,464	6,448	13,912	6,671	6,236	12,907	—	793	—	212	—	1,005
Rodney ..	10,399	9,089	19,488	11,490	10,242	21,732	+	1,091	+	1,153	+	2,244
Talbot ..	23,567	24,364	47,931	17,352	18,947	36,299	—	6,215	—	5,417	—	11,632
Tambo ..	1,650	1,329	2,979	2,240	1,876	4,116	+	590	+	547	+	1,137
Tanjil ..	10,130	9,562	19,692	11,046	10,215	21,261	+	916	+	653	+	1,569
Tatchera ..	6,318	4,519	10,837	7,076	5,321	12,397	+	758	+	802	+	1,560
Villiers ..	11,430	11,297	22,727	11,574	11,440	23,014	+	144	+	143	+	297
Weeah ..	1,255	697	1,952	2,504	1,308	4,312	+	1,249	+	1,111	+	2,360
Wonnangatta ..	998	733	1,731	733	532	1,265	—	265	—	201	—	466
Outside Counties— Shipping ..	4,082	723	4,805	4,663	1,085	5,748	+	581	+	362	+	943
Total ..	655,591	659,960	1,315,551	754,724	776,556	1,531,280	+	99,133	+	116,596	+	215,729

NOTE.—Full-blood aborigines, to the number of 196 in 1911 and 144 in 1921, are excluded from the foregoing statement.

Decreases of population were shown in 17 of the 37 counties in the ten-year period 1911-1921. The largest of these were in the counties of Talbot, Bendigo, Grenville, Bogong and Gladstone, where the mining industry was in a depressed condition during that decade. The north-eastern county of Moira, which is principally dependent on agriculture, showed a decline of about 10 per cent. The county of Bourke, which includes the metropolis, contained nearly 200,000 more people at the later census than at the earlier one. There were also large increases in the counties of Mornington, Evelyn, and Karkaroc.

The conjugal condition of the people, as ascertained at the census of 1921, is shown in the following table:—

CONJUGAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE, 4TH APRIL,
1921.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Never married—			
Under age 15 years	231,086	224,850	455,936
Age 15 years and over	222,177	211,833	434,010
Married	277,183	282,494	559,677
Widowed	21,279	54,928	76,207
Divorced	1,092	1,221	2,313
Unspecified	1,907	1,230	3,137
Total	754,724	776,556	1,531,280

Occupations
of the People,
1911 and
1921.

The number of breadwinners in each class of occupation at the last two censuses, and of the persons dependent on them, are shown hereunder :—

OCCUPATIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF VICTORIA, AS RETURNED AT THE CENSUSES OF 1911 AND 1921.

Occupation.	1911.	1921.
Breadwinners—		
Professional	43,819	60,585
Domestic	62,175	58,225
Commercial	91,611	108,011
Transport and Communication—		
Engaged in Railway Traffic	14,133	20,974
" " Traffic on Roads	11,047	16,215
" " " Seas and Rivers	8,522	9,455
" " Postal, Telegraph and Tele- phone Service	5,371	6,354
" " Aviation .. .. .	..	52
Messengers, etc.	165	282
Total	39,238	53,332
Industrial	187,773	234,245
Primary Producers—		
Engaged in Agricultural Pursuits	86,152	103,116
" " Pastoral Pursuits	29,340	22,679
" " Capture, etc., of Wild Ani- mals and their Produce	1,002	944
" " Fisheries	873	1,059
" " Forestry	5,151	8,153
" " Water Conservation and Supply	1,627	2,808
" " Mining and Quarrying	20,239	8,679
Total	144,384	147,438
Indefinite	8,053	7,617
Total Breadwinners	577,053	669,453
Dependents	721,137	856,379
Occupation not stated	17,361	5,448
Total	1,315,551	1,531,280

Grades of Occupation. The grades of occupation of the population, as returned at the censuses of 1911 and 1921, were as follows:—

Grade.	Census of 1911.			Census of 1921.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Employer	59,713	7,315	67,028	40,636	4,071	44,707
Working on own account	37,753	11,987	49,740	82,436	14,624	97,060
Assisting but not receiving salary or wages ..	19,273	3,002	22,275	10,742	1,003	11,745
Receiving salary or wages	281,727	103,975	385,702	315,391	118,052	433,443
Unemployed	14,930	3,012	17,942	32,432	7,581	40,013
*Grade not applicable ..	229,594	528,264	757,858	266,661	629,013	895,674
Grade not stated	12,601	2,405	15,006	6,426	2,212	8,638
Total	655,591	659,960	1,315,551	754,724	776,556	1,531,280

* This relates principally to dependents and persons supported by voluntary and State contributions.

Occupancy of Private Dwellings. The mode of occupancy of private dwellings changed materially between the dates of the 1911 and 1921 censuses. Particulars for those two census years are given below:—

MODE OF OCCUPANCY OF PRIVATE DWELLINGS, TENEMENTS AND FLATS—CENSUSES OF 1911 AND 1921.

Occupied by—	4th April, 1921.			3rd April, 1911.	Increase during Ten years 1911-1921.
	Urban.		Rural.	Whole State.	
	Metro-politan.	Pro-vincial.			

NUMBER OF OCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLINGS.

Owner ..	45,096	18,778	66,998	130,872	118,716	12,156
Purchaser by Instalments	25,259	4,856	12,140	42,255	13,973	28,282
Tenant ..	83,067	14,280	30,398	127,745	119,562	8,183
Other and Un-specified ..	4,579	1,643	11,842	18,064	11,383	6,681
Total ..	158,001	39,557	121,378	318,936	263,634	55,302

The number of owner occupiers and purchasers by instalments of those dwellings for which definite information was given increased from 52.6 per cent. in the earlier to 57.5 per cent. in the later year. The prevailing scarcity of houses doubtless influenced many persons who were formerly classed as tenants to become prospective owners, by entering into arrangements to purchase their houses on the instalment principle.

Ages of the people.

The following table shows the ages of the people at the dates of the censuses of 1901, 1911, and 1921, and the proportionate numbers living in successive age groups :—

AGES OF THE PEOPLE AT CENSUSES, 1901, 1911, AND 1921.

Age Group (Years).	1901.		1911.		1921.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
0-5 ..	66,807	65,179	73,061	70,417	79,210	76,426
5-10 ..	72,052	70,493	65,615	63,904	79,452	77,680
10-15 ..	67,389	66,640	63,586	62,523	72,424	70,744
15-20 ..	58,896	59,717	67,804	67,719	66,020	64,589
20-25 ..	50,593	57,632	61,895	65,217	62,096	67,503
25-30 ..	45,469	52,832	51,955	55,651	62,845	69,647
30-35 ..	46,635	48,156	44,928	48,694	59,244	63,439
35-40 ..	46,723	43,390	41,308	44,549	50,696	53,790
40-45 ..	37,118	33,551	42,512	42,480	44,885	47,914
45-50 ..	24,137	21,810	41,015	38,477	39,556	42,378
50-55 ..	18,348	17,601	31,866	29,420	40,174	40,391
55-60 ..	15,351	15,157	19,486	18,457	35,923	34,841
60-65 ..	14,979	14,292	13,834	14,316	26,660	27,016
65-70 ..	16,080	13,843	11,432	12,603	15,054	15,717
70-75 ..	11,781	8,360	9,415	9,972	9,035	10,204
75-80 ..	5,733	4,231	7,275	6,934	5,415	6,826
80-85 ..	2,453	2,065	3,903	3,387	2,991	3,831
85-90 ..	603	587	1,133	1,129	1,336	1,672
90-100 ..	160	152	301	321	404	567
100 and over ..	12	11	8	10	9	8
Unspecified ..	2,564	1,759	3,259	3,780	1,295	1,373
Total ..	603,883	597,458	655,591	659,960	754,724	776,556

AGES OF THE PEOPLE AT CENSUSES, 1901, 1911, AND 1921—*continued.*

Age Group (Years).	1901.		1911.		1921.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
PROPORTIONS PER CENT.						
0-5 ...	11·11	10·94	11·20	10·73	10·51	9·86
5-10 ...	11·98	11·83	10·06	9·74	10·55	10·02
10-15 ..	11·21	11·19	9·74	9·53	9·61	9·13
15-20 ...	9·80	10·03	10·40	10·32	8·76	8·33
20-25 ..	8·41	9·68	9·48	9·94	8·24	8·71
25-30 ...	7·56	8·87	7·96	8·48	8·34	8·98
30-35 ...	7·76	8·08	6·89	7·42	7·86	8·18
35-40 ...	7·77	7·28	6·33	6·79	6·73	6·94
40-45 ...	6·17	5·63	6·52	6·47	5·96	6·18
45-50 ..	4·02	3·66	6·29	5·87	5·25	5·47
50-55 ..	3·05	2·96	4·89	4·48	5·33	5·21
55-60 ...	2·55	2·54	2·99	2·81	4·77	4·49
60-65 ...	2·49	2·40	2·12	2·18	3·54	3·49
65-70 ..	2·67	2·32	1·75	1·92	2·00	2·03
70-75 ..	1·96	1·40	1·44	1·52	1·20	1·32
75-80 ..	·95	·71	1·11	1·06	·72	·88
80-85 ..	·41	·35	·60	·52	·40	·49
85-90 ..	·10	·10	·18	·17	·18	·22
90 and over ..	·03	·03	·05	·05	·05	·07
Specified Ages	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

Persons at
dependent
and support-
ing ages.

By adopting larger groups a clearer idea is obtained of the age distribution of the population at the three census periods. The subjoined table shows the numbers and

proportions of males and females at ages 0-15, 15-45, 45-65 and 65 and upwards. Persons of unspecified ages have been omitted:—

NUMBER OF PERSONS AT DEPENDENT AND SUPPORTING AGES IN VICTORIA AT THREE CENSUS ENUMERATIONS.

Census Year.	Number of Persons at—							
	Dependent Ages (under 15 years).		Supporting Ages.				Old Age (65 years and upwards).	
			15 to 45 years.		45 to 65 years.			
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
1901	206,248	202,312	285,434	295,278	72,815	68,860	36,822	29,249
1911	202,262	196,844	310,402	324,310	106,201	100,670	33,467	34,356
1921	231,086	224,850	345,786	366,882	142,313	144,626	34,244	38,825
Proportions per cent.								
1901	34·30	33·96	47·47	49·57	12·11	11·56	6·12	4·91
1911	31·00	30·00	47·59	49·42	16·28	15·34	5·13	5·24
1921	30·67	29·00	45·89	47·33	18·89	18·66	4·55	5·01

Australian Born and other Population in State.

The next table shows the length of residence in Australia, at the date of the census of 1921, of persons included in the population of the State who were born outside the Commonwealth:—

wealth:—

POPULATION OF VICTORIA AT THE CENSUS OF 4TH APRIL, 1921, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO LENGTH OF RESIDENCE IN AUSTRALIA.

No. of Completed Years of Residence.	Enumerated Population.			No. of Completed Years of Residence.	Enumerated Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.		Males.	Females.	Persons.
0 to 1 ..	8,559	9,588	18,147	90 and upwards	3	12	15
2 " 4 ..	1,389	1,595	2,984	Not stated ..	3,666	4,205	7,871
5 " 9 ..	24,576	20,039	44,615	Total ..	108,603	92,349	200,952
10 " 19 ..	12,586	7,338	19,924	Born in Commonwealth	646,121	684,207	1,330,328
20 " 39 ..	29,898	19,232	49,130	Grand Total	754,724	776,556	1,531,280
40 " 59 ..	17,226	16,034	33,260				
60 " 79 ..	10,570	14,080	24,650				
80 " 89 ..	130	226	356				

**Centenarians
in Victoria.**

There were 17 persons—9 males and 8 females—aged 100 years and upwards in Victoria when the 1921 census was taken.

**Density of
population, &c.**

In the following statement the persons and dwellings to the square mile, the persons and rooms to a dwelling, and the persons to a room are shown for the seven census years 1861-1921 :—

**DENSITY OF POPULATION.—RETURN FOR SEVEN CENSUS
YEARS.**

Year of Census.	Persons to the Square Mile (exclusive of Persons in Ships).	Inhabited Dwellings to the Square Mile.	Persons to the Inhabited Dwelling (exclusive of Persons in Ships).	Rooms to an Inhabited Dwelling.	Persons to a Room.
1861 ..	6·126	1 470	4·16	2·96	1·39
1871 ..	8·298	1·714	4·84	3·88	1·24
1881 ..	9·791	1·935	5·06	4·43	1·14
1891 ..	12·948	2·549	5·08	5·09	1·00
1901 ..	13·643	2·747	4·97	5·38	·93
1911 ..	14·915	3·103	4·80	5·51	·87
1921 ..	17·360	3·766	4·61	5·35	·85

The population returned at the census of 1921 represented a proportion of 17·4 persons to the square mile. In 1911 the proportion was 14·9; in 1901, 13·6; in 1891, 12·9; in 1881, 9·8; in 1871, 8·3; and in 1861, 6·1. There were 461 persons to every 100 inhabited dwellings in 1921—a number smaller than in any of the five preceding census years, but greater than in 1861.

BIRTHPLACES OF THE PEOPLE OF VICTORIA, 1921.

The census of 1921 gave the birthplaces of the people of the people, 1921. as follows :—

Birthplaces.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Commonwealth of Australia ..	646,023	684,113	1,330,136
New Zealand	5,460	5,750	11,210
British Isles	83,712	77,405	161,117
British India	1,003	537	1,540
Union of South Africa	818	854	1,672
Canada	523	340	863
Denmark	835	200	1,035
Germany	2,462	1,231	3,693
France	393	353	746
Italy	1,411	439	1,850
Sweden	1,021	94	1,115
Norway	637	89	726
Russia	601	342	943
Greece	505	53	558
United States	952	641	1,593
China	2,740	85	2,825
Japan	52	20	72
Switzerland	321	118	439
Other Countries	2,710	1,484	4,194
At Sea	524	587	1,111
Unspecified	2,021	1,821	3,842
Total	754,724	776,556	1,531,280
Allegiance—			
British	747,482	774,702	1,522,184
Foreign	6,873	1,496	8,369
Unstated	369	358	727

Australian born. The residents of Victoria at the date of the Census who were born in the Commonwealth of Australia numbered 1,330,136 or 87 per cent. of the total population. The number born in Australia or New Zealand was 1,341,346, the ratio to population being 88 per cent. The corresponding ratios in 1911 and 1901 were 85 per cent. and 79 per cent. respectively.

Foreign born. The number of persons in the State in 1921 who were born in countries outside the British dominions was 19,486, or 1·3 per cent. of the population. This is a decrease as compared with 1911, when they numbered 21,252, or 1·6 per cent. of the population.

Allegiance. The number of persons living in Victoria in 1921 who owed their allegiance to a foreign country was 8,369.

Chinese. In the interval between the censuses of 1911 and 1921 natives of China decreased from 4,302 to 2,825. These figures, however, do not represent all the Chinese in the State, as there are persons of this race born in places outside of China who are resident in Victoria. The total number of the Chinese race

in Victoria (including Chinese born in Australia) was 5,601 in 1911 and 4,179 in 1921.

The enumerated population at each of the last seven censuses and the decennial increases, numerical and centesimal, were as shown hereunder:—

POPULATION OF VICTORIA (INCLUDING ABORIGINES) AT SEVEN CENSUS PERIODS.

Year of Census.	Both Sexes.			Males.			Females.		
	Population.	Increase in Ten-year period.		Population.	Increase in Ten-year period.		Population.	Increase in Ten-year period.	
		Numerical.	Centesimal.		Numerical.	Centesimal.		Numerical.	Centesimal.
1861	540,322	462,977	598·59	328,651	282,449	611·34	211,671	180,528	579·67
1871	731,528	191,206	35·39	401,050	72,399	22·03	330,478	118,807	56·13
1881	862,346	130,818	17·88	452,083	51,033	12·72	410,263	79,785	24·14
1891	1,140,405	278,059	32·24	598,414	146,331	32·37	541,991	131,728	32·11
1901	1,201,341	60,936	5·34	603,883	5,469	·91	597,458	55,467	10·23
1911	1,315,747	114,406	9·52	655,694	51,811	8·58	660,053	62,595	10·48
1921	1,531,424	215,677	16·39	754,804	99,110	15·12	776,620	116,567	17·66

NOTE.—The figures in this table include full-blood aboriginals. These numbered 144 in 1921, viz., 80 males and 64 females.

The increase in population between the censuses of 1911 and 1921, viz., 215,677, was larger than in any ten-year period subsequent to 1851-61, with the exception of the decennium 1881-91.

The masculinity of the population, or the ratio of males to females, at each of the last seven census enumerations, was as follows:—

Year.	Males to 100 Females.
1861	155·26
1871	121·36
1881	110·19
1891	110·41
1901	101·08
1911	99·34
1921	97·19

The number of males to every 100 females in age-groups at the date of the 1921 census was as follows:—Age-group 0-10, 103·0; 10-20, 102·3; 20-40, 92·5; 40-60, 97·0; 60-80, 94·0; and 80 and over, 78·0. The ratios for certain age groups in the census years 1891, 1901, and 1911 are given in the *Year-Book* for 1915-16, also the proportions existing between males and females at the census of 1911 in other parts of Australasia and England and Wales.

Population of Greater Melbourne, 1925. The following table shows the area in acres and the enumerated population at the census of 1921 of the various municipalities of Greater Melbourne, also the number of persons to the acre in these municipalities and the estimated population at the end of 1925:—

POPULATION, ETC., OF GREATER MELBOURNE AT CENSUS OF 1921, AND 31st DECEMBER, 1925.

Sub-District.	Area in Acres, 31st Dec., 1925.	Enumerated Population at the Census of 1921.	Estimated Population, 31st Dec., 1925.	Persons to the Acre, 31st Dec., 1925.
Melbourne City	7,555	103,251	103,600	13·7
*Box Hill Borough	5,120	†	10,520	2·1
Brighton City	3,308	21,235	26,330	8·0
Brunswick City	2,719	44,484	50,000	18·4
Camberwell City	8,322	23,835	36,290	4·4
Caulfield City	5,600	40,693	59,640	10·7
Coburg City	4,800	18,114	31,350	6·5
Collingwood City	1,139	34,239	33,900	29·8
Essendon City	4,000	35,269	40,000	10·0
Fitzroy City	923	34,938	34,300	37·2
Footscray City	3,982	33,775	43,500	10·9
Hawthorn City	2,402	29,165	31,880	13·3
Kew City	3,553	17,382	22,700	6·4
Malvern City	3,996	32,396	43,000	10·8
Northcote City	2,850	30,519	38,200	13·4
Oakleigh Town	2,658	6,078	8,470	3·2
Port Melbourne City	2,366	13,089	13,150	5·6
Prahran City	2,320	50,290	51,800	22·3
Preston City	8,800	9,670	18,000	2·0
Richmond City	1,430	43,171	43,600	30·5
Sandringham City	3,740	11,316	18,500	4·9
South Melbourne City	2,303	46,873	47,250	20·5
St. Kilda City	2,049	38,579	41,200	20·1
Williamstown City	2,775	19,442	23,000	8·3
Remainder of District	76,956	40,557	37,180	·5
Shipping in Hobson's Bay and River .. ..	..	4,711	4,710	...
Total	165,666	782,979	912,130	5·5‡

* Excised from the Shire of Nunawading and proclaimed a borough on 15th December, 1925.

† Included with "Remainder of District" in 1921.

‡ In making this calculation persons in ships were excluded from the total population.

NOTE.—Preston was proclaimed a city on 30th March, 1926.

Fitzroy is the most thickly populated municipality, with about 37 persons to the acre; Richmond has 31; Collingwood, 30; Prahran, 22; South Melbourne, 21; St. Kilda City, 20; Brunswick, about 18; and Melbourne City 14 persons. There are areas devoted to parks, gardens, and other reserves in many of the municipalities, so that the population is really living closer together than the figures in the table indicate. Melbourne City contains 1,969

acres of such reserves; Kew, 643; South Melbourne, 497; Williamstown, 446; Caulfield, 305; St. Kilda, 300; Richmond, 234; and Brighton, 191 acres. There are smaller areas in other districts, but they do not appreciably affect the question of density of population. The total area of all the reserves is 6,245 acres; if these be excluded, the number of persons to the acre in the places named will be as follows:—Richmond, 36; South Melbourne, 26; St. Kilda, 24; Melbourne City, 19; Caulfield, 11; Williamstown, 10; Brighton, 8; and Kew, 8.

Urban and Rural population. In the appended statement Victoria is shown in three divisions, the first being the Metropolitan (Greater Melbourne) District, or the area extending in all directions for a distance of 10 miles from the centre of the city; the second, the other urban districts, outside the limits of Greater Melbourne; and the third, the remaining portions of the State, which are termed "rural districts." The second division includes not only all existing cities, towns and boroughs, but also the larger towns in shires. The population of each of these divisions at the end of 1925, the ratio of its population to that of the whole State, and the number of persons to the square mile were as follows:—

URBAN AND RURAL POPULATION, 1925.

Divisions.	Estimated Area in Square Miles.	Estimated Population, 31st Decr., 1925.		
		Total.	Proportion per cent.	Persons to the Sq. Mile.
Metropolitan	255	912,130	54·16	3,577
Other Urban	376	214,323	12·73	570
Total Urban	631	1,126,453	66·89	1,785
„ Rural	87,253	557,564	33·11	6·4
Total, Victoria ..	87,884	1,684,017	100·00	19·2

The urban is much greater than the rural population, and the population of the metropolis alone is nearly 54·2 per cent. of that of the whole State. The results of each census (except that of 1901), after the census of 1861, showed an increase in the proportion of the total population resident in the metropolitan area. The marked nature of this increase will be apparent from the following statement:—

PROPORTION OF POPULATION OF GREATER MELBOURNE TO THAT OF THE WHOLE OF VICTORIA.

Year.	Per cent.	Year.	Per cent.
1861 (Census) ..	25·9	1901 (Census) ..	41·3
1871 „ ..	28·9	1911 „ ..	45·1
1881 „ ..	32·8	1921 „ ..	51·1
1891 „ ..	43·0	1925 (Estimated) ..	54·2

The next statement gives the population of the municipal districts in Greater Melbourne at the last three census dates. There was a slight falling-off in the cities of Melbourne and Port Melbourne between 1911 and 1921, but in all other districts there were increases during each decennial period. The most remarkable of these increases was in the City of Caulfield, where the population was enumerated as 9,541 in 1901 and 40,693 in 1921. Northcote, Malvern, and Camberwell also made great progress in the twenty-year period, their respective populations being trebled.

RETURN SHOWING THE POPULATION OF GREATER MELBOURNE IN 1901, 1911, AND 1921.

Municipal District.	Population at the Census of—		
	1901.	1911.	1921.
Cities—			
Melbourne	97,440	103,593	103,251
Brighton	10,047	12,083	21,235
Brunswick	24,141	32,215	44,484
Camberwell	8,602	12,551	23,835
Caulfield	9,541	15,919	40,693
Coburg	6,772	9,505	18,114
Collingwood	32,749	34,190	34,239
Essendon	17,426	23,749	35,269
Fitzroy	31,687	34,283	34,938
Footscray	18,318	23,643	33,775
Hawthorn	21,430	24,450	29,165
Kew	9,469	11,152	17,382
Malvern	10,619	15,969	32,306
Northcote	9,677	17,519	30,519
Port Melbourne	12,176	13,515	13,089
Prahran	40,441	45,367	50,290
Richmond	37,824	40,442	43,171
Sandringham	*	*	11,316
South Melbourne	40,619	46,190	46,873
St. Kilda	20,542	25,334	38,579
Williamstown	14,052	15,275	19,442
Towns—			
Oakleigh	1,273	2,151	6,076
Preston	4,059	5,049	9,670
Shires—			
Parts of Shires, forming remainder of District	15,445	24,873	40,557
Shipping in Hobson's Bay and River	1,730	4,220	4,711
Total	496,079	593,237	782,979

* Included with Moorabbin Shire in 1901 and 1911.

The numbers of males and females in Melbourne and suburbs at each census date from 1861 to 1921, and as estimated in 1925, are shown in the following statement.

The proportion of males to the total population of the metropolis and the percentage of the population in the metropolitan area to that of the whole State are also given.

POPULATION OF MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS,
1861 TO 1925.

Year.	Census Population.			Males Percentage of Total Population.	Proportion of Metropolitan to State Population.
	Males.	Females.	Total.		
1861	71,300	68,616	139,916	51.0	per cent. 25.9
1871	103,404	103,376	206,780	50.0	28.9
1881	139,006	143,941	282,947	49.1	32.8
1891	247,960	242,936	490,896	50.5	43.0
1901	235,203	260,876	496,079	47.4	41.3
1911	279,900	313,337	593,237	47.2	45.1
1921	370,016	412,963	782,979	47.3	51.1
1925 (estimated) ..	431,076	481,060	912,130	47.3	54.2

Outside Melbourne and suburbs, the most important towns in Victoria are Ballarat, comprising two municipalities; Geelong, three; Bendigo, two; and Warrnambool, Mordialloc, Castlemaine, Carrum, Wonthaggi, Mildura, Hamilton, and Ararat, one each. The populations of these, with their immediate suburbs, according to the census of 1921, and as estimated in 1925, were as follows:—

POPULATION OF CHIEF TOWNS IN VICTORIA, 1921 AND 1925.

Name of Town.	Population.	
	1921 (Census).	1925 (Estimated).
Ballarat	38,500	40,990
Geelong	36,170	39,100
Bendigo	33,170	33,700
Warrnambool	7,739	8,020
Mordialloc	5,225	7,220
Castlemaine	7,000	7,170
Carrum	5,674	6,500
Wonthaggi	5,176	6,500
Mildura	5,100	5,850
Hamilton	5,098	5,200
Ararat	4,653	5,000

The following is a list of the other towns in Victoria which contained a population of 1,000 persons or over in 1925 :—

Town.	Estimated Population in 1925.	Town.	Estimated Population in 1925.
Bacchus Marsh ..	1,400	Mitcham ..	1,500
Bairnsdale ..	3,500	Mornington ..	1,800
Beaufort ..	1,100	Mortlake ..	1,000
Beechworth ..	2,600	Morwell ..	1,400
Benalla ..	3,250	Murtoa ..	1,150
Blackburn ..	1,850	Nhill ..	1,500
Camperdown ..	3,820	Numurkah ..	1,250
Casterton ..	1,550	Nyah ..	1,070
Charlton ..	1,100	Orbost ..	1,300
Clunes ..	1,200	Port Fairy ..	2,040
Cohuna ..	1,150	Portland ..	2,710
Colac ..	4,350	Queenscliff ..	2,600
Coleraine ..	1,100	Red Cliffs ..	1,050
Creswick ..	1,750	Ringwood ..	3,000
Dandenong ..	4,050	Rochester ..	1,500
Daylesford ..	3,420	Rushworth ..	1,200
Dimboola ..	1,500	Rutherglen ..	1,180
Donald ..	1,500	Sale ..	3,920
Drouin ..	1,000	Seymour ..	2,150
Echuca ..	3,940	Shepparton ..	4,000
Euroa ..	1,800	St. Arnaud ..	3,150
Frankston ..	850	Stawell ..	4,660
Healesville ..	2,500	Sunshine ..	2,350
Heathcote ..	1,050	Swan Hill ..	2,530
Horsham ..	4,160	Tatura ..	1,230
Inglewood ..	1,100	Terang ..	2,300
Kerang ..	2,500	Traralgon ..	2,150
Kilmore ..	1,050	Wangaratta ..	3,850
Koroit ..	1,860	Warburton ..	1,150
Korumburra ..	2,500	Warracknabeal ..	2,500
Kyabram ..	1,600	Warragul ..	1,800
Kyneton ..	3,200	Wedderburn ..	1,000
Leongatha ..	1,500	Werribee ..	1,700
Lilydale ..	1,850	Wodonga ..	1,650
Maffra ..	1,600	Woodend ..	1,350
Maldon ..	1,500	Yarram ..	1,000
Maryborough ..	4,840	Yarrowonga ..	1,650
Merbein ..	2,400	Yea ..	1,050

The average annual rates at which the population has increased (1) in the whole State, (2) in Melbourne and Suburbs, and (3) in the remainder of the State are shown hereunder :—

AVERAGE ANNUAL RATE OF INCREASE OF POPULATION IN THE WHOLE STATE, IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS, AND IN REMAINDER OF STATE, 1851 TO 1925.

Period.	In Victoria.		In Melbourne and Suburbs.		In Remainder of State.	
	Rate of Natural Increase.	Rate of Total Increase.	Rate of Natural Increase.	Rate of Total Increase.	Rate of Natural Increase.	Rate of Total Increase.
1851-60 ..	Per cent. 2·01	Per cent. 21·59	Per cent. *	Per cent. 13·62	Per cent. *	Per cent. 26·67
1861-70 ..	2·46	3·05	1·96†	3·91	2·63†	2·74
1871-80 ..	1·87	1·70	1·33	3·31	2·11	1·01
1881-90 ..	1·66	2·80	1·53	5·56	1·74	1·17
1891-1900 ..	1·47	·55	1·36	·25	1·55	·77
1901-10 ..	1·26	·89	1·05	1·74	1·42	·25
1911 ..	1·37	2·96	1·18	4·11	1·52	2·01
1912 ..	1·43	3·19	1·35	3·92	1·50	2·57
1913 ..	1·48	2·38	1·48	3·77	1·48	1·20
1914 ..	1·39	1·40	1·39	3·08	1·40	-·07
1915 ..	1·34	-·75	1·35	1·24	1·33	-2·54
1916 ..	1·25	-1·39	1·26	1·92	1·23	-4·48
1917 ..	1·32	·88	1·30	2·00	1·33	-·23
1918 ..	1·16	1·42	1·13	2·05	1·19	·79
1919 ..	·85	4·58	·67	2·75	1·04	6·47
1920 ..	1·29	1·66	1·30	3·45	1·27	-·13
1921 ..	1·27	1·49	1·26	2·35	1·28	·60
1922 ..	1·36	2·55	1·30	2·73	1·43	2·36
1923 ..	1·17	2·21	1·00	4·41	1·35	-·12
1924 ..	1·21	1·95	1·06	3·85	1·37	-·15
1925 ..	1·21	1·62	1·04	2·98	1·41	·06

* Not available.

† Average 1862-1870.

It will be observed that the rate of natural increase (excess of births over deaths) has during all periods, except the years 1915, 1916, and 1920, been less in Melbourne than in other portions of the State, while the rate of total increase has usually been greater. It would appear from this that the metropolis has been gaining population at the expense of the country districts. The higher rate of natural increase in extra-metropolitan areas is due principally to the low death rates prevailing there, and this favorable mortality can only be partially accounted for by the migration from country to town of persons in indifferent health. The light mortality in country districts shows the advantage to be derived from a large increase in the population of these portions of the State.

The small natural increase in 1919, both in Melbourne and the remainder of the State, is accounted for by a heavy death rate in that year due to the existence of an epidemic of influenza. The rate of total increase in 1919 was large on account of the return to the State of soldiers, and the extra-Metropolitan districts benefited to a greater extent proportionally by their return than Melbourne and suburbs.

Population of
Australia and
New Zealand,
1861-1921.

The following table shows the population of each Australian State and New Zealand at each census from 1861 to 1921 :—

POPULATION OF THE SIX STATES OF AUSTRALIA AND
NEW ZEALAND, 1861-1921.

State.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1921.
Victoria ..	540,322	731,528	862,346	1,140,405	1,201,070	1,315,551	1,531,280
New South Wales ..	350,860	503,981	751,468	1,132,234	1,354,846	1,648,448	2,02,943*
Queensland ..	30,059	117,960	213,525	393,718	498,129	605,813	755,972
South Australia ..	126,830	185,626	279,865	320,431	363,157	411,868	499,027†
Western Australia ..	15,100	25,270	29,708	49,782	184,124	282,114	332,732
Tasmania ..	89,977	101,020	115,705	146,667	172,475	191,211	213,730
Australia ..	1,153,148	1,665,385	2,252,617	3,183,237	3,773,801	4,455,005	5,435,734
New Zealand ..	84,536	257,810	489,933	626,658	772,719	1,008,407	1,218,270

* Including Federal Territory, 2,572.

† Including Northern Territory, 3,867.

Population of
Australian
States and
New Zealand,
1925.

In the next table is shown the estimated population of each Australian State (excluding aborigines) and of New Zealand at the end of 1925, also the increase of population since the census of 1921, and the number of persons to the square mile.

POPULATION OF EACH AUSTRALIAN STATE AND NEW ZEALAND, AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1925.

State.	Estimated Population at 31st December, 1925.			Increase since Census of 1921 (4th April).	Persons to the Square Mile.
	Males.	Females.	Total.		
Victoria	838,693	845,324	1,684,017	152,737	19·16
New South Wales ..	1,171,590	1,126,852	2,298,442	198,071	7·43
Queensland	454,819	406,366	861,185	105,213	1·28
South Australia ..	282,790	268,843	551,633	56,473	1·45
Western Australia ..	199,596	172,587	372,183	39,451	·38
Tasmania	108,047	108,985	217,032	3,252	8·28
Territories—					
Northern	2,550	1,106	3,656	- 211	·01
Federal	2,230	1,706	3,936	1,364	4·19
Australia	3,060,315	2,931,769	5,992,084	556,350	2·01
New Zealand	687,287	658,789	1,346,076	127,806	13·03

Particulars of the movement of population by migration and of the natural increase by excess of births over deaths are given for each State from the year 1851 on page 300 of the *Year-Book* for 1921-22.

The enumerated populations of Australasian capital cities during the past 54 years are shown in the following table. Melbourne during that time has made great progress, the most noticeable advance having been in the decennial period 1881-91, when the increase of population was 73 per cent. Between 1891 and 1901 the population remained almost stationary, but in the intercensal period 1901 to 1911 there was an increase of 97,158 and in the period 1911 to 1921 an increase of 189,742 persons. Sydney, which since 1902 has been the most populous city in Australasia, had 1,039,390 inhabitants in 1925. These two cities contain about 33 per cent. of the population of the Commonwealth.

POPULATION OF AUSTRALASIAN CAPITAL CITIES, 1871 TO 1925.

Capital City (with Suburbs).	Enumerated Population at the Census of—						Estimated Population, 31st Dec., 1925.	Persons to the Acre, 1925.
	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1921.		
Melbourne	206,780	282,947	490,896	496,079	593,237	782,979	912,130	5·51
Sydney ..	137,776	224,939	383,283	481,830	636,355	897,640	1,039,390	8·79
Brisbane ..	15,029	31,109	101,554	119,428	140,977	209,699	†253,568	1·03
Adelaide ..	42,744	103,864	133,252	162,094	191,312	255,318	303,614	2·20
Perth ..	*	*	*	66,832	109,375	155,129	179,388	2·05
Hobart ..	26,004	27,248	33,450	34,604	40,335	52,385	58,740	1·25
Wellington	7,908	20,563	34,190	49,344	70,729	107,491	117,986	3·63

* Not available. † 31st December, 1924.

Density of population in capital cities.

It will be noticed that the population of Sydney is more concentrated than that of any other metropolitan city, the population of Melbourne being spread over about one and a half times the corresponding area. In Adelaide and Perth there are about two persons; and in Brisbane and Hobart, about one person to the acre.

Chinese and Aborigines in Victoria.

In the subjoined table is given the population of Victoria at each of the last seven census enumerations, Chinese and Aborigines being distinguished.

POPULATION OF VICTORIA, DISTINGUISHING CHINESE AND ABORIGINES, AT SEVEN CENSUS PERIODS.

Year of Census.	Total Population—including Chinese and Aborigines.			Chinese.			Aborigines.		
	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
1861	540,322	328,651	211,671	24,732	24,724	8	1,694	1,046	648
1871	731,528	401,050	330,478	17,935	17,899	36	1,330	784	546
1881	862,346	452,083	410,263	12,128	11,869	259	780	460	320
1891	1,140,405	598,414	541,991	9,377	8,772	605	565	325	240
1901	1,201,341	603,883	597,458	7,349	6,740	609	652	367	285
1911	1,315,747	655,694	660,053	5,601	4,956	645	643	340	303
1921	1,531,424	754,804	776,620	4,179	3,433	746	586	279	307

NOTE.—The population of the State at each census date since 1861, which appears in the above table and in the table on page 110, includes full-blood aboriginals. When comparisons are made elsewhere in this part with the populations at these census dates, the aboriginals referred to are not included.

Arrivals and departures of Chinese.

During each of the five years ended 1925 the number of Chinese who left Victoria was greater than the number who entered the State. The net decrease in the Chinese population in the last five years by excess of emigration over immigration was 633. The figures for each year are as follows:—

CHINESE IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION, 1921 TO 1925.

Year.	Immigrants.	Emigrants.	Excess of— Arrivals (+), Departures (-).
1921	315	591	- 276
1922	346	509	- 163
1923	462	487	- 25
1924	290	363	- 73
1925	256	352	- 96
Total	1,669	2,302	- 633

**Decrease of
Aborigines.** At the first colonization of Victoria the Aborigines were officially estimated to number about 5,000, but according to other and apparently more reliable estimates they numbered at that time not less than 15,000. When the colony was separated from New South Wales the number was officially stated to be 2,693. At the 1921 census there were enumerated 586 Aborigines, consisting of 144 of pure blood and 442 half-castes. Between the censuses of 1911 and 1921 there was a decrease of 57, the reduction in the pure race being 51 and, in the half-castes, 6. These figures indicate that the race is gradually but surely dying out. From the records of the Aborigines Board it would appear that most of the natives are under the care of that body, the numbers in the different stations being as under :—

NUMBER OF ABORIGINES UNDER CARE AT
STATIONS IN VICTORIA, 1924-25.

Station.	Aborigines.	Three- quarter and Half-castes.	Total.
Coranderrk	1	5	6
Lake Condah	2	35	37
Lake Tyers	52	155	207
Framlingham	1	32	33
Antwerp	3	..	3
Swan Hill	4	1	5
Other Dépôts	7	13	20
In Institutions .. .. .	..	3	3
In Service	2	2	4
Total	72	246	318

In addition to the above there are 37 half-castes at Antwerp and Cove Dam.

Of the Aborigines not enumerated in the table, some are residing elsewhere than at the stations, but receive supplies of food and clothing when they call; while others prefer to lead a wandering life, and but rarely come under the notice of the Board.

During the year 1924-25, 5 deaths occurred—4 at Lake Tyers, and 1 at Framlingham. There were 12 births—all of these took place at Lake Tyers. The births recorded were all half-castes, while, of the deaths, 3 were those of full-blood Aborigines, and 2 of half-castes. There were 3 marriages at Lake Tyers during the year mentioned.

The amount expended on the maintenance of Aborigines during the year was £6,610. There is a Trust Fund kept at the Treasury into which receipts from the sale of produce, etc., are paid. The amount at the credit of this Fund on the 30th June, 1925, was £3,809.

With a view to restricting the immigration of Asiatics and other coloured persons the Commonwealth Parliament passed the Immigration Restriction Act in 1901, which provides that any person, who, when asked to do so by a public officer, fails to write out from dictation and sign in the presence of the officer a passage of fifty words in any prescribed language, is prohibited from landing in Australia. Certificates of exemption are granted in certain cases, and members of the military and naval forces, as well as the master and crew of any public vessel of any government, are excepted. The Act appears to have achieved its purpose, judging by the small number of coloured persons who have been admitted into the Commonwealth since it commenced to operate. The following are the numbers of coloured persons, other than Chinese, who have entered or left Victoria since 1st April, 1901 :—

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION OF COLOURED PERSONS (OTHER THAN CHINESE) FROM 1ST APRIL, 1901, TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1925.

Year.	Immigrants.	Emigrants.	Excess of— Arrivals (+) Departures (-)
From 1st April, 1901, to 31st Dec., 1905	1,118	1,311	- 193
1906-10	382	495	- 113
1911-15	491	406	+ 85
1916	80	92	- 12
1917	67	208	- 141
1918	52	46	+ 6
1919	46	151	- 105
1920	59	86	- 27
1921	70	64	+ 6
1922	65	47	+ 18
1923	76	64	+ 12
1924	109	53	+ 56
1925	89	85	+ 4
Total	2,704	3,108	- 404

The number of coloured persons in Victoria was ascertained at the census of 1921. Chinese were found to number 4,179, and other coloured persons 1,932—a total of

Coloured persons in Victoria, 1921.

6,111, as compared with 7,631 at the previous census in 1911. The figures for the different races are given below :—

NUMBER OF PERSONS OF COLOURED RACES (EXCLUSIVE OF FULL-BLOOD ABORIGINES) IN VICTORIA AT THE CENSUS OF 1921.

Race.	Males.		Females.		Total.	
	Full-blood.	Half-caste.	Full-blood.	Half-caste.	Full-blood.	Half-caste.
Asiatic—						
Chinese	2,918	515	244	502	3,162	1,017
Hindus	431	62	15	50	446	112
Japanese	37	12	13	12	50	24
Syrians	292	20	240	31	532	51
Cingalese	19	9	2	4	21	13
Other	55	14	23	9	78	23
African—						
Negroes	11	24	..	12	11	36
Other	3	3	1	1	4	4
American—						
American Indians	1	..	..	3	1	3
Other	8	8	1	9	9	17
Polynesians—						
Maoris	2	3	1	2	3	5
Other	7	9	1	8	8	17
Australian Aborigines (H.C.) ..	..	199	..	243	..	442
Indefinite	14	1	7	..	21	1
Total	3,798	879	548	886	4,346	1,765

Under the "Commonwealth Naturalization Act No. 11 Naturalization, of 1903," the right to issue certificates of naturalization was taken from the States, and vested in the Commonwealth. This Act came into force on 1st January, 1904. An epitome of its principal provisions is given in the *Year-Book* for 1920-21, page 340.

The number of persons naturalized in Victoria in the year 1925 was 156; in the fifty-five years, 1871 to 1925 inclusive, it was 15,916.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Registration
of Births,
Deaths, and
Marriages.

The present official system of compulsory registration of births, deaths, and marriages in Victoria has been in force since 1853, and the registers—framed on the best models—are replete with all necessary information bearing on the family history of the people. The statutory duties under the Registration Acts are performed by the Government Statist, who has control over the local registrars of births and deaths, and the registrars of marriages, and (so far as regards their registration duties) over the clergymen who celebrate marriages. Copies of entries certified by him or by the Assistant Government Statist are *prima facie* evidence in the Courts of Australia of the facts to which they relate. At the head office in Melbourne there is kept for reference a complete collection of all registrations effected since 1st July, 1853, as well as originals or certified copies of all existing church records relating to earlier periods, as far back as 1837.

Applicants for searches or certificates of births, deaths, or marriages should, in applying to the Government Statist, furnish particulars of the date and place of the event; also the names of the parties in the case of a marriage, and the name, age (if a death), and parentage in the case of a birth or death. The fee for a search in the Official Records, or an extract of an entry, is 2s. 6d., and for a certificate, including the cost of search, 7s. 6d. (except where the case appears in the records of the current quarter, when 5s. only is charged). For a search in the early church records, prior to 1st July, 1853, the fee is only 1s., a further sum of 1s. being payable if a certificate is required.

As evidence of the extent by which the information in the records is availed of, the number of transactions which took place in 1925 was 35,192, yielding £4,477 revenue. Included in the above number were 3,704 free ordinary searches and 344 free certificates.

The *Year-Book* for 1916-17 contains on pages 301 to 303 a statement of the law relating to marriages and the registration of births and deaths in Victoria. Since 1915, when the Acts were consolidated, minor validating and other Acts (Nos. 2775, 2998, 3127, and 3282) have been passed.

MARRIAGES.

Marriages—
Numbers and
Rates.

Marriages in Victoria in 1925 numbered 13,370. This was the third highest number for one year in the history of the State, being 1,528 less than the greatest number previously recorded—that for 1920.

The ordinary marriage rate—per 1,000 of the total population—like birth and death rates similarly estimated, is somewhat unreliable in comparatively newly settled countries like Australia, especially in earlier periods, but it affords a ready and approximate comparison between years not widely separated.

The numbers and rates relating to Victoria are given in the following table for different periods since 1879 :—

MARRIAGES IN VICTORIA—NUMBERS AND RATES, 1880 TO 1925.

Period.	Average Annual Number of Marriages.	Rate per 1,000 of Mean Population.	Period.	Average Annual Number of Marriages.	Rate per 1,000 of Mean Population.
1880-84..	6,296	7·07	1905-09..	9,209	7·36
1885-89..	8,208	8·04	1910-14..	11,244	8·29
1890-94..	7,945	6·88	1915-19..	10,908	7·62
1895-99..	7,627	6·44	1920-24..	13,598	8·64
1900-04..	8,201	6·78	1925 ..	13,370	8·00

The highest number of marriages in the history of the State, and also the highest rate per 1,000 of the population, were recorded in 1920. This was mainly due to the marriages of a large number of returned soldiers who had settled down to ordinary civilian life.

Marriage rates in Australasia.

The subjoined statement shows the marriage rate per 1,000 of the population in the various Australian States, the Commonwealth of Australia, and New Zealand, in quinquennial periods for the years 1910 to 1924, and for the year 1925 :—

MARRIAGES PER 1,000 OF MEAN POPULATION IN AUSTRALASIA, 1910 TO 1925.

Period.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1910-14	8·29	9·17	8·54	9·38	8·22	7·94	8·72	8·51
1915-19	7·62	7·96	7·59	7·94	6·62	6·90	7·75	7·30
1920-24	8·64	8·55	7·80	8·53	7·60	7·93	8·38	8·44
1925 ..	8·00	8·14	7·60	7·82	7·46	7·05	7·91	7·85

The marriage rate in England and Wales in 1925 was 7·6.

The marriages in Australia for 1925 numbered 46,899, as against 45,869 in 1924, 44,541 in 1923, 44,731 in 1922, 46,869 in 1921, and 51,552 in 1920. Of the total for 1925, 13,370 took place in Victoria, 18,522 in New South Wales, 6,471 in Queensland, 4,255 in South Australia, 2,746 in Western Australia, 1,504 in Tasmania, 20 in the Northern Territory, and 11 in the Federal Capital Territory.

Marriages to marriageable men and women. The marriages in proportion to the population, to the unmarried men and widowers aged 21 to 55, and to the unmarried women and widows aged 18 to 50, in each census year, 1857 to 1921, are given in the following table :—

MARRIAGES PER 1,000 OF POPULATION AND OF SINGLE MEN AND WOMEN, 1857 TO 1921.

Year of Census.	Exclusive of Chinese and Aborigines.						
	Enumerated Population.	Number of Unmarried and Widowed.		Marriages.	Proportion of Marriages per 1,000 of the—		
		Men (aged 21 to 55).	Women (aged 18 to 50).		Population.	Unmarried and Widowed Men (aged 21 to 55).	Unmarried and Widowed Women (aged 18 to 50).
1857 ..	383,668	88,456	18,128	4,465	11·64	50·48	246·30
1861 ..	513,896	98,665	24,009	4,528	8·81	45·89	188·60
1871 ..	712,263	77,078	40,836	4,715	6·62	61·17	115·46
1881 ..	849,438	77,250	75,098	5,732	6·75	74·20	76·33
1891 ..	1,130,463	133,576	113,276	9,007	7·97	67·43	79·51
1901 ..	1,193,340	123,691	137,267	8,468	7·10	68·46	61·69
1911 ..	1,309,950	132,642	158,556	10,984	8·39	82·81	69·28
1921 ..	1,531,280	136,569	163,488	14,009	9·15	102·57	85·69

NOTE.—The figures in this table relate to the twelve months of which the date of census is the central point.

Factors in marriage rates. An examination of the figures for the eight census periods shows how the crude marriage rate is affected by the proportion of marriageable persons in the community. The maximum marriage rate (per 1,000 of population), which occurred in 1857, was co-incident with the highest proportion of marriageable

persons, while the minimum rate—in 1871—was associated with the lowest proportion of such persons. A further examination of the figures shows that the ordinary marriage rate is more directly affected by the proportion of eligible men than by that of eligible women in the population. Thus, the percentage of single women aged 18 to 50 rose from 4·7 in 1857 to 10·7 in 1921, while that of single men aged 21 to 55 fell from 23 to 8·9 in the same period. After allowing for the more uniform distribution of males and females of marriageable ages in the later years, the decrease in the percentage of marriageable men coincides fairly closely with the decline in the ordinary marriage rate. The female marriage rates show that, of females aged 18 to 50, the proportion entering wedlock each year fell from about 1 in 4 in 1857, and nearly 1 in 5 in 1861, to 1 in 16 in 1901, 1 in 15 in 1911, and nearly 1 in 12 in 1921.

The large number of discharged soldiers, who were settling down to civilian life, was responsible to a great extent for the high crude marriage rate recorded in 1921. This factor, however, only partially accounts for the very high proportion of marriageable men and women who entered wedlock in that year in comparison with the years 1901 and 1911, as, quite apart from the effect produced by the marriages of discharged soldiers, the improvement in the rate shown in 1911 became more prominent in the next decennial year.

Marriages to marriageable males in Australasia.

The following statement shows for the period 1900-02 and for the years 1911 and 1921 the number of marriages per 1,000 marriageable males in Victoria, the other States of Australia, and New Zealand. It has been assumed that marriageable males are unmarried men and widowers aged 21 to 55 :—

MARRIAGES PER 1,000 MARRIAGEABLE MALES IN AUSTRALASIA.

	1900-02.	1911.	1921.	Increase per cent. in 20 Years.
Victoria	56·0	67·3	81·7	45·9
New South Wales	58·3	68·0	73·9	26·8
Queensland	41·6	54·9	62·1	49·3
South Australia	56·8	81·3	88·7	56·2
Western Australia	41·9	45·8	62·5	49·2
Tasmania	65·7	69·3	81·9	24·7
Anstralia	55·7	64·7	77·2	38·6
New Zealand	55·1	58·8	78·9	43·2

In each State the proportion of marriageable men who married during the year 1921 was greater than that for the period 1900-02 or for 1911, the excess over the proportion for the earlier period, expressed as a percentage, being 56 in South Australia, 49 in Western Australia, 49 in Queensland, 46 in Victoria, nearly 27 in New South Wales, and nearly 25 in Tasmania. The comparatively low marriage rates for men in Western Australia and Queensland were due to the unequal distribution of marriageable men and women. At the 1921 census, to every 1,000 unmarried and widowed women aged 18 to 50 the numbers of bachelors and widowers between 21 and 55 years of age in each State and Australia were as follows :—Victoria, 837; New South Wales, 1,015; Queensland, 1,230; South Australia, 892; Western Australia, 1,330; Tasmania, 889; and Australia, 984.

Marriageable persons in Metropolis and Country.

An examination of the sex distribution of persons residing in Greater Melbourne and the rest of the State discloses the fact that, whether the comparison be made for all ages or for marriageable ages only, there is a great preponderance of women over men in the metropolis, while in the remainder of the State the men are in excess. In Greater Melbourne in 1921 there were 63,337 marriageable men aged 21 to 55, as compared with 95,024 marriageable women aged 18 to 50. In the rest of the State the eligible men and women at those ages numbered 73,232 and 68,464 respectively. It is thus seen that, while there was a surplus of 31,687 marriageable females in the metropolis as compared with males, there was a deficiency of 4,768 in the country.

The number of such males to 1,000 marriageable females in the metropolis was 667, while in the rest of the State the corresponding number was 1,070.

The following statement shows the proportions of marriageable men and women per 1,000 of the respective populations in Greater Melbourne and the rest of the State :—

MARRIAGEABLE MEN AND WOMEN PER 1,000 OF POPULATION IN GREATER MELBOURNE AND THE REST OF THE STATE, 1921.

District.	Males.	Females.
Greater Melbourne ..	82·6	124·0
Rest of the State..	95·8	89·5

The marriage rates of marriageable men and women at different periods of life have been computed for various age groups at each of four census periods, and are shown in the following table :—

MARRIAGES PER 1,000 MARRIAGEABLE MEN AND WOMEN IN AGE GROUPS.

Age Group.	Men.				Women.			
	1891.	1901.	1911.	1921.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1921.
15-21 ..	..	..	..	..	23·6	18·8	23·3	25·7
21-25* ..	44·3	44·6	55·2	64·9	106·0	87·2	105·6	129·8
25-30 ..	85·9	90·5	118·6	148·2	100·5	84·7	112·1	135·3
30-35 ..	75·2	82·1	101·1	126·0	66·4	57·9	66·0	79·6
35-40 ..	51·1	62·6	72·9	91·1	46·4	37·2	43·0	43·3
40-45 ..	33·4	39·9	44·7	50·5	27·7	22·3	20·7	22·2
45-50 ..	25·9	29·8	34·9	35·0	17·8	14·3	5·5	13·5
50 and upwards	9·1	9·1	12·1	12·8	4·2	2·4	2·6	3·1

* In the case of men, 20-25.

The probabilities of bachelors and spinsters marrying and of widowers and widows re-marrying have been obtained by comparing their marriages at specified ages with the respective numbers in the community at those ages at the census of 1921. The marriages per 1,000 of the above-mentioned persons are given in the following table for the year mentioned —

MARRIAGES PER 1,000 BACHELORS, WIDOWERS, SPINSTERS, AND WIDOWS, 1921.

Age Group.	Marriages to every 1,000—			
	Bachelors.	Widowers.	Spinsters.	Widows.
15-21 ..	..	..	25·7	..
21-25* ..	64·8	114·3	129·5	179·4
25-30 ..	147·4	165·2	134·1	132·2
30-35 ..	123·3	170·4	77·5	84·4
35-40 ..	85·4	129·4	37·5	64·8
40-45 ..	40·8	105·6	18·9	31·3
45-50 ..	25·7	71·5	10·6	18·9
50 and upwards	6·7	20·2	3·3	2·9

* In the case of men, 20-25.

The figures show that the probability of a widower marrying within a year is greater than that of a bachelor of similar age, and further, that the difference in favour of the former is much greater at ages

over 30 than at earlier ages. Comparing the marriage rates for widows with those for spinsters it is seen that at every age under 50, except the age group 25-30, the chance of a widow marrying is considerably greater than that of a spinster of the same age. As 78 per cent. of both widowers and widows are over 50 years—a period of life when the chance of re-marrying is small—and the great majority of the bachelors and spinsters are under that age—a period when the probability of marrying is much greater—it was to be expected that the rates for the two former would be much lower than those for the two latter sections. In proportion to their respective numbers, the marriages of widowers were only slightly more than half as numerous as those of bachelors, and the marriages of widows were less than one-fourth of those of spinsters.

The ages of bridegrooms and brides who were married in 1925 are shown in combination for various groups in the table which follows :—

AGES OF BRIDEGROOMS AND BRIDES IN COMBINATION
IN VICTORIA, 1925.

Ages of Bridegrooms.	Ages of Brides.														Total Bridegrooms.				
	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21 to 25.	25 to 30.	30 to 35.	35 to 40.	40 to 45.	45 to 50.	50 to 55.		55 to 60.	60 to 65.	65 to 70.	70 and over.
16	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
17	1	6	6	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
18	...	4	11	14	25	13	8	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
19	9	24	42	47	20	35	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	182
20	1	3	8	29	38	57	36	96	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	232
21 to 25	3	8	37	106	262	331	351	1,995	456	66	10	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,626
25 to 30	...	4	13	54	100	150	206	1,865	1,680	341	67	9	5	2	...	...	...	...	4,496
30 to 35	...	1	9	4	18	26	55	554	872	515	148	27	9	1	...	...	...	...	2,239
35 to 40	1	4	3	7	6	134	315	303	101	51	10	4	...	...	...	1,039
40 to 45	2	1	6	51	101	136	127	90	23	10	1	1	...	...	549
45 to 50	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	7	32	58	80	77	47	12	4	...	...	...	320
50 to 55	1	...	4	11	39	39	52	35	24	16	5	...	...	226
55 to 60	2	3	17	18	24	30	23	14	5	2	...	138
60 to 65	5	3	9	12	15	9	4	4	1	...	86
65 to 70	1	6	5	8	5	4	4	...	...	41
70 to 75	1	3	3	...	5	4	6	2	3	27
75 and over	1	...	1	...	2	2	1	4	11
Total Brides	4	22	89	242	496	636	693	4,754	3,493	1,482	709	351	192	104	54	28	13	8	13,370

Although age inequalities among contracting parties were relatively few, they were striking in degree. Thus four men between 45 and 55 married women under 21, while seventeen women between 40 and 55

were married to men who were under 30 years. The great majority of the parties were, however, of suitable ages. Of every 1,000 men married during the year, 702 were older and 194 younger than their brides, and 104 were of the same age as their partners.

Proportion of marriages at various ages.

The proportions of both sexes marrying in the various age groups are shown in the succeeding table for the periods 1881-90 and 1911-20, and the year 1925:—

PROPORTIONS OF MALES AND FEMALES MARRYING AT DIFFERENT AGES, 1881-90, 1911-20, AND 1925.

Age Group.	Proportion per 1,000 of total—					
	Bridegrooms.			Brides.		
	1881-90.	1911-20.	1925.	1881-90.	1911-20.	1925.
Under 15 ... ..	...	...	..	·15	·07	·30
15 to 16 ... ..	...	...	...	1·17	·75	1·65
16 to 17	·03	·16	·22	6·53	3·79	6·66
17 to 18	·29	·62	1·50	20·32	12·65	18·10
18 to 19	1·46	3·81	6·36	42·94	29·53	37·10
19 to 20	5·62	9·53	13·61	65·03	44·34	47·57
20 to 21	15·19	16·82	21·09	73·84	54·41	51·83
21 to 25	321·02	255·25	271·20	432·34	360·34	355·57
25 to 30	365·48	356·68	336·28	223·83	286·34	261·26
30 to 35	134·57	166·37	167·47	62·07	105·01	110·84
35 to 40	58·29	84·52	77·71	29·53	50·44	53·03
40 to 45	32·54	42·03	41·06	17·10	24·21	26·25
45 to 50	24·77	28·21	23·94	12·23	15·13	14·36
50 to 55	18·40	16·55	16·90	6·74	6·60	7·78
55 to 60	11·49	9·65	10·32	3·40	3·29	4·04
60 and over	10·85	9·86	12·34	2·78	3·10	3·66
Not stated ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	1,000·00	1,000·00	1,000·00	1,000·00	1,000·00	1,000·00

Of every 1,000 women who were married during 1925, 519 were under 25 years, and 261 were aged 25-30, as against 506 and 286 at corresponding ages in the years 1911 to 1920, and 642 and 224 in the years 1881 to 1890.

A high proportion of re-marriages has the effect of increasing the average marrying age of bridegrooms and brides. This is readily seen by comparing for 1925 the mean age at marriage of bachelors, 28·32, with that of divorced men, and of widowers—39·59 and 47·27 respectively. The average age of spinsters marrying was 25·67, as against 34·57 for divorced women and 41·23 for widows. The average age of men marrying women under 45 and

of their brides for certain periods since 1870 is shown in the following table :—

MEAN AGES AT MARRIAGE.

Period.	Average Age of—	
	Brides under 45.	Bridegrooms of Brides under 45.
	Years.	Years.
1870-74	24·13	29·93
1880-84	23·83	28·61
1890-94	24·66	28·66
1900-04	25·44	29·70
1905-09	25·88	29·80
1910-14	25·76	29·25
1915-19	25·97	29·40
1920-24	25·92	29·20
1925	25·75	29·00

The mean age of women under 45 who married in 1925 differed very slightly from the average of the previous five years. In Victoria in 1925 the mean marrying age of all brides was 26·59, and of all bridegrooms, 29·75.

Marriage records show that, of the persons married in Victoria during 1925, 87·7 per cent. were born in Australia, 10·0 per cent. in the United Kingdom, and 1·0 per cent. in other British Possessions, and that only small proportions, about 1·9 per cent. of the bridegrooms and ·7 per cent. of the brides, were natives of foreign countries. The numbers born in Australia and other countries are shown in the subjoined table for the years 1913 and 1925 :—

BIRTHPLACES OF PERSONS MARRIED, 1913 AND 1925.

Where Born.	Bridegrooms.		Brides.	
	1913.	1925.	1913.	1925.
Australia	9,628	11,389	10,274	12,069
New Zealand	155	110	82	80
England and Wales	972	1,154	644	808
Scotland	213	316	141	217
Ireland	126	109	83	70
Other British Possessions	40	44	24	38
Germany	46	21	19	5
Russia	17	14	3	8
Italy	15	51	12	27
United States	30	49	14	6
Other Foreign Countries	82	113	28	42
Total	11,324	13,370	11,324	13,370

Marriages in quarters.

Victorian experience shows that, prior to 1919, the Autumn quarter was the most frequently selected season for marrying. During the years 1919 to 1925, however, the greatest proportion of marriages took place in the Spring, except in the years 1920 and 1925. The numbers celebrated in the different seasons in 1925 were—3,594 in the Autumn, 3,511 in the Spring, 3,201 in the Winter, and 3,064 in the Summer.

Conjugal condition of persons marrying.

The following statement shows the percentages of persons in each conjugal condition who have married in different periods since 1870 :—

CONJUGAL CONDITION OF PERSONS MARRYING, 1871-1925.

Conjugal Condition.	Percentage of total Marriages.					
	1871-80.	1881-90.	1891-1900.	1901-10.	1911-20.	1925.
Bachelors and Spinsters..	80·59	85·84	87·22	88·46	90·31	90·43
Bachelors and Widows ..	7·10	4·72	4·23	3·66	3·15	3·10
Widowers and Spinsters..	7·75	6·17	6·07	5·70	4·81	4·73
Widowers and Widows ..	4·56	3·27	2·48	2·18	1·73	1·74

NOTE.—In this table divorced men and women are included with bachelors and spinsters respectively.

Of every 1,000 persons of each sex married in Victoria during 1925, 65 were widowers and 48 were widows, as against 64 and 51 respectively in 1924, 65 and 47 in 1923, 71 and 55 in 1922, and 64 and 54 in 1921.

The number of divorced persons re-married during 1925 was 475, which was 78 more than the number for the preceding year. Of the 132,928 persons married during the last five years, divorced persons numbered 1,987, or 1 in every 67 persons, as compared with 1 in every 98 in the preceding five-year period. The following are the numbers of divorced persons who have re-married since 1920 :—

DIVORCED PERSONS RE-MARRYING, 1921 TO 1925.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1921	188	165	353
1922	182	179	361
1923	209	192	401
1924	196	201	397
1925	238	237	475

The divorced persons in the State at the census of 1921 numbered 2,313, of whom 1,092 were men and 1,221 women. A comparison of the re-marriages of divorced males and females during 1921 with these

numbers shows that, according to the experience of that year, 17·2 per cent. of the males and 13·5 per cent. of the females re-marry each year. As these proportions greatly exceed the rates for other sections of the community, it is evident that many divorces are obtained with a view to early re-marriage.

The proportions of bridegrooms and brides under 21 years of age are given in the subjoined table for the years 1921 to 1925 :—

Year.	Percentage under 21 years of age.	
	Bridegrooms.	Brides.
1921	2·83	14·09
1922	3·29	13·63
1923	3·51	15·14
1924	3·58	16·03
1925	4·28	16·32

The numbers and proportions of marriages solemnized according to the rites of the principal religious denominations and of those performed by registrars of marriages, for the years 1924 and 1925, are shown in the following table:—

MARRIAGES IN VARIOUS DENOMINATIONS.

Denomination.	1924.		1925.	
	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.
Church of England	3,863	29·06	3,790	28·35
Roman Catholic Church	2,461	18·51	2,461	18·41
Presbyterian Church	2,474	18·61	2,540	19·00
Methodist Church	1,830	13·76	1,885	14·10
Congregational Church	885	6·66	899	6·72
Baptist Church	597	4·49	631	4·72
Lutheran Church	63	·47	55	·41
Church of Christ	279	2·10	319	2·39
Salvation Army	43	·32	57	·42
Hebrew	59	·44	39	·29
Other Sects	84	·63	166	1·24
Registrars of Marriages	658	4·95	528	3·95
Total	13,296	100·00	13,370	100·00

Marriages by Anglican clergymen represented 28·35 per cent. of the total in 1925, as compared with 29·06 per cent. in 1924, 28·61 per cent. in 1923, 29·02 per cent. in 1922, 29·10 per cent. in 1921,

25·44 per cent. in 1911 and 21·18 per cent. in the period 1904-08. Excepting the ratios for the Roman Catholic, Presbyterian and Methodist churches, there were great disparities between the proportion of marriages celebrated according to the rites of each of the principal denominations and the proportionate number of adherents possessed by it in the community.

Civil marriages. In 1925, 3·95 per cent., in 1924, 4·95 per cent., in 1923, 3·87 per cent., in 1922, 3·35 per cent., in 1921, 2·85 per cent., and, in 1914 and 1913, 2·6 per cent. of the total marriages in Victoria were celebrated by lay registrars, as against 1 per cent. in 1909, and about 7 per cent. in the decade ended 1890. The decrease which occurred between the earlier period and 1909 was due to the competition of matrimonial agencies which sprang up about 1894, and the increase since 1909 has probably been due to the *Marriage Act* 1909 (now incorporated in the *Marriage Act* 1915—No. 2691) permitting the removal from the list of registered clergymen of the names of those who make a business of celebrating marriages. The proportion of civil marriages in Victoria averages only about one-seventh of the proportion in England and Wales, and approximately one-fourth of the proportion in New Zealand.

Registered clergymen. The ministers qualified by registration to celebrate marriages in Victoria numbered 1,658 on 31st December, 1925. The numbers of ministers in each denomination (excepting Jews and Quakers) and lay registrars of marriages were as follows:—

REGISTERED MINISTERS OF EACH DENOMINATION.

Denomination.	Number of Registered Ministers.	Denomination.	Number of Registered Ministers.
Church of England ..	424	Ballarat Town Mission ..	1
Roman Catholic ..	342	New Church	2
Presbyterian	310	Greek Orthodox Church ..	2
Methodist	281	Unitarian	1
Congregational	62	International Bible Students' Association ..	1
Baptist	93	Latter Day Saints (Mormons)	1
Church of Christ	65	Open Brethren	3
Lutheran	24		
Salvation Army	30	Total Clergymen ..	1,658
Latter Day Saints (Re-organized)	3	Lay Registrars of Marriages	22
Seventh Day Adventist	8		
Catholic Apostolic	2	Grand Total	1,680
Free Christian	2		
Australian Church	1		

Marriages of Jews and Quakers are exempted from the law relating to marriages in Victoria, and are deemed legal and valid if celebrated according to their respective usages.

BIRTHS.

**Births—
Numbers and
Rates.** The number of births registered in Victoria during the year 1925 was 35,922, of which 18,593 were of males and 17,329 of females. This was 217 less than the number recorded for the preceding year. Still births, which are excluded from both births and deaths, numbered 1,109, and corresponded to a ratio of 3·1 per 100 infants born alive in 1925. There were 1,073 male to every 1,000 female births in 1925, as compared with 1,049 in 1924, 1,073 in 1923, 1,068 in 1922, and 1,057 in 1921.

In young communities, birth rates calculated per 1,000 of the population are to some extent unreliable and misleading. In the earlier periods, when, owing to immigration, the population consists for the most part of men and women at the reproductive period of life, the rates are obviously high. As time proceeds, however, notwithstanding that immigration of reproductive adults may be maintained, the proportion of such adults to the total population must diminish, and with it, of necessity, the birth rate.

The following table shows the number of births and the birth rates in Victoria for different periods since 1879 :—

BIRTHS IN VICTORIA—NUMBERS AND RATES,
1880 TO 1925.

Period.	Average Annual Number of Births.	Rate per 1,000 of Mean Population.	Period.	Average Annual Number of Births.	Rate per 1,000 of Mean Population.
1880-84..	27,286	30·64	1905-09..	30,994	24·76
1885-89..	32,941	32·27	1910-14..	34,500	25·42
1890-94..	36,945	31·99	1915-19..	33,101	23·13
1895-99..	31,675	26·76	1920-24..	36,022	22·89
1900-04..	30,316	25·08	1925 ..	35,922	21·49

The following statement shows the average annual number of births and the birth rates per 1,000 of the population of each State, the Commonwealth of Australia, and New Zealand, for the years 1910 to 1925 :—

BIRTHS PER 1,000 OF MEAN POPULATION IN AUSTRALASIA,
1910 TO 1925.

Period.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1910-14	25·42	28·79	28·81	27·98	28·63	29·90	27·73	26·15
1915-19	23·13	26·64	27·86	25·51	25·21	27·78	25·89	24·37
1920-24	22·89	25·27	25·59	23·37	23·52	26·54	24·40	22·99
1925 ..	21·49	24·01	23·82	21·06	22·23	24·24	22·89	21·17

The birth rate in England and Wales in 1925 was 18·3.

The births in Australia were fewer by 2,191 in 1925 than in 1914, although in the intervening period the population had increased by 19·9 per cent. The number in 1925 was 135,792, as compared with 134,926 in 1924, 135,221 in 1923, 137,496 in 1922, 136,200 in 1921, 136,407 in 1920, 122,290 in 1919, 125,739 in 1918, 129,965 in 1917, 131,426 in 1916, 134,871 in 1915, and 137,983 in 1914. Of the total recorded for 1925, 35,922 occurred in Victoria, 54,615 in New South Wales, 20,283 in Queensland, 11,457 in South Australia, 8,185 in Western Australia, 5,218 in Tasmania, 65 in the Northern Territory, and 47 in the Federal Capital Territory.

The birth rate of a community is almost wholly dependent upon the proportion of wives at the reproductive period of life and their internal age distribution. As these elements, especially the former, differ widely in certain Australian States, the crude rates of the different States are scarcely comparable. The figures for the census of 1921 showed that in every 1,000 of the respective populations of each State and the Commonwealth the married women aged 15 to 45 numbered 116·1 in Victoria, 127·5 in New South Wales, 119·3 in Queensland, 125·3 in South Australia, 118·0 in Western Australia, 117·3 in Tasmania, and 121·9 in Australia. In the case of Victoria, the deficiency in the proportion of married women at the ages mentioned was accentuated by a comparatively small proportion of them being at the younger and more fertile ages. During the years 1920-22 the crude legitimate birth rate per 1,000 of the population was lower in Victoria than in any other State. When, however, the rates for the other States were adjusted to Victorian conditions by eliminating the differences referred to, they were altered as follows :—New South Wales was reduced by 2·7

per 1,000 of the population, Queensland by 1·4, South Australia by 1·6, Tasmania by 1·1, and Australia by 1·3, while the rate for Western Australia was increased by ·4. The result was that, according to the adjusted figures, the legitimate rate for Victoria was more satisfactory than the rates for two of the other States, viz., New South Wales and South Australia.

The next table shows the legitimate births per 1,000 married women under 45 (not allowing for their differing age distribution) in each State, New Zealand, and England and Wales in the four census years 1891, 1901, 1911, and 1921 :—

LEGITIMATE BIRTHS PER 1,000 MARRIED WOMEN UNDER 45 YEARS OF AGE.

Country.	Legitimate Births per 1,000 Married Women aged 15 to 45.				Decrease per cent. in 20 years.
	1891.	1901.	1911.	1921.	
Victoria	297·0	229·0	223·0	190·5	16·8
New South Wales ..	298·9	235·6	235·4	194·2	17·6
Queensland	315·0	251·0	244·8	213·6	14·9
South Australia ..	311·1	235·0	235·9	186·9	20·5
Western Australia ..	352·8	244·0	221·8	190·9	21·8
Tasmania	315·9	254·6	244·8	216·9	14·8
New Zealand	279·1	246·1	211·7	181·0	26·9
England and Wales ..	268·8	234·2	196·2	176·3	24·7

The birth records of children born in wedlock show that, in Victoria, in 1925, 82 out of every 100 children were born to Australian parents, and 95 out of every 100 to one or both parents born in Australia. Of the total fathers, the percentages born in the States or countries mentioned hereafter were as follows :—79·2 in Victoria ; 87·4 in Australia ; ·7 in New Zealand ; 7·7 in England and Wales ; 1·6 in Scotland ; ·9 in Ireland ; ·3 in other British Possessions ; and 1·4 in foreign countries. The corresponding percentages for mothers were :—Victoria, 81·0 ; Australia, 89·3 ; New Zealand, ·5 ; England and Wales, 7·1 ; Scotland, 1·6 ; Ireland, ·6 ; other British Possessions, ·3 ; and foreign countries, ·6.

An accurate view of the alteration in the fertility of wives is obtained by comparing the ratio of legitimate births to wives at reproductive ages, and allowing for the difference in their age distribution at each period. The following

Standardized birth rates per 1,000 wives in Victoria.

table shows for Victoria the distribution of married women in six five-year groups in the last six census years:—

PROPORTION OF MARRIED WOMEN IN AGE GROUPS TO TOTAL BETWEEN 15 AND 45 IN THE LAST SIX CENSUS YEARS.

Census Year.	Proportion in each Age Group to Every 1,000 Married Women between 15 and 45.					
	15-20.	20-25.	25-30.	30-35.	35-40.	40-45.
1871	20·3	130·4	211·4	230·7	233·2	174·0
1881	17·3	159·5	204·6	206·0	209·7	202·9
1891	13·5	156·9	275·2	244·1	172·1	138·2
1901	8·1	99·0	198·3	249·6	249·2	195·8
1911	12·4	113·8	206·9	226·6	221·2	219·1
1921	9·2	105·3	222·5	247·9	221·1	194·0

To estimate the effect which the alteration in age distribution has on the birth rate, the proportion in each of the above groups was multiplied by the average natality rate for the group according to a standard table—the standard used for this purpose being the Swedish table of 1891. The sum of the products for each census year represented the number of births which would have occurred in that year per 1,000 married women between 15 and 45 had the fertility of these women remained unaltered, i.e., the potential births. The year 1871 was used as a basis with which to compare the five subsequent census years, and adjustments were applied to the actual births (per 1,000) occurring in those years, so as to make them conform to the age constitution in the first-mentioned year. The correction factors were obtained by taking the number of births per 1,000 married women aged 15-45 which would have occurred in 1871 had the standard natality rates prevailed, and dividing this number by the corresponding numbers of potential births for 1881, 1891, 1901, 1911, and 1921. The above method was applied to find what proportion of the alteration in the ratio of births to married women under 45 was due to causes other than varying age constitution. The last mentioned factor has been taken into account in the computation of the birth rates appearing in column (5) of the subjoined table:—

STANDARDIZED LEGITIMATE BIRTH RATES.

(1) Census Year.	(2) Married Women between 15 and 45 years of age.	(3) Legitimate Births.	(4) Legitimate Births per 1,000 Married Women 15-45.	(5) Standardized Legitimate Births per 1,000 Married Women 15-45.	(6) Factor for Correction of Rate in Column 4.
1871 ..	88,561	26,805	302·67	..	..
1881 ..	84,831	25,675	302·66	303·14	1·0016
1891 ..	120,700	35,853	297·04	281·98	0·9493
1901 ..	127,858	29,279	229·00	238·75	1·0426
1911 ..	139,398	31,080	222·96	231·50	1·0383
1921 ..	177,803	33,379	190·50	195·47	1·0261

An inspection of the rates in column (5) shows that there was a fall of 7 per cent. in 1891 as compared with 1881, a further serious decline of over 15 per cent. in 1901 as compared with 1891, a decrease of 3 per cent. in 1911 as compared with 1901, and a further decline of nearly 16 per cent. in 1921 as compared with 1911, which were not due to variations in the age distribution of the married women between 15 and 45 in the community. A further examination of the standardized legitimate birth rates appearing in this column shows that the births in 1921 to every 1,000 married women of reproductive ages were 108 fewer than in 1881, 87 fewer than in 1891, 43 fewer than in 1901, and 36 fewer than in 1911.

Legitimate birth rates (per 1,000 of the total population) for widely separated periods do not give a correct indication of the relative fertilities of those periods, unless the number of married women at reproductive ages in proportion to the population and the age constitution of such women have remained unchanged. In order to allow for the disturbance which may have been introduced through variations in these elements it is necessary that adjustments be made in the crude rates. The factor to correct the result of changes in the proportion of married women between 15 and 45 is obtained by comparing the number of such women in the community at the period of observation with the number in a standard population. The method of obtaining the correcting factor for the disturbance due to the second element was explained in a previous paragraph.

The following table shows the crude legitimate birth rates in six census years, the adjustments to be applied thereto for the reasons mentioned above, the amended birth rates, and the difference between these and the crude rates. The standard used in the computation of the correction factors was the Victorian population of 1871. Standardized birth rates per 1,000 of the population in the years 1881, 1891, 1901, 1911, and 1921 are as follows :—

STANDARDIZED LEGITIMATE BIRTH RATES PER 1,000 OF POPULATION.

Year.	Enu-merated Population.	Legiti-mate Births.	Legitimate Births per 1,000 of Population (crude Rates).	Wives aged 15-45 per 1,000 of Population.	Correction Factor for variations in—		Stan-dardized Birth Rate.	Difference between crude and stan-dardized Rates.
					Proportion of Wives aged 15-45.	Age Distribu-tion of Wives aged 15-45.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1871	731,528	26,805	36.64	121.1	..	..	..	..
1881	862,346	25,675	29.77	98.4	1.2307	1.0016	36.69	6.92
1891	1,140,405	35,853	31.44	105.8	1.1446	0.9493	34.39	2.95
1901	1,201,341	29,279	24.37	106.4	1.1382	1.0426	28.77	4.40
1911	1,315,551	31,080	23.63	106.0	1.1425	1.0383	27.89	4.26
1921	1,531,280	33,879	22.12	116.1	1.0431	1.0261	23.68	1.56

An inspection of the crude rates in the fourth column of the above table shows that legitimate births per 1,000 of population apparently declined by 6·87 in 1881, 5·20 in 1891, 12·27 in 1901, 13·01 in 1911, and 14·52 in 1921, as compared with the first-mentioned census date. After making allowance for the disturbing elements known to exist, the apparent decline of 6·87 in 1881 is altered to an increase of ·05 per 1,000, while the decline of 1891 is reduced from 5·20 to 2·25, that of 1901 from 12·27 to 7·87, that of 1911 from 13·01 to 8·75, and that of 1921 from 14·52 to 12·96 per 1,000 as compared with 1871. Between 1901 and 1921 there was a reduction of nearly 18 per cent. in the rate due to other than normal causes.

Chinese and half-caste Chinese births. During the last ten years the births to Chinese parents numbered 36, or 1 in every 9,147 legitimate births. There were 251 Chinese half-caste births (fathers only Chinese), or 1 in every 1,312 legitimate births registered in the same period.

Ages of parents of legitimate children. The average ages of fathers and mothers of legitimate children whose births were recorded in 1925 were 33·39 and 30·27 years respectively, which were 4·39 and 4·52 years above the average ages of bridegrooms marrying brides under 45 years of age, and of such brides for the same year. The proportions of both parents in various age groups are shown in the following table for the year mentioned :—

PERCENTAGE OF PARENTS IN AGE GROUPS, 1925.

Father.		Mother.	
Age Group.	Proportion per 100 Births.	Age Group.	Proportion per 100 Births.
Under 20	49	Under 20	3·64
20 to 25	10·70	20 to 25	20·93
25 to 30	25·32	25 to 30	29·75
30 to 35	26·71	30 to 35	24·80
35 to 40	19·18	35 to 40	15·34
40 to 45	10·15	40 to 45	5·12
45 to 50	4·87	45 and over	·42
50 and over	2·58		
Total	100·00	Total	100·00

It will be seen that, on the experience of 1925, 50·7 per cent. of the mothers were between ages 20 and 30, and 40·1 per cent. between ages 30 and 40. The proportions of fathers at these ages were 36·0 and 45·9 per cent. respectively. Of every 1,000 legitimate births, about 36 were due to mothers under 20 years, and about 4 to mothers

aged 45 years and upwards. The *Year-Book* for 1916-17 contains on page 326 information relating to the ages of mothers of first-born children.

In editions of this work prior to 1923 birth rates for the various municipalities and divisions of the State were based on the births occurring therein in relation to their respective populations.

This method made no allowance for prospective mothers travelling from rural districts to towns where better lying-in facilities and attention were available, or to the metropolis, or for metropolitan residents, *enceinte*, travelling from one municipality to another. By reason of this the rates for the metropolis and urban districts were unduly inflated at the expense of the rural districts, and the recorded variations in the rates of the various municipalities were incorrect. Also, no provision was made for births which had occurred in the Women's and other public hospitals being credited to the districts in which the mothers resided. As about one-seventh of the metropolitan births occur in these institutions the rates for certain municipalities—particularly the poorer and more congested ones—were necessarily considerably understated.

In 1923, therefore, it was decided to allot all births registered in Victoria to the place of usual residence of the mother. Upon this being done for the year mentioned it was found that the total for the metropolis, i.e., the births registered therein, had decreased by approximately 1,200. This practice has been adhered to, and in 1924 and 1925 the decrease was approximately 1,250 and 1,350 respectively. These numbers give a fair indication of the extent by which the rates in districts outside the metropolitan area suffered under the discarded system of compilation.

The following table, computed on the above-mentioned basis, shows the number of births per 1,000 of the population in the metropolitan, other urban, and rural districts for the years 1923, 1924, and 1925 :—

BIRTH RATES IN METROPOLITAN, OTHER URBAN, AND RURAL DISTRICTS, 1923, 1924, AND 1925.

Division.	Births per 1,000 of Mean Population.		
	1923.	1924.	1925.
Metropolitan District ..	21·10	20·90	19·93
Country Towns (other urban) ..	22·08	21·25	20·41
Rest of State	24·03	23·81	24·13
Total State	22·31	22·01	21·49

Birth rates in metropolitan municipalities. The appended statement shows, for the years 1923, 1924, and 1925 the number of births, and the births per 1,000 of the population in the metropolitan municipalities; also, the mean population in each municipality for the year 1925:—

BIRTH RATES IN METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITIES, 1923, 1924, AND 1925.

Municipality.	Mean Population for 1925.	Number of Births.			Births per 1,000 of Mean Population.		
		1923.	1924.	1925.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Melbourne City	101,780	2,011	1,843	1,766	19 '73	18 '08	17 '35
Brighton City	25,900	482	479	523	20 '51	19 '21	20 '19
Brunswick City	49,230	1,130	1,206	1,113	24 '26	25 '22	22 '61
Camberwell City	34,690	632	746	833	22 '97	23 '96	24 '01
Caulfield City	57,620	1,050	1,073	1,057	21 '35	19 '54	18 '34
Coburg City	29,770	553	680	735	24 '50	25 '56	24 '69
Collingwood City	33,950	687	726	706	20 '05	21 '29	20 '80
Essendon City	39,750	833	876	833	22 '23	22 '62	20 '96
Fitzroy City	34,330	805	719	661	23 '12	20 '79	19 '25
Footscray City	42,750	1,022	960	992	26 '73	23 '41	23 '20
Hawthorn City	31,730	562	559	534	18 '55	17 '92	16 '83
Kew City	21,050	378	387	363	20 '26	19 '44	17 '24
Malvern City	42,500	625	691	664	15 '89	16 '08	15 '62
Northcote City	36,930	823	930	908	24 '98	26 '72	24 '59
Oakleigh Town	*	235	226	*	34 '36	31 '22	*
Port Melbourne City	13,150	305	291	276	23 '21	22 '13	20 '99
Prahran City	51,540	954	878	888	18 '73	17 '17	17 '23
Preston Town	17,250	380	501	567	32 '59	35 '11	32 '87
Richmond City	43,650	898	946	890	20 '64	21 '68	20 '39
Sandringham City	17,250	221	268	275	15 '79	17 '29	15 '94
South Melbourne City	47,130	951	951	777	20 '24	20 '20	16 '49
St. Kilda City	41,150	648	677	641	16 '12	16 '59	15 '58
Williamstown City	22,730	499	490	525	24 '62	22 '78	23 '10
Remainder of Metropolis	51,720	927	1,067	1,384	23 '74	25 '80	26 '76
Hospitals and Shipping	11,360	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whole Metropolis	898,910	17,611	18,170	17,911	21 '10	20 '90	19 '93

* Included in "Remainder of Metropolis."

Birth rates in country towns. Similar information relating to the twelve principal country towns is given in the table which follows:—

BIRTH RATES IN THE TWELVE PRINCIPAL COUNTRY TOWNS, 1923, 1924, AND 1925.

Town.	Population at end of 1925.	Number of Births.			Births per 1,000 of Population.		
		1923.	1924.	1925.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Ballarat and Suburbs	40,990	785	790	708	19 '64	19 '46	17 '27
Bendigo and Suburbs	33,700	653	634	614	19 '50	18 '85	18 '22
Geelong and Suburbs	39,100	829	790	842	22 '35	20 '93	21 '53
Carrum	6,500	133	125	127	22 '17	20 '16	19 '54
Castlemaine and Suburbs	7,170	147	138	128	20 '50	19 '38	17 '85
Hamilton	5,200	139	144	145	27 '20	28 '13	27 '88
Maryborough	4,840	*	127	112	*	26 '29	23 '14
Mildura	5,850	200	211	186	36 '04	37 '02	31 '79
Mordialloc	7,220	120	152	160	17 '39	21 '17	22 '16
Stawell	4,660	130	107	112	28 '26	23 '01	24 '08
Warmambool	8,020	196	180	180	24 '65	22 '50	22 '44
Wonthaggi	6,500	188	146	151	33 '57	24 '33	23 '23

* Not available.

Twin and triplet births. The numbers of cases of twin and triplet births in Victoria in the last five years were as follows :—

CASES OF TWINS AND TRIPLETS.

Year.	Cases of Twins.	Cases of Triplets.
1921	408	3
1922	394	8
1923	412	4
1924	378	3
1925	393	3

On the average of the five years 1 mother in every 90 gave birth to twins, and 1 in every 8,466 was delivered of triplets. The proportions for the decennium ended 1917 were 1 in every 94 and 1 in every 9,538 respectively.

Children legitimized. In December, 1912, an Act was passed which provides that children born out of wedlock may be legitimized at any time after the marriage of the parents, on the application of the father, provided there was no lawful impediment to the marriage of the parents at the time of the birth. An amending Act passed in 1916 allowed legitimation to be effected on the application of the mother if the father were absent on war service or had died not more than two years previously. Up to the end of 1925 advantage was taken of these Acts, and of an Act (now repealed) passed in 1903, to legitimate 2,479 children, of whom 14 were registered in 1903, 19 in 1904, 34 in 1905, 43 in 1906, 58 in 1907, 60 in 1908, 51 in 1909, 71 in 1910, 126 in 1911, 106 in 1912, 157 in 1913, 149 in 1914, 141 in 1915, 140 in 1916, 136 in 1917, 162 in 1918, 159 in 1919, 165 in 1920, 168 in 1921, 133 in 1922, 133 in 1923, 121 in 1924 and 133 in 1925.

Legitimation Acts are in force in all the States and New Zealand, but there are marked differences in the numbers of legitimations resulting therefrom. In proportion to every 100 children born out of wedlock in 1925, the numbers of legitimations in the various States and New Zealand during that year were as follows :—Victoria, 8·7; New South Wales, 15·0; Queensland, 16·9; South Australia, 11·5; Western Australia, 25·1; Tasmania, 11·6; and New Zealand, 20·2.

Illegitimate births in Victoria. The number of illegitimate births in Victoria during the year 1925 was 1,543, which represents a proportion of 4·30 to every 100 births registered, as against 4·59 in 1924, 4·37 in 1923, 4·41 in 1922, 4·82 in 1921, 5·24 in 1920, 5·77 in 1919,

5·84 in 1918, 5·51 in 1917, 5·15 in 1916, 5·75 in 1915, and 5·77 in the period 1910-14.

The percentage of illegitimate to total births in Victoria varied from 5·36 in 1891 to 5·94 in 1911, and 4·82 in 1921. The proportion of infants born out of wedlock to the unmarried and widowed women between 15 and 45 years of age in Victoria is shown in the subjoined table for the census years 1891, 1901, 1911, and 1921, when the conjugal condition of the population was known:—

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS PER 1,000 SINGLE WOMEN.

Year.	Single Women aged 15 to 45.	Illegitimate Births.	Illegitimate Births per 1,000 Single Women.
1891	142,443	2,064	14·5
1901	167,760	1,729	10·3
1911	187,488	1,964	10·5
1921	189,737	1,714	9·0

The number of infants born out of wedlock per 1,000 unmarried and widowed women in Victoria was 9·0 in 1921. This was considerably lower than the latest available figures for most European countries. The proportions ranged from 23 in Germany, 26 in Sweden, 24 in Denmark, 14 in Italy, and 16 in France, to 12 in Belgium, 13 in Scotland, 7 in England and Wales, 5 in Holland, and 4 in Ireland.

A larger proportion of illegitimacy prevails in Melbourne and suburbs than in the other urban and the rural districts of Victoria, the proportion in the country districts being the smallest of all. During the year 1925, in the metropolitan area 1 birth in every 19, in other urban districts 1 in 23, and in the rural districts only 1 in 33 were registered as illegitimate. The corresponding rates for 1924 were 1 in 18, 1 in 21, and 1 in 32 respectively. One striking result attending the introduction of the system of allotting all births to the mother's place of usual residence has been the altered ratios of illegitimacy in town and country—both the urban areas outside the metropolis and the country districts having higher ratios than on the basis previously adopted. For 1922, the year prior to the introduction of the above system, the proportions of illegitimate to total births, based on the births which actually occurred in the various municipalities, were 1 in 15, 1 in 38, and 1 in 58 respectively.

DEATHS.

The following table shows the number of deaths—male and female—also the quarters in which they were registered and the proportion per 1,000 of the population since 1879 :—

DEATHS IN EACH QUARTER, 1880 TO 1925.

Period.	Annual Deaths.	Sex.		Quarter of Registration.				Death Rate per 1,000 of Mean Population.
		Males.	Females.	March.	June.	September.	December.	
1880-84..	12,820	7,324	5,496	3,512	3,167	3,013	3,128	14·40
1885-89..	16,200	9,307	6,893	4,591	3,912	3,689	4,008	15·87
1890-94..	16,886	9,716	7,170	4,643	4,108	3,977	4,158	14·62
1895-99..	16,350	9,227	7,123	4,324	3,957	3,808	4,261	13·81
1900-04..	15,457	8,686	6,771	3,921	3,750	3,992	3,794	12·84
1905-09..	14,932	8,296	6,636	3,805	3,539	3,917	3,671	11·93
1910-14..	15,705	8,616	7,089	3,873	3,875	4,137	3,820	11·57
1915-19..	16,283	8,860	7,423	3,781	4,172	4,467	3,863	11·38
1920-24..	16,375	8,781	7,594	3,846	4,166	4,503	3,860	10·40
1925 ..	15,836	8,582	7,254	3,744	4,039	4,334	3,719	9·47

The number of deaths in 1925 was 15,836, which was 539 below the average of the preceding five years.

The deaths in Australia in 1925 numbered 54,567, as against 54,980 in 1924, 56,236 in 1923, 51,312 in 1922, 54,076 in 1921, 56,289 in 1920, 65,930 in 1919, 50,249 in 1918, 48,029 in 1917, 54,197 in 1916, 52,782 in 1915, and 51,720 in 1914.

Of the total deaths in the year under review 15,836 occurred in Victoria, 20,822 in New South Wales, 7,545 in Queensland, 4,979 in South Australia, 3,315 in Western Australia, 1,996 in Tasmania, 62 in the Northern Territory, and 12 in the Federal Capital Territory. The death rates per 1,000 of the population, for each of the Australian States, the Commonwealth of Australia, and New Zealand, are shown in the following statement for quinquennial periods 1910-24, and for 1925 :—

DEATHS PER 1,000 OF MEAN POPULATION IN AUSTRALASIA, 1910 TO 1925.

Period.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1910-14	11·57	10·41	10·30	10·30	10·02	10·55	10·70	9·35
1915-19	11·38	10·66	10·80	10·67	9·74	9·95	10·90	10·52
1920-24	10·40	9·50	9·56	9·66	9·48	9·82	9·79	8·98
1925 ..	9·47	9·16	8·86	9·15	9·00	9·35	9·20	8·29

The death rate in England and Wales in 1925 was 12·2.

The crude rate in Victoria is higher than in any other State, but this result is chiefly due to its containing a larger proportion of elderly persons, among whom the mortality rate is very high.

Comparisons of the crude death rates of a country for different periods, or of different countries for the same period, are frequently misleading, as they do not allow for variations in the age distributions of the population. In European countries, the proportion of elderly people, among whom the death rate is heavy, is higher than in the Commonwealth or any of the Australian States, and it is greater in South Australia, and lower in Western Australia, than in any of the other States. The proportions of each sex living in various age groups at the census of 1921 in each division of the Commonwealth, and those in a standard population, which has been adopted by statisticians as a standard for this purpose, are shown in the following table :—

PROPORTIONS LIVING IN FIVE AGE GROUPS IN A STANDARD POPULATION AND AUSTRALIA.

Age Group.	Proportion per 10,000 of Population living in—							
	Standard Population.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
			MALES.					
Under 5 years	601	517	578	611	557	535	602	562
5 to 25 ..	1,942	1,826	1,879	1,962	1,866	1,948	2,017	1,884
25 to 45 ..	1,318	1,431	1,559	1,585	1,509	1,527	1,336	1,512
45 to 65 ..	791	929	859	889	829	1,134	849	897
65 and over	258	226	227	231	253	184	236	228
Total ..	4,910	4,929	5,102	5,278	5,014	5,328	5,040	5,083
			FEMALES.					
Under 5 years	597	497	561	582	529	516	593	541
5 to 25 ..	1,959	1,833	1,869	1,921	1,857	1,912	1,990	1,872
25 to 45 ..	1,368	1,539	1,517	1,388	1,536	1,347	1,381	1,491
45 to 65 ..	856	948	747	661	806	756	760	798
65 and over	310	254	204	170	258	141	236	215
Total ..	5,090	5,071	4,898	4,722	4,986	4,672	4,960	4,917

The figures show that the characteristic features of Australian populations, as compared with those of European countries, are a large preponderance of persons in the age group 25-45, and a relatively small number aged 65 and over. Among the Australian States, South

Australia and Western Australia have the highest and lowest proportions respectively of persons aged 65 years and upwards, Queensland and Western Australia a large excess of males over females, particularly at ages over 25, and Victoria an excess of females in each group, except those under 5 years—points which should be kept in view when comparing their crude death rates.

The differences shown in the preceding table in the age and sex constitutions of the populations of the six States have been taken into account in computing their respective indexes of mortality. The results for each are based upon a standard population, distributed according to sex, into eleven age groups. In the preceding table, for the purpose of obtaining a readier comparison, the eleven groups have been reduced to five. Mortality indexes for each State, and detailed particulars for Victoria, for the undermentioned years, as compiled by the Commonwealth Statistician, are as follows:—

INDEX OF MORTALITY FOR AUSTRALIA, 1921-25.

Year.	Index of Mortality for—						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
1921	10·79	10·36	10·23	10·38	11·89	10·84	10·58
1922	9·85	9·79	10·15	9·39	10·91	9·81	9·89
1923	10·97	10·61	10·97	9·90	9·79	10·49	10·64
1924	10·31	10·31	9·90	9·50	10·82	10·43	10·20
1925	9·74	10·13	9·94	9·43	10·67	9·94	9·93

VICTORIA, 1921-25.

Year.	Crude Rates.			Standardized Rates.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
1921	11·43	9·63	10·52	11·57	10·04	10·79
1922	10·54	8·77	9·65	10·61	9·09	9·85
1923	11·46	9·98	10·71	11·56	10·38	10·97
1924	10·87	9·24	10·05	11·00	9·64	10·31
1925	10·32	8·64	9·47	10·45	9·04	9·74

In each of the last five years the crude death rate was higher in Victoria than in any other Australian State, but the figures in the above table show that, in 1921 and 1922, two States had a higher

index of mortality than Victoria, in 1923, Queensland was the same, in 1924, Western Australia and Tasmania were higher, and New South Wales was the same, while, in 1925, with the exception of South Australia, Victoria's index of mortality was lower than the remainder.

A reliable estimate of the improvement in the health of the community is obtained by comparing the death rates for groups of ages at different periods. Such rates for Victoria are given in the subjoined table for the decennial periods 1891-1900, 1902-11, and 1912-21 :—

DEATH RATES IN CERTAIN AGE GROUPS IN VICTORIA.

Age Group.	Deaths per 1,000 at each Age.		
	1891-1900.	1902-11.	1912-21.
<i>Males.</i>			
Under 5	39·29	26·73	23·85
5 to 10	3·36	2·16	2·42
10 to 15	2·20	1·87	1·75
15 to 20	3·28	2·72	2·37
20 to 25	4·79	3·51	3·57
25 to 35	6·60	4·75	4·71
35 to 45	9·03	7·81	7·14
45 to 55	15·32	13·48	13·10
55 to 65	32·90	25·38	25·05
65 to 75	62·99	59·04	53·18
75 and upwards	145·05	157·26	157·97
All ages	15·47	13·30	12·57
<i>Females.</i>			
Under 5	34·09	22·35	19·26
5 to 10	3·12	2·03	2·24
10 to 15	2·06	1·78	1·56
15 to 20	3·43	2·80	2·27
20 to 25	4·81	3·59	3·56
25 to 35	6·89	5·01	4·58
35 to 45	8·68	7·16	6·01
45 to 55	12·12	9·96	9·44
55 to 65	23·64	18·80	17·46
65 to 75	45·87	46·71	42·01
75 and upwards	124·33	131·77	136·61
All ages	12·36	10·66	10·35

The figures show that at all ages, excepting between 5 and 10, and 20 and 25, and 75 and over for males, and between 5 and 10, and 75 and over for females, much lower death rates were experienced during the decennium 1912-21 than in the preceding one. Compared with 1902-11, the mortality rate for the period 1912-21 for the two

sexes combined was lower by 10 per cent. for the age group 0-10, by 9 per cent. at ages 10-15, by 16 per cent. at 15-20, by 5 per cent. at 25-35, by 12 per cent. at 35-45, and by 4 per cent. at 45-55 and 55-65. The rates, up to age 65 and probably to age 75, are comparable, and the marked decrease at successive periods shows that there had been a general improvement in hygienic conditions.

In years prior to 1923 it was the custom, when computing local death rates, to treat the deaths in two main divisions—those occurring in public institutions and those occurring elsewhere. The latter were credited to the district in which they were registered. Of the institutional deaths those occurring in hospitals were allotted to the usual residence; the remainder, together with any deaths of persons unknown or whose residence was not stated, were allotted to the various divisions of the State according to the population of each.

For purposes of greater accuracy, and following the lead of England and other countries, the allotment to usual residence has, for 1923, *et seq.*, been extended to cover all deaths, only those institutional deaths where the usual residence is unknown being allotted to the various divisions of the State as before mentioned.

The following table, computed on the above-mentioned basis, shows the number of deaths per 1,000 of the population in the metropolitan, other urban, and rural districts for the years 1923, 1924, and 1925:—

DEATH RATES IN METROPOLITAN, OTHER URBAN,
AND RURAL DISTRICTS, 1923, 1924, AND 1925.

Division.	Deaths per 1,000 of Population.		
	1923.	1924.	1925.
Metropolitan District ..	11·28	10·49	9·71
Country Towns (other urban)..	12·46	11·27	10·69
Rest of State	9·48	9·09	8·79
Total State	10·71	10·05	9·47

The deaths in Victoria of residents of metropolitan municipalities, and their proportions to the populations of these municipalities are shown in the following table for the years 1923, 1924, and 1925:—

DEATH RATES IN METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITIES, 1923, 1924, AND 1925.

Municipality.	Mean Population for 1925.	Number of Deaths.			Deaths per 1,000 of Population.		
		1923.	1924.	1925.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Melbourne City	101,780	1,418	1,310	1,166	13·91	12·85	11·46
Brighton City	25,900	249	250	218	10·60	10·02	8·42
Brunswick City	49,230	534	503	495	11·46	10·50	10·05
Camberwell City	34,690	264	332	304	9·59	10·66	8·76
Caulfield City	57,620	402	477	457	8·17	8·82	7·93
Coburg City	29,770	227	229	218	10·06	8·61	7·32
Collingwood City	33,950	457	395	390	13·34	11·58	11·49
Essendon City	39,750	401	417	395	10·70	10·77	9·94
Fitzroy City	34,330	539	414	458	15·48	11·97	13·34
Footscray City	42,750	385	411	376	10·07	10·02	8·80
Hawthorn City	31,730	359	308	300	11·85	9·87	9·45
Malvern City	21,050	159	203	198	8·52	10·20	9·41
Northcote City	42,500	358	350	353	9·10	8·45	8·31
Oakleigh Town	36,930	309	333	366	9·38	9·57	9·91
Port Melbourne City	*	87	72	*	12·72	9·94	*
Prahran City	13,150	158	142	135	12·02	10·80	10·27
Preston Town	51,540	620	617	550	12·17	12·06	10·67
Richmond City	17,250	137	139	172	11·75	9·74	9·97
Sandringham City	43,650	561	471	464	12·90	10·80	10·63
South Melbourne City	17,250	111	122	131	7·93	7·87	7·59
St. Kilda City	47,130	585	542	483	12·45	11·51	10·25
Williamstown City	41,150	446	414	407	11·09	10·15	9·89
Remainder of Metropolis	22,730	240	236	208	11·84	10·97	9·15
Hospitals and Shipping	51,720	408	432	480	10·45	10·44	9·28
Hospitals and Shipping	11,360	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whole Metropolis	898,910	9,414	9,118	8,724	11·28	10·49	9·71

* Included in "Remainder of Metropolis."

The outstanding features of the above figures are the high death rates prevailing in some of the old centres of population, of which Melbourne City, Collingwood, Fitzroy, Port Melbourne, Prahran, Richmond, and South Melbourne, are examples, and the low rates in comparatively recently settled areas, such as Camberwell, Caulfield, Coburg, Kew, Malvern, Northcote, and Sandringham. The deaths for 1925 were 11·20 per 1,000 in the former as against 8·45 in the latter group. Slight differences in the age distribution of the populations of these two divisions may exist, but they can account for only a small portion of the great disparity in their mortality rates. It would appear that the standard of health, as indicated by death rates, is much better in the outlying and less densely populated suburbs than in the central and more congested areas of the metropolis.

Metropolitan and country death rates compared.

The ages of the people, as disclosed at the census of 1921, enable a comparison to be made between the death rates prevailing in Greater Melbourne and in the remainder of the State. On the average of the years 1923-25, the deaths of metropolitan residents were in the ratio of 10·47 per 1,000 of population, as against a ratio of 9·62 for residents of the rest of the State. The apparent difference in favour of the country is ·85, but a computation shows that, when allowances are made for the unequal age and sex distribution of the people in these areas, the actual difference is greater—the deaths per 1,000 of population being fewer by 1·34 among country than among metropolitan residents.

Decrease in Metropolitan death rate.

In Greater Melbourne, in the decade 1916-25, there were 11·63 deaths per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 15·76 in the decennium 1892-1901. The reduction in the rate represents a saving of approximately 32,350 lives in the last ten years. Many factors have contributed to this result, but it is probable that the introduction of the sewerage system, the notification of contagious diseases, the improvement in the conditions of labour, the increasing supervision of the manufacture and sale of articles of consumption, the greater proportion of females in the community, and the advance of medical science, have been the main causes of the decline. That the sanitary conditions of the metropolis have greatly improved is evidenced by a comparison of the death rates from tubercular and certain other diseases for the period 1916-25 with those for the decennium 1892-1901. The following are the rates :—

Cause of Death.	Deaths per 1,000 of Population.		
	1892-1901.	1916-25.	Decrease in 1916-25.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	1·654	0·749	0·905
Other Tubercular Diseases ...	0·446	0·163	0·283
Typhoid Fever ...	0·293	0·020	0·273
Scarlet Fever ...	0·033	0·021	0·012
Measles ...	0·215	0·037	0·178
Diphtheria ...	0·196	0·118	0·078
Total ...	2·837	1·108	1·729

The figures show that the mortality from the six diseases mentioned declined by 61 per cent in 1916-25—the decline representing a rate of 1·73 per 1,000 of the population. It is impossible to state which municipalities have contributed most to this result, as their mortality rates from the diseases referred to are not available for the earlier period. A comparison, however, of the general death rates in each, for the periods under review, shows that all divisions of the metropolis have, in varying degrees, shared in the improvement. The mortality from all causes showed a net decline of 4·13 per 1,000 of the population during the period mentioned.

The appended statement shows, for the years 1923, 1924, and 1925, the number of deaths, and the deaths per 1,000 of the population in the twelve principal country towns; also, the population of each at the end of 1925:—

DEATH RATES IN THE TWELVE PRINCIPAL COUNTRY TOWNS, 1923, 1924, AND 1925.

Town.	Popula- tion at end of 1925.	Number of Deaths.			Deaths per 1,000 of Population.		
		1923.	1924.	1925.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Ballarat and Suburbs ..	40,990	552	451	470	13·81	11·11	11·47
Bendigo and Suburbs ..	33,700	474	470	410	14·15	13·97	12·17
Geelong and Suburbs ..	39,100	394	394	410	10·62	10·44	10·48
Carrum ..	6,500	71	52	41	11·83	8·39	6·31
Castlemaine and Suburbs	7,170	69	78	68	9·62	10·96	9·48
Hamilton ..	5,200	73	66	58	14·29	12·89	11·15
Maryborough ..	4,840	*	61	58	*	12·63	11·98
Mildura ..	5,850	70	69	67	12·61	12·11	11·45
Mordialloc ..	7,220	68	56	69	9·86	7·80	9·56
Stawell ..	4,660	61	52	46	13·26	11·18	9·87
Warrnambool..	8,020	96	70	76	12·08	8·75	9·48
Wonthaggi ..	6,500	58	61	41	10·36	10·17	6·31

* Not available.

An examination of the particulars of residence of persons who have died in the public hospitals of Victoria during recent years reveals definite and interesting information regarding the assistance rendered by these institutions to people in different divisions of the State. For the metropolitan municipalities, the twelve principal country towns, and the

Residents of
different
areas dying
in hospitals.

remainder of the State, the percentages of the total deaths of residents thereof which occurred in public hospitals during the year 1925 were as follows :—

PROPORTION OF DEATHS OF RESIDENTS OF CERTAIN
AREAS OCCURRING IN HOSPITALS, 1925.

Area.	Percentage of Deaths of Residents occurring in Hospitals, 1925.	Area.	Percentage of Deaths of Residents occurring in Hospitals, 1925.
Melbourne City	39·4	Williamstown City	21·6
Brighton City	18·3	Remainder of Metropolis	22·3
Brunswick City	31·1	Ballarat	20·2
Camberwell City	13·5	Bendigo	22·0
Caulfield City	14·7	Geelong	25·9
Coburg City	25·7	Carrum	14·6
Collingwood City	38·5	Castlemaine	36·8
Essendon City	24·6	Hamilton	22·4
Fitzroy City	41·9	Maryborough	46·6
Footscray City	28·2	Mildura	50·7
Hawthorn City	17·0	Mordialloc	31·9
Kew City	17·7	Stawell	30·4
Malvern City	15·9	Warrnambool	40·8
Northcote City	34·7	Wonthaggi	46·3
Port Melbourne City	43·0		
Prahran City	29·5	Summary—	
Preston Town	29·6	Greater Melbourne	28·5
Richmond City	35·3	Twelve Country Towns	26·6
Sandringham City	22·9	Remainder of State	21·4
South Melbourne City	31·3	Whole State	25·9
St. Kilda City	20·6		

Of the total deaths in the State 25·9 per cent. occurred in public hospitals in 1925, as against 24·4 per cent. in 1924 and 20·9 per cent. in 1910-15. The disparities in the proportions for different areas are very significant. Of the total cases of fatal illness which occurred amongst residents of the metropolitan districts mentioned in 1925, the percentage treated in public hospitals varied from 43·0 for Port Melbourne, 41·9 for Fitzroy, 39·4 for Melbourne City, 38·5 for Collingwood, and 35·3 for Richmond, to 17·7 for Kew, 17·0 for Hawthorn, 15·9 for Malvern, 14·7 for Caulfield, and 13·5 for Camberwell. For the whole metropolitan area the percentage was 28·5 as compared with 22·7 for the rest of the State. Taking the proportions for fatal cases as an index of all cases dealt with, it would appear that, relatively to population, the assistance rendered by public hospitals to the residents of Greater Melbourne exceeds by about 26 per cent. that given to people residing elsewhere.

Residents of Greater Melbourne who died in public hospitals in Victoria during 1925 numbered 2,483.

Deaths in public institutions in Greater Melbourne.

In 1925 the deaths in public institutions were 31·2 per cent. of the total in the State. The number of deaths in each public institution in the metropolis in 1925 is given in the subjoined table:—

DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN GREATER MELBOURNE, 1925.

Institution.	No. of Deaths.	Institution.	No. of Deaths.
Hospitals—		Other Public Institutions—	
Melbourne	850	Victorian Homes for Aged and Infirm	103
Alfred	496	Benevolent Asylum	149
St. Vincent's	158	Convent of the Little Sisters of the Poor	61
Homœopathic	92	Old Colonists' Homes	9
Austin	221	Foundling Hospital, Broadmeadows	11
Children's	481	Macleod Military Sanatorium	2
Women's	174	Children's Welfare Dépôt	3
Infectious Diseases	93	Kew Lunatic Asylum	98
Queen Victoria	54	Yarra Bend Lunatic Asylum... ..	4
Eye and Ear	10	Mont Park Asylum	48
Williamstown	15	Receiving House — Mental Hospital	47
Caulfield Repatriation	66	The Haven	12
Police	2	Foundling Hospital, East Melbourne	2
Heatherton Sanatorium	55	Carlton Refuge ... ..	...
Caulfield Convalescent	24	Macleod Military Mental Asylum	2
		Jancfield Sanatorium	12
		Total Hospitals and other Institutions	3,354
Total Hospitals	2,791		

Infantile mortality. The mortality of children under one year in proportion to births has been considerably less in recent than in earlier periods, but the necessity for reducing the risks to infant health and life, particularly amongst illegitimate children, is still apparent. The deaths of infants in 1925 numbered 2,046, and, as there were 35,922 births, it follows that of every 10,000 infants born approximately 570 died within twelve months. The rates for

Melbourne and suburbs, the extra metropolitan area, and the whole State, for different periods since 1879, are shown in the following table:—

INFANTILE MORTALITY IN VICTORIA, 1880 TO 1925.

Period.	Melbourne and Suburbs.		Rest of State.		Victoria.	
	Average Annual Number of Deaths under One Year.	Rate per 100 Births.	Average Annual Number of Deaths under One Year.	Rate per 100 Births.	Average Annual Number of Deaths under One Year.	Rate per 100 Births.
1880-84..	1,649	17·01	1,626	9·23	3,275	12·00
1885-89..	2,576	17·85	1,812	9·79	4,388	13·33
1890-94..	2,311	14·04	1,926	9·49	4,237	11·47
1895-99..	1,650	13·15	1,913	10·00	3,563	11·25
1900-04..	1,417	11·65	1,565	8·62	2,982	9·82
1905-09..	1,209	9·65	1,307	7·15	2,516	8·12
1910-14..	1,345	8·42	1,201	6·49	2,546	7·38
1915-19..	1,302	7·62	886	5·54	2,188	6·61
1920-24..	1,328	7·16	1,024	5·86	2,352	6·53
1925 ..	1,079	6·02	967	5·37	2,046	5·70

In computing birth and death rates the system was introduced in 1923 of allotting all births and deaths to the place of usual residence of the parties. In the cases of births and infantile deaths the mother's residence is considered to be that of the child. This accounts for the slight increase in the rate for the remainder of the State in the period 1920-24, and a corresponding decrease in the rate for the Metropolis.

The deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 100 births in Greater Melbourne, Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, and the rest of the State in 1923, 1924, and 1925 were as follows:—

INFANTILE DEATH RATES IN DIFFERENT DIVISIONS OF THE STATE, 1923, 1924, AND 1925.

Division.	Deaths under One Year per 100 Births.		
	1923.	1924.	1925.
Melbourne and Suburbs	7·34	6·77	6·02
Ballarat and Suburbs	8·54	6·58	7·49
Bendigo and Suburbs	10·57	10·25	6·19
Geelong and Suburbs	10·01	7·34	7·13
Rest of the State	5·29	5·15	5·15
Victoria	6·57	6·13	5·70

The prejudicial effect of city surroundings on infant life is evidenced by the mortality being heavier in urban than in country districts. During 1925 the deaths of children under 1 year of age to every 1,000 births were 60 in Melbourne, 75 in Ballarat, 62 in Bendigo, and 71 in Geelong, as against 51 in the rest of the State.

The following table shows for each metropolitan municipality the deaths of infants under 1 year, and the number of such deaths per 100 births in the years 1923, 1924, and 1925:—

Infantile
death rates in
metropolitan
districts.

INFANTILE DEATH RATES IN METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITIES, 1923, 1924, AND 1925.

Municipality.	Number of Deaths under One year.			Deaths under One year per 100 Births.		
	1923.	1924.	1925.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Melbourne City	237	168	136	11·79	9·12	7·70
Brighton City	22	21	20	4·56	4·38	3·82
Brunswick City	85	79	72	7·52	6·55	6·47
Camberwell City	25	37	32	3·96	4·96	3·84
Caulfield City	56	63	35	5·33	5·87	3·31
Coburg City	42	38	49	7·59	5·59	6·67
Collingwood City	64	68	54	9·32	9·37	7·65
Essendon City	59	52	53	7·08	5·94	6·36
Fitzroy City	84	59	55	10·43	8·20	8·32
Footscray City	68	74	75	6·65	7·71	7·56
Hawthorn City	32	30	19	5·69	5·37	3·56
Kew City	13	18	19	3·44	4·65	5·23
Malvern City	31	27	28	4·96	3·91	4·22
Northcote City	49	54	54	5·95	5·81	5·95
Oakleigh Town	10	8	*	4·26	3·54	*
Port Melbourne City	25	26	24	8·20	8·93	8·70
Prahran City	68	66	49	7·13	7·52	5·52
Preston Town	24	31	37	6·32	6·19	6·53
Richmond City	73	66	65	8·13	6·98	7·30
Sandringham City	16	16	14	7·24	5·97	5·09
South Melbourne City	95	88	59	9·99	9·25	7·59
St. Kilda City	31	34	28	4·78	5·02	4·37
Williamstown City	32	38	32	6·41	7·76	6·10
Remainder of Metropolis	51	69	70	5·50	6·47	5·06
Whole Metropolis	1,292	1,230	1,079	7·34	6·77	6·02

* Included in " Remainder of Metropolis."

It is noticeable that the centres having the lowest infantile death rates are residential areas which are not so thickly populated as nearly all of the other metropolitan districts.

Infantile Mortality at different ages.

An investigation into the experience in regard to infantile mortality over a period of years discloses a constant decrease in the infantile death rate, shared proportionately by each sex, since the earlier periods. Further analysis shows that the decrease was shared by all age periods except the period "under one week." Comparing the quinquennial periods 1910-14 and 1920-24 the mortality rate of infants whose age was over one week shows a decrease of 20.5 per cent., while that of infants under one week has increased by 10.2 per cent.

In 1925 the total rate for males was 24.6 per cent. higher than that for females.

The tables which follow show the percentage of deaths of infants at various ages under one year for certain periods since 1899, and male and female death rates at each age period for the year 1925 :—

**INFANTILE MORTALITY AT DIFFERENT AGES,
1900 TO 1925.**

Period.	Deaths Under One Year per 1,000 Births.							Males.	Females.
	Under 1 Week.	1 Week to 1 Month.	1 to 3 Months.	3 to 6 Months.	6 to 12 Months.	Total under 1 Year.			
1900-04 ..	34.4		16.9	21.0	25.9	98.2	105.7	90.4	
1905-09 ..	33.0		13.8	15.1	19.3	81.2	89.3	72.6	
1910-14 ..	21.5	11.1	12.1	12.4	16.7	73.8	81.8	65.3	
1915-19 ..	23.3	10.1	10.5	9.4	12.8	66.1	73.0	58.7	
1920-24 ..	23.7	9.3	9.8	10.0	12.5	65.3	71.8	58.5	
1925 ..	23.1	7.8	7.9	7.1	11.1	57.0	62.9	50.5	

**INFANTILE MORTALITY AT DIFFERENT AGES,
MALES AND FEMALES, 1925.**

Age.	Males.			Females.		
	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births.	Percentage at each Age.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births.	Percentage at each Age.
Under 1 week ..	477	25.7	40.8	354	20.4	40.4
1 week to 1 month ..	168	9.0	14.3	111	6.4	12.7
1 to 3 months ..	161	8.7	13.8	122	7.0	13.9
3 to 6 months ..	142	7.6	12.1	114	6.6	13.0
6 to 12 months ..	222	11.9	19.0	175	10.1	20.0
Total ..	1,170	62.9	100.0	876	50.5	100.0

The experience of the years 1920-25 shows that, of every 20,000 newly-born boys and girls in equal numbers, 703 boys and 572 girls died within twelve months, and 9,297 of the former and 9,428 of the latter, or 18,725 of mixed sexes, were living at the end of the year. The corresponding numbers surviving the first year in earlier periods were 17,765 in the ten years 1891-1900 and 17,468 in 1881-90. It is thus seen that, of every 20,000 births comprising equal numbers of each sex, there were 960 more survivors in 1920-25 than in 1891-1900, and 1,257 more than in 1881-90.

An investigation of infantile mortalities would be incomplete if the diseases which have proved fatal in different periods of years were not ascertained, and their incidence in each period compared. Information of this nature reveals the causes of high death rates, and, when a fairly early period is selected for comparison with recent years, it shows in what direction improvements have taken place. The chief preventable and non-preventable causes of death, grouped under certain headings, are shown in the subjoined table for the periods 1891-93, 1901-10, and 1911-20, and for the year 1925 :—

INFANTILE DEATH RATES FROM CERTAIN CAUSES, 1891-93,
1901-10, 1911-20, AND 1925.

Cause of Death.	Disease Classification Number.	Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births in—			
		1891-93.	1901-10.	1911-20.	1925.
Whooping Cough.. ..	9	2·60	2·52	1·82	·81
Convulsions	80	6·83	3·10	1·63	·70
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia ..	99a, 100a, 101	11·37	8·13	6·86	4·90
Diarrhoeal Diseases, all forms	113	29·66	24·62	16·13	11·05
Congenital Malformations, &c.	159	3·45	4·86	4·38	4·62
Wasting Diseases (Marasmus, Atrophy, &c.) ..	160	22·24	12·74	13·09	6·65
Prematurity	161a	13·13	14·99	15·17	15·06
Violence	175 to 203	3·16	2·47	1·07	·67
Early Infancy, Injury at Birth	162, 161b	} 24·49	14·46	9·40	{ 7·02 5·48
All other causes	
Total, all causes .. ..	..	116·93	87·89	69·55	56·96

INFANTILE DEATH RATES, AT DIFFERENT AGES, FROM CERTAIN CAUSES, 1925.

Cause of Death.	Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.							
	Age Period.							
	Under 1 Week.	1 Week and under 1 Month.	1 Month and under 3 Months.	3 Months and under 6 Months.	6 Months and under 12 Months.	Total.	Males.	Females.
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia	·20	·36	1·36	1·06	1·92	4·90	5·27	4·51
Diarrhœal Diseases, all forms .. .. .	..	·53	1·87	3·56	5·09	11·05	12·26	9·75
Congenital Malformations, &c.	2·12	·95	·75	·33	·47	4·62	4·68	4·56
Wasting Diseases (Marasmus, Atrophy, &c.)	2·64	1·42	1·56	·61	·42	6·65	7·59	5·66
Prematurity	11·44	2·53	·95	·14	..	15·06	16·46	13·56
Early Infancy, Injury at Birth	5·65	1·23	·11	·03	..	7·02	8·28	5·65
All other causes	1·09	·75	1·28	1·39	3·15	*7·66	8·39	6·86
Total, all causes	23·14	7·77	7·88	7·12	11·05	56·96	62·93	50·55

* 2·53 were deaths from Epidemic and Infectious diseases, and, of these, 1·45 were of Infants aged 6 months to 12 months.

Of every 1,000 infants born 20·3 died from diarrhœal and wasting diseases during 1921-25 as against 29 in 1911-20, 37 in 1901-10, and 52 in 1891-93—a decrease of 61 per cent. since the last mentioned period. In 1921-25, acute bronchitis, broncho-pneumonia and pneumonia were responsible for 5·84 deaths per 1,000 births, as compared with 11·37 in 1891-93—a decline of 51 per cent. between the two periods. Of every 100 children who died in the last five years, 33 deaths were due to prematurity and congenital malformations, which may be regarded as of a non-preventable nature, while 20 died from diarrhœal diseases. The mortality from the latter diseases was highest during the months December to April. Of every 1,000 children born during the years referred to 13 died from diarrhœal complaints within a year, a proportion which shows the necessity for further preventive measures in relation to these diseases.

An examination of the male and female mortalities from the above diseases discloses the fact that the male rate was consistently higher than the female rate, except in the cases of whooping cough and convulsions.

The table which follows shows the number of deaths and the death rate of infants under one month for Melbourne and suburbs and the whole State for the years 1921 to 1925, also the principal causes of death.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE MONTH, 1921 TO 1925.

Cause of Death.	Melbourne and Suburbs.					Victoria.				
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Convulsions	16	31	6	10	7	37	54	27	27	20
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneu- monia, Pneumonia .. .	23	13	33	29	14	37	19	55	47	20
Diarrhoeal Diseases, all forms Congenital Malformations, &c.	11	11	11	3	9	26	22	26	14	19
Wasting Diseases (Marasmus, Atrophy, &c.) .. .	73	45	50	58	60	123	72	98	110	110
Prematurity	78	81	87	80	65	182	188	166	137	146
Violence	322	277	326	322	263	548	485	594	568	502
Injury at Birth	12	9	9	2	3	18	12	16	4	4
Early Infancy (162) } All other causes .. .	98	87	90	106	{ 80 56 } 19	{ 178 163 } 88	{ 187 163 } 50	{ 207 187 } 42	{ 124 123 } 45	{ 124 123 } 42
Total all Causes .. .	678	586	636	632	576	1,237	1,065	1,211	1,159	1,110
Deaths per 100 Births	3·67	3·10	3·61	3·48	3·22	3·48	2·93	3·38	3·21	3·09

On the average of the last ten years, 156 in every 1,000 illegitimate infants died within a year, as against 60 in every 1,000 legitimate children. It is thus seen that the proportion of illegitimate children dying before the age of 1 year is 2·6 times that of legitimate children. In the year 1925 the mortality rate of legitimate infants was 5·50 per 100 births. The children born out of wedlock during the same year numbered 1,543, and the deaths of illegitimate infants were 155, the death rate being thus 10·05 per 100 births. With the view of ascertaining the chief reasons for the marked disproportion in the mortality rates of the two classes the following table has been constructed, showing the deaths from certain causes, per 1,000 legitimate and illegitimate births, for the periods 1904-08 and 1914-18 and the year 1925 :—

DEATH RATES OF LEGITIMATE AND ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS FROM CERTAIN CAUSES.

Cause of Death.	Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.					
	Legitimate.			Illegitimate.		
	1904-08.	1914-18.	1925.	1904-08.	1914-18.	1925.
Diarrhoeal Diseases .. .	19·8	14·2	10·5	72·6	48·6	24·2
Prematurity, Congenital Malfor- mations, Marasmus, &c. . . .	30·3	27·2	25·4	52·1	64·9	48·4
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia	6·9	6·1	4·7	18·6	12·5	9·8
Other causes	18·3	15·3	14·4	58·7	36·6	18·9
Total, all causes	75·3	62·8	55·0	202·0	162·6	101·3

The rates for 1925 show that of every 1,000 children born out of wedlock 24·2 died from diarrhœal diseases within a year, as compared with 10·5 deaths per 1,000 legitimate infants from the same cause. Owing to a larger proportion of the former children being deprived of breast food a higher mortality from these diseases might be expected among them than among legitimate infants, but the striking differences in the death rates from this cause and from the chief respiratory diseases indicate considerable neglect in the rearing of illegitimate infants.

The influence of temperature on infantile mortality from the chief digestive and respiratory diseases is specially noticeable, whilst on deaths from other causes, particularly those of a developmental character, very little influence is apparent. The infantile deaths in Melbourne and suburbs from the two former classes of complaint in each month during the last five years are shown in the appended table :—

Infantile
deaths in
each month
from certain
causes.

INFANTILE DEATHS IN EACH MONTH FROM CERTAIN CAUSES, 1921-25.

Month.	Infantile Deaths in Greater Melbourne in 1921-25 from—					
	Diarrhœal Diseases.			Respiratory Diseases.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
January	174	126	300	20	17	37
February	117	94	211	23	10	33
March	95	80	175	15	14	29
April	85	58	143	22	19	41
May	61	63	124	27	17	44
June	33	17	50	37	30	67
July	14	10	24	58	59	117
August	6	12	18	53	48	101
September	10	8	18	32	36	68
October	14	14	28	16	8	24
November	21	11	32	16	17	33
December	49	40	89	22	15	37
Total, 1921-25 ..	679	533	1,212	341	290	631

The experience of the last five years shows that of the total infantile deaths in the metropolis from diarrhœal diseases 86 per cent. occur during the six months December to May, and of the deaths from respiratory diseases 56 per cent. occur in the four months June to September.

The deaths of infants under 1 year of age in the Commonwealth numbered 7,250 in 1925, as compared with 7,701 in 1924, 8,186 in 1923, 7,251 in 1922, 8,952 in 1921, 9,431 in 1920, 8,464 in 1919, 7,364 in 1918, 7,302 in 1917, and 9,282 in 1916. The next table gives the proportion of such deaths to the total births in each State, the Commonwealth of Australia, and New Zealand for periods back to 1910 :—

INFANTILE MORTALITY IN AUSTRALASIA, 1910-25.

Period.	Deaths under One Year per 100 Births.							
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1910-14	7·38	7·27	6·55	6·78	7·49	7·68	7·17	5·72
1915-19	6·61	6·44	6·33	6·18	6·19	6·53	6·43	4·86
1920-24	6·53	6·10	5·46	5·84	6·11	6·24	6·10	4·49
1925 ..	5·70	5·50	4·52	4·61	5·66	5·52	5·34	4·00

The infantile deaths per 100 births in the Australasian capitals in 1925 were as follows :—Melbourne 6·02, Sydney 5·70, Brisbane 5·03, Adelaide 4·95, Perth 7·25, Hobart 7·61, and Wellington 4·39.

In 1925 the deaths of male children under 5 years of age numbered 1,503, and the deaths of female children under that age, 1,134—the former being in the proportion of 17·51 per cent., and the latter of 15·63 per cent., to the total number

Deaths of children under 5.

of deaths of the respective sexes at all ages. The subjoined table gives the annual number of such deaths in the State at each year of age, and the proportion of the deaths under five years of age to the deaths at all ages in decennial periods from 1871 to 1920, and in the years 1921 to 1925 :—

MORTALITY OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS.

Period.	Year of Age at Death.					Total under 5 Years.	
	0.	1.	2.	3.	4.	Number.	Proportion Per 100 Deaths at all Ages.
<i>Males.</i>							
1871-80 ..	1,783	508	206	148	119	2,764	39·41
1881-90 ..	2,158	464	161	114	92	2,989	34·28
1891-1900..	2,050	432	143	93	76	2,794	30·05
1901-10 ..	1,504	249	83	59	41	1,936	22·93
1911-20 ..	1,363	233	92	64	48	1,800	20·38
1921 ..	1,479	213	86	50	45	1,873	21·62
1922 ..	1,130	170	65	47	34	1,446	17·66
1923 ..	1,311	213	86	43	43	1,696	18·57
1924 ..	1,199	201	94	49	58	1,601	18·06
1925 ..	1,170	186	64	44	39	1,503	17·51
<i>Females</i>							
1871-80 ..	1,482	482	198	139	106	2,407	46·06
1881-90 ..	1,805	423	151	105	84	2,568	39·61
1891-1900..	1,702	385	129	82	68	2,366	33·61
1901-10 ..	1,192	217	81	51	40	1,581	23·58
1911-20 ..	1,029	190	74	59	49	1,401	19·00
1921 ..	1,107	183	73	36	57	1,456	19·41
1922 ..	805	123	61	34	27	1,050	15·07
1923 ..	1,047	159	71	33	32	1,342	16·60
1924 ..	1,017	175	66	44	19	1,321	17·29
1925 ..	876	150	47	35	26	1,134	15·63

The number of persons of advanced ages was greater in the later than in the earlier years mentioned in the above table, and, as the mortality is very heavy at the older ages, this accounts to some extent for the gradual decrease in the proportion of deaths under the age of 5 years. After making allowance for this there is still a marked reduction in the mortality under 5 years of age in recent years as compared with that in periods prior to 1901.

Ages at death.

The ages of males and females who died in 1925 and in the two preceding years are shown in the following table:—

AGES AT DEATH IN VICTORIA, 1923 to 1925.

Ages.	1923.			1924.			1925.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 1 ..	1,311	1,047	2,358	1,199	1,017	2,216	1,170	876	2,046
1 to 2	213	159	372	201	175	376	186	150	336
2 „ 3	86	71	157	94	66	160	64	47	111
3 „ 4	43	33	76	49	44	93	44	35	79
4 „ 5	43	32	75	58	19	77	39	26	65
5 „ 10	158	103	261	136	99	235	127	97	224
10 „ 15	108	108	216	103	73	176	106	96	202
15 „ 20	168	151	319	161	148	309	162	124	286
20 „ 25	184	195	379	214	206	420	198	161	359
25 „ 30	215	249	464	204	230	434	194	215	409
30 „ 35	245	279	524	213	263	476	229	227	456
35 „ 40	289	295	584	231	260	541	299	248	547
40 „ 45	364	279	643	311	245	556	285	277	562
45 „ 50	389	343	737	363	309	677	363	301	664
50 „ 55	548	417	965	544	417	961	520	395	915
55 „ 60	712	500	1,212	673	487	1,160	656	449	1,105
60 „ 65	894	638	1,532	933	613	1,546	889	601	1,490
65 „ 70	843	677	1,520	842	637	1,479	857	657	1,514
70 „ 75	662	590	1,252	695	554	1,249	710	589	1,299
75 „ 80	623	682	1,305	609	606	1,215	580	596	1,176
80 „ 85	502	571	1,073	500	575	1,075	469	568	1,037
85 „ 90	357	434	791	301	375	676	296	343	639
90 „ 95	146	168	314	137	165	302	105	137	243
95 ..	12	21	33	13	14	27	14	14	28
96 ..	5	16	21	9	16	25	11	7	18
97 ..	5	9	14	5	7	12	3	9	12
98 ..	4	6	10	6	10	16	2	5	7
99 ..	1	2	3	2	4	6	1	2	3
100 ..	2	2	4	1	1	2	1	1	2
101 ..	..	..	..	1	1	2	1	1	2
102 ..	2	1	3	..	4	4	..	..	..
103 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
104 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
105 ..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
109 ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	9,135	8,084	17,219	8,863	7,640	16,503	8,582	7,254	15,836

Of the 49,558 persons who died in Victoria during the last three years 6,406 were aged 80 years and upwards, and 21—nine males and twelve females—had attained or passed the age of 100 years.

The highest age at death recorded in the period 1923-25 was 109 years, which was attained by one man. To every 100 female deaths there were 118 male deaths in 1925, as against 116 in 1924, 113 in 1923, 117 in 1922, and 115 in 1921.

The death rates from the chief diseases are shown in the appended table for the period 1908-12 and for the last five years:—

DEATHS PER MILLION FROM CERTAIN CAUSES.

Cause of Death.	Deaths per Million of the Population.					
	1908-1912.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Typhoid Fever	98	46	20	34	20	11
Measles	33	4	1	48	4	26
Scarlet Fever	16	12	8	11	13	10
Whooping Cough	77	63	26	12	160	27
Diphtheria and Croup	122	179	88	58	69	42
Influenza	109	88	46	248	104	41
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis (previously Infantile Paralysis) .. .. .	..	..	5	2	2	15
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis .. .. .	..	11	8	8	20	17
Phthisis	855	667	565	620	585	561
Other Tubercular Diseases	182	137	120	123	127	97
Syphilis	51	36	22	26	24	24
Cancer	833	954	997	1,013	999	978
Diabetes	107	136	110	98	133	107
Anæmia, Chlorosis, Leucæmia	81	104	85	118	97	104
Simple Meningitis	133	64	68	67	46	38
Locomotor Ataxia and other diseases of Spinal Cord	71	52	38	49	55	29
Congestion and Hæmorrhage of the Brain	449	472	433	471	467	451
Epilepsy	35	34	27	39	25	34
Convulsions	76	47	59	45	31	18
Heart Disease (including Endocarditis, Pericarditis, and Angina Pectoris)	1,441	1,267	1,245	1,423	1,364	1,384
Acute and Chronic Bronchitis	348	222	209	233	199	161
Pneumonia and Broncho-pneumonia	834	676	746	978	741	543

DEATHS PER MILLION FROM CERTAIN CAUSES—*continued.*

Cause of Death.	Deaths per Million of the Population.					
	1908-1912.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Pleurisy	45	35	29	32	30	29
Congestion of Lungs and Pulmonary Apoplexy	63	59	59	45	59	52
Asthma and Pulmonary Emphysema	60	22	32	42	26	30
Diseases of the Stomach (Cancer excepted)	99	79	81	81	71	91
Enteritis, Gastro-enteritis, and Diarrhoeal Diseases	833	657	358	480	354	376
Appendicitis	81	57	67	70	75	67
Hernia, Intestinal Obstruction ..	113	100	107	95	90	105
Hydatids	22	14	13	10	10	11
Cirrhosis and other diseases of the Liver (Cancer excepted)	158	99	81	90	87	86
Biliary Calculi	27	25	20	14	25	23
Simple Peritonitis (non-puerperal)..	35	24	29	34	25	27
Acute and Chronic Nephritis, Uræmia, Bright's Disease	576	516	514	501	482	493
Calculi of the Urinary System	7	8	4	6	9	5
Diseases of the Bladder and Prostate	94	57	55	68	69	86
Old Age	1,030	873	873	867	770	762
Suicide	102	95	81	78	72	107
Accidental Violence	531	452	393	414	485	504
Homicide	19	14	15	13	11	13

The above and other causes of death are fully dealt with in subsequent paragraphs.

The following table shows for each month of the year the proportion of deaths per 1,000 due to nine well-known diseases and to all causes. The figures are based on the experience of the period 1920-25, and, in order to make the results comparable, adjustments have been made to correct the inequality of the number of days in each month. The average annual mortality from each disease is shown at the foot of the table :—

The Seasonal Prevalence of Diseases.

SEASONAL PREVALENCE OF DISEASES IN VICTORIA, 1920-25.

Vital Statistics.

167

Month.	Typhoid Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria and Croup.	Influenza.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia and Broncho- pneumonia.	Diarrhœa and Enteritis.	Bright's Disease.	Total from all Causes.
January	129	89	58	20	77	44	60	203	67	82
February	196	89	61	22	70	39	48	176	76	79
March	139	69	110	39	74	50	55	146	67	77
April	113	34	122	45	76	70	72	121	78	83
May	125	50	143	53	90	86	89	77	82	83
June	50	53	135	197	84	124	122	38	84	89
July	40	92	98	185	88	138	130	26	103	96
August	37	121	81	153	95	144	117	23	101	93
September	15	112	64	114	90	97	93	23	86	84
October	26	124	55	70	93	79	85	28	84	82
November	34	89	25	63	83	78	70	43	85	76
December	96	78	48	39	80	51	59	96	87	76
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Average Annual Number of Deaths 1920-25 ..	44	109	161	154	966	342	1,185	752	804	16,254

An inspection of the above table shows that the mortality from all causes was greatest in the winter months, the highest point being reached in July. It was lowest in the warmer months of the year, except January.

Typhoid fever, diarrhoea, and enteritis are essentially hot weather diseases, while pneumonia and broncho-pneumonia, bronchitis, and influenza are much more prevalent in the colder months than in the warmer ones. The greatest number of deaths from diphtheria occur in the autumn, while whooping cough reaches its zenith in the months of early spring. Phthisis and Bright's disease do not exhibit variations in mortality according to season to as great an extent as the other diseases mentioned, but reach their maximum mortality during the cold weather.

Vaccinations. The proportion of successful vaccinations to every 100 births for periods since 1875 is given in the following table. A great reduction in the percentage of vaccinations to births is shown since the year 1919. This is due to a large number of persons having taken advantage of the "Conscience Clause" of the Health Act of 1919, which came into operation on 24th March, 1920.

SUCCESSFUL VACCINATIONS PER 100 BIRTHS.

Period.	Vaccinations per 100 Births.
1876-99 ..	72
1900-04 ..	64
1905-09 ..	67
1910-14 ..	65
1915-19 ..	56
1920-24 ..	8
1925 ..	5

In 1925 the vaccinations of children were equal to 5 per cent. of the births, as compared with 8 per cent. in the period 1920-24, 56 per cent. in the period 1915-19, and 72 per cent. in the period 1876-99.

Typhoid fever. The reported cases of typhoid fever for the whole State declined from 288 per 100,000 of population in 1895-99 to 53 per 100,000 in 1914-18, and 11 per 100,000 in 1925, or by 96 per cent. in the intervening years. The death rate from the disease also decreased by 96 per cent. during the same period. The deaths per 100 cases in 1925 were 10.5 as compared with 12.1 in 1920-24. The reported cases of, and deaths from typhoid fever and their pro-

portions to the population, also the percentage of cases that ended fatally, are given in the next table for periods back to 1890 :—

TYPHOID FEVER IN VICTORIA, 1890 TO 1925.

Period.	Annual Cases Reported.		Annual Deaths.		Deaths per 100 reported Cases.
	Number.	Per 100,000 of Population.	Number.	Per 100,000 of Population.	
1890-94	2,932	253·9	381	33·0	13·0
1895-99	3,397	288·4	355	30·1	10·4
1900-04	2,152	178·1	213	17·6	9·9
1905-09	1,569	125·4	135	10·8	8·6
1910-14	1,374	101·0	107	7·8	7·8
1915-19	563	39·3	60	4·2	10·6
1920-24	408	25·9	49	3·1	12·1
1925	181	10·8	19	1·1	10·5

The death rate from typhoid fever for Victoria is considerably lower than that for the Commonwealth.

The cases of, and deaths from typhoid fever in proportion to population, in Greater Melbourne, are given in the subjoined table for different periods during the last thirty-six years :—

Typhoid fever in the Metropolis.

TYPHOID FEVER IN THE METROPOLIS, 1890 TO 1925

Period.	Annual Cases Reported.		Annual Deaths.	
	Number.	Per 100,000 of Population.	Number.	Per 100,000 of Population.
1890-94	1,645	349·3	205	43·5
1895-99	1,510	327·6	156	33·8
1900-04	701	140·0	74	14·8
1905-09	466	86·7	49	9·1
1910-14	385	61·4	36	5·8
1915-19	128	13·0	19	2·7
1920-24	105	13·0	16	2·0
1925	38	4·2	5	0·6

The cases of, and deaths from typhoid fever in proportion to population declined by 99 and 98 per cent. respectively in Greater Melbourne between 1895-99 and 1925. The introduction and extension of the sewerage system coincide closely with, and in a large measure account for this great improvement.

Prevalence of typhoid fever in different areas.

The number of cases of typhoid fever during each of the last five years in five divisions of the State, and their proportions to the respective populations for the period 1910-19 and the years 1924 and 1925, are given in the following table:—

PREVALENCE OF TYPHOID FEVER.

Area.	Reported Cases of Typhoid Fever.					Annual Cases per 10,000 of Population.		
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1910-19.	1924.	1925.
Greater Melbourne ..	119	80	103	96	38	4·1	1·1	0·4
Ballarat and Suburbs	52	22	20	8	9	13·4	2·0	2·2
Bendigo and Suburbs	24	38	16	9	3	18·2	2·7	0·9
Geelong and Suburbs	35	7	3	1	..	9·0	0·3	..
Rest of the State ..	302	154	326	190	131	8·9	2·9	2·0

The cases in proportion to population were fewer by 90 per cent. in Greater Melbourne, 84 per cent. in Ballarat, 95 per cent. in Bendigo, and 78 per cent. in the rest of the State in 1925 than in the period 1910-19. In Geelong, no cases were reported during 1925.

The mortality from typhoid fever is higher at early adult and middle ages than at other periods of life, and higher among males than females. This is shown in the next table, which gives the death rates in age groups for each sex in the years 1900-02, 1910-12, and 1920-22, being the years adjoining the censuses of 1901, 1911, and 1921:—

DEATH RATES FROM TYPHOID FEVER, 1900-02, 1910-12, AND 1920-22.

Age Group.	Deaths per 10,000 of each Sex.					
	Males.			Females.		
	1900-02.	1910-12.	1920-22.	1900-02.	1910-12.	1920-22.
0-15	0·97	0·38	0·12	1·46	0·44	0·28
15-20	2·65	1·76	0·40	2·23	1·22	0·46
20-25	4·39	1·82	0·97	1·84	1·32	0·54
25-35	3·28	1·71	0·41	2·04	0·82	0·38
35-45	2·25	1·26	0·45	1·21	0·68	0·36
45-55	1·95	0·82	0·54	0·93	0·39	0·20
55-65	0·66	0·20	0·42	0·34	0·50	0·16
65 and over .. ..	..	0·10	0·10	0·23	0·19	0·09
All ages	1·95	1·00	0·37	1·49	0·69	0·32

The experience of the three census periods mentioned shows that the rate for males exceeds that for females by 33 per cent., and that the heaviest mortality occurs between the ages 15 and 35. It is notable that at each census period there were proportionately fewer deaths of boys than of girls under the age of 15.

Small-pox—Deaths from. Persons suffering from small-pox have arrived at Victorian ports on many occasions, but, as they were at once quarantined, the disease never spread among the people of the State. During the years 1853 to 1925 only 31 deaths occurred from this cause, and of that number only 8 took place in the last forty-one years of the period.

Measles. Although the mortality from measles has varied very considerably from period to period, there has been no very severe epidemic outbreak since 1898, when 671 deaths resulted from the disease. In 1925 there were 43 deaths attributed to this cause, representing a rate of 26 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 4 in 1924, 48 in 1923, 6 in 1922, 4 in 1921, 146 in 1920, 17 in 1919, 5 in 1918, 11 in 1917, 13 in 1916, and 22 in 1915.

On the average of the five years 1919 to 1923, 53 per cent. of those who died from the disease were under 2 years of age and 75 per cent. were under 5 years. The incidence of mortality at various ages for each sex for the period 1919-23 was as follows:—

Sex.	Annual Deaths from Measles per 10,000 of each Sex aged—									
	0 to 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 3.	3 to 4.	4 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 and over.	All Ages.
Males	4.17	7.64	2.83	1.69	0.87	0.75	0.06	0.06	0.02	0.46
Females	2.34	7.87	2.35	1.50	0.52	0.57	0.23	0.03	0.06	0.40

Scarlet fever. In 1925 the deaths from scarlet fever numbered 16, which corresponded to a rate of 10 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 13 in 1924, 11 in 1923, 8 in 1922, 12 in 1921, 24 in 1920 and 1919, and 34 in 1890-92. During 1925 there were 1,345 cases reported, as against 2,356 in 1924, 1,730 in 1923, 1,972 in 1922, and 2,816 in 1921. For the five years mentioned the deaths were equal to .9 per cent. of the cases. According to the experience of the last ten years the chance of dying from the disease is 68 per cent. greater for females than for males.

Whooping cough. Whooping cough was responsible for 45 deaths in 1925, which equalled a rate of 27 per million of the population at all ages, as compared with rates of 160 in 1924, 12 in 1923, 26 in 1922, 63 in 1921, 125 in 1920, 24 in 1919, 47 in

1918, 51 in 1917, 84 in 1916, 68 in 1915, 69 in 1914, and 71 in 1913. The infantile death rate is more affected than the general rate by this ailment, as it is practically confined to children. In the year under review 29 of the deaths were of infants under 1 year, and all of the deaths were of children less than 5 years of age. On the average of the last ten years the mortality rate from the disease was 24 per cent. higher among females than males.

Diphtheria. The prevalence of diphtheria throughout the State during the last fifteen years was an unsatisfactory feature of the statistics of sickness relating to that period. For the year 1925 the number of cases was 2,631, as against a yearly average of 5,739 in 1920-24, 4,901 in 1915-19, 4,612 in 1910-14, 1,410 in 1905-09, 1,680 in 1900-04, and 1,584 in 1895-99. On the other hand, a very great reduction took place from period to period in the proportion of cases which ended fatally. The case mortality rate was 2·7 per cent. in 1925, as compared with 4·3 per cent. in 1915-19, 6·3 per cent. in 1905-09, 9·5 per cent. in 1900-04, and 13·9 per cent. in 1895-99.

The appended table shows for the whole State and the metropolis the reported cases of and deaths from diphtheria, and their proportions to the population, also the ratios of deaths to cases for different periods since 1894 :—

DIPHTHERIA IN VICTORIA AND GREATER MELBOURNE,
1895 TO 1925.

Period.	Annual Cases Reported.		Annual Deaths.		Deaths per 100 Cases Reported.
	Number.	Per 100,000 of Population.	Number.	Per 100,000 of Population.	
VICTORIA.					
1895-99	1,584	134·6	221	18·8	13·9
1900-04	1,680	139·0	159	13·2	9·5
1905-09	1,410	112·6	89	7·1	6·3
1910-14	4,612	339·1	212	15·6	4·6
1915-19	4,901	342·5	209	14·6	4·3
1920-24	5,739	364·6	179	11·4	3·1
1925	2,631	157·4	71	4·2	2·7
GREATER MELBOURNE.					
1895-99	748	162·1	113	24·6	15·1
1900-04	686	136·9	58	11·6	8·5
1905-09	758	140·8	46	8·5	6·1
1910-14	2,343	374·3	114	18·3	4·9
1915-19	2,864	402·6	127	17·9	4·4
1920-24	2,555	314·6	78	9·7	3·1
1925	1,567	174·3	41	4·6	2·6

The cases of diphtheria which occurred in five divisions of the State in each of the last five years and their proportions to the respective populations, for the period 1916-19 and the years 1924 and 1925, are given in the subjoined table :—

CASES OF DIPHTHERIA IN DIFFERENT AREAS.

Area.	Reported Cases of Diphtheria.					Annual Cases per 10,000 of Population.		
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1910-19.	1924.	1925.
Greater Melbourne ..	3,724	2,213	1,900	2,239	1,567	39·3	25·8	17·4
Ballarat and Suburbs	307	111	90	54	36	24·3	13·3	8·8
Bendigo and Suburbs	521	215	91	108	85	84·6	32·1	25·2
Geelong and Suburbs	405	200	98	127	133	43·4	33·7	34·0
Rest of the State ..	4,501	2,584	1,288	1,459	810	25·7	22·1	12·3

In 1925, the cases in each division of the State, except Geelong and suburbs, were fewer than in the preceding year.

Of the 488 males and 506 females who died from diphtheria during the five years 1919-23, 850, or 86 per cent., were under 10 years of age. The incidence of mortality for each sex at different ages, for the period mentioned, was as follows :—

DEATH RATES FROM DIPHTHERIA AT DIFFERENT AGES, 1919-23.

Sex.	Annual Deaths from Diphtheria per 10,000 of each Sex aged—									
	0 to 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 3.	3 to 4.	4 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 and over.	All Ages.
Males..	5·08	9·09	9·28	7·67	6·23	3·67	0·83	0·33	0·07	1·29
Females	3·86	6·65	6·09	6·56	7·10	4·91	0·96	0·62	0·13	1·30

The deaths from influenza in 1925 numbered 68, which corresponded to a rate of 41 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 104 in 1924, 248 in 1923, 46 in 1922, 88 in 1921, 52 in 1920, 2,407 in 1919, 148 in 1918, 71 in 1913-17, 109 in 1908-12, and 381 in 1890-92.

In 1925, nearly 56 per cent. of the deaths recorded were associated with specified pneumonic complications.

With the exception of the 1919 epidemic, when 72 per cent. of the deaths were of persons between 20 and 50 years of age, influenza has always proved more fatal to elderly people than to those at middle or young ages.

The next table gives the death rate per 10,000 of each sex in age groups for the last five census periods:—

DEATHS FROM INFLUENZA IN VICTORIA PER 10,000 OF EACH SEX.

Age Group.		1880-82.	1890-92.	1900-02.	1910-12.	1920-22.
<i>Males.</i>						
0-15	...	.34	2.50	1.10	.40	.23
15-20	...	.07	.64	.34	.24	.30
20-25	...		1.20	.59	.21	.38
25-35	...	.07	1.50	.79	.17	.27
35-45	...		3.04	1.31	.59	.56
45-55	...	.24	5.12	3.20	.73	.92
55-65	...	.24	12.65	5.25	2.38	1.44
65 and upwards	...	2.36	27.13	17.02	12.27	4.18
All ages	...	.25	3.94	2.30	1.10	.65
<i>Females.</i>						
0-15	...	.34	1.86	1.15	.42	.25
15-20	...		.92	.83	.34	.26
20-25	...		1.28	.69	.35	.35
25-35	...	.07	2.35	.89	.22	.45
35-45	...	.08	4.11	1.86	.30	.46
45-55	...		5.39	2.02	.68	.68
55-65	...	.62	11.46	5.53	1.61	.91
65 and upwards	...	3.18	35.22	16.02	12.80	3.86
All ages	...	.24	3.72	2.13	1.10	.60

Influenza epidemic, 1919.

Information in regard to the epidemic of 1919 is given in the *Year-Book* for 1918-19, pages 214-216; and in the 1919-20 issue, pages 180-182.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis).

Opinions have been expressed by members of the medical profession that the name "infantile paralysis" as applied to "acute anterior poliomyelitis" is misleading, for adults are attacked and paralysis is not a constant symptom, consequently, in future issues, deaths occurring from this disease will be indicated by the medical nomenclature.

Mortality returns show that acute anterior poliomyelitis was responsible for 25 deaths in 1925, 4 in 1924, 4 in 1923, and 8 in 1922. Of the above 41 deaths, 22 were of males and 19 were of females; 2 were under 1 year of age, 13 were between 1 and 5 years, 9 were between 5 and 10 years, and 17 were over 10 years.

Cerebro-spinal meningitis was responsible for 28 deaths in 1925, 33 in 1924, 13 in 1923, 12 in 1922, 17 in 1921, 15 in 1920, 14 in 1919, 37 in 1918, 75 in 1917, 326 in 1916, and 338 in 1915. The cases reported to the Public Health Department in those years numbered 1,754, and the proportion of these that ended fatally was 52 per cent. The numbers of deaths from cerebro-spinal, tubercular, and simple meningitis during the last twelve years were as follows:—

DEATHS FROM DIFFERENT FORMS OF MENINGITIS, 1914-25.

Year.	Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.		Tubercular Meningitis.		Simple Meningitis.		Total—All Forms of Meningitis.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
1914 ..	12	5	42	30	90	63	144	98
1915 ..	239	99	35	35	74	46	348	180
1916 ..	191	135	29	40	56	39	276	214
1917 ..	48	27	56	41	37	35	141	103
1918 ..	28	9	55	40	39	35	122	84
1919 ..	7	7	38	24	33	29	78	60
1920 ..	12	3	49	34	46	35	107	72
1921 ..	8	9	42	44	62	37	112	90
1922 ..	9	3	30	28	67	40	106	71
1923 ..	7	6	32	34	64	43	103	83
1924 ..	19	14	47	32	47	29	113	75
1925 ..	16	12	38	39	39	25	93	76

The next table shows the incidence of mortality at various ages from different forms of meningitis for the period 1915-25:—

DEATHS AT DIFFERENT AGES FROM MENINGITIS, 1915-25.

Age Group.	Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.		Tubercular Meningitis.		Simple Meningitis.		Total—All Forms of Meningitis.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Under 5 ..	154	117	262	188	306	217	722	522
5 to 15 ..	73	54	89	92	65	52	227	198
15 ,, 25 ..	159	52	44	65	42	38	245	155
25 ,, 35 ..	76	27	33	22	31	21	140	70
35 ,, 45 ..	49	24	14	13	35	25	98	62
45 ,, 55 ..	50	28	4	10	43	16	97	54
55 ,, 65 ..	16	14	3	1	22	14	41	29
65 and over	7	8	2	..	20	10	29	18
Total 1915-25	584	324	451	391	564	393	1,599	1,108

On the average of the last eleven years the deaths of children under 5 years of age from cerebro-spinal, tubercular, and simple meningitis represented 30, 53, and 55 per cent. respectively of the total deaths from these diseases. Of the 28 persons who succumbed to cerebro-spinal meningitis in 1925, 21 were under 5 and 25 were under 15 years of age. Up to the age of 15 years the incidence of the mortality from this disease in the period 1915-25 was 33 per cent. higher for males than for females, while for the age group 15 to 45 the rate for the former was about 2·8 times that for the latter.

The ages and sexes of those who died from pulmonary tuberculosis in each of the last five years are given in the next table :—

DEATHS FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS AT VARIOUS AGES.

Age Group.	Males.					Females.				
	Year.					Year.				
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
0-10 ...	3	6	4	2	4	2	5	3	3	5
10-15 ...	3	2	...	...	1	3	4	11	6	9
15-20 ...	16	20	20	20	11	27	34	42	43	48
20-25 ...	56	44	54	53	46	71	69	64	69	66
25-30 ...	64	59	67	62	60	79	57	77	67	71
30-35 ...	51	53	61	60	56	62	71	51	59	50
35-40 ...	68	47	63	66	75	54	45	53	39	41
40-45 ...	70	55	84	60	55	53	41	35	28	26
45-50 ...	69	42	51	47	43	34	27	31	21	22
50-55 ...	46	49	42	57	62	22	17	13	29	25
55-60 ...	42	43	38	49	49	20	16	25	24	10
60-65 ...	40	35	44	35	37	22	6	16	15	13
65-70 ...	18	20	19	18	21	8	7	8	4	9
70 and over	13	6	11	17	13	9	7	10	7	9
Total ...	559	481	558	546	533	466	406	439	414	404

For the year 1925, the average age of those who died from phthisis was 42·4 years for males and 34·2 years for females.

The deaths from phthisis in 1925 numbered 937—533 being of males and 404 of females—and equalled a rate of 561 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 585 in 1924, 620 in 1923, 565 in 1922, 667 in 1921, 658 in 1920, 739 in 1919, 701 in 1918, 677 in 1917, 743 in 1916, 661 in 1915, 724 in 1914, 755 in 1913, 855 in 1908-12, and 1,365 in 1890-92. In England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and the Irish Free State in 1924, the deaths from this cause were 841, 796, 1,223 and 1,168 per million

Death rates from phthisis.

of their respective populations. The rates for Victoria are more fully shown in the following table, which gives the mortality per 10,000 of each sex, in age groups, at six census periods:—

DEATH RATES IN VICTORIA FROM PHTHISIS IN AGE GROUPS AT SIX CENSUS PERIODS.

Age Group.	Annual Mortality from Phthisis per 10,000 of each Sex.					
	1870-72.	1880-82.	1890-92.	1900-02.	1910-12.	1920-22.
<i>Males.</i>						
0 to 15 ...	1·22	1·74	·90	·38	·46	·42
15 " 20 ...	5·71	6·88	5·41	5·06	3·71	2·67
20 " 25 ...	18·75	21·19	18·29	14·35	8·45	7·88
25 " 35 ...	22·21	30·33	23·70	20·31	13·11	9·70
35 " 45 ...	21·83	25·11	28·28	22·07	15·63	12·43
45 " 55 ...	22·24	28·65	31·17	25·05	18·07	13·94
55 " 65 ...	27·86	31·41	36·48	35·75	18·88	13·03
65 and upwards ...	19·56	18·08	25·40	31·07	13·55	8·65
All Ages ...	12·89	15·33	15·73	13·51	8·98	7·11
<i>Females.</i>						
0 to 15 ...	·98	1·76	1·43	·93	·97	·38
15 " 20 ...	12·37	12·50	9·51	8·18	7·62	4·84
20 " 25 ...	19·28	21·00	18·49	12·79	12·68	10·20
25 " 35 ...	22·02	26·56	21·77	18·15	14·03	10·00
35 " 45 ...	21·65	24·06	22·53	17·74	11·51	9·15
45 " 55 ...	19·60	20·72	16·13	14·41	8·18	5·91
55 " 65 ...	10·51	14·26	12·35	12·52	7·47	4·95
65 and upwards ...	12·61	13·12	8·25	8·18	5·29	3·94
All Ages ...	10·62	12·75	11·51	9·72	7·61	5·55

A comparison of the mortalities from pulmonary tuberculosis at the census periods 1910-12 and 1920-22 shows that lower death rates obtained in each age group in 1920-22 than in 1910-12, and that the improvement was greater among females than males. By combining the death rates from pulmonary tuberculosis, as shown above, with those from other forms of tubercular disease, given in a subsequent page, it appears that every section of the community experienced relief from tubercular diseases in 1920-22 as compared with the previous census period.

The distribution of tuberculous mortality shows that certain urban centres—particularly Bendigo and suburbs—furnish considerably higher death rates than the rural portions of the State. The tubercular death rate among miners is considerably in excess of that among farmers and graziers, and, as the residents of Bendigo and suburbs are largely engaged in mining occupations, while most persons living in rural districts are associated with the farming and grazing industries, the distribution of callings accounts in a large measure for the disparity in the mortality rates from this cause in the divisions of the State referred to. On the average of the last five years the tubercular death rate of Bendigo exceeded the rates of Ballarat and Melbourne by 83 and 69 per cent. respectively. The rates in these localities from phthisis and other tubercular diseases are given in the appended table for the periods 1891-1900, 1901-05, and 1906-10, and each of the last fifteen years:—

DEATH RATES FROM TUBERCULAR DISEASES IN MELBOURNE, BALLARAT, AND BENDIGO, 1891 TO 1925.

Period.	Deaths per 10,000 of the Population.								
	Phthisis.			Other Tubercular Diseases.			All Tubercular Diseases.		
	Melbourne and Suburbs.	Ballarat and Suburbs.	Bendigo and Suburbs.	Melbourne and Suburbs.	Ballarat and Suburbs.	Bendigo and Suburbs.	Melbourne and Suburbs.	Ballarat and Suburbs.	Bendigo and Suburbs.
1891-1900 ..	16·7	17·1	24·1	4·7	3·5	4·0	21·4	20·6	28·1
1901-05 ..	13·9	15·3	22·7	4·2	4·0	4·7	18·1	19·3	27·4
1906-10 ..	10·8	11·5	21·2	3·0	2·1	2·0	13·8	13·6	23·2
1911 ..	9·9	9·4	19·5	2·6	3·3	2·5	12·5	12·7	22·0
1912 ..	10·0	10·0	17·7	2·0	1·7	2·1	12·0	11·7	19·8
1913 ..	8·8	10·9	20·0	2·2	2·8	2·3	11·0	13·7	22·3
1914 ..	8·9	11·2	11·8	2·0	·9	1·0	10·9	12·1	12·8
1915 ..	7·7	10·2	13·6	1·7	2·1	2·4	9·4	12·3	16·0
1916 ..	8·6	14·3	14·2	1·8	1·5	1·4	10·4	15·8	15·6
1917 ..	7·9	10·9	16·8	2·2	1·7	2·2	10·1	12·6	19·0
1918 ..	8·3	9·2	17·4	1·8	1·3	3·1	10·1	10·5	20·5
1919 ..	8·7	10·8	14·7	1·7	1·0	2·0	10·4	11·8	16·7
1920 ..	7·9	10·6	17·1	1·9	2·0	1·2	9·8	12·6	18·3
1921 ..	8·1	7·0	14·2	1·9	1·3	2·1	10·0	8·3	16·3
1922 ..	6·7	8·1	11·4	1·5	·3	2·7	8·2	8·4	14·1
1923 ..	6·9	7·3	9·9	1·4	2·3	2·1	8·3	9·6	12·0
1924 ..	6·5	5·4	12·8	1·4	·8	2·1	7·9	6·2	14·9
1925 ..	6·3	5·6	11·3	1·1	·5	2·1	7·4	6·1	13·4

Relatively to population cases of pulmonary tuberculosis are fewer in country districts than in urban areas. The cases reported during each of the last five years in five divisions of the State, and their proportions to the populations of these divisions for the period 1910-19 and the years 1924 and 1925 are given in the subjoined table :—

Prevalence of phthisis in different areas.

PHTHISIS IN DIFFERENT AREAS.

Area.	Reported Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.					Annual Cases per 10,000 of Population.		
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1910-19.	1924.	1925.
Greater Melbourne ..	878	783	750	716	688	13·9	8·2	7·7
Ballarat and Suburbs	36	31	27	20	34	12·8	4·9	8·3
Bendigo and Suburbs	45	52	47	48	52	18·0	14·3	15·4
Geelong and Suburbs	19	10	19	24	24	7·9	6·4	6·1
Rest of the State ..	324	282	245	252	266	5·8	3·8	4·0
Whole State ..	1,302	1,158	1,088	1,060	1,064	10·4	6·5	6·4

In 1925 there were in Victoria 162 deaths from tubercular diseases (excluding phthisis), which corresponded to a rate of 97 per million, as compared with rates of 127 in 1924, 123 in 1923, 120 in 1922, 137 in 1921, 145 in 1920, 126 in 1919, 144 in 1918, 163 in 1917, 136 in 1916, 135 in 1915, 140 in 1914, 156 in 1913, 182 in 1908-12, and 379 in 1890-92. In England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and the Irish Free State, in 1924, the deaths from similar causes numbered 217, 362, 384, and 281 per million of their respective populations. The death rates in Victoria for various age groups are shown in the following table for five census periods :—

Tubercular diseases (phthisis excepted).

DEATH RATES FROM TUBERCULAR DISEASES (PHTHISIS EXCEPTED) IN AGE GROUPS.

Age Group.	Deaths per 10,000 of each Sex.				
	1880-82.	1890-92.	1900-02	1910-12.	1920-22.
<i>Males.</i>					
0-15 ...	7·98	10·36	5·64	2·75	2·00
15-20 ...	·81	1·17	1·12	1·12	·83
20-25 ...	1·23	·89	1·77	1·23	1·55
25-35 ...	·66	·84	1·91	1·71	1·61
35-45 ...	·88	·77	1·39	1·38	1·15
45-55 ...	·85	·67	1·64	·82	1·17
55-65 ...	1·07	·78	2·40	1·29	1·06
65 and over	2·36	·56	1·17	·59	1·07
All ages	3·55	4·02	2·99	1·70	1·48
<i>Females.</i>					
0-15 ..	7·28	8·43	5·33	2·12	1·57
15-20 ...	1·30	1·27	1·95	2·34	1·13
20-25 ...	·69	1·23	2·09	2·59	1·73
25-35 ..	·41	·88	1·98	1·81	1·18
35-45 ..	·70	·42	1·77	1·33	·78
45-55 ..	·67	·34	1·01	·93	1·01
55-65 ...	·62	·69	·71	1·11	·70
65 and over	1·19	·64	·71	·29	·86
All ages	3·39	3·58	2·91	1·76	1·21

As compared with the period 1910-12 the proportion of persons under 15 years of age who died from tubercular diseases (excluding phthisis) during 1920-22 represented a decline of 27 per cent. for males and of 26 per cent. for females.

The experience of recent years shows that the tubercular death rate in Victoria is but slightly affected by the arrival from beyond Australia of persons suffering from tubercular diseases. Only three of those who died in 1925 had been born outside and resident less than one year in Australia, and 18 had resided in the continent for a shorter period than five years.

The numbers dying from cancer in different age groups in each of the last five years are given below :—

DEATHS FROM CANCER AT VARIOUS AGES.

Age Group.	Males.					Females.				
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
0-15	7	6	3	5	6	5	2	3	1	6
15-25	7	7	3	9	9	3	3	7	5	2
25-35	7	12	12	9	14	21	14	12	15	16
35-45	33	31	38	44	42	65	75	73	67	87
45-55	111	105	110	127	108	164	173	193	159	151
55-65	243	278	252	263	258	223	224	236	228	238
65-75	185	219	238	245	249	168	164	210	204	203
75-85	84	103	83	106	95	103	97	109	103	119
85 and over ..	18	21	25	17	18	20	32	21	33	14
Total	695	782	764	825	799	772	784	864	815	836

The widely different social and economic effects produced by the prevalence of and deaths from the two important diseases, cancer and phthisis, are evidenced by the ages of their victims. For the year 1925 the average age of those who died from cancer was 62·4 years for males and 60·9 years for females, while the corresponding averages for phthisis were 42·4 years for males and 34·2 years for females.

Deaths from cancer in 1925 numbered 1,635, and represented a death rate of 978 per million of the whole population, as compared with rates of 999 in 1924, 1,013 in 1923, 997 in 1922, 954 in 1921, 908 in 1920, 870 in 1919, 942 in 1918, 925 in 1917, 921 in 1916, 812 in 1915, 830 in 1914, 838 in 1913, 833 in 1908-12, and 584 in 1890-92. In England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and the Irish Free State, in 1924, the deaths per million of population from this cause were 1,297, 1,331, 1,100, and 918 respectively.

Cancer—
Death rates.

Cancer—
Death Rates
at different
ages.

Cancer death rates, computed in relation to the general population in earlier and later periods, are not fairly comparable owing to the changed age distribution of the people. A more accurate mortality rate is obtained by comparing the deaths with the number of persons in the community of the same sex, in age groups. This has been done for four census periods, when the numbers of the people in age groups were accurately known, and the results are given in the appended table:—

DEATH RATES FROM CANCER IN AGE GROUPS.

Age Group.	Deaths from Cancer per 10,000 of each Sex.			
	1890-92.	1900-02.	1910-12.	1920-22.
<i>Males.</i>				
Under 5 ...	·18	·30	·73	·46
5 to 10 ...	·10	·42	·25	·13
10 " 15 ...	·11	·20	·16	·14
15 " 20 ...	·17	·22	·15	·30
20 " 25 ...	·32	·33	·71	·64
25 " 35 ...	·81	1·26	·96	·76
35 " 45 ...	4·29	3·69	3·16	3·31
45 " 55 ...	14·83	14·14	16·03	13·94
55 " 65 ...	31·92	36·00	36·36	40·46
65 " 75 ...	52·75	59·04	74·15	78·21
75 and over	53·55	74·04	88·40	110·12
All ages	6·16	7·52	8·50	9·52
<i>Females.</i>				
Under 5 ...	·09	·26	·19	·39
5 to 10 ...	·10	·04	·10	·17
10 " 15 ...	·06	..	·27	·05
15 " 20 ...	·12	·28	·44	·15
20 " 25 ...	·22	·23	·41	·30
25 " 35 ...	1·68	1·61	1·39	1·28
35 " 45 ...	7·43	6·05	7·26	6·61
45 " 55 ...	18·00	18·13	17·87	19·14
55 " 65 ...	31·79	33·05	33·03	34·48
65 " 75 ...	53·96	51·18	61·66	63·05
75 and over	49·55	62·70	86·19	92·86
All ages	5·57	6·64	8·76	9·63

Deaths from cancer occur at all age periods, but the rates in the foregoing table show that it is essentially a disease of later life, increasing rapidly in the groups past middle age, and reaching a maximum mortality rate in the oldest age group. From the figures for the periods 1910-12 and 1920-22 it will be seen that there was in the later period a considerable increase in the death rate from cancer.

Seat of cancer.

The following table shows the seat of cancer in persons who died from this disease in 1925 :—

SEAT OF CANCER.

Seat of Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Cancer of the buccal cavity (mouth, &c.) ..	69	7	76
„ the stomach and liver ...	351	242	593
„ the peritoneum, the intestines, and the rectum ...	117	117	234
„ the female genital organs ...	...	153	153
„ the breast ...	...	150	150
„ the skin ...	29	19	48
„ other and unspecified organs ...	233	148	381
Total Deaths ...	799	836	1,635

Thirty-six per cent. of the persons who died from cancer were affected in the stomach or liver. Of the females who died from the disease 36 per cent. were affected in the genital organs or the breast.

During 1925 diabetes was responsible for 73 male and 106 female deaths, representing a rate of 107 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 133 in 1924, 98 in 1923, 110 in 1922, 136 in 1921, 126 in 1920, 134 in 1919, 146 in 1918, 120 in 1917, 128 in 1916, 114 in 1915, 119 in 1914, 91 in 1913, and 107 in 1908-12. The deaths from diabetes per 10,000 of each sex in nine age groups, for the periods 1900-02, 1910-12, and 1920-22, are shown in the subjoined table :—

DEATHS FROM DIABETES PER 10,000 OF EACH SEX.

Age Group.	Deaths per 10,000 of each Sex.					
	Males.			Females.		
	1900-02.	1910-12.	1920-22.	1900-02.	1910-12.	1920-22.
0-10 ...	·09	·10	·13	·05	·15	·22
10-20 ...	·24	·20	·31	·26	·36	·39
20-30 ...	·17	·64	·48	·36	·30	·53
30-40 ...	·32	·58	·45	·51	·53	·54
40-50 ...	·49	1·11	·95	·42	·78	1·11
50-60 ...	1·38	1·80	2·14	1·42	3·18	2·79
60-70 ...	2·67	5·63	5·19	3·19	8·47	8·02
70-80 ...	4·36	7·34	7·37	5·01	11·54	12·51
80 and over ...	4·11	7·43	8·42	3·54	6·83	6·02
All Ages ...	·56	1·00	1·03	·60	1·26	1·45

In 1920-22 the female exceeded the male rate for each age group between 40 and 80, the excess for the twenty years of life 60 to 80 amounting to 61 per cent. For all ages combined the rate for females was 41 per cent. higher than that for males.

Anæmia, chlorosis, leucæmia. Anæmia, chlorosis, and leucæmia were responsible for 173 deaths in 1925, which corresponded to a rate of 104 per million of the population, as against rates of 97 in 1924, 118 in 1923, 85 in 1922, 104 in 1921, 90 in 1920, 93 in 1919, 90 in 1918, 97 in 1917, 94 in 1916, and 81 in 1908-12. Of the 49 persons who died from leucæmia in 1925, 32 were males.

Diseases of the spine. In 1925 locomotor ataxia and other diseases of the spine, excluding infantile paralysis, accounted for 34 male and 15 female deaths, representing a death rate of 29 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 55 in 1924, 49 in 1923, 38 in 1922, 52 in 1921, 45 in 1920, 73 in 1919, 88 in 1918, 58 in 1917, 70 in 1916, and 71 in 1908-12. Of the 17 persons who died from locomotor ataxia in 1925, 13 were males.

Heart disease. During 1925 there were 2,097 deaths ascribed to organic heart disease, 28 to pericarditis, 95 to endocarditis and myocarditis, and 93 to angina pectoris. The deaths of persons, over 45 years of age, from endocarditis and myocarditis, are now ascribed to organic heart disease. The total—2,313—from these causes represented a rate of 1,384 per million of the population, as compared with 1,364 in 1924, 1,423 in 1923, 1,245 in 1922, 1,267 in 1921, 1,287 in 1920, 1,402 in 1919, 1,400 in 1918, 1,442 in 1917, 1,287 in 1916, and 1,441 in 1908-12. Of the 2,313 persons who died from these diseases in 1925, only 52, or 2·25 per cent., were under 15 years of age. On the average of the three years 1920 to 1922 the deaths from all forms of heart disease per 10,000 of each sex, in age groups, were as follows :—

DEATH RATES FROM HEART DISEASE AT VARIOUS AGES, 1920-22.

Sex.	Deaths per 10,000 Persons aged—									
	0-15.	15-20.	20-25.	25-35.	35-45.	45-55.	55-65.	65-75.	75 and upwards.	All Ages.
Males ..	1·52	1·92	2·04	2·64	5·40	14·52	40·62	112·20	247·10	13·74
Females ..	1·15	1·85	1·53	3·25	5·26	10·73	29·53	85·65	208·17	11·70

The figures indicate that the mortality rate from heart disease is a function of age, and that it attains its maximum at the oldest age. Of the deaths of persons aged 75 and upwards, approximately 1 in 5 is due to some form of this disease.

Respiratory diseases. In 1925 the deaths from respiratory diseases numbered 1,482, which represented a rate of 887 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 1,143 in 1924, 1,441 in 1923, 1,195 in 1922, 1,141 in 1921, 1,329 in 1920, 1,430 in 1919, 1,160 in 1918, 1,094 in 1917, and 1,336 in 1916. Of the deaths from complaints of this nature in the year under review, 41 were referred to acute bronchitis, 99 to chronic bronchitis, 129 to bronchitis unspecified, 390 to broncho-pneumonia, 516 to pneumonia, 48 to pleurisy, and 48 to asthma. These six diseases accounted for 86 per cent. of the total respiratory mortality. The seasonal incidence of these maladies is evidenced by the deaths in June, July, August, and September, which represented 46 per cent. of the total for the whole year. Respiratory diseases are much more fatal at the extremes of life than at middle ages, and among males than females. This is shown in the appended table, which gives for each sex the death rates relating to groups of ages at five census periods :—

DEATHS FROM RESPIRATORY DISEASES PER 10,000 OF EACH SEX.

Age Group.	1880-82.	1890-92.	1900-02.	1910-12.	1920-22.
<i>Males.</i>					
0-15	29·02	28·52	16·53	12·94	10·25
15-20	3·30	2·92	2·70	1·66	1·76
20-25	5·34	4·88	4·85	2·35	2·73
25-35	8·31	6·85	5·94	3·86	3·71
35-45	15·80	13·55	9·49	10·50	8·01
45-55	26·59	25·18	18·04	18·25	15·69
55-65	51·65	56·51	38·37	32·68	30·42
65 and upwards	136·54	141·07	112·38	138·87	112·17
All ages	24·48	24·30	18·66	17·17	14·42
<i>Females.</i>					
0-15	24·18	24·13	13·85	10·50	8·54
15-20	2·02	3·52	2·34	1·56	2·32
20-25	4·23	3·05	3·34	2·48	1·72
25-35	5·72	5·65	3·75	3·55	3·25
35-45	12·53	11·55	7·68	5·85	4·90
45-55	13·63	17·01	11·80	8·28	6·71
55-65	29·15	32·10	27·42	16·64	13·50
65 and upwards	116·12	112·38	86·78	99·81	86·51
All ages	17·08	17·62	13·28	11·81	10·15

The mortality from respiratory diseases at all ages combined was less in the period 1920-22 than in any of the four previous census periods. At each census date the male exceeded the female rate, the average excess for the five census periods being 42 per cent.

Diseases of the digestive system. In 1925 there were 752 male and 624 female deaths from digestive ailments, representing a proportion of 823 per million of the population, as against rates of 778 in 1924, 914 in 1923, 796 in 1922, 1,095 in 1921, 1,147 in 1920, 978 in 1919, 1,030 in 1918, 884 in 1917, 1,206 in 1916, and 2,382 in 1890-92. Diarrhœal diseases were responsible for 629 deaths, which were equivalent to a rate of 376 per million of population, the corresponding rates in previous periods being 354 in 1924, 480 in 1923, 358 in 1922, 657 in 1921, 639 in 1920, 501 in 1919, 504 in 1918, 408 in 1917, 731 in 1916, 833 in 1908-12, and 1,342 in 1890-92. The age incidence of these diseases shows that they are heaviest at the extremes of life. Of the 629 deaths from diarrhœal diseases in the year under review, 489, or 78 per cent., were of children under 2 years of age, and 55, or about 9 per cent., were of persons over 65 years of age. There were 45 male and 30 female deaths from cirrhosis of the liver, 47 male and 80 female deaths from other affections of that organ (including hydatids), and 88 male and 88 female deaths from hernia and intestinal obstruction.

Appendicitis. The deaths from appendicitis numbered 112 in 1925, which represented a death rate of 67 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 75 in 1924, 70 in 1923, 67 in 1922, 57 in 1921, 63 in 1920, 61 in 1919, 66 in 1918, 62 in 1917, and 55 in 1916. Hospital records show that during the year ended 30th June, 1925, there were 2,887 cases treated, and that 56, or 1·9 per cent., ended fatally, as compared with fatality rates of 3·3 per cent. in 1924, 2·1 per cent. in 1923, 2·6 per cent. in 1922, 2·2 per cent. in 1921, 2·7 per cent. in 1920, 3·3 per cent. in 1919, 3·0 per cent. in 1918, 2·5 per cent. in 1917, 4·1 per cent. in 1916, 5·3 per cent. in 1915, and 6 per cent. in the period 1908-12. According to the experience of the three years 1920 to 1922 the death rate from appendicitis is approximately 63 per cent. higher among males than females. The mortality rates at various ages for that period were as follows:—

DEATH RATES FROM APPENDICITIS, 1920-22.

Sex.	Deaths from Appendicitis per 10,000 of each Sex aged—									
	Under 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 25.	25 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 55.	55 to 65.	65 and over.	All Ages.
Males..	0·31	0·87	1·31	0·86	0·74	1·08	0·79	0·85	0·68	0·78
Females	0·30	0·66	0·51	0·59	0·53	0·56	0·40	0·32	0·69	0·48

Hydatids. The deaths attributed to hydatids in 1925 numbered 18, being equivalent to a rate of 11 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 10 in 1924 and 1923, 13 in 1922, 14 in 1921, 13 in 1920, 18 in 1919, 21 in 1918, 14 in 1917, 21 in 1916, 22 in 1908-12, and 51 in 1890-92. According to the experience of the last ten years the death rate from this disease is 48 per cent. higher among males than females. Hospital returns for the period 1916-25 show that 664 cases of hydatids were treated therein and that 97, or, approximately, 1 in every 7, ended fatally.

Diseases of urinary system. In 1925 there were 1,048 deaths attributed to diseases of the urinary system, which corresponded to a rate of 627 per million of the population, as against rates of 626 in 1924, 628 in 1923, 624 in 1922, 643 in 1921, 697 in 1920, 645 in 1919, 741 in 1918, 710 in 1917, 705 in 1916, 712 in 1915, 670 in 1914, 724 in 1913, and 700 in 1909-12. Acute and chronic nephritis were responsible for 824 deaths, or 79 per cent., and complaints of the bladder and prostate for 144 deaths, or 14 per cent. of the total referred to maladies of the urinary system. The deaths per 10,000 of each sex, in age groups, for the periods 1900-02, 1910-12, and 1920-22 are shown in the following table :—

DEATH RATES FROM DISEASES OF URINARY SYSTEM.

Age Group.	Deaths per 10,000 of each Sex.					
	Males.			Females.		
	1900-02.	1910-12.	1920-22.	1900-02.	1910-12.	1920-22.
0-10 ... ..	.93	.67	.67	.59	.79	.67
10-20 ... ..	.45	.73	.53	.82	.71	.52
20-30	1.83	1.72	1.23	1.59	1.61	1.72
30-40	3.55	3.03	2.66	4.21	3.76	2.89
40-50	8.12	9.03	6.23	7.26	7.07	5.27
50-60	17.43	18.95	14.59	11.36	13.81	10.57
60-70	39.62	46.63	38.30	21.49	24.44	22.04
70-80	80.68	96.18	97.19	27.70	38.53	40.26
80 and over	128.48	153.04	167.09	27.15	43.70	54.38
All Ages	8.05	9.18	8.04	4.28	5.34	5.13

The figures for the latest period show that there is scarcely any difference between the rates for males and females under 50 years of age. For older ages, however, the excess of the male over the female rate is very pronounced, especially at ages 70 and upwards. For all ages the rate for males exceeds that for females by 57 per cent.

The death rate of women in childbed varies considerably at different ages, and is less at younger than at older age periods. The number of deaths of married mothers in childbed, and the death rates in various age groups are shown for the decade 1906-15 and the year 1925 in the following table :—

DEATH RATES OF MARRIED MOTHERS IN CHILDBED IN AGE GROUPS, 1906-1915 AND 1925.

Age Group.	Married Mothers.			
	Deaths.		Deaths per 1,000 Confinements.	
	1906-15.	1925.	1906-15.	1925.
Under 20 years	23	2	2·71	1·61
20 to 25 „	184	17	2·85	2·39
25 „ 30 „	326	39	3·60	3·86
30 „ 35 „	334	46	4·59	5·46
35 „ 40 „	346	31	6·86	5·95
40 years and over	156	14	6·90	7·44

The experience of the ten years 1906-15 showed that for the age period 35 years and upwards the deaths of mothers in childbed were 69 per 10,000, as against 37 per 10,000 for those under 35 years of age. For the same term of years the number of deaths per 1,000 married women of all ages in first confinements was 5·57, as against an average of 4·04 for other confinements.

Deaths in childbed. The death rate of women in childbed is usually ascertained by comparing the number of deaths of parturient women with the total number of births. The proportions for each of the last ten years, and the averages of previous periods back to 1871 are given below :—

DEATHS OF MOTHERS (MARRIED AND SINGLE) TO EVERY 10,000 CHILDREN BORN ALIVE.

Period.	Number of Mothers who Died Annually of—			Deaths of Mothers to every 10,000 Children Born Alive.
	Puerperal Diseases or Accidents. (Excluding Septicæmia.)	Puerperal Septicæmia.	Total.	
1871-80 ..	127	46	173	64·38
1881-90 ..	121	64	185	59·19
1891-1900 ..	117	66	183	56·01
1901-05 ..	126	58	184	60·92
1906-10 ..	101	46	147	47·17
1911-15 ..	96	58	154	43·55
1916 ..	75	55	130	37·97
1917 ..	89	45	134	40·56
1918 ..	64	43	107	33·86
1919 ..	95	39	134	42·38
1920 ..	132	62	194	53·57
1921 ..	105	58	163	45·80
1922 ..	91	31	122	33·62
1923 ..	79	29	108	30·11
1924 ..	120	56	176	48·70
1925 ..	117	39	156	43·43

It will be seen that the death rate of women in childbed has been much less in recent than in earlier periods. The deaths of mothers per 10,000 children born alive were 40·3 in 1921-25, as compared with 43·5 in 1911-15, 47·2 in 1906-10, and 60·9 in 1901-05.

**Puerperal
septicæmia**

In 1925 there were 39 deaths of married and unmarried mothers from puerperal septicæmia, which corresponded to a death rate of 10·9 per 10,000 births, as against 15·5 in 1924, 8·1 in 1923, 8·5 in 1922, 16·3 in 1921, 17·1 in 1920, 12·3 in 1919, 13·6 in 1918 and 1917, 16·1 in 1916, 11·4 in 1915, 16·8 in 1914, 18·1 in 1913, 16·0 in 1908-12. and 18·1 in 1901-07.

**Medical
Attendance at
Confinement.**

With a view to ascertaining the effect of the passing of the Commonwealth Maternity Allowance Act 1912 on the number of mothers who availed themselves of medical attention in confinement, the birth registration records for the years 1911, 1918, and 1924 have been examined, and the proportions so attended have been ascertained for the metropolitan area, the rest of the State, and the whole State.

**MEDICAL ATTENTION OBTAINED AT CONFINEMENTS,
PROPORTION OF TOTAL CONFINEMENTS, 1911, 1918,
AND 1924.**

Year.	Metropolitan Area.	Rest of the State.	Total State.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
1911 	73	65	68
1918 	81	77	79
1924 	87	90	89

NOTE.—Stillbirths and abortions have not been taken into consideration.

The above figures give evidence of the beneficial effects of the Act, especially in the country areas, where the proportion of births medically attended has risen from 65 per cent. in 1911 to 90 per cent. in 1924. It will be observed that, in 1924, the proportion for the Rest of the State exceeded that for the Metropolitan area.

In the three years mentioned there were 11, 12, and 9 births respectively registered where no one was shown as being in attendance at birth, but, in the majority of these cases, the children were foundlings

Senile decay. During the year 1925, the deaths of 598 men and 676 women were ascribed to senile decay. The deaths at ages 65 and over from all causes during the year numbered 5,980—3,051 of men and 2,929 of women.

Accidental violence. Death rates from accidental violence have been lower in late years than in earlier periods, a result that is chiefly due to the lighter mortality rate from accidental drowning, the smaller proportion of the population engaged in country occupations, which are generally of a more hazardous nature than those in towns, and the increasing proportion of females in the community. In 1925, 636 male and 207 female deaths were attributed to accidents and negligence, which represented a rate of 504 per million of the population. This proportion was 15.0 per cent. above the average rate—439—for the previous five years, and 37.9 per cent. below the rate—811—for 1890-92. The numbers of deaths from various accidents in 1925 are given in the appended table:—

DEATHS FROM ACCIDENTAL VIOLENCE, 1925.

Nature or Place of Accident.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Poisoning by Food	4	2	6
Snake Bite	5	..	5
Other Acute Poisonings	10	5	15
Burns (including Conflagrations)	34	41	75
Absorption of Poisonous Gases	7	6	13
Accidental Mechanical Suffocation.. .. .	5	4	9
Suffocation in bed (infants)	4	1	5
Drowning	115	24	139
Firearms	35	1	36
Falls	48	4	52
In Mines and Quarries	5	..	5
Machines	9	..	9
Vehicular Accidents	237	62	299
Injuries by Animals	5	1	6
Effects of Heat	2	3	5
Excessive Cold .. .. .	..	..	..
Electricity	5	1	6
Lightning .. .. .	..	..	..
Fractures, Unspecified	37	37	74
Other Violence	69	15	84
Total	636	207	843

On the average of the last three years the female mortality rate from accidents was 30 per cent. of the rate for males.

Vehicular Accidents.

In 1925, deaths from vehicular accidents numbered 299, as against 245 in 1924, 201 in 1923, 163 in 1922, 178 in 1921, and 153 in 1920. Motor vehicles were involved in 168 deaths in 1925, as against 135 in 1924, 103 in 1923, 65 in 1922, 38 in 1921, and 43 in 1920.

In the following table details are given of deaths due to collisions between various types of conveyances, pedestrians killed, and other fatal accidents in which vehicles were concerned, for the year 1925:—

DEATHS FROM VEHICULAR ACCIDENTS, IN VICTORIA, 1925.

	Collisions between—					Pedestrians killed.	Fall from vehicles and other accidents.	Total.	Males.	Females.
	Motor omnibus, car, trolley.	Motor cycle.	Horse drawn vehicle.	Bicycle.	Total.					
On Railways	9	..	4	..	13	42*	9	64	47	17
Tramcar	1	2	2	1	6	22	4	32	29	3
Motor omnibus	2	4	..	..	6	2	2	10	10	..
" car	2	8	2	5	17	65	22	104	78	26
" lorry, &c. .. .. .	..	2	2	..	4	18	6	28	20	8
" cycle .. .. .	..	1	3	..	4	5	11	20	17	3
Vehicle drawn by horses .. .. .	..	..	..	2	2	7	20	29	26	3
Bicycle .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	4	3	7	6	1
Aeroplane .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..
Other or undefined .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	4	3	1
Total	14	17	13	8	52	166	81	299	237	62

* Including 9 railway employees.

Fatal accidents among males at different ages.

The mortality rate from accidents is only one-half as great among males aged 15 to 45 as among men over age 45. The deaths per 10,000 males at certain ages from drowning and other accidents, for the period 1920-22, were as follows:—

DEATH RATES FROM ACCIDENTS—MALES, 1920-22.

	Accidental Deaths per 10,000 Males Aged—							
	15-20.	20-25.	25-35.	35-45.	45-55.	55-65.	65 and over.	15 and upwards.
Drowning	1·92	1·13	1·06	1·11	1·46	1·91	2·43	1·44
Other Accidents	3·43	4·34	4·91	5·26	6·05	8·24	14·38	5·91
Total Accidents	5·35	5·47	5·97	6·37	7·51	10·15	16·81	7·35

For men aged 20 to 35 the death rate from accidental violence is about one-third of that for men over age 65 and slightly greater than one-half of the rate for those aged 55 to 65.

Suicide.

In the year 1925, 144 males and 35 females took their own lives. The deaths represented a rate of 107 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 72 in 1924, 78 in 1923, 81 in 1922, 99 in 1921, 95 in 1920, 89 in 1919, 72 in 1918, 88 in 1917, 83 in 1916, 105 in 1915, 90 in 1914, 103 in 1913, 102 in 1908-12, and 109 in 1890-92. A much lower rate from suicide obtains among females than males, the rate for the former being 23·4 per cent. of that for the latter on the average of the last five years.

Homicide.

The deaths ascribed to homicide in 1925 numbered 21, of which 10 were of males and 11 of females. These represented a rate of 13 per million of the population, as against rates of 11 in 1924, 13 in 1923, 15 in 1922, 14 in 1921, 12 in 1920, 18 in 1919, 13 in 1918 and 1917, 14 in 1916, 17 in 1915, 16 in 1914, 18 in 1913, and 19 in 1908-12.

NATURAL INCREASE.

The average annual natural increase, *i.e.*, the excess of births over deaths, per 1,000 of the population, in the various Australasian States, the Commonwealth of Australia, and New Zealand, for different periods since 1909, as well as detailed particulars for Victoria since 1879, are shown in the following tables:—

NATURAL INCREASE PER 1,000 OF THE POPULATION.

AUSTRALASIA.

Period.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1910-14	13·85	18·38	18·51	17·68	18·61	19·35	17·03	16·80
1915-19	11·75	15·98	17·06	14·84	15·47	17·83	14·99	16·80
1920-24	12·49	15·80	16·03	13·72	14·04	16·71	14·62	14·19
1925 ..	12·02	14·85	14·96	11·91	13·23	14·89	13·69	12·88

VICTORIA.

Period.	Excess of Births over Deaths.	Annual Rates per 1,000 of Population.			Period.	Excess of Births over Deaths.	Annual Rates per 1,000 of Population.		
		Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.			Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.
1880-84	14,466	30·64	14·40	16·24	1905-09	16,062	24·76	11·93	12·83
1885-89	16,741	32·27	15·87	16·40	1910-14	18,795	25·42	11·57	13·85
1890-94	20,059	31·99	14·62	17·37	1915-19	16,818	23·13	11·38	11·75
1895-99	15,625	26·76	13·81	12·95	1920-24	19,647	22·89	10·40	12·49
1900-04	14,859	25·08	12·78	12·30	1925 ..	20,086	21·49	9·47	12·02

The relatively small natural increase in 1915-19 was very largely due to a heavy mortality rate from influenza in 1919. The mean increase in the Australian States for the period 1921-25 was 14·37 per 1,000 of population, which is probably greater than will prevail when the age constitution of the people becomes similar to that of old settled countries. At present the proportion of elderly people is smaller than in those countries, and, partly as a consequence of this, the death rate is lower. The Victorian death rates are below those of England and Wales at nearly all periods of life. The Australian annual rate of increase due to excess of births over deaths for 1921-25—14·37—would enable a population to double itself in 48 years, while, at the Victorian rate of 12·33 per 1,000 of population, a period of 56 years would be required. In England and Wales in 1925 the excess of births over deaths was 6·1 per 1,000 of population.

MUNICIPAL STATISTICS.

Early
legislation.

Amongst the various enactments which became law for Victoria on its separation from New South Wales was a provision in the Imperial Act authorizing the Governor to incorporate the inhabitants of every county, to form districts for the purpose of local government, and to establish elective District Councils with power to frame by-laws for making and maintaining roads, establishing schools, levying local tolls and rates, &c. Many of the provisions of the Act were found to be unworkable and expensive in the details, and the District Councils therefore discontinued their meetings and practical working under the Act. Improved legislation being required, an Act was passed in 1853, establishing a central Road Board for the whole Colony, with an Inspector-General and staff, and also providing for the creation of local Road Districts under the management of Road Boards. This Act made provision chiefly for local government in country districts, and the greater part of it remained in force until 1863, when it was repealed, and replaced by the Roads Districts and Shires Act. In the meanwhile suburban districts and towns were growing up, and in 1854 an Act was passed for the establishment of municipal institutions in Victoria. This Act also continued in force till 1863, when its chief provisions were merged into the Municipal Corporations Act. Further improvements and extensions have been made from time to time in the Acts dealing with local government, and such government is now practically universal throughout Victoria, the whole area of the State (except French Island) being divided into urban or rural municipal districts. The former are called cities, towns, and boroughs and the latter shires.

The laws relating to local government were amended and consolidated by the *Local Government Act 1915*. The councils of municipalities have power to levy rates, which, together with licence-fees, subsidies received from the State, market dues, rents, and sanitary charges, form their chief sources of income. Their principal functions are to make, maintain, and control streets, roads, bridges, ferries, culverts, sewers, drains, water-courses, and jetties within their respective boundaries; and, under proper by-laws, to control the traffic and regulate the markets, pounds, abattoirs, baths, and places of recreation; also to make arrangements for sewerage, lighting, water supply, and carrying on of noxious trades, and to act as local Boards of Health.

Cities, towns, boroughs, and shires. Any portion of Victoria, not exceeding in area nine square miles, and having no point in such area distant more than six miles from any other point therein, which contains at least 500 inhabitant householders, and rateable property capable of yielding £300 per annum upon a rate of one shilling in the pound, may be constituted a borough. Any borough having during the preceding financial year a revenue of £10,000 may be declared a town; or, having a revenue of £20,000, may be declared a city. Any portion of Victoria containing rateable property capable of yielding £1,500 on a rate of one shilling in the pound may be constituted a shire. There are 55 cities, towns, and boroughs in Victoria, and 139 shires. The Governor in Council may unite any two or more boroughs which form one contiguous area so as to form one borough, notwithstanding that the area would exceed the limits above specified; may unite any number of municipalities, one of which is a shire, which form one contiguous area, so as to form one shire, and may sever any portion of a municipal district and attach it to another, annex an outlying district, subdivide any municipal district into any number of divisions not exceeding eight, alter the boundaries, or abolish the subdivisions.

Townships. On petition by twenty-five ratepayers resident in any portion, not exceeding three square miles in extent, of any shire; and distant more than ten miles from the City of Melbourne, the Governor in Council may proclaim such portion a township.

Municipal councillors. Each municipality existing at the commencement of the original Act, 29th December, 1854—now incorporated in the Act of 1915—is allowed the number of councillors then assigned to it; but in other cases the number must be some multiple of three, not less than six nor more than 24. The number is usually nine. If the district is subdivided, the number of councillors is three for each subdivision. If at any time in any municipality there is no council or there are not enough councillors to form a quorum, a commissioner may be appointed by the Governor in Council to exercise the powers of the council. Every person of either sex liable to be rated in respect of property in the municipal district of the rateable annual value of £20 at least, whether consisting of one or more tenements, is qualified to hold the office of councillor, with the exception of (a) undischarged bankrupts or insolvents; (b) persons attainted of treason or convicted of felony or perjury or any infamous crime; (c) persons of unsound mind; and (d) persons holding an office of profit under the council or participating directly or indirectly in a contract with the council. The election of councillors takes place annually. One-third of the councillors retire each year by rotation, but retiring councillors may be re-elected. The councillors elect their own chairman; who, in the case of cities, towns, and boroughs, is called the mayor; in the case of shires, the president.

Every person (male or female) 21 years of age or upwards, liable to be rated in respect of property within a municipal district in respect of which all rates, made before 10th March of the year, have been paid by the 10th June, is entitled to be enrolled as a voter. Plurality of votes is allowed upon the following scale :—

IN CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHES.

Properties rated at an annual value of	under £50	..	..	One vote.			
”	”	”	”	£50 to £100	..	..	Two votes
”	”	”	”	£100 and upwards	..	..	Three votes.

IN SHIRES.

Properties rated at an annual value of	under £25	..	..	One vote.			
”	”	”	”	£25 to £75	..	..	Two votes.
”	”	”	”	£75 and upwards	..	..	Three votes.

No person may be enrolled in respect of property rated under £5 a year, unless there is a house on the property, and he resides there. The occupier and the owner are not to be both enrolled in respect of the same property, the former having the prior right to enrolment. Corporations liable to be rated may nominate not more than three persons to be enrolled in their stead, and joint occupiers and owners, not exceeding three, are each entitled to be enrolled. If there be more than three, then the three standing first on the last rate valuation or return are so entitled. No “immigrant” within the meaning of the *Chinese Act* 1915 is entitled to be enrolled unless he is a naturalized or natural-born subject. The *Voting by Post Act* 1915 may be made applicable to the elections for any municipality on the petition of the councillors.

All land situated in a municipal district is rateable property except the following:—Crown lands unoccupied or used for public purposes; lands dedicated by the trustees of agricultural colleges as sites for agricultural colleges or experimental farms; land used exclusively for commons, mines, public worship, mechanics’ institutes, public libraries, cemeteries, primary free schools, technical schools subsidized by Government, and charitable purposes; land vested in or held by or in trust for any municipality or council thereof, or any authority under the *Water Act* 1915; and land vested in fee in the Railways Commissioners, Minister of Public Instruction, Board of Land and Works, Melbourne and Geelong Harbor Trusts Commissioners, Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, and Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust. The expression “land” includes, of course, all buildings and improvements thereon. For the purpose of rating the valuation of property is computed at its net annual value, that is to say, at the rent at which the same might reasonably be expected to let from year to year, free of all usual tenants’ rates and taxes, and deducting therefrom the probable annual average cost of insurance and expenses (if

Rateable property.

any) necessary to maintain the property in a state to command such rent; provided that no rateable property shall be computed as of an annual value of less than £5 per centum upon the fair capital value of the fee-simple thereof. A council may, however, with the consent of the ratepayers at a poll to be held, if demanded, levy rates on the basis of the unimproved capital value of the land. In the case of certain Crown lands occupied (other than under lease) for pastoral purposes only the provision that the annual value must not be less than 5 per cent. on the capital value does not apply, and the occupier is rated on the actual net annual value of the property.

Rates levied in municipal districts are of three kinds, viz. :—General, extra, and separate rates. General rates are levied at least once in each year by the council of every municipality, and must not exceed in any one year 3s. in the pound of the net annual value, or be less than 6d. in the pound of such value. Every general rate is made and levied on the occupier of the property rated, or, if there be no occupier, or the occupier be the Crown or a public or local body, then upon the owner of the property. Extra rates may be levied in any one or more subdivisions of a district, on requisition by not less than two-thirds of the councillors for the subdivision, provided that both rates together in any subdivision do not exceed 3s. in the pound. Extra rates are levied on all properties alike in the subdivision; but, where any works or undertakings are for the special benefit of any particular portion of the municipal district, a "separate rate" may be levied, with the consent of a majority of the occupiers, and of one-third at least of the owners of the properties affected. The separate rates to be levied may be differential, according to the benefits to be received by different properties, and the amount of the rate must be such as will, in the opinion of the council, suffice to provide for the payment of interest, and periodical repayments of, or a sinking fund for a loan raised on the security of such rate.

Several municipalities in the State have from the year 1920-21 levied the general rate on the unimproved capital value of land instead of on the net annual value of property. Authority for this change was given by an Act passed on 3rd February, 1914, and amended on 6th January, and 14th September, 1920. These Acts were consolidated and amended by the *Rating on Unimproved Values Act 1922* (No. 3199) which was assented to on 23th November, 1922.

Under the provisions of the *Municipal Rates Recovery Act 1916* power is given to any municipality to sell vacant land charged with rates unpaid for not less than 10 years and which has been unoccupied for more than 5 years. Prior to the sale the owner of the land must be informed by registered letter, and notices must be posted on the land and at the municipal offices for not less than one month.

Improvement charge. Where under any Act a council is empowered to execute any work at the cost of the owners, or to require such owners to do so, a special improvement charge may be made on the properties affected, on the security of which money may be borrowed for the carrying out of such work.

Incorporation of Melbourne and Geelong. Melbourne and Geelong—the latter of which for many years ranked next in importance to the metropolis—having been incorporated under special statutes prior to the establishment of municipal government on a large scale throughout the State, are not subject to the Local Government Acts except in a few comparatively unimportant particulars. Melbourne was incorporated as a town in 1842, and was ordained a city in 1847. Geelong was incorporated as a town in 1849, and proclaimed a city in 1910.

New Municipalities. A portion of the Shire of Nunawading was excised on 25th May, 1925, and a new shire entitled Shire of Blackburn and Mitcham was constituted. The remaining portion of the Shire of Nunawading was proclaimed a borough with the name of Box Hill Borough on 15th December, 1925.

Municipalities: 1921-22 to 1925-26. The total number of municipalities throughout the State in which local government was being administered at the end of the year 1925 was 194. Of these, 27 ranked as cities, 5 as towns, 23 as boroughs, and the remainder (139) as shires. The following is a statement of the estimated population, number of ratepayers, estimated number of dwellings (inhabited and uninhabited), total and annual value of rateable property, and annual revenue of cities, towns, boroughs, and shires in each of the five years ended 1925-26 :—

MUNICIPALITIES: 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Year.	Popula- tion.	Number of Rate- payers.	Estimated Number of Dwellings.		Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue.
			In- habited.	Unin- habited.	Total.	Annual.	
Cities, Towns, and Boroughs—							
1921-22 ..	914,371*	245,589	204,144*		£ 210,501,055	£ 11,869,636	£ 2,648,855
1922-23 ..	963,180	270,058	217,518	522	233,586,201	13,116,589	2,992,159
1923-24 ..	998,950	279,292	225,458	911	264,693,364	14,964,345	3,354,343
1924-25 ..	1,031,870	291,910	233,400	1,689	288,230,793	16,388,842	3,763,373
1925-26 ..	1,072,510	314,386	244,164	2,061	314,333,446	17,778,661	..
Shires—							
1921-22 ..	610,987*	201,956	141,842*		215,984,328	10,875,948	1,382,922
1922-23 ..	616,410	200,834	140,875	1,802	221,623,773	11,200,825	1,496,764
1923-24 ..	627,420	213,317	144,845	1,714	235,274,597	11,816,074	1,646,410
1924-25 ..	635,340	221,345	148,717	1,837	250,480,405	12,588,177	1,815,707
1925-26 ..	632,550	246,161	148,546	1,703	257,350,043	12,933,459	..
Total—							
1921-22 ..	1,525,358*	447,545	345,986*		426,485,383	22,745,584	4,031,777
1922-23 ..	1,579,599	470,892	358,393	2,324	455,209,974	24,317,414	4,488,923
1923-24 ..	1,626,370	492,609	370,303	2,625	499,967,961	26,780,419	5,000,753
1924-25 ..	1,667,010	513,255	382,117	3,576	538,711,198	28,977,019	5,579,080
1925-26 ..	1,705,060	560,547	392,710	3,764	571,683,489	30,712,120	..

* Census figures.

Increases in value of rateable properties and municipal revenue.

It will be observed from the figures given below that there has been a very substantial increase in the estimated value of rateable property and in the revenue of municipalities during the period covered by the foregoing table :—

INCREASE IN VALUE OF PROPERTIES AND IN MUNICIPAL REVENUE.

	Increase.		
	1925-26 over 1921-22.		1924-25 over 1921-22.
	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Revenue from all sources.
	Total.	Annual	
	£	£	£
Cities, Towns, and Boroughs	103,832,391	5,909,025	1,114,518
Shires	41,365,715	2,057,511	432,785
Total Increase	145,198,106	7,966,536	1,547,303

The number of ratepayers returned for 1925-26 was 560,547, and the total capital value of rateable property £571,683,489, which is equivalent to about 18½ years' purchase on the basis of the annual value of £30,712,120.

Unimproved Value of Rateable Property.

The estimated unimproved or ground value of rateable property in 1925-26 in cities, towns, and boroughs was £157,166,723, and in shires £171,566,696. Improvements are estimated at one-half in the case of urban and one-third in the case of rural properties, which are about the proportions that are found to prevail in New Zealand according to the valuations of the Valuer-General. A table showing the estimated annual, capital, and unimproved values in urban and rural districts in Victoria for a series of years appears on page 397 of the *Victorian Year-Book* for 1916-17.

The number of properties upon which the municipalities have levied rates during the past five years has steadily increased, as is shown in the appended statement :—

NUMBER OF PROPERTIES RATED IN MUNICIPALITIES, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Year.	Properties Rated.		
	In Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.	In Shires.	Total.
1921-22	289,099	287,299	576,398
1922-23	313,055	283,062	596,117
1923-24	332,794	30,168	632,962
1924-25	343,462	310,250	653,712
1925-26	366,494	339,421	705,915

The following is a statement of the estimated population, number of ratepayers, total and annual value of rateable property, annual endowment payable by the Government, total revenue, and amount of rate levied in the £ in each city, town, and borough in Victoria. The information relates to the municipal year, 1925-26, except as regards the items "revenue" and "annual endowment," the amounts of which are those for the year 1924-25 :—

CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHS, 1925-26.

Name.	Estimated Population.	Number of Rate-payers.	Amount of General Rate levied in the £.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue, 1924-25.	Annual Endowment payable by the Government.
				Total.	Annual.		
CITIES.							
Ballarat	37,000	8,940	s. d. 2 9	£ 5 067,090	£ 337,806	£ 77,575	£
Bendigo	26,200	6,399	2 6	3,138,912	261,576	56,857	..
Brighton	26,390	8,100	2 6	7,500,000	439,746	64,120	..
Brunswick	50,000	10,648	* 0 7	8,715,574	577,074	160,816	..
Camberwell	36,290	17,000	* 0 4	12,488,540	719,806	118,552	..
Caulfield	59,640	18,150	* 0 4½	16,099,894	914,426	147,155	..
Coburg	31,350	10,400	* 0 4½	6,481,100	324,055	92,527	..
Collingwood	33,900	7,600	2 3	9,324,040	466,202	56,898	..
Essendon	40,000	12,250	* 0 5	9,243,436	527,674	88,492	..
Fitzroy	34,300	7,678	2 2	7,709,055	513,937	63,226	..
Footscray	43,500	13,250	2 6	10,080,560	504,028	140,926	..
Geelong	15,650	4,720	2 7	4,959,980	247,999	52,237	..
Hawthorn	31,880	8,774	2 6	10,846,860	542,343	78,691	..
Kew	22,700	5,950	2 6	4,969,995	331,333	64,588	..
Malvern	43,000	12,720	2 6	13,806,060	690,303	138,205	..
Melbourne	103,600	32,040	2 0	83,343,300	4,167,165	1,174,618	..
Mordialloc	7,220	3,218	2 6	2,448,700	122,435	40,554	..
Northcote	38,200	10,000	2 6	8,181,420	409,071	110,053	..
Port Melbourne	13,150	2,885	2 3	1,984,325	158,746	42,191	..
Prahran	51,800	13,163	1 11	12,864,000	1,072,000	123,413	..
Preston	18,000	15,000	2 6	5,332,160	266,608	70,948	..
Richmond	43,600	9,301	2 3	9,998,370	555,465	71,452	..
South Melbourne	18,500	8,629	2 6	3,846,945	256,463	56,465	..
St. Kilda	47,250	10,500	2 6	16,040,780	802,039	124,607	..
Williamstown	41,200	10,114	2 0	11,227,272	935,606	105,665	..
Warrnambool	8,020	1,713	2 9	1,591,727	93,631	42,982	..
Williamstown	23,000	5,060	2 6	2,943,700	212,000	90,580	..

* Levied on unimproved value of land.

CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHES, 1925-26—continued.

Name.	Estimated Population.	Number of Rate-payers.	Amount of General Rate levied in the £.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue 1924-25.	Annual Endowment payable by the Government.
				Total.	Annual.		
TOWNS.							
Geelong West ..	10,540	2,415	s. d, 2 9	£ 1,793,820	£ 89,691	£ 19,796	£
Mildura ..	5,850	1,445	3 0	1,360,000	68,000	29,572	..
Newtown and Chilwell ..	8,270	2,129	* 0 5½	1,986,516	101,227	14,853	..
Oakleigh ..	8,470	3,138	* 0 4½	2,059,687	133,715	29,959	..
Sale ..	3,920	1,058	2 3	702,100	35,105	13,111	..
BOROUGHES.							
Ararat ..	5,000	990	2 3	653,820	32,691	18,475	25
Box Hill† ..	10,520	5,560	2 7	3,778,480	188,924	..	..
Carroll ..	6,500	4,548	* 0 3	1,681,116	83,009	25,273	50
Castlemaine ..	5,500	1,500	3 0	574,800	45,984	10,482	25
Clunes ..	1,200	475	1 6	79,156	11,308	2,141	37
Creswick ..	1,750	542	1 9	76,560	7,656	2,664	37
Daylesford ..	3,420	750	2 6	538,860	26,943	6,336	25
Eaglehawk ..	4,730	1,350	2 6	267,600	22,300	8,532	25
Echuca ..	3,940	865	2 10	769,486	41,962	10,426	25
Hamilton ..	5,200	1,279	2 6	1,067,240	53,362	11,219	25
Horsham ..	4,160	1,369	2 6	1,154,020	57,701	11,402	50
Inglewood ..	1,100	297	2 0	92,268	7,689	2,921	25
Koroit ..	1,860	424	2 6	444,220	22,211	5,749	25
Maryborough ..	4,840	1,148	2 9	346,700	34,670	13,300	25
Port Fairy ..	2,040	510	2 8	411,840	20,592	7,005	25
Portland ..	2,710	1,116	* 0 4½	574,562	30,494	7,744	25
Queenscliffe ..	2,600	703	2 9	345,040	17,252	4,145	50
Ringwood ..	3,000	2,000	2 0	1,113,740	55,687	6,688	50
Sebastopol ..	1,890	474	2 6	191,600	9,580	2,221	40
St. Arnaud ..	3,150	847	2 3	496,820	24,841	5,826	25
Stawell ..	4,660	1,012	2 9	303,000	30,300	17,462	25
Wangaratta ..	3,850	980	3 0	804,600	40,230	13,433	25
Wonthaggi ..	6,500	1,260	3 0	432,000	36,000	8,245	46
Total ..	1,072,510	314,386	..	314,333,446	17,778,661	3,763,373	710

* Levied on unimproved value of land.

† Constituted a Borough on 15th December, 1925. Revenue included with Nunawading Shire for 1924-25.

The next table contains a list of the shires, and similar particulars to those shown for the cities, towns, and boroughs:—

Shires,
1925-26.

SHIRES, 1925-26.

Name.	Estimated Population.	Number of Rate-payers.	Amount of General Rate levied in the £.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue 1924-25.	Annual Endowment payable by the Government.
				Total.	Annual.		
Alberton ..	5,720	1,289	s. d, 2 0	£ 2,105,800	£ 105,290	£ 13,705	£ 697
Alexandra ..	3,550	880	2 0	1,028,100	51,405	9,220	389
Arapiles ..	2,450	640	1 6	1,272,300	63,615	5,219	153
Ararat ..	6,040	1,690	1 6	4,318,700	215,935	18,874	641
Avoca ..	3,370	1,254	2 0	928,000	46,400	5,879	239
Avon ..	2,560	772	1 6	1,464,000	73,200	6,325	301
Bacchus Marsh ..	3,410	862	2 0	1,054,000	52,700	10,772	204
Bairnsdale ..	8,100	2,421	1 6	2,696,020	134,801	15,911	705
Ballan ..	3,190	1,223	1 6	1,118,880	55,944	5,542	236
Ballarat ..	4,030	1,200	1 6	1,240,560	62,028	5,883	286
Bannockburn ..	2,690	730	2 0	1,058,600	52,930	6,326	203
Barrabool ..	1,860	470	2 0	895,780	44,7-9	5,482	212
Beechworth ..	4,670	1,420	1 9	536,464	33,529	11,527	271

Municipal Statistics.

203

SHIRES, 1925-26—continued.

Name.	Estimated Population.	Number of Rate-payers.	Amount of General Rate levied in the £.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue 1924-25.	Annual Endowment payable by the Government.
				Total.	Annual.		
			s. d.	£	£	£	£
Belfast ..	2,610	672	2 0	1,601,020	80,051	9,201	£
Bellarine ..	4,160	2,000	1 9	1,307,000	65,350	6,726	240
Benalla ..	8,050	3,134	1 9	3,088,260	154,413	25,212	715
Berwick ..	9,540	3,640	2 0	2,756,260	137,813	17,977	495
Bet Bet ..	3,570	1,243	1 6	838,000	41,900	5,337	236
Birchtp ..	2,040	581	1 6	1,035,040	51,752	5,977	199
Blackburn and Mitcham ..	5,650	3,640	2 6	1,928,240	96,412	†	†
Borong ..	5,070	1,467	1 6	2,649,800	132,490	12,100	492
Braybrook ..	5,360	3,000	1 9	2,783,180	139,159	23,239	129
Bright ..	4,130	1,329	2 0	730,000	36,500	5,896	370
Broadford ..	1,370	380	1 9	498,840	24,942	3,246	148
Broadmeadows ..	4,030	10,422	1 9	2,213,580	110,679	14,136	251
Bulla ..	2,660	1,445	1 6	873,760	43,688	6,910	172
Buln Buln ..	6,830	1,600	2 6	1,452,600	72,634	11,717	616
Bungaree ..	3,220	760	2 0	710,900	35,545	4,687	395
Buninyong ..	5,100	1,646	1 9	1,302,040	65,102	6,985	296
Charlton ..	2,600	730	1 6	1,516,920	75,846	7,424	271
Chiltern ..	2,200	712	1 6	615,600	30,780	4,446	216
Cohuna ..	3,190	710	1 6	1,163,760	58,188	11,879	114
Colac ..	12,750	2,946	1 7	6,646,320	332,316	40,164	138
Corio ..	4,100	3,760	2 6	2,338,520	116,926	14,884	255
Cranbourne ..	6,000	1,930	2 6	2,407,900	120,395	14,838	342
Creswick ..	3,060	919	1 6	1,134,940	56,747	4,593	383
Dandenong ..	8,500	9,000	* 0 2½	2,500,000	125,000	32,051	209
Deakin ..	4,200	1,186	1 6	1,969,380	98,469	8,682	219
Dimboola ..	6,520	1,345	1 6	3,373,980	168,699	20,424	305
Donald ..	3,620	1,030	1 6	2,213,800	110,690	17,259	323
Doncaster and Templestowe ..	3,000	999	1 9	1,027,800	51,390	8,517	194
Dundas ..	3,670	1,269	1 9	2,937,920	146,896	13,280	517
Dunmunkle ..	4,800	1,200	1 6	2,885,740	144,287	19,104	612
East Loddon ..	1,840	460	1 6	1,588,000	79,400	7,054	271
Eltham ..	4,400	2,169	2 6	943,000	47,150	9,843	208
Euroa ..	4,030	1,140	2 0	1,422,160	71,108	10,623	321
Ferntree Gully ..	8,850	6,900	3 0	2,704,000	135,200	23,518	444
Flinders ..	4,920	5,500	1 9	1,518,820	75,941	12,848	128
Frankston and Hastings ..	5,100	4,213	3 0	1,869,360	93,468	31,992	213
Gisborne ..	2,450	1,050	1 9	805,200	40,260	5,576	168
Glenelg ..	5,580	1,644	2 0	3,115,600	155,780	17,059	591
Glenlyon ..	3,560	1,108	1 9	851,020	42,551	4,445	223
Gordon ..	3,310	880	1 6	1,895,520	94,776	9,003	365
Goulburn ..	2,260	630	1 0	771,380	38,569	4,464	172
Grenville ..	3,300	1,200	1 9	812,100	54,140	7,491	299
Hampden ..	11,120	2,390	2 6	6,601,480	330,074	49,996	370
Healesville ..	3,750	1,344	2 9	876,760	43,838	11,907	236
Heidelberg ..	22,300	15,000	2 0	6,798,880	339,944	110,187	245
Heytesbury ..	4,550	1,077	2 0	2,172,840	108,642	14,216	530
Huntly ..	3,190	810	1 6	1,254,120	62,706	6,322	198
Kara Kara ..	3,160	1,281	1 6	2,178,900	108,945	9,895	316
Karkaroc ..	5,700	1,500	1 6	3,136,320	156,816	17,332	469
Kellor ..	1,360	5,000	1 9	1,282,620	64,131	4,627	49
Kerang ..	8,700	2,100	1 6	3,756,580	187,829	32,4 7	330
Kilmore ..	1,810	540	2 0	273,970	27,397	5,023	136
Korong ..	5,030	1,565	1 6	2,028,280	101,414	9,292	321
Korumburra ..	7,500	2,000	2 0	2,676,000	133,800	18,571	982
Kowree ..	3,490	1,220	1 9	1,972,640	98,632	11,760	430
Kyneton ..	8,070	2,178	2 0	1,764,460	88,223	19,852	365
Lawliot ..	2,300	652	1 9	1,275,915	85,001	9,306	196
Leigh ..	1,570	520	1 6	1,046,800	52,340	5,132	272
Lexton ..	1,680	585	1 6	992,440	49,622	5,156	198
Lillydale ..	9,400	3,550	2 6	2,346,140	117,307	25,895	345
Lowan ..	3,800	1,300	2 3	2,048,000	102,400	16,793	296
Maffra ..	6,050	1,220	1 6	2,928,760	146,438	12,801	463
Maldon ..	3,170	1,085	1 6	702,000	35,100	3,940	185
Mansfield ..	4,100	1,340	2 0	1,715,520	85,776	11,544	542
Marong ..	5,930	1,400	2 0	2,040,620	102,031	11,649	454

* Levied on unimproved value of land.
† Revenue included with Nunawading Shire for 1924-25.

SHIRES, 1925-26—continued.

Name.	Estimated Population.	Number of Rate-payers	Amount of General Rate levied in the £.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue 1924-25.	Annual Endowment payable by the Government.
				Total.	Annual.		
			s. d.	£	£	£	£
Melton ..	1,470	436	1 9	1,077,040	53,852	6,069	145
Metcalfe ..	2,760	1,000	1 6	799,960	39,998	3,347	..
Mildura ..	8,600	2,450	2 0	2,530,500	126,525	16,664	184
Minhamite ..	2,000	723	2 0	1,848,260	92,413	12,993	321
Mirboo ..	1,630	428	3 0	682,460	34,123	5,711	355
Moorabbin ..	10,160	8,400	2 6	3,326,680	166,334	31,777	296
Mornington ..	2,560	1,695	2 0	1,177,140	58,857	12,096	114
Mortlake ..	3,050	853	1 9	3,577,280	178,864	15,868	346
Morwell ..	3,980	890	2 3	1,311,480	65,574	12,550	435
Mount Rouse ..	2,800	730	1 6	2,114,300	105,715	9,991	198
Mulgrave ..	3,950	2,370	2 6	1,475,920	73,796	9,741	221
McIvor ..	3,550	1,101	1 6	1,204,920	60,246	6,746	221
Narracan ..	7,120	1,370	2 0	2,174,640	108,732	13,957	920
Newham and Woodend ..	2,250	680	2 0	640,000	32,000	6,872	148
Newstead and Mt. Alexander ..	2,710	886	1 6	538,560	26,928	2,788	166
Nunurkah ..	5,920	1,260	1 6	3,154,000	157,703	18,518	591
Nunawading ..	..	..	..	..	..	69,384	469
Omeo ..	2,510	804	2 3	898,380	44,919	7,678	836
Orbost ..	3,970	1,026	2 6	1,211,360	60,568	9,587	472
Otway ..	4,360	1,047	3 0	896,560	44,828	7,065	471
Oxley ..	4,030	1,028	1 9	1,439,000	71,950	8,134	370
Phillip Island and Woolamai ..	5,530	1,481	2 6	1,585,400	79,270	12,246	545
Portland ..	5,460	2,020	1 6	2,265,380	113,269	10,461	494
Pyalong ..	760	275	1 6	584,280	29,214	1,761	113
Ripon ..	3,610	1,100	2 6	1,334,020	91,701	13,529	221
Rochester ..	6,450	1,676	1 6	2,981,800	149,090	14,718	246
Rodney ..	8,100	1,920	2 3	3,262,960	163,148	18,864	432
Romsey ..	3,300	850	2 0	1,251,820	62,591	7,362	320
Rosedale ..	4,620	1,220	* 0 1½	3,000,000	150,000	10,733	537
Rutherglen ..	4,100	974	1 9	1,022,000	51,100	7,645	257
Seymour ..	3,930	1,075	2 0	1,048,560	52,428	11,214	420
Shepparton ..	8,050	1,855	1 6	2,701,000	135,050	18,014	469
South Barwon ..	3,400	2,445	2 9	1,092,880	54,644	9,074	187
South Gippsland ..	4,790	1,176	2 3	1,387,300	69,365	8,547	517
Stawell ..	3,500	1,270	1 9	2,022,360	101,118	10,107	308
Strathfieldsaye ..	3,460	1,003	1 9	533,520	26,676	3,211	137
Swan Hill ..	12,350	3,922	1 6	5,554,860	277,743	31,405	272
Talbot ..	1,460	552	1 4	578,900	28,945	3,759	134
Tambo ..	4,330	1,156	2 9	1,116,360	55,818	7,730	513
Towong ..	4,480	1,200	1 9	1,808,000	90,400	20,548	578
Traralgon ..	3,480	716	2 3	1,346,380	67,319	12,056	441
Tullaroop ..	2,970	865	1 6	574,200	38,280	4,423	206
Tungamah ..	4,680	1,600	1 0	3,195,140	159,757	9,828	444
Upper Murray ..	2,340	515	1 9	1,060,360	53,018	6,073	307
Upper Yarra ..	5,700	1,376	2 6	785,800	39,290	6,312	221
Violet Town ..	1,950	652	1 9	761,100	38,055	3,686	221
Walpeup ..	5,760	1,650	1 6	2,505,540	125,277	11,480	300
Wangaratta ..	2,510	902	1 6	968,820	48,441	4,261	146
Wannon ..	3,150	1,060	1 6	2,433,560	121,678	13,014	426
Warraga ..	5,650	1,698	2 0	2,130,800	106,540	14,357	370
Warragul ..	5,150	1,291	2 6	1,906,300	95,315	16,219	885
Warrnambool ..	8,460	1,769	1 9	4,739,900	236,995	30,669	678
Werribee ..	5,550	6,000	2 3	2,647,740	132,387	17,808	296
Whittlesea ..	3,600	1,040	2 0	1,520,000	76,000	10,141	226
Wimmera ..	4,340	1,072	1 0	3,600,000	180,000	10,684	360
Winchelsea ..	4,470	1,618	2 0	1,866,920	93,346	14,022	413
Wodonga ..	2,880	644	1 9	737,420	36,871	4,889	169
Woorayl ..	6,160	1,600	2 9	2,163,000	108,150	15,669	1,030
Wycheproof ..	4,330	1,256	1 6	3,056,660	152,833	14,376	328
Yackandandah ..	3,020	903	1 9	832,040	41,602	5,009	337
Yarrawonga ..	2,740	798	1 6	1,220,020	61,001	8,290	281
Yea ..	2,830	692	* 0 2½	1,203,854	61,435	8,762	377
Total ..	632,550	246,161	..	257,350,043	12,933,459	1,815,707	47,554

* Levied on unimproved value of land.

The following is the number of cities, towns, and boroughs, and the number of shires in which rates were struck in each of the last five years at the amounts set forth in the first column :—

RATINGS IN MUNICIPALITIES, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Amount levied in the £.	Number of Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.					Number of Shires.				
	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
s. d.										
0 6 ..	..	..	..	..	..	12	9	5	4	3
1 0 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1 1 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1 2 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1 3 ..	..	..	..	..	..	9	9	3	1	..
1 4 ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	2	1
1 6 ..	..	..	..	..	1	55	53	58	47	45
1 7 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	1
1 8 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1 9 ..	3	3	3	2	1	20	19	18	24	27
1 10 ..	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..
1 11 ..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
2 0 ..	6	7	4	3	4	19	26	27	31	30
2 1 ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..
2 2 ..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
2 3 ..	7	6	8	6	6	6	7	6	7	7
2 4 ..	2	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..
2 5 ..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2 6 ..	23	21	18	15	18	12	9	11	13	14
2 7 ..	1	1	1	4	2	..	..	..	..	..
2 8 ..	1	1	2	2	1	..	..	..	..	..
2 9 ..	..	2	5	7	6	..	..	..	1	4
2 10 ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
3 0 ..	..	1	2	3	4	..	..	1	4	4
Total ..	46	44	44	44	46	136	136	136	136	136

The particulars in this table for the five years ended 1925-26 are exclusive of those for the municipalities which levied the rate for the years mentioned on the unimproved value of land.

The figures for the quinquennial period give an average rating of 2s. 5d. in the £ in cities, towns, and boroughs, and of 1s. 9d. in shires. The average rating in the urban districts is thus shown to be 8d. in the £ more than in the rural districts. It will be observed that no municipality imposed during the last five years the minimum rate allowed by law, viz., 6d., and that the maximum rate of 3s. in the £ was imposed by only eight municipalities.

A table showing the proportionate number of properties at different rateable values in the years 1901-2, 1905-6, and 1909-10 appears on page 261 of the *Year-Book* for 1916-17.

Municipal revenue and expenditure. The ordinary revenue and expenditure of municipalities for each of the last three financial years were as follows :—

**REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF MUNICIPALITIES,
1923 TO 1925.**

Sources of Revenue.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Taxation —	£	£	£
Rates	2,559,847	2,847,282	3,152,570
Licences	152,437	155,009	162,430
Dog Fees	24,832	26,211	27,836
Government Endowment and Grants	60,607	87,783	88,335
Contributions for Streets, Footpaths, &c. ...	141,484	180,502	264,996
Market and Weighbridge Dues	99,337	97,494	111,548
Sanitary Charges	162,129	175,520	185,091
Rents	108,502	125,544	133,623
Electric Light and Gas Works	794,544	913,471	986,101
Other Sources	385,204	391,637	466,550
Total	4,488,923	5,000,753	5,579,080
Heads of Expenditure.			
Salaries, &c.	340,319	359,493	381,815
Sanitary Work, Street Cleansing, &c. ...	396,524	433,220	457,885
Lighting	131,342	134,025	144,064
Contributions to Fire Brigades	49,225	55,412	58,250
Public Works—			
Construction	294,711	404,661	479,690
Maintenance	1,366,202	1,845,278	2,104,402
Formation of Private Streets, &c. ...	163,660	343,978	426,689
Electric Light and Gas Works	582,380	680,568	715,498
Redemption of Loans	165,675	180,987	211,152
Interest on Loans	343,164	386,946	457,669
Charities	26,288	28,550	30,187
Other Expenditure	356,199	393,545	433,154
Total	4,215,689	5,246,663	5,900,455

As compared with 1924, the revenue of 1925 increased by £578,327, as follows :—Rates increased by £305,288, licences by £7,421, sanitary charges by £9,571, rents by £8,079, dog fees by £1,625, electric light and gas works by £72,630, contributions for streets, footpaths, &c., by £84,494, market and weighbridge dues by £13,754, Government endowment and grants by £552, and “other sources” by £74,913. The expenditure was in excess of the amount for the previous year by £653,792. All the items showed increases as under :—Salaries, £22,322; sanitary work and street cleansing, £24,665; lighting, £10,039; contributions to fire brigades boards, £2,838; public works construction, £75,029; public works maintenance, £259,124; electric light and gas works, £34,930; formation of private streets, &c., £82,711; redemption of loans, £30,165; interest on loans, £70,723; charities, £1,637; and other expenditure, £39,609,

Fifty-seven per cent. of municipal revenue in 1925 was derived from rates, 18 per cent. from electric light and gas works, 3 per cent. from licences of all kinds, 2 per cent. from market and weighbridge dues, $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. from dog fees, $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. from Government endowments and grants, 5 per cent. from contributions for streets, footpaths, &c., 3 per cent. from sanitary charges, 2 per cent. from rents, and 8 per cent. from all other sources.

Salaries. In 1925 the salaries of the municipal officers amounted to £381,815, or about 7 per cent. of the entire revenue.

Local charities. A sum of £30,187, or less than 1 per cent. of the revenue, was devoted to the local charities; the greater part of this disbursement was in aid of hospitals, benevolent asylums and associations, and orphan asylums.

The assets of the municipalities are shown below under three heads—(1) Municipal Fund, (2) Loan Fund, and (3) Property; and the liabilities under two heads—(1) Municipal Fund, and (2) Loan Fund.

MUNICIPAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 1923 TO 1925.

Assets.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Municipal Fund—	£	£	£
Uncollected Rates	202,251	231,623	282,495
Other Assets	730,603	1,098,843	1,390,966
Loan Funds—			
Sinking Funds—			
Amount at Credit	455,766	500,214	496,522
Arrears Due	670	127	724
Unexpended Balances	526,622	501,858	495,980
Property—			
Halls, Buildings, Markets, &c. ...	3,470,951	3,956,760	4,254,220
Waterworks	255,737	264,630	258,890
Gasworks	145,874	174,660	176,330
Electric Light Works... ..	1,699,120	1,816,760	1,966,810
Total Assets	7,487,594	8,545,475	9,322,937
Liabilities.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Municipal Fund—	£	£	£
Due on Current Contracts	155,233	161,031	144,677
Arrears due to Sinking Funds	670	127	724
Overdue Interest	8,054	7,445	8,440
Bank Overdrafts	665,866	892,893	1,106,264
Other Liabilities	440,031	767,691	990,177
Loan Funds—			
Loans Outstanding	6,601,731	7,574,523	8,146,750
Due on Loan Contracts	380,839	237,695	256,794
Total Liabilities	8,252,424	9,641,405	10,653,826

**Municipal
assets and
liabilities
compared.**

The total of the assets of municipalities in 1925 was £9,322,937 and of the liabilities £10,653,826. The aggregate of the current liabilities (Municipal Fund) was £2,250,282, against which there were assets amounting to £1,673,461.

The gross liability on account of loan expenditure for works completed and in progress was £3,403,544, which, after deducting sinking funds and unexpended balances, was reduced to £7,410,318. If credit were taken for the value of municipal properties in markets, halls, buildings, gasworks, electric light works, water works, &c. (£6,656,250), the net burden on account of loan moneys would be £754,038.

The valuation of municipal properties is probably an under-estimate, as the particulars furnished under this heading were not in every instance complete.

**Endowment of
municipalities.**

An annual endowment to municipalities of £310,000 was authorized by the *Local Government Act* 1874, and it ceased to be payable in 1879. A subsidy, however, in lieu of such endowment, amounting to £310,000, was voted by Parliament annually, and this vote was gradually increased until £450,000 was reached in 1889-90 and 1890-91. Under the *Local Government Act* 1891, £450,000 was provided as an annual endowment for the municipalities. This amount was reduced to £405,000 per annum from 1st January, 1893; to £310,000 from 1st July, 1893; to £100,000 from 1st July, 1894; and to £50,000 from 1st July, 1902. Under Act No. 2025 the endowment was increased to £75,000 for the year 1906-07, and from 1st July, 1907, it was increased under Act No. 2129 to £100,000. Payments were made on the basis of this amount to 30th June, 1915, but the sum payable was reduced to £50,000 for the year ended 30th June, 1916, and was maintained at that amount in the ten succeeding years under the authority of Acts passed periodically. The endowment is payable in equal moieties in March and September of each year, and no city or town is entitled to receive any part of it. The distribution amongst the boroughs and shires is based on the amount of general and extra rates received during the twelve months ended on the preceding 30th September, according to the following scale:—

To every borough or first-class shire	..	3s. in the £
„ second-class shire	..	5s. „
„ third-class shire	..	6s. „
„ fourth-class shire	..	8s. „
„ fifth-class shire	..	10s. „
„ sixth-class shire	..	12s. „

RATING ON UNIMPROVED VALUES BY MUNICIPALITIES.

Rating on Unimproved Values. An Act was passed by the State Parliament on 3rd February, 1914, to provide for optional rating by municipalities on the basis of the unimproved values of rateable property. It did not come into operation until 1st October, 1915. Amendments were made by Act No. 3045, passed on 6th January, 1920, and Act No. 3060, passed on 14th September, 1920. The law on the subject has been consolidated and amended by the *Rating on Unimproved Values Act 1922* (No. 3199), which was assented to on 28th November, 1922.

The Act may be adopted in any municipality by determination of the council or by a proposal for the adoption thereof being carried at a poll of the ratepayers. If the council, by special order, passes a resolution that it proposes to adopt this method of rating, a provisional valuation of all rateable properties within the municipal district (except "special rateable properties") computed at the unimproved capital value, the improved capital value and the net annual value thereof must be made. To the valuation must be added a statement setting forth the amount in the pound of the general rate last made on the basis of the net annual value of rateable properties, and the amount in the pound of a rate on the basis of the unimproved capital value of rateable properties which in its total revenue producing capacity corresponds with the amount in the pound of the said general rate. With respect to each rateable property a statement must be prepared showing the sum which would be leviable on the basis of the net annual value thereof under a general rate of the same amount in the pound as the general rate last made, and the sum which would be leviable on the basis of the unimproved capital value of the property. Notice must be given to each occupier or owner or in a newspaper circulating in the district that such valuation has been made and a statement containing particulars must be prepared, and must be open for inspection at the municipal offices during office hours by any ratepayer free of charge. After this has been done the municipality must publish in the *Government Gazette*, and in a newspaper generally circulating in the district, a notice that the council proposes to adopt the Act. If, within one month after the date of the last publication of the notice, one-tenth of the ratepayers in writing demand a poll, the proposal must be submitted by the council to the ratepayers, and it shall not be deemed to be carried unless affirmed by a majority of the valid votes recorded, and unless the number of such votes forms at least one-third of the number of votes for which voters are inscribed on the roll.

Where a council of a municipality has not published a notice that it intends to adopt the Act, one-tenth of the ratepayers may demand a poll.

If a proposal is adopted or rescinded, it cannot again be submitted to the ratepayers for three years.

Special rateable properties, such as railways, tramways, waterworks, hydraulic works, electric light and power works, gas works, and any undertaking extending continuously beyond the boundaries of any municipal district which is subject to more than one separate valuation, although there is no actual separation of the different parts of the rateable property, and other land, works or other rateable properties declared to be "special rateable properties" pursuant to the Act are not rateable on unimproved values.

New valuations showing the unimproved capital value, capital improved value, and net annual value are to be made at least once in every five years.

"Unimproved capital value" of land is defined as the sum which the land, if it were held for an estate in fee simple unencumbered by any mortgage, might in ordinary circumstances be expected to realize at the time of valuation if offered for sale on such reasonable terms and conditions as a *bonâ fide* seller might be expected to require and assuming that the improvements (if any) had not been made.

"Capital improved value" of land means the sum which the land, if it were held for an estate in fee simple unencumbered by any mortgage, might be expected to realize at the time of valuation if offered for sale on such reasonable terms and conditions as a *bonâ fide* seller might in ordinary circumstances be expected to require.

"Improvements" in land means all work actually done or material used thereon by the expenditure of capital or labour on or for the benefit of the land, but in so far only as the effect of such work done or material used is to increase the value of the land, and the benefit thereof is unexhausted at the time of the valuation; it does not include work done or material used on or for the benefit of land by the Crown, or by any statutory public body, unless such work has been paid for by the contribution of the owner or occupier for that purpose.

"Net annual value" of rateable property means the net annual value thereof computed as provided in the Local Government Acts, and (in the case of the city of Melbourne and the city of Geelong) includes the annual value thereof computed as provided in any Act or enactment relating to the city of Melbourne or the city of Geelong

The number of municipalities which levied the general rate on the new system was 8 for 1920-21, 10 for 1921-22, and 12 for each of the years 1922-23 to 1925-26 inclusive. The following table gives for

these municipalities particulars of the capital value of land (improved and unimproved), the annual improved value, the ratings, &c., for the year 1925-26 :—

RATING ON UNIMPROVED VALUES, 1925-26.

Municipality.	Capital Value.	Capital Unimproved Value.	Annual Improved Value.	Amount of Rate in the £ on Unimproved Value.	Equivalent Rate on Annual Improved Value.	Amount Collectible in 1926 on Unimproved Value.	Percentage Unimproved to Capital Value.
	£	£	£	s. d.	s. d.	£	
Brunswick City ..	8,715,574	2,702,740	577,074	0 7	2 9	78,830	31·01
Camberwell City ..	12,488,540	4,907,346	719,806	0 4*	2 3½	81,789	39·29
Carrum Borough ..	1,681,116	934,498	83,009	0 3†	2 9½	11,681	55·59
Caulfield City ..	16,099,894	5,431,396	914,426	0 4½	2 2½	101,839	33·74
Coburg City ..	6,481,100	2,128,364	324,055	0 4½	2 5½	39,907	32·84
Essendon City ..	9,243,436	2,900,213	527,674	0 5	2 3½	60,421	31·38
Newtown and Chilwell Town ..	1,986,516	598,539	101,227	0 5¼†	2 7	13,093	30·13
Oakleigh Town ..	2,059,687	928,394	133,715	0 4½	2 7¼	17,407	45·07
Portland Borough ..	574,562	237,796	30,494	0 4¼	2 9	4,211	41·39
Dandenong Shire ..	2,500,000	1,209,232	125,000	0 2½§	2 0¼	12,596	48·37
Rosedale Shire ..	3,000,000	1,506,000	150,000	0 1¼||	1 0½	7,844	50·20
Yea Shire ..	1,203,854	603,263	61,435	0 2¼¶	2 0½	6,284	50·11

NOTE.—In addition, there is an extra rate in the £ of—
 * 2s. 3¼d. on the net annual value of special rateable property.
 † ¼d. in the Centre and North Wards.
 ‡ 2. 7d. on the annual value of special rateable property.
 § 1½d. in the Centre Riding, and of ¼d. in the South Riding.
 || 3d. in the township of Rosedale.
 ¶ 4d. in the township of Yea.

HOUSING AND RECLAMATION ACTS 1920, 1922, AND 1923.**ERECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES BY STATE SAVINGS BANK COMMISSIONERS.**

An Act (No. 3088) to provide dwellings for eligible persons, and for the reclamation and improvement of insanitary, low-lying or over-crowded areas was passed by the State Parliament on 24th December, 1920. Amending Acts (No. 3249 and 3317) were passed on 21st December, 1922, and 22nd December, 1923, respectively. An eligible person is defined as one who is not the owner of a dwelling-house and is not in receipt of an income of more than £400 a year. Power is given to the Commissioners of the State Savings Bank to acquire land and to erect dwelling-houses thereon, the capital cost to the Commissioners of any dwelling-house, together with the land on which it is erected, not to exceed £850 for houses of wood, or £950 for brick, stone or concrete dwellings.

A person who purchases a dwelling-house from the Commissioners is permitted to occupy it as a weekly tenant, and is required to pay a rental at such rate per cent. per annum on the capital cost, or (where the Commissioners have required the payment of a deposit) on the difference between the capital cost and the amount of deposit paid, as may be determined by the Commissioners, also to pay all rates and taxes, and the cost of insurance, repairs and maintenance. An appropriation is made from the rent to cover interest on the amount of the capital cost outstanding, and the remainder of the rent is allotted towards payment of such capital cost.

When the purchaser has paid 20 per cent. of the purchase money and the amount due by him up to that time by way of instalments he may, if he so desires, execute a mortgage of the property in favour of the Commissioners. Payments in respect of purchase money are to be made in equal weekly, fortnightly, or monthly instalments in accordance with the contract of sale or mortgage entered into, but the period of repayment is not to exceed 28 years.

The number of contracts entered into for the erection of dwellings has been—

For year ended 30th June, 1923	..	..	813
do. do 1924	..	..	806
do. do. 1925	..	..	549
do. do. 1926	..	..	594

The position at 30th June, 1926, with regard to the erection of houses was—

Houses completed	..	..	..	3,102
In course of erection	..	..	..	295
Approved sites for which tenders had not then been accepted	..	..	..	280

Total number of applications approved 3,677

ERECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES BY MUNICIPALITIES.

Part XXVI. of the *Local Government Act* 1915 dealing with the erection of "workers' dwellings" by municipalities is repealed, but power is given to a municipality to purchase or take compulsorily any land in the municipal district regarded as suitable for the erection of dwelling-houses thereon for persons of small means. Power is also given to erect or purchase dwelling-houses at a cost not exceeding £800 including the cost of the land. These may be sold by the municipality to eligible persons under conditions similar to those existing in the case of the sales by the Savings Bank Commissioners referred to above. They may also be let upon such terms as the council of the municipality thinks fit. Sub-letting by tenants is not permitted.

For the purposes of any housing scheme the municipal council may, out of the municipal fund, advance any money required, if necessary increase the amount of the general rate to an extent not exceeding 6d. in the pound notwithstanding any statutory limit for such rate, and may borrow £100,000 over and above the amount authorized under the *Local Government Act* or any other Act. Once in every year a balance-sheet and statement of accounts must be prepared, setting out full particulars of the operations of the scheme.

Power is given to municipalities to borrow money for the reclamation and improvement of insanitary, low-lying or over-crowded areas. The amount that may be borrowed for this purpose by any one municipality is not to exceed £50,000. The cities of Melbourne and Geelong are separately dealt with as regards borrowing powers. The amounts that may be borrowed by them are as follows:—For housing schemes—City of Melbourne, £300,000; City of Geelong, £100,000; for reclamation schemes—City of Melbourne, £300,000; City of Geelong, £50,000.

When the council of any municipality desires to carry out any housing scheme or reclamation scheme it must prepare a general plan or description of the scheme, showing the character and extent of the works proposed, the mode in which it is proposed to obtain funds for the scheme, an estimate of the cost, the area affected, and a description of the betterment area (if any), *i.e.*, the area within which it is proposed to impose a betterment charge. Power is given to a council to impose a betterment charge amounting to one-half of the amount of the enhanced market value derived by lands from reclamation after making all fair and proper deductions for rates, taxes, assessments and impositions on or in respect of such lands according to such enhanced value.

WAR SERVICE HOMES.

Under agreement with the Commissioner for War Service Homes, the State Savings Bank Commissioners are building dwellings for

returned soldiers and other eligible persons under the War Service Homes Acts, the funds being provided by the Commonwealth Government. The dwellings erected or being erected under this agreement are based on the same plans as are used in accordance with the Housing Act, and, as nearly as possible, they are built under the same conditions.

Up to 30th June, 1925, the Bank had entered into contracts for the erection of 2,655 War Service Homes buildings, of which 2,454 have been completed. In addition, the Bank had made advances to 119 soldiers for purchase of existing dwellings or repayment of existing mortgages, and to 25 eligible applicants to enable them to build homes according to their own plans.

COUNTRY ROADS BOARD.

Country Roads Board. With the object of improving the main roads of the State an Act was passed on 23rd December, 1912 (Consolidated Act No. 2635), which empowers the Governor in Council to appoint a board to consist of three members. The chairman is to be paid an annual salary not exceeding £1,250, and each of the other members a salary not exceeding £900 (Act No. 3255).

Duties. The duties of the board are to ascertain by survey and investigation what roads are main roads; the nature and extent of the resources of Victoria in metals, minerals, and materials suitable for the purposes of road-making and maintenance, and the most effective and economical methods of dealing with the same, and of supplying and utilizing the material in any part of Victoria; the most effective methods of road construction and maintenance; what deviations (if any) in existing roads or what new roads should be made so as to facilitate communication and improve the conditions of traffic; and to record, publish, and make available for general information the results of all such surveys and investigations. The duty of furnishing information that may be required is imposed on the municipal authorities.

The construction of permanent works and the maintenance of main roads are to be carried out by the municipalities to the satisfaction of the board, but power is reserved to the Governor in Council to direct that permanent works and maintenance shall be carried out by the board.

Finance. For the purpose of making permanent works, power was given to the Governor in Council to issue stock or debentures to the amount of £400,000 a year for five years, and the principal and interest were made a charge upon the Consolidated Revenue of the State. The money so raised was to be placed to the credit of an account called "The Country Roads Board Loan Account," which has been debited with all payments made by the Treasurer towards the cost

of permanent works. Additional sums were made available as follow :—£500,000 under Act No. 3057 passed in September, 1920, which sum was to be raised in the two financial years 1920-21 and 1921-22 at the rate of £250,000 per annum; £500,000 under Act No. 3137 for expenditure during the two financial years commencing 1st July, 1922; £1,000,000 (by Act No. 3334) over a period of three years from 1st July, 1923, and £822,000 over five years commencing on 1st July, 1925. A sinking fund of 1 per cent per annum on half the amount borrowed is authorized to be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue until half the amount borrowed is redeemed. The total cost of the works, in the first instance, is paid by the Treasury, but subsequently half the amount expended is refunded by the municipalities affected. In the case of expenditure on permanent works an annual payment to the Treasurer of six per cent. ($4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. interest and the balance sinking fund) on the amount due by each municipality is provided for, thus liquidating the liability in $31\frac{1}{2}$ years; the cost of maintenance allocated to each municipality must be paid out of the municipal fund before the 1st July in each year. A special rate not to exceed 6d. in the pound on the net annual value of rateable property, to meet the cost of permanent works, may be levied in any ward or riding of a municipality as the council may direct. In the event of default of payment by a municipality the board may levy a rate to meet the amount owing. By Act No. 3057 it is provided that, where any amount remains unpaid on the 1st day of July in any year, such amount, together with interest at 6 per cent. per annum, may be deducted by the Treasurer from any moneys that become payable by him to the municipality out of the Consolidated Revenue or on account of any fees, fines, penalties or the equivalent of licence fees.

All fees and fines paid under the Motor Car Act, all moneys standing to the credit of the Municipal Fees and Fines Trust Fund, all fees paid on the registration or renewal of the registration of traction engines, and all fees received by the Crown under the *Unused Roads and Water Frontages Act 1903* (incorporated in the *Local Government Act 1915*), are credited to the Country Roads Board Fund for maintenance of main roads, and in addition thereto a sum of £10,000 is appropriated from Consolidated Revenue each year.

The amount of the municipal contribution towards the cost of maintenance works is one-third of the amount expended; the contribution is due on the first day of January following the financial year in which the expenditure is incurred and it must be paid before the succeeding first day of July. Power is given by Act No. 2986 to reduce contributions in respect of maintenance where the Board is satisfied that the cost of maintenance is excessive and that such cost is due to motor traffic not of local origin, or to timber traffic.

Since the appointment of the Board in March, 1913, the members have inspected the principal highways throughout the State. Every Shire Council and Borough Council with which the Board is likely to

have dealings relating to the construction or maintenance of roads declared main roads under the Act has been interviewed, and the provisions of the Act have been explained to it. A system for the continuous maintenance of all main roads has been evolved, by which it is hoped that those which are now being constructed or reconstructed will be kept in good condition, while those which are in a fair state of efficiency will be kept up to that standard.

During the year 1924-25 constructional work to the value of £228,872, and maintenance work involving an expenditure of £468,182 were undertaken.

The loan expenditure to 30th June, 1925, for permanent works was £3,161,783, and for developmental roads £3,119,168.

As soon as practicable after the termination of each year the Board must present a report to the Minister setting forth its proceedings, the permanent works constructed, the mileage of the roads maintained, and an account of all moneys received and expended under the provisions of the Act.

Registration of motors, &c. The rates of fees on registration or renewal of registration of motor cars, motor cycles, and traction engines are as follows:—The owners of motor cycles must pay an annual registration fee of £1; of trailers, fore-cars or side cars, 10s.; of traction engines, £6 to £15 according to weight; of motor cars, 3s. to 5s. for each power-weight unit according to the class of motor car; and of trailers attached to motor cars, £1 to £4 according to weight and type.

Developmental roads. Realizing that a scheme for dealing with the principal arteries of traffic only, in a young country that needed development, was inadequate, the Government in 1918 provided a further sum of £500,000 for a system of subsidiary or developmental roads (Act No. 2944). This sum was subsequently increased to £2,000,000 by Act No. 2985, and by additional amounts not exceeding £2,000,000, £1,000,000 and £1,475,000 by Acts Nos. 3255, 3334 and 3425 respectively. Under this scheme the State provides the whole of the money and makes provision out of State funds for liquidating the liability. The municipalities are required, however, to bear a proportion of the interest on the outlay during the period of the loan, and to maintain the roads when constructed. An amount of £2,105 was expended under Acts No. 2944 and 2985, and of £600,413 under Act No. 3255, during the year ended 30th June, 1925.

State Highways. The *Highways and Vehicles Act* 1924, No. 3379, which came into operation on the 1st January, 1925, provides for the declaration of State Highways, the full cost of maintenance of which is charged against the moneys to the credit of the Country Roads Board Fund.

COUNTRY ROADS BOARD FUND.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1925.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	PAYMENTS.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
							21,919											
To Balance, 30th June, 1924										By Maintenance	471,732	3	6					
„ Motor Car Act No. 2702—										Less Refunds	3,550	12	5					
Registration Fees	387,217	1	1											468,181	11	1		
Licence Fees	18,982	16	6											178,844	9	3		
Fines	13,699	14	7											229,646	15	9		
	419,899	12	2							„ Miscellaneous								
Less Refunds and Costs of Administration	16,928	13	10			402,970	18	4		„ Advances to Loan Account on account of Permanent Works Expenditure								
„ Unused Roads and Water Frontages Act No. 1394—										Tourist Vote	13,902	16	11					
Licence Fees	21,747	2	7							Less Refunds	28	9	9			13,874	7	2
Less Refunds and Costs of Administration	1,946	0	0			19,801	2	7		„ Advances under Prov. 72 Mount Buffalo Road						2,289	14	0
„ Country Roads Act No. 2635—										„ Advances under Prov. 72 Works for Relief of—								
Registration of Traction Engines	1,561	2	0							Unemployment	19,303	6	8					
Width of Tyres Administration, Fines and Costs	82	8	0			1,643	10	0		Less Refunds	20	8	0			19,282	18	8
„ Municipalities Repayments—										„ Balance, 30th June, 1925						94,138	4	4
Permanent Works	82,930	10	7															
Maintenance Works	154,557	7	9			237,487	18	4										
„ Appropriation for Maintenance of Main Roads, Act No. 2986	50,000	0	0															
Less Amount Appropriated under Act 3379	20,000	0	0			30,000	0	0										
„ Hire of Plant	10,888	16	1															
„ Stores and Materials	18,340	5	0															
„ Sundries	6,734	8	11			35,963	10	0										
									727,866	19	3							
„ Advances to Loan Account on account of Permanent Works Expenditure refunded									222,176	11	3							
„ Advances on account of Expenditure under Act 3235, Item 4, Tourist Vote refunded									13,137	11	10							
„ Advances on account of Expenditure under Prov. 72, Mt. Buffalo Road refunded									2,132	0	0							
„ Advances under Pro. 72 for Relief of Unemployment refunded									19,025	3	4							
									£1,006,258	0	3							

Ordinary receipts and payments.

The following is a statement of the receipts and payments during 1924-25 of the fund established under the Country Roads Act:—

Municipal Statistics.

Loan receipts
and
expenditure.

The expenditure out of loan money on the construction of permanent works (main roads) for the year ended 30th June, 1925, is shown below :—

COUNTRY ROADS BOARD LOAN ACCOUNT, ACT No. 2635.

YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1925.

RECEIPTS.			PAYMENTS.					
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	
To Balance, 1st July, 1924	..	1,064 5 6	By Permanent Works	229,646	15 9			
„ Proceeds of Loans	..	231,169 5 10	<i>Deduct</i> Refunds	774	11 3	228,872	4 6	
„ Advances from Country Roads Board Fund	..	229,646 15 9	„ Temporary Advances from Country Roads Board Fund refunded	..	..	222,176	11 3
„ Transfers .. .. .	..	859 19 11	„ Public Account—Advance Account	..	..	44,448	10 3
			„ Balance, 30th June, 1925	..	..	17,243	1 0
						£512,740	7 0	
		<u>£512,740 7 0</u>				<u>£512,740 7 0</u>		

Developmental
Roads Loan
Account.

The following statement shows, for the year ended 30th June, 1925, the expenditure out of loan funds on the construction of developmental roads, under the provisions of Acts Nos. 2944, 2985 and 3255 :—

DEVELOPMENTAL ROADS LOAN ACCOUNT—

(ACTS Nos. 2944, 2985 AND 3255).

YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1925.

RECEIPTS.			PAYMENTS.					
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	
To Proceeds of Loans	..	800,691 7 10	By Balance, 1st July, 1924	..	..	39,571	3 3
			„ Expenditure	603,701	13 4			
			<i>Less</i> Refunds	1,182	6 8	602,519	6 3	
			„ Public Account—Advances Account	..	..	121,976	10 10
			„ Balance, 30th June, 1925	..	..	35,624	7 1
		<u>£800,691 7 10</u>				£800,691	7 10	

LICENSING FUND.

Licensing
fund.

The following is a statement of the receipts and expenditure of the Licensing Fund for the year ended 30th June, 1925 :—

LICENSING FUND.—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE,
1924-1925.

RECEIPTS.				EXPENDITURE.				
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
Balance, 30th June, 1924	714	10	0	Salaries and expenses of Board, office, &c.	6,141	11	8	
Fees	3,123	4	6	Incidental Expenses	12,618	3	2	
Fines	7,805	3	4	Annual payment to municipalities	63,771	0	0	
Sale of confiscated liquor	62	18	0	Compensation	24,903	0	0	
Licences.	Spirit Merchants and Grocers	36,190	1	6	Transferred to Police Superannuation Fund under section 44 of Act No. 2855	23,000	0	0
	Victuallers	279,536	13	6	Transferred to Revenue under section 39 of Act No. 3259	218,333	19	0
	Temporary	4,481	2	0	Balance	£361,714	10	0
	Railway Refreshment Rooms	2,181	9	0	Deduct			
	Packet	128	14	0	Investments			
	Australian Wine	5,174	4	0	in Stock	341,000	0	0
	Billiard-table	5,909	10	0				
	Brewers	153	18	0				
	Vignerons	75	0	0				
	Club certificates	7,259	4	0				
Permits—Extra Bars	1,300	0	0					
„ Extended Hours	1,134	0	0					
Expenses of holding extended annual sitting of court	7	10	0					
Interest	14,170	0	0					
Cost of taking Poll	75	0	0					
Sale of Rolls	0	2	0					
Total	£369,482	3	10	Total	£369,482	3	10	

Licence fees.

In addition to the endowment of £50,000 the municipalities received from the Government in 1924-25 a sum of £63,771 out of the Licensing Fund under Acts Nos. 2683, 2855, and 2995, this being the equivalent for (1) fees for licences; (2) fees for the registration of brewers and spirit merchants; and (3) fines, penalties,

and forfeitures incurred under the *Licensing Act 1915*. The particulars of this payment are as follows :—

EQUIVALENT FOR LICENCE FEES, ETC., 1924-25.

	£
Paid to Cities	31,056
„ Towns	1,061
„ Boroughs	6,923
„ Shires—	
1st Class	228
2nd „	10,516
3rd „	9,196
4th „	743
5th „	3,132
6th „	1,209
Total	64,064
Add payments on account of 1923-24	316
Deduct unpaid accounts of 1924-25	609
Amount paid in 1924-25	£63,771

MUNICIPAL LOANS.

Moneys may be borrowed by municipalities for permanent works or undertakings or to liquidate the principal moneys owing by the municipality on account of any previous loan. Permanent works include the construction or alteration of streets, roads, bridges, culverts, levees, ferries, jetties, sewers, and drains; the construction or purchase of waterworks, electric light works and gasworks, municipal offices, pounds, abattoirs, sheep dips, market places and houses, weighbridges, workers' dwellings, baths, pleasure grounds, libraries, museums, and places of public resort and recreation; the construction and establishment of hospitals, asylums, and other buildings for charitable purposes;

the construction and laying down of any track, way, or pavement of iron, steel, wood, or stone; the erection of machinery for the treatment of refuse or night-soil, or for quarrying or crushing stone; the works and undertakings connected with the reclamation and improvement of low-lying or over-crowded areas; and the purchase of land or any easement, term, or privilege in, over, or affecting land compulsorily taken for any of the foregoing purposes.

In connexion with loans raised by municipalities, section 375 of the *Local Government Act* 1915 provides that, when any municipality incurs a loan and the debentures are payable in different years, the Council shall obtain from the Auditor-General a certificate, in writing, that the amounts proposed to be provided in each year will be sufficient to pay all principal moneys and interest as they fall due. The repayments of principal have to be so provided for, that each year of the currency of the loan shall bear its full share towards liquidation.

Councils may borrow for not more than 40 years upon the credit of the municipality for permanent works or undertakings, or to liquidate moneys owing on account of any previous loan.

The amount of money borrowed by any municipality is not to exceed ten times the average income of the municipality for the previous three years from general rates not exceeding 1s. 6d. in the £1. But, in addition, loans having a currency of not more than 30 years may be raised upon the security of certain income and not upon the credit of the municipality, by the issue of debentures or by mortgage. These loans are not to exceed five times the average amount of such income.

Power is given to any twenty persons whose names are inscribed on the municipal roll to demand the submission of any loan proposal to a poll of the ratepayers.

Municipal indebtedness. The total loan indebtedness of the municipalities at the end of the financial year 1924-25 was £8,146,750, which was due to the Government and the public respectively, as follows:—

MUNICIPAL INDEBTEDNESS, 1925.

	Due to the Government.		Due to the Public.	
		£		£
Cities, Towns, and Boroughs	935,728	...	5,625,227
Shires	160,109	...	1,425,686
Total	1,095,837	...	7,050,913

Municipal loan receipts and expenditure. The succeeding statements show the loan receipts and expenditure:—

MUNICIPAL LOAN RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1925.

	Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.	Shires.	Total.
	£	£	£
Receipts during the year	1,218,053	309,637	1,527,690
Balance unexpended from previous year ...	389,590	114,660	504,250
Expenditure during the year	1,233,779	302,181	1,535,960
Balance unexpended at the end of 1925 ...	373,864	122,116	495,980

Municipal loan expenditure, 1921 to 1925. The municipal expenditure of loan moneys during the year 1925 amounted to £1,535,960, of which £1,233,779 was spent by cities, towns, and boroughs, and £302,181 by shires. The following statement shows the loan receipts and expenditure for the last five years:—

MUNICIPAL LOAN RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE: RETURN FOR FIVE YEARS.

Year.	Receipts.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1921	572,851	504,016
1922	797,676	706,677
1923	1,093,858	885,303
1924	1,289,041	1,281,423
1925	1,527,690	1,535,960

Loans raised by municipalities, 1925. The loan receipts for the year 1924-25 amounted to £1,527,490, and the loan expenditure to £1,535,960. The unexpended balance of loan moneys at the end of the year 1924-25 was £495,980—£373,864 to the credit of cities, towns, and boroughs, and £122,116 to the credit of shires. The following are the particulars:—

LOANS TO MUNICIPALITIES, 1925.

CITIES, TOWNS AND BOROUGH—	Loans from Govern- ment.	Loans from Public.	Loan Expenditure.	Balance Unexpended at end of year—	
				1924.	1925.
		£	£	£	£
Ballarat	14,538	17,163	2,625
Bendigo	10,000	2,695	..	7,305
Brighton	31,000	45,042	31,475	17,433
Brunswick	16,000	26,203	23,248	13,045
Camberwell	40,000	25,845	17,397	31,552
Carrum	20,000	19,996	2,604	2,608
Castlemaine	1,653	3,018	1,365
Caulfield	40,800	31,031	21,443	31,212
Coburg	56,000	30,129	4,929	30,800
Collingwood	817	817
Daylesford	8,000	3,901	..	4,099
Essendon	20,000	15,721	1,565	5,844
Fitzroy	1	875	874
Footscray	46,331	66,808	20,477
Geelong	19,000	19,073	73	..
Geelong West	5,000	6,525	2,980	1,455
Hawthorn	27,061	36,580	9,519
Horsham	2,000	3,151	2,259	1,108
Kew	16,000	20,292	21,805	17,513
Malvern	20,000	7,565	4,156	16,591
Maryborough	365	365
Melbourne	616,546*	644,333	27,787	..
Mildura	10,000	10,331	973	642
Mordialloc	12,025	6,826	1,625	6,824
Northcote	58,750	36,729	1,342	23,363
Oakleigh	11,320	9,288	2,110	4,142
Portland	62	62
Port Melbourne	228	1,211	983
Prahran	11,830	23,302	11,472
Preston	25,000	24,860	842	982
Queenscliffe	3,000	246	125	2,879
Richmond	53,500	43,493	12,630	22,637
Sale	265	405	140
Sandringham	40,612	25,851	..	14,761
South Melbourne	15,000	10,986	9,430	13,444
St. Arnaud	14,000	13,170	2,440	3,270
St. Kilda	30,000	14,074	28,034	43,960
Stawell	4,101	4,310	209
Wangaratta	642	887	245
Warrnambool	12,500	12,636	858	722
Williamstown	12,000	15,855	8,913	5,058
Wonthaggi	1,282	2,744	1,462
Total	1,218,053	1,233,779	389,590	373,864

* Of this amount £72,636 was transferred from the Electric Supply Depreciation and Renewals Fund, and £19,832 from the General Depreciation and Renewals Fund to Loan Account. The amount of £174,078 due to Loan Account is also included.

LOANS TO MUNICIPALITIES, 1925—continued.

	Loans from Government.	Loans from Public.	Loan Expenditure.	Balance Unexpended at end of year—	
				1924.	1925.
SHIRES—		£	£	£	£
Alberton	1,550	7,658	8,944	2,836
Arapiles	2,600	2,600	..	..
Avoca	2,000	..	..	2,000
Bacchus Marsh	2,000	2,000	..	..
Benalla	3,000	3,000	..	..
Berwick	6,000	3,354	2,985	5,631
Borong	140	140	..
Braybrook	3,000	3,000	48	48
Bright	1,500	524	128	1,104
Broadford	3,000	2,979	..	21
Chiltern	1,000	668	..	332
Cohuna	4,054	4,054	..
Colac	14,000	14,064	216	152
Corio	12,250	10,044	2,541	4,747
Cranbourne	18,244	6,674	..	11,570
Dandenong	6,430	8,079	5,791	4,142
Dimboola	3,800	1,565	..	2,235
Donald	1,800	1,672	19	147
Dunmunkle	1,102	1,102	..
Eltham	2,000	2,017	293	276
Euroa	800	3,353	3,500	947
Ferntree Gully	14,500	9,828	1,028	5,700
Frankston and Hastings	8,000	9,860	8,697	6,837
Gisborne	900	368	..	532
Glencelg	9,167	9,167	..
Heidelberg	81,696	88,890	13,175	5,981
Heytesbury	3,000	3,000	..	..
Huntly	930	930
Kara Kara	1,846	3,272	1,426
Karkaroc	6,000	5,372	..	628
Keilor	200	150	..	50
Kerang	1,700	1,700	..	..
Kyneton	3,000	1,056	..	1,944
Lawloit	5,000	5,000	..	..
Leigh	189	..	189	..	..
Lillydale	6,500	3,898	673	3,275
Mansfield	5,500	4,726	..	774
Melton	3,000	1,095	200	2,105
Mildura	3,000	2,316	1,882	2,566
Moorabbin	25,000	8,683	478	16,795
Mornington	1,164	1,278	114
Nunawading	11,381	16,380	4,999
Phillip Island and Woolamai	9,500	966	..	8,534
Rochester	31	804	773
Rodney	530	1,796	1,266
Shepparton	2,985	3,880	2,847	1,952
South Barwon	2,500	2,593	348	255

LOANS TO MUNICIPALITIES, 1925—*continued.*

	Loans from Government.	Loans from Public.	Loan Expenditure.	Balance Unexpended at end of year—	
				1924.	1925.
SHIRES— <i>continued.</i>			£	£	£
Swan Hill .. ..	..	18,500	12,235	..	6,265
Talbot	300	..	300	..	..
Tambo .. ..	..	..	588	588	..
Traralgon .. ..	..	5,662	4,069	1,000	2,593
Tungamah .. ..	..	..	..	28	28
Upper Yarra .. ..	..	..	973	973	..
Violet Town .. ..	..	4,000	3,648	..	352
Walpeup .. ..	..	2,000	3,764	2,233	469
Wangaratta .. ..	..	..	..	87	87
Waranga .. ..	..	1,600	1,600	..	..
Warragul .. ..	..	5,000	3,144	..	1,856
Werribee .. ..	..	..	9,776	16,401	6,625
Whittlesea .. ..	..	..	22	239	217
Winchelsea .. ..	..	..	395	395	..
Woorayl .. ..	..	5,000	5,000	..	..
Yea	431	..	431	..	..
Total	920	308,717	302,181	114,660	122,116

MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN MUNICIPAL LOANS REDEMPTION FUND.

Under the provisions of the *Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Act* 1918, No. 2995, a redemption fund was established at the State Treasury, into which the surplus revenue accumulations of the Tramway Board, the municipalities' sinking funds held by the State Treasurer, and annual contributions (in most cases for twenty years) from the metropolitan municipalities concerned were made payable. The greater portion of the loan indebtedness of these municipalities was made a charge against this fund. The liability of the fund includes payments by the municipalities under the *Municipal Loans Act* 1915, No. 2591, and the *Municipalities' Loans Extension Act* 1898, No. 1552, except interest to date of discharge. The repayment of the principal of certain

other municipal loans (except those of the City of Melbourne) raised from the public, but excluding loans, the amounts of which were expended on tramways, gas works, electric light works, and markets, is also to be made from the fund. The liabilities and assets of the fund at the date of its establishment are shown in the *Year-Book* for 1920-21, pages 206 and 207.

The receipts and expenditure of this fund to the 30th June, 1925, are given hereunder:—

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE FUND TO
30TH JUNE, 1925.

	Receipts.			Expenditure.	
	1924-25.	To 30th June, 1925.		1924-25.	To 30th June, 1925.
	£	£		£	£
Balance, 30th June, 1924 .. ..	..	..	Payment to the Treasurer of Victoria in reduction of the municipalities' liabilities for loan advances under—		
From the Tramway Fund .. ..	..	480,808	Act No. 1552 .. ..	..	309,188
From the Tramway Board — Surplus moneys, Act No. 2995 .. ..	..	170,512	Act No. 2591 .. ..	..	295,042
From the Tramway Board — Surplus moneys, Act No. 3023 .. ..	..	60,680	*Redemption of Municipal Loans—		
From the Tramway Board — Moneys recovered .. ..	..	115,000	Debentures matured ..	45,398	497,923
Contributions by municipalities ..	52,949	370,763	Redeemable in instalments ..	7,602	69,045
Stock realized ..	4,100	90,748	Ordinary loans	1,316	96,625
Other receipts .. ..	..	300	Interest due to the Treasurer of Victoria on account of municipalities' loan liability outstanding under Acts Nos. 1552 and 2591 ..	..	13,922
			Interest on debit balance of fund	2,733	7,165
			Sundries .. ..	..	10
			Balance, 30th June, 1925 ..	..	..
Total	57,049	1,288,811	Total	57,049	1,288,811

* Act No. 2995, section 71, sub-section 5, provides for redemptions being temporarily charged to the public account when moneys are not available in the Fund. The amount so charged at 30th June, 1925, was £177,131.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE CITY OF MELBOURNE.

City of Melbourne, revenue and expenditure under various heads. Particulars of the receipts and expenditure for 1925 of the City of Melbourne are given in the statement hereunder.

CITY OF MELBOURNE: REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1925.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
Rates—	£
General	391,444
Lighting	17,029
Licences—	
Publicans'—Equivalent for—From Licensing Act	9,476
Abattoirs—Slaughtering Dues and Meat Supervision Fees	60,123
Drays, Hackney Carriages, and Motors	365
Other Licences	1,067
Fees under Dog Act	595
Baths	6,660
Market and Weighbridge Fees	62,740
Lighting—Sale of Electric Current and Rent of Meters, &c.	465,761
Closet and Street Cleansing Charges	11,375
Fines and Costs	5,283
Rents—	
Markets and Weighbridges	65,260
Town Hall Premises and Rooms	2,418
Other	7,259
Interest on Fixed Deposits, &c.	2,202
Miscellaneous—	
Hydraulic Power	24,566
Desiccators—Sale of Manure	14,962
Fees under Building Act	4,118
Sundries	21,915
Total	1,174,618

Heads of Expenditure.	Amount.
Salaries (including clerical assistance, expenses of audit, collection of statistics, making valuation, and commissions paid in lieu of salaries, &c.)	£ 54,008
Allowance to Lord Mayor	1,500
Closet Cleansing	1,182
Street Cleansing, &c.	88,894
Lighting—Electric and Gas	16,962
Fire Brigades Board—Contribution	12,376
Public Works—	
Roads and Bridges	192,346
Markets and Weighbridges	42,480
Public Buildings (including Abattoirs, Baths, &c.)	70,311
Parks and Planting trees in streets	50,344
Payments under provisions of the Tramway Act No. 2995	2,258
Interest on Loans from the Public	154,992
Sinking Funds—Loans from the Public	21,082
Repayment of Public Loans	10,000
Electric Supply—Maintenance, &c.	362,656
Expenses of paying Interest on Loans	204

CITY OF MELBOURNE: REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1925—*continued.*

Heads of Expenditure— <i>continued.</i>	Amount.
	£
Interest on Bank Overdrafts	336
Contributions to Charitable Institutions	3,440
Contributions to Infectious Diseases Hospital	8,025
" " Heatherton Sanatorium	1,491
Law Costs	851
Printing, Advertising, and Stationery	4,714
Miscellaneous—	
Rat Destruction	1,314
Hydraulic Power	17,337
Fees—Dog Act	669
Insurance and Guarantee Premiums	4,707
Libraries	425
Town Planning Commission	608
Band Performances	1,440
Milk Supply	790
Ceremonials	887
Ambulance Service	500
Soldiers' Memorial	5,000
Superannuation Fund Contribution	3,421
Retiring Allowance to Employees	2,290
Visit of American Fleet	3,465
Sundries	9,963
Total	1,153,268

Of the total revenue of the City of Melbourne in 1925, about 35 per cent. was derived from rates, 40 per cent. from the sale of electric light, 6 per cent. from the rental of city property—chiefly markets and shops—5 per cent. from market and weighbridge fees, 6 per cent. from licences, and 8 per cent. from other sources. For public works such as roads and bridges, markets, abattoirs, &c., about 31 per cent. of the total expenditure was incurred; for interest on loans and on bank overdraft and expenses of paying interest, 14 per cent.; for payments to sinking funds and repayment of loans, 3 per cent.; for electric supply, 31 per cent.; for lighting, 1 per cent.; for street cleansing, 8 per cent.; for salaries, allowances, and commissions, 5 per cent.; and for miscellaneous expenditure, 7 per cent.

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS' FIDELITY GUARANTEE FUND.

Municipal Officers' Guarantee Fund. An Act was passed in 1907 (No. 2080) incorporating the Municipal Association of Victoria, and authorizing it to institute a "Municipal Officers' Fidelity Guarantee Fund," to which any municipality, any authority constituted under any Water Act or any Weights and Measures Union may contribute such sum as may be fixed by the association for a guarantee against loss by the dishonesty of its officers. The Act provided, however, that the fund could not be established until three-fifths of the municipalities in Victoria had agreed in writing to contribute and that the amount to be contributed for a guarantee must not be less than

that payable in 1907 for a like guarantee to any incorporated company or society in Victoria. At any time after the fund has reached £3,500 the rates of contribution may be altered, so that it will be maintained at that sum, and, in the event of the amount at credit being at any time insufficient to pay all the liabilities and expenses, the difference must be made up by payments from all the contributors, each paying *pro rata* to its contribution. If the association determines to discontinue business, the funds are to be divided proportionately to the sums contributed during the preceding five years. Payment of contributions is to be made within one month after a written notification has been sent by the secretary. Full and accurate accounts are to be kept of all moneys received and expended, and of the details of the transactions. A balance-sheet, made up to the 30th September of each year, must be prepared, exhibiting a true statement of receipts and expenditure and the balance to the credit of the fund.

More than the required number of municipalities agreed to co-operate, and the fund was inaugurated on 1st January, 1908. Its operation was, at first, restricted by the association to guarantees in respect of municipal officers, but the rules have been altered, and since 1st October, 1914, they have permitted of guarantees being obtained by any Waterworks authority or Weights and Measures Union; such authority or union is required, however, to make a preliminary payment into capital account. The premium revenue for the year ended 30th September, 1914, in respect of guarantees amounting to £198,320, was £1,115, but, under the reduced scale of premiums which came into force on 1st October of that year, guarantees for the year ended 30th September, 1925, amounting to £265,715, were obtained from the Association for a contribution of £878. The amount to the credit of the fund on 30th September, 1925, was £13,662. The claims paid from the inception of the fund to 30th September, 1925, amounted to £2,717.

MELBOURNE HARBOR TRUST.

The Melbourne Harbor Trust is a corporate body, which was established in 1876 to regulate, manage, and improve the Port of Melbourne and portions of the Yarra and Saltwater Rivers adjacent thereto, for which purpose certain lands and properties are vested in Commissioners.

On 31st December, 1912, an Act was passed by the State Parliament which altered the constitution of the Trust. For seventeen commissioners, of whom six were appointed by the municipalities concerned, three by the owners of ships registered at Melbourne, three by merchants and traders paying wharfage rates, and five by the Governor in Council, there were substituted five commissioners to be appointed by the Governor in Council. Of the commissioners other than the chairman, one must be an owner of ships registered at some British port and trading at Melbourne, one a person engaged in the business of an exporter by sea of Victorian produce, and one an importer by sea of goods into Victoria, and one must be identified

Melbourne
Harbor Trust
—receipts and
expenditure.

with primary production in Victoria. The chairman's salary is not to exceed £1,500; and the attendance fees of the other commissioners are fixed at £2 2s. per meeting, not more than £250 to be paid to any of these commissioners in any one year. The borrowing power of the Trust is £3,000,000, and the amount of loans outstanding on 31st December, 1925, was £2,964,288. The following are particulars of the ordinary receipts and ordinary and capital expenditure for each of the last five years:—

MELBOURNE HARBOR TRUST.—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE: 1921 TO 1925.

Heads of Revenue and Expenditure.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
REVENUE.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Wharfage and Tonnage Rates ..	415,737	510,240	600,161	630,992	632,018
Rents	37,445	37,449	39,725	36,391	35,804
Interest	43	80	328	669	285
Other Revenue	45,148	50,836	46,194	56,391	64,363
	498,373	598,605	686,408	724,443	732,470
<i>Less</i> Amount paid to Consolidated Revenue	96,224	114,986	135,520	140,382	136,494
Total	402,149	483,619	550,888	584,061	595,976
REVENUE EXPENDITURE.					
General Management and Expenses	36,882	40,502	35,175	42,484	37,527
Flotation and Redemption of Loans Expenses	30,140	35	750	5	10
Maintenance—Dredging	78,689	90,129	39,774	74,564	96,759
" Harbor	3,814	3,183	4,613	4,478	4,027
" Wharfs	23,383	21,475	25,725	32,978	45,555
" Approaches	14,526	11,264	15,345	18,214	20,269
Interest on Loans*	104,342	131,516	112,659	119,526	151,891
Depreciation, Renewals Account, and Sinking Fund	65,000	100,000	213,000	213,000	213,000
Total	356,776	398,104	447,041	505,249	569,038
Surplus on Revenue Account ..	45,373	85,515	103,847	78,812	26,938
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.					
Land and Property	2,431	11,906	33,407	560	37,699
Deepening Waterways	81,699	98,331	150,885	137,488	145,808
Wharfs Construction	79,206	45,613	67,360	194,318	285,072
Approaches Construction	1,565	9,084	7,519	25,433	46,130
Other Harbor Improvements	14,099	25,311	8,204	23,826	18,631
Floating Plant	2,957	1,708	632	3,192	97,354
General Plant	1,131	925	2,025	3,429	2,718
Total	183,118	192,878	270,032	388,296	633,412

* Exclusive of interest on cost of plant debited to works carried out by day labour.

GEELONG HARBOR TRUST.

An Act to provide for the construction of works in connexion with the harbor at Geelong was passed on 12th December, 1905. This measure made provision for the constitution of the Geelong Harbor Trust and the appointment of three commissioners, the chairman to receive £400 per annum, and each of the other commissioners £200 per annum. The management of the port and shipping is vested in the commissioners. Power is given to the Trust to borrow £591,000 (the whole of which has been raised), and to issue debentures, which may be made payable in London or Melbourne. The following is a summary of the receipts and expenditure for the last five years, the expenditure from ordinary revenue being distinguished from loan expenditure :—

GEELONG HARBOR TRUST—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
REVENUE.					
Wharfage and Tonnage Rates ..	£ 17,415	£ 21,737	£ 26,387	£ 30,571	£ 40,137
Rents, Fees, and Licences ..	4,189	4,363	4,563	5,487	5,589
Sparrovale Farm ..	8,789	7,852	8,952	6,799	4,880
Corio Freezing Works and Abattoirs	15,042	16,752	15,754	15,475	15,766
Other Revenue	4,200	3,530	3,024	3,024	19,958
Total	49,635	54,234	58,680	61,356	86,330
REVENUE EXPENDITURE.					
General Management and Expenses	7,909	7,856	8,362	6,368	6,239
Maintenance—Wharfs and Approaches ..	2,733	2,325	4,311	3,282	4,518
" Harbor ..	874	505	669	530	824
" Floating Plant ..	467	710	405	987	650
" Other	1,213	925	1,421	1,649	2,386
Interest on Loans and Sinking Fund	25,501	25,087	27,849	27,755	27,756
Sparrovale Farm	6,507	5,768	6,601	5,324	4,797
Corio Freezing Works and Abattoirs	3,451	3,240	3,361	4,599	7,969
Corio Quay Power-house ..	3,755	4,377	2,332	888	..
Miscellaneous	1,194	1,274	754	933	1,888
Total	53,604	52,067	56,065	52,315	57,027
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.					
Land and Property	5,707	8,541	7,915	10,056	2,209
Deepening Waterworks .. ..	..	..	341	14,991	20,587
Wharfs and Approaches Construction	135	115	10	95	3,283
Other Harbor Improvements .. ..	..	..	..	746	810
Floating and General Plant .. ..	..	..	14	11	..
Total	5,842	8,656	8,280	25,899	26,889

MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.

Creation and constitution of Board.

The Board was established by Act of Parliament No. 1197, which came into force on 20th December, 1890, and it entered upon its duties on 18th March, 1891.

It consists of 40 members, of whom one is the Chairman, who is elected every four years by the other members, the retiring Chairman being eligible for re-election. The other members must also be members of the respective councils which they represent, and are each elected for three years in the following order of numbers, viz.:—Nine by the Melbourne City Council, four by the South Melbourne Council, three by the Prahran Council, two each by the Collingwood, Fitzroy, Richmond, and St. Kilda Councils, and one each by the other fifteen suburban municipal councils returning a representative, viz., Footscray, Hawthorn, Brunswick, Essendon, Malvern, Brighton, Northcote, Port Melbourne, Williamstown, Caulfield, Camberwell, Kew, Coburg, Heidelberg, and Preston.

Thirteen of the members retire annually on the last day of the month of February, but are eligible for re-election if they remain members of their respective councils.

Functions of the Board.

The functions of the Board are to control and manage the Metropolitan water supply system, including water-sheds, reservoirs, weirs, aqueducts, pipes, &c.; to provide the metropolis with an efficient system of main and general sewerage; to provide for the commerce and recreation of the inhabitants of the metropolis in so far as the vesting powers of the Board's principal Act, together with the *Metropolitan Drainage and Rivers Act 1923*, relate to the bed, soil and banks of the River Yarra; to deal also with main drains and main drainage works; and to prevent the pollution of the River Yarra and certain other rivers, creeks, and water-courses within the metropolis, and for other purposes. The primary object of the creation of the Board was to provide the sewerage system mentioned, which, prior to the establishment of the Board, was a long-called-for and pressing want.

Area under Board's control, and population.

Under the provisions of section 71 of the *Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works Act 1915*, and with the consent of the Governor in Council, on 14th December, 1920, the land within 13 miles of the General Post Office was included in the metropolis for water supply and sewerage purposes (*vide Victoria Government Gazette*, 22nd December, 1920). This territory has an area of 434 square miles (277,760 acres) of land area, and on 31st December, 1925, comprised 21 cities, 2 towns, and part of another, also 1 borough and parts of 13 shires, or 38 municipalities in all. The whole of the town of Mordialloc and of the Shire of Moorabbin are

included in the metropolis for water supply purposes, and the Board also exercises control (under Orders in Council) for these purposes over a portion of certain other municipalities outside the 13-mile radius, and supplies water to the Metropolitan Farm at Werribee, the Outfall Sewer area, and elsewhere. Various other shires also arrange with it for bulk supplies of water. The total estimated population supplied with water on 31st December, 1925, was 972,560.

**Board's
borrowing
powers and
liability on
loans.**

The Board is authorized to borrow £14,250,000, this amount being exclusive of loans amounting to £2,389,934 originally contracted by the Government for the construction of the waterworks for the supply of Melbourne and suburbs.

These works were vested in and taken over by the Board on 1st July, 1891. Under the Metropolitan Drainage and Rivers Act, No. 3284, it is empowered to borrow £500,000 for works carried out in accordance with that Act, which is included in the sum of £14,250,000 above mentioned.

The liability under loans raised by the Board was £15,584,650 on 30th June, 1925. The Board was at that date empowered to borrow £1,055,284 before reaching the limit of its borrowing powers.

WATER SUPPLY FINANCE.

**Water supply
assessments
and rates.**

By Act of Parliament the rate to be paid in respect of any lands and houses for the supply of water for domestic purposes, otherwise than by measure, is limited to an amount not exceeding 8d. in the pound on the annual valuation of the lands and houses served. The water rate levied in the year 1924-25 was 6d. in the pound on the annual value of property served. Assessments of £20 and under are charged a minimum rate of 10s. per annum. There is a charge of 1s. per 1,000 gallons for water supplied by meter, with the assessed rate as a minimum. For shipping at Melbourne wharfs the charge is 3s. per 1,000 gallons, and at special berths at Melbourne wharfs, with fixed meters, it is 1s. 6d. per 1,000 gallons.

Water meters.

Water meters may be hired from the Board at the following annual rentals, payable quarterly in advance:—

For a $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. meter, 5s.; $\frac{3}{4}$ -in., 6s.; 1-in., 8s.; $1\frac{1}{4}$ -in., 10s. 6d.; and $1\frac{1}{2}$ -in., 14s.

Garden rate.

Areas not exceeding 100 square yards (including paths) are supplied with water without meters on payment of a special rate of 10s. per annum each.

**Assessed
value of
property.**

The total annual value of property assessed for water supply purposes and liable to water rates was £14,176,872 in 1924-25, and £15,455,814 in 1925-26.

Revenue and expenditure of water supply system.

The total revenue was £579,502, as against £524,165 in the previous year. The cost in 1924-25 of maintenance and management was £97,992, and the amount of interest was £294,845, the total charge being £392,837, as compared with a payment in 1923-24 of £86,853 for maintenance and management, and of £247,883 for interest, or a total charge of £334,736.

Cost of the Melbourne and Metropolitan waterworks system.

The total cost of the water supply system up to 30th June, 1925, was as follows:—

Original water supply station, &c.	..	..	..	..	£	84,885
Yan Yean system	..	..	..	..		636,601
Maroondah system	..	..	..	..		1,238,168
O'Shanassy system	..	..	..	..		870,034
Service reservoirs	..	..	..	..		353,453
Large mains..	..	..	..	..		1,359,311
Reticulation	..	..	..	..		1,961,814
Total	..	..	..	..		<u>£6,504,316</u>

DESCRIPTION OF WATER WORKS.

The Melbourne and Metropolitan waterworks.

The metropolis is supplied with water from three independent sources—one known as the Yan Yean system, fed by the watershed of the Plenty River and Jack's Creek from the southern slopes of the Great Dividing Range, supplemented by the Wallaby and Silver Creeks, tributaries of the Goulburn, whose waters have been diverted over the range by means of weirs, aqueducts, and tunnels; a second, known as the Maroondah system, whose watershed is in the Healesville district, and which takes in the water of the Maroondah or Watts River, the Graceburn, Donnelly's and Coranderrk Creeks, and other smaller streams; and a third, known as the O'Shanassy and Upper Yarra system, whose watersheds are in the Upper Yarra above Warburton. As regards the last-mentioned system, at present only the O'Shanassy River, a main tributary of the Upper Yarra, has been tapped.

Total area.

The total area from which water is collected at present from the three systems is 108,840 acres, the whole of which is vested in the Board, and free from settlement or grazing.

Total daily supply.

The total daily quantity of water which can be sent into Melbourne at present from the three systems is 90,000,000 gallons.

YAN YEAN SYSTEM.

**Yan Yeau
system.**

The Yan Yeau system embraces Silver and Wallaby Creeks, Plenty River and Jack's Creek, 28,857 acres, and the catchment areas of Yan Yeau Reservoir, 5,105 acres, the total area being 33,962 acres. The water is collected into the Toorourrong Reservoir, and taken thence to the Yan Yeau Reservoir, where it is stored. This reservoir is an artificial lake situated 22 miles from the city in a northerly direction, and 602 feet above sea level. It is formed by the construction of an earthen bank, 49 chains long, 30 feet high, and 20 feet wide on top, with a slope next the water of three to one and an outside slope of two to one. The reservoir when full covers an area of 1,360 acres, or $2\frac{1}{2}$ square miles, with a maximum depth of 26 feet, and an average depth of 18 feet. The maximum depth of water in the reservoir in 1925 was 26 ft. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. on 20th September, and the minimum depth, 21 ft. 9 in. on 31st December. Its total capacity is 6,400,000,000 gallons, of which 5,400,000,000 gallons are available for consumption. In the year ended 31st December, 1925, the total intake of the Reservoir was 4,507,348,000 gallons, and the total output was 5,243,740,000 gallons exclusive of loss by evaporation.

From this reservoir the water is forwarded to Morang Pipe Head Reservoir through an open aqueduct capable of delivering 33,000,000 gallons a day when full, and thence to Preston Reservoir, or to Melbourne direct, by a series of pipes.

**High-level
system.** There is also a direct main, called the high-level system, from Yan Yeau to Surrey Hills Reservoir, for supplying the high levels* of the eastern suburbs of Melbourne in conjunction with the O'Shanassy and Upper Yarra System. It is capable of delivering 9,000,000 gallons a day.

MAROONDAH SYSTEM.

The Maroondah water is taken by means of small weirs from the watershed of 40,000 acres situated above Healesville, and it is thence conveyed to the Preston Service Reservoirs along an aqueduct (about 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles of open channels, tunnels, and syphons) which is capable of delivering 28,000,000 gallons daily.

O'SHANASSY AND UPPER YARRA SYSTEM.

**O'Shanassy
and
Upper Yarra
watershed.** The watershed of the O'Shanassy River comprises 32,650 acres, situated near Warburton. The water is diverted by means of a weir and conveyed to Surrey Hills by way of Mitcham in an aqueduct and in tunnels, syphons, and a pipe line, of an aggregate length of 48 $\frac{3}{4}$ miles. The aqueduct is capable of delivering 20,000,000 gallons daily, but it has been completed in the tunnels and some other parts to a capacity of 60,000,000 gallons to provide for further diversions from the Upper Yarra and its tributaries. The catchment area of Silvan Reservoir, near Mount Dandenong, is about 2,228 acres.

OUTPUT OF THE VARIOUS WATER SYSTEMS IN 1925.

The total output of water from the various sources of supply in 1925 was as follows :—

		Gallons.
From Yan Yean Reservoir	.. ..	5,243,740,000
„ Maroondah Streams	.. ..	9,351,038,000
„ O'Shanassy River ..	.. ..	5,719,667,000
		<hr/>
Total Output	.. ..	20,314,445,000

Storage and service reservoirs. There are two storage reservoirs with a total capacity of 6,460,000,000 gallons and fifteen service reservoirs (including one at the Metropolitan Farm, Werribee), with a total capacity of 176,900,000 gallons, and it is proposed to have, in the immediate future, two other service reservoirs. The Year-Book for 1920-21 contains, on page 218, figures showing the then capacity of the reservoirs in gallons and their reduced level at by-wash.

Consumption of water in Melbourne and suburbs. The average number of people supplied with water during 1925 was 954,558, and the average daily consumption was 58.28 gallons per head. Some districts are supplied outside the Board's sewerage area. The total consumption and average consumption per day are shown hereunder for each month of the year 1925 :—

TOTAL AND DAILY AVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS DURING EACH MONTH OF THE YEAR 1925.

Month.	Total Consumption of Water.		Daily Average Consumption of Water.
		Gallons.	Gallons.
January	...	1,881,351,000	60,688,742
February	...	1,742,158,000	62,219,929
March	...	2,003,327,000	64,623,452
April	...	1,664,877,000	55,495,900
May	...	1,410,303,000	45,493,645
June	...	1,261,116,000	42,037,200
July	...	1,352,055,000	43,614,677
August	...	1,382,370,000	44,592,581
September	...	1,414,975,000	47,165,833
October	...	1,854,939,000	59,836,742
November	...	2,015,479,000	67,182,633
December	...	2,323,095,000	74,938,548
Total for the year	20,306,045,000	...
Daily average for the year	...		55,633,000

NOTE.—The maximum daily consumption for 1925 occurred on 14th December and the minimum daily consumption on 24th May of that year. The consumption was 96,031,000 gallons on the former and 32,928,000 gallons on the latter of these two days.

The following table shows for each of the last ten years the daily average consumption of water, and the daily average per head:—

DAILY AVERAGE QUANTITY OF WATER CONSUMED IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS, 1916 TO 1925.

Year.	Estimated Population supplied with Water to 30th June.	Houses supplied with Water to 30th June.	Number of Houses for which Sewers were provided to 30th June.	Daily Average of Annual Consumption of Water to 31st December.	No. of Gallons of Water per Head Daily.
				Gallons.	
1916 ...	687,571	155,208	143,737	36,910,680	53·68
1917 ...	700,321	158,086	148,395	38,604,178	55·12
1918 ...	716,521	161,743	151,622	40,838,819	57·00
1919 ...	731,154	165,046	155,238	42,455,225	58·07
1920 ...	755,536	170,550	158,735	45,187,536	59·81
1921 ...	787,160	177,998	161,955	47,135,608	59·88
1922 ...	817,127	184,453	166,871	48,351,005	59·17
1923 ...	867,230	195,763	175,379	50,691,134	58·45
1924 ...	918,485	207,333	182,987	50,187,508	54·64
1925 ...	954,558	215,476	191,318	55,633,000	58·28

These figures show that additional houses to the number of 8,143 were supplied with water during the year ended 30th June, 1925.

SEWERAGE FINANCE.

In 1891 the annual value of rateable property within the area then to be sewered was £6,866,313, of which about £1,000,000 related to vacant lands. The collapse of the land boom was followed by a heavy shrinkage in the value of rateable property. A recovery in values has since taken place, and the total of the sewerage assessments for 1925-26 was £15,632,760, inclusive of assessments on vacant lands, and unsewered area and undertakings.

By Act of Parliament the Board is empowered to levy a general sewerage rate not exceeding 1s. 2d. in the £1 in sewered areas. The sewerage rate for 1924-25 was 9d. in the £1 in the sewered area. The total annual value of property assessed for sewerage purposes and liable to the 9d. rate was £12,783,686 in 1924-25.

The receipts from the general sewerage rate in 1924-25 amounted to £497,783.

The sewerage revenue for 1924-25 was £537,657, as against £480,748 in the previous year. The outlay in 1924-25 for management, working expenses and repairs was £129,050, and for interest £485,027, the total charges being £614,077, compared with an outlay in 1923-24 of £119,571 for management, working expenses, and repairs, and of £451,168 for interest, or a total expenditure of £570,739.

Sewerage assessments, rates, and receipts.

Cost of the Melbourne and Metropolitan sewerage system. The cost of sewerage works and house connexions up to 30th June, 1925, was £9,589,073, divided as follows:—

Farm purchase and preparation	£695,727
Rising Mains and outfall sewer	448,821
Pumping station buildings and engines	282,718
Main and branch sewers	2,362,313
Street reticulation	2,979,720
Reticulation of rights-of-way	1,400,210
House connexions branches	609,109
Cost of house connexions chargeable to capital	551,606
Night soil depots	34,631
Cost of sewerage system	£9,364,855
Householders' debts for house connexions	216,239
River improvements	7,979
Total	£9,589,073

Main Sewers and Subsidiary Main. The sewage of the metropolis is delivered into two main sewers and a subsidiary main leading to the pumping station at Spotswood. The two main sewers are the North Yarra main sewer (Northern system) and the Hobson's Bay main sewer (Southern system). The subsidiary main, which takes in Williamstown, joins the Hobson's Bay main before it enters the pumping station. Further information regarding these is given in the *Year-Book* for 1920-21, page 222.

PROGRESS OF SEWERAGE WORK WITHIN THE BOARD'S METROPOLITAN AREA UP TO 31st DECEMBER, 1925.

On 31st December, 1925, the sewerage system was practically completed in the following municipalities:—Melbourne, South Melbourne, Port Melbourne, Collingwood, Fitzroy, Hawthorn, Prahran, Richmond, St. Kilda, and the thickly populated portions of Essendon.

The Sewerage System was nearly completed in the municipalities of Brighton, Brunswick, Caulfield, Malvern, the older parts of Footscray and Box Hill (the latter being formerly known as Nunawading), and the thickly populated portions of Camberwell, Coburg, Kew, Northcote, Preston and Williamstown, while considerable progress had been made in the municipalities of Heidelberg, Oakleigh and Sandringham.

A small portion of the municipality of Moorabbin had been completed, and the Five Mile Creek Branch Main had been extended through Essendon to Keilor.

During the twelve months ended 31st December, 1925, work has progressed more particularly in Camberwell, Caulfield, Coburg,

Essendon, Footscray, Heidelberg and Sandringham, also in Maivern, Moorabbin, Northcote, Oakleigh, Prahran, Preston and Williamstown.

Mains and Branch Sewers.—The Five Mile Creek Branch Section 3 has been constructed in conjunction with Reticulation Area No. 438, Essendon and Keilor; Golf Links Branch Section 2 has been constructed in conjunction with Reticulation Area No. 421, Camberwell; the Camberwell South Branch Sections 2 and 3, Camberwell; Gardiner's Creek Main Section 3, Malvern; Scotchman's Creek Main Section 1, Malvern and Oakleigh; North-road Relieving Sewer, Brighton; Elster Creek Branch, Brighton and Moorabbin; Essendon West Branch, Essendon; Kilby-road Intercepting Sewer Section 2, Kew; Moreland-road Branch Section 4, Coburg, and Williamstown Main Section 6, Williamstown, have been constructed to meet the requirements of new reticulation areas in the respective municipalities mentioned.

Reticulation contracts have been completed in Camberwell, Caulfield, Coburg, Essendon, Footscray, Heidelberg, Malvern, Moorabbin, Northcote, Oakleigh, Prahran, Preston, Sandringham, and Williamstown. Contract and day labor reticulation extensions have been carried out, principally in Caulfield, Preston, Malvern, Camberwell, Brunswick, Brighton, Sandringham, and Hawthorn, and in a lesser degree in Coburg, Essendon, Footscray, Heidelberg, Kew, Melbourne, Northcote, Prahran, Oakleigh, St. Kilda and Williamstown.

Work in progress—Mains and Branch Sewers.—Kilby-road Branch Intercepting Sewer Section 1, Kew; Deepdene Branch, Kew and Camberwell; and Well-street Branch, Section 3, Brighton and Sandringham, are now in course of construction. *Reticulation contracts* are now being carried out in Camberwell, Footscray, Heidelberg, Kew, and Oakleigh; while contract and day labour reticulation extensions to meet the requirements of new buildings or fresh subdivisions are being carried out in Prahran (Glen Bervie Estate), Brighton, Brunswick, Camberwell, Caulfield, Coburg, Footscray, Hawthorn, Kew, Northcote, Sandringham, and Williamstown.

In all 1,759 miles $3\frac{1}{2}$ chains of reticulation and 184 miles $54\frac{1}{2}$ chains of main and branch sewers have been completed, making a total length of 1,943 miles 58 chains.

PROVISION FOR HOUSE CONNEXIONS WITH THE SEWERAGE SYSTEM IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS.

Number of Houses for which sewers were provided on 31st Decr., 1925.

The first house was connected in Port Melbourne in August, 1897. On 31st December, 1925, the number of houses for which sewers were provided was 193,720, including 403 outside gazetted areas.

During the year 1924-25, 7,666 new houses were erected in the metropolitan area, and provision was made for the sewerage of 8,331 houses.

The following statement shows the progress of house connexions to the 31st December, 1925 :—

NUMBER OF HOUSES FOR WHICH SEWERS WERE PROVIDED ON 31st DECEMBER, 1925.

Municipality.	No. of Houses for which sewers were provided on 31st December, 1925.
Melbourne City	27,331
South Melbourne City	10,907
Prahran City	12,641
Fitzroy City	8,101
Richmond City	10,458
St. Kilda City	9,260
Collingwood City	8,672
Footscray City	8,101
Hawthorn City	7,793
Brunswick City	11,626
Essendon City	9,436
Malvern City	9,293
Caulfield City	13,174
Northcote City	8,980
Camberwell City	6,238
Brighton City	6,054
Port Melbourne City	3,074
Williamstown City	4,467
Kew City	4,265
Coburg City	3,910
Sandringham City	2,290
Oakleigh Town	1,120
Preston Town	3,246
Box Hill Borough	388
Heidelberg Shire (part of)	2,895
Total	193,720

In addition to the above, the total area comprises part of a town and parts of twelve shires, in which sewerage facilities for houses are not yet provided.

The house connexions pipes join the reticulation pipes, and these are gradually collected into branch sewers, which connect with the sub-mains and mains.

PUMPING STATION.

When collected at Spotswood the two systems are dealt with in separate buildings, and are arranged to be worked either separately or unitedly. The sewage from the two mains enters the pumping station at a level of 37 feet and 45 feet respectively below low-water mark through straining wells, one of which is established on each system. The wells are of 22 feet internal diameter, and each contains two straining cages, one of which is always in position. Most of the solid débris and fibrous matter is caught in the straining cages, the bars of which are 1½ inches apart. The matter collected in the cages is carted away and buried under earth, and in course of time it totally decomposes.

Pumping station.

There are seven steam driven reciprocating pumping engines installed of about 300 horse-power each, with a daily capacity of about 8,000,000 gallons. In addition to these there are five electrical centrifugal pumping units installed, three of 18,000,000 gallons and two of 12,000,000 gallons daily capacity, making a total capacity of 134,000,000 gallons daily. The sewage—relieved of the bulk of the solids in suspension—is raised by the pumps. The average difference in pumping levels is from 40 feet below low water mark at the pumping station to 67 feet above low water mark at the head of the outfall sewer at Brooklyn. The total equivalent head, however—including friction—is taken to be from 120 feet to 125 feet. The sewage is raised and forced through two 6-ft. rising mains (one of mild steel and one of wrought iron) and one 4-ft. rising main with 3 $\frac{3}{8}$ chains of concrete at the top end. The three mains run side by side, each about 2 miles 63 $\frac{1}{2}$ chains long. Only two of them are in use at the same time, the other one being kept as a stand-by. There are also two 6-ft. exterior by-pass rising mains laid north and south of the pumping station and having a total length of 14 chains 3 feet. These are provided so that the flow can be by-passed and cleaning and repairs effected to the mains and valves in the immediate vicinity of the pumping station. The total length of all the rising mains is 8 miles 44 $\frac{1}{2}$ chains. From Brooklyn the sewage gravitates to the Metropolitan Sewage Farm at Werribee in a partly-open and partly-closed channel 16 miles long, of 11 feet diameter, and having a grade of 2 feet to the mile. The present maximum capacity of the outfall sewer (which is only half of the full amount) is 12,500 cubic feet a minute, or 112 $\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons of sewage per day.

METROPOLITAN SEWAGE FARM.

Sewage farm. The purification of the sewage of Melbourne and Suburbs is effected by filtration and aeration through the natural soil of the Sewage Farm, which contains 13,602 acres 2 roods and 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ perches (21 $\frac{1}{4}$ square miles) of land situated about 24 miles south-west of Melbourne and 4 miles south-west of the township of Werribee in open plain country, and had an average annual rainfall for the past 32 years to 31st December, 1925, of 17·94 inches. The farm has the Werribee River for its eastern boundary, and a frontage of about 6 miles to Port Phillip Bay on the south (extending from the mouth of the Werribee River to the mouth of the Little River). It extends as far north as the main Geelong Road, the land gradually sloping from the north, and the highest point being 44 feet above low-water mark. The head of the outfall sewer at Brooklyn is, as has been mentioned, 67 feet above low-water mark, and the sewage flows by gravitation from there to the farm, a distance of 16 miles, where the point of delivery is 37·25 feet above low-water mark. To irrigate the portion of the farm above that level necessitates pumping.

The land required for sewage filtration purposes is divided into 20-acre blocks (20 chains by 10 chains), which are graded into bays of

about half-an acre each, and commanded by distributing drains to facilitate rapid flooding. The sewage is distributed by means of main carriers and drains which run parallel, north to south, through the farm half-a-mile apart, and sub-carriers and drains which branch east and west every 10 chains. The filtered sewage is discharged into the bay by a series of main effluent channels running parallel, north and south through the farm. Each of the hundreds of paddocks on the farm is supplied with water drawn from a main laid from Melbourne, which also feeds a storage reservoir, recently constructed, of 2,600,000 gallons capacity, to ensure an uninterrupted supply.

The area under irrigation in the year 1924-25 included 220 acres of lucerne which were cut for hay, and yielded approximately 640 tons or about 2.91 tons to the acre, and 7,864 acres of irrigated pasture mainly used for grazing. The total area available for grazing live stock including unirrigated land, &c., was 9,156 acres.

Notwithstanding the large quantity of sewage water required to be put on the pastures summer and winter alike, the effective filtration of which must be the Board's first consideration, a considerable profit is derived from the farming and grazing operations. The principal sources of revenue are from breeding of beef cattle, fattening of sheep and cattle, and grazing of horses on agistment. The transactions in sheep and cattle for the year 1924-25 were— from sheep, profit £11,004; from cattle, profit £15,385. The revenue from agistment (principally horses) was £3,807.

The following are particulars of the sales of produce for the year ended 30th June, 1925:—Maize, £2,206.

Statistical details relating to the farm for the year 1924-25, or as at 30th June, 1925, are as follows:—

Total area of farm	13,603 acres
Average quantity of sewage delivered daily on to farm for year 1924-25 = in gallons	36,846,795
= 135.73 acre-feet per day = 5.330 feet per annum over the total area available for sewage disposal, viz., 9,294 acres.	
Total capital cost of farm to 30th June, 1925 ..	£695,727
Profit on farm trading account for the year after charging up working expenses of farm ..	£21,688
Net cost of sewage purification (after charging £17,803 working expenses of sewage disposal, and £34,471, interest on capital cost) ..	£30,586
Net cost per head per annum of sewerage purification for past 10 years	5.42d.
Population served by sewerage system	847,538
Rainfall for year ended 30th June, 1925 ..	16.02 inches
" " " 31st December, 1925 ..	11.67 "
Average rainfall for 32 years to 31st December, 1925	17.94 "

THE BALLARAT WATER COMMISSION AND THE BALLARAT SEWERAGE AUTHORITY.

The Ballarat Water Commission was constituted on 1st July, 1880, by Act 44 Vict. No. 656 (Consolidated Act No. 2747). The Ballarat Sewerage Authority was constituted under the provisions of the *Sewerage Districts Act* 1915 by Order in Council, dated 30th November, 1920, which provides that the members of the Water Commission shall be the Sewerage Authority. The Commissioners number seven; three (one of whom is chairman) being appointed by the Government, and four being elected by the Council of the City of Ballarat.

Water Supply.—The Water Supply District embraces an area of about 27 square miles, including the city of Ballarat, the borough of Sebastopol, and portions of the shires of Ballarat, Buninyong, and Bungaree, and it contains a population of about 43,000. The works comprise six reservoirs, two of which (the Upper Gong Gong and Kirks) are situated about 4½ miles north-east of Ballarat, and are service reservoirs. The two last-mentioned are connected with three of the other basins by an open aqueduct about 8 miles long, which is lined with masonry and concrete. The sixth reservoir (the Moorabool) situate 4½ miles north-east of Wallace, was completed on 12th August, 1915, and is connected to the aqueduct before mentioned by a reinforced concrete gravity pipe line having a diameter of 2 feet and about 5 miles long. The total storage capacity of the six reservoirs is 2,215,558,327 gallons.

Finance.—The capital cost of construction of the waterworks is £640,000. The liabilities are loans due to the Government, amounting to £311,278 as at 31st December, 1925. The annual revenue is £32,000.

Rating.—The water rate is 1s. in the £ on the net annual value of properties, with a minimum rate of £1 per annum for properties supplied.

Sewerage.—The actual construction of sewerage works for the city began in December, 1922. The main and outfall sewers have been completed, and progress has been made with branch and reticulation sewers and with the treatment or disposal works. The scheme in its initial stages will provide for about 38,000 persons, and eventually for not less than 90,000 persons. The method of disposal of sewage is by sedimentation, oxidation and sludge digestion. The main and outfall sewers have been completed, the latter being 3 ft. 3 in. in diameter, and about 1 mile long, while the former is about 2 1-10th miles long. Branch and reticulation sewers have been constructed to the extent of 10 miles. Thirteen sewered areas have been declared, comprising 1,563 tenements. The service was put into action in July, 1925, when the first house connexion was made.

Finance.—The scheme is being financed by loans from financial institutions, £160,000 having been provided up to 31st December, 1925, for constructional works, and £50,000 for house connexions.

Rating.—To provide for preliminary administration and interest charges, the rating has been as follows:—1922, 2d. in the £; 1923, 3d. in the £; 1924–25–26, 6d. in the £ on the net annual value of all rateable property within the sewerage district. The rate of 1s. 6d. in the £ in respect of sewered properties connected on the 1st July, 1926.

GEELONG WATERWORKS AND SEWERAGE TRUST.

This Trust was constituted under the *Geelong Municipal Water Act* 1907, and gazetted on 15th January, 1908. It was reconstituted under the *Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Act* No. 2230 (Consolidated Act No. 2661).

The Commissioners number five. Two of these represent the city of Geelong, one the town of Geelong West, one the town of Newtown and Chilwell, and one the shires of Bellarine, Corio, and South Barwon.

The amount of loans which may be raised is limited to £725,000 for water supply undertaking, £610,000 for sewerage undertaking, and £220,000 for sewerage installations to properties under deferred payment conditions. The expenditure on these services to 30th June, 1925, was :—Water supply, £508,629 ; sewerage, £482,133 ; and sewerage installation, £182,894. The annual revenue for the year ended 30th June, 1925, was £45,729 on account of waterworks and £37,928 on account of sewerage.

The population supplied is about 38,000. The number of buildings situated within the "Drainage Area" is 10,000 ; the number within the "Sewered Areas," 9,200 ; and the number connected with the sewers, 8,657.

Water Supply.—The catchment area is about 16,000 acres. Particulars of the works and of the storage capacity of the various reservoirs are given in the Year-Book for 1920-21, pp. 226 and 227. The total storage capacity of the reservoirs and service basins, is 2,725,570,960 gallons.

Sewerage.—The sewerage scheme consists of a main outfall sewer, 4 ft. 3 in. by 3 ft. 3 in., to the ocean at Black Rock, a distance of about 9 miles from Geelong. The drainage area is 9,351 acres and includes the city of Geelong, the town of Geelong West, the town of Newtown and Chilwell, and the suburban areas in the shires of Corio, South Barwon, and Bellarine.

Rating.—The water rate is 1s. 3d. in the pound on the net annual value of properties as certified to by the municipalities, with a minimum rate of £1 per annum for properties supplied.

The sewerage rates are—

- (a) A general sewerage rate of 1s. 6d. in the pound on the net annual value of all rateable properties within the drainage area which are now sewered or may become sewered during the period for which such rate is made.
- (b) An additional rate of 2d. in the pound on the net annual value of all rateable properties within the drainage area which are now or may hereafter become sewered as mentioned under (a).
- (c) A rate of 2d. in the pound on the net annual value of all properties within the drainage area which are not sewered.

In addition to the general and additional rates, the Trust, to prevent or minimize the pollution of the River Barwon, has power to strike a differential or special rate on properties which drain into that river.

BENDIGO SEWERAGE AUTHORITY.

The Bendigo Sewerage Authority was constituted under the *Sewerage Districts Act* 1915 (No. 2761) on 20th November, 1916, and the Sewerage District proclaimed. This District includes the whole area of the City of Bendigo, and the members of the Bendigo City Council constitute *ipso facto* the Bendigo Sewerage Authority. The Chairman is Cr. E. M. Vains, J.P. Permanent surveys, designs, and estimates for the proposed scheme were made, and approved by the Governor in Council, and authority was obtained to borrow £120,000 to sewer the central portion of the city—an area of 935 acres, comprising 3,300 tenements, which was called Sewerage Area No. 1—and to construct the main outfall sewer and treatment works. A loan of this amount was obtained from the Commonwealth Bank at 5½ per cent. Owing to an extension of the sewered area, and an increase in the cost of labour and materials, it was found necessary during the year 1924 to borrow an additional amount of £50,000 from the Commonwealth Bank at 6½ per cent. These loans are secured by debentures, and the former is repayable in twenty years, and the latter in ten years on a 30 years' basis of half-yearly payments of sinking fund and interest. For the purpose of meeting the loan repayments a special rate of 3d. in the pound of net annual value was struck on 12th February, 1926, and levied upon all property within the Sewerage District for the financial years ending 30th September, 1925 and 1926, the whole city being rated, although the present sewerage proposals are confined to the central area. A sewerage rate of 1s. 6d. in the pound on properties actually sewered was struck on the 12th February, 1926.

Construction of the main outfall sewer was begun on 30th January, 1921, and completed on 18th January, 1923. Its length is 4 miles, with a grade of 1 in 700. It includes two aqueducts, 42 feet and 80 feet long, respectively. The main sewer has been completed to the end of sewerage area No. 1, a length of 1½ miles. Branch sewers have been laid within the city, having an aggregate length of over 28 miles, and providing for the connexion of over 3,000 tenements. The first house was connected on 31st March, 1923; and by 30th June, 1926, 1759 houses had been connected, while 184 others were in course of being sewered.

The method of disposal of the sewage is by oxidising tanks (Montgomerie Neilson process), with secondary land filtration, the effluent being available for growing fodder crops. The disposal site is surrounded by Crown lands and unimproved grazing lands, and is at Ironstone Hill, a mile west of Epsom, and 4½ miles north of Bendigo Post Office.

The Act provides for a sewerage rate not exceeding 2s. in the pound on the annual value in sewered areas, and a special annual rate not exceeding 1s. in the pound in sewered or 6d. in the pound in unsewered areas. The Act further provides for the Sewerage Authority sewerage tenements at the request of the owners, repayment of the cost being made in 40 quarterly instalments. For this purpose a loan of £35,000, at 6 per cent., and a further advance of £35,000 at 6½

per cent. were arranged with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia. There are indications that the deferred repayment provision will be largely availed of, the interest chargeable being limited by Act of Parliament to the same rate as the Authority pays. The whole scheme is expected to cost about £300,000.

FIRE BRIGADES BOARDS.

Constitution of Fire Brigades Boards. Connected with the water service of the State generally is the service of water required for fire extinction.

Under the *Fire Brigades Act 1915* there are constituted a metropolitan fire district, controlled by the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board, and nine country fire districts, controlled by the Country Fire Brigades Board. The supervisors are the chief officers of the respective Boards, who are aided by deputies and other assistants.

The arrangements for fire extinction in the metropolis are closely allied to those for the Melbourne water supply, provision for the service being made by the *Fire Brigades Act 1915*.

The Metropolitan Fire District embraces the area included in the various municipalities within a radius of 10 miles from the Elizabeth-street Post Office, as well as certain districts outside that area. The districts referred to are the Borough of Ringwood, Shire of Blackburn and Mitcham, and portions of the Shires of Braybrook, Keilor, Broadmeadows, Heidelberg, Lilydale (Croydon), Doncaster and Templestowe, Mulgrave and Moorabbin, beyond the 10-mile radius. The Metropolitan Fire District includes the greater portion of the shire of Moorabbin, and extends in a southerly direction as far as Mordialloc (16 miles from Melbourne), that township being included.

The Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board is composed of nine members, of whom three are appointed by the Governor in Council, three by the municipal councils, and three by the fire insurance companies.

The Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board on 30th June, 1926, had under its control the following:—Forty stations, 281 members of permanent staff, 72 members of special service staff, 8 members of clerical staff, 45 men engaged in the workshops, 16 employees engaged in the tailoring department, 175 partially paid firemen, 1 steam motor fire engine, 7 petrol motor fire engines, 2 motor salvage wagons, 18 combination hose carriages and pumps, 4 motor combination appliances, 25 motor hose wagons, 4 motor cycles, 3 motor lorries, 3 special service vans, 1 Chief Officer's motor car, 1 Deputy Chief Officer's motor car, 3 extension ladders and fire escapes, 4 pompier ladders, 9 inspection cars, 102,174 feet of hose, 12 smoke helmets, 1 smoke jacket, and 445 fire alarm circuits having 1,350 street fire alarms, of which 1,331 were with telephones. There were also 1,149 auxiliary boxes and 113 automatic systems in public and other buildings, 194 direct telephone lines, 64 of which were acting as fire alarms to buildings, and 117 watchmen's clock systems.

During 1925-26 the cost of maintenance of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade was £197,475, one-third being contributed by each of the con-

tributing bodies, viz., Government of Victoria, municipalities within the Metropolitan Fire District, and the fire insurance companies carrying on business in that district. The municipalities' contribution was equal to 825d. in the pound over an area wherein the property was valued at £15,322,522, and that of the insurance companies was equal to £5 8s. 8d. 6d. for every £100 of premiums on insured property. The premiums received in the Melbourne Fire District in 1924 amounted to £969,405, and the total of the payments made by the companies in 1925-26 for the maintenance of the fire brigade system was £52,680.

The Country Fire Brigades Board consists of nine members. Three are appointed by the Governor in Council, two are elected by the municipal councils of the districts in which there are brigades registered under the Board, two by the fire insurance companies carrying on business in such districts, and two by the registered fire brigades. The board elects one of its members as president each year. The tenure of the Board members is two years. The Board's revenue for the year ended 30th June, 1925, was £25,133, which was obtained from the following sources:—(a) Government, £7,927; (b) municipalities, £8,801; (c) insurance companies, £7,927; and (d) other sources, £478. The expenditure for the same year amounted to £23,684. There are 114 municipal councils and 92 insurance companies included in the operation of the Act. The premiums received by the insurance companies in country districts during the year 1924 amounted to £316,205. The total value of rateable property assessed within the Board's district in 1924 was £2,580,078. All brigades under the control of the Board are volunteer brigades, but in the large centres a few permanent stationkeepers and auxiliaries are employed. There are 143 registered brigades, and the number of registered firemen is 2,516. In many brigades there are, in addition to the registered firemen, a number of "reserve" members.

Powers of the Boards. The general duties of the Fire Brigades Boards are defined to be those "of taking superintending and enforcing all necessary steps for the extinguishment of fires and for the protection of life and property in case of fire, and the general control of all stations and of all fire brigades shall be vested in the Boards for the metropolis and country districts respectively." The Boards may purchase or lease property for fire brigade stations, control the formation of permanent and volunteer fire brigades and schools of instruction, maintain fire alarms, and establish communication, telephonic and other.

Water Supply. The Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works is bound to keep all its pipes, to which fire plugs are affixed, charged with water, unless prevented by unusual drought or other unavoidable cause, or during necessary repairs, and must allow all persons at all times to take and use such water for extinguishing fires. On 30th June, 1925, the Board had fixed to its 257 miles $35\frac{1}{4}$ chains of leading mains and 1,709 miles 38 chains of reticulation mains, 5,804 pillar hydrants, 30 Tregear patent

hydrants, and 16,804 ball fire plugs (viz., 16,783 Bateman and Moore, of which 3,356 are with spring, and 21 Fowler patent)—a grand total of 22,638. Except in case of accident, repairs, or cleaning, these mains are kept constantly full of water under pressure.

The Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, under the water supply provisions of its Act of 1915, must, upon the request of any municipal council within its boundaries, fix proper fire plugs in the main and other pipes belonging to the Board, at convenient distances, and at such places as the Board may consider proper and convenient for the supply of water for extinguishing any fire which may break out within its limits. The cost of fixing fire plugs and notice boards, together with the cost of their maintenance, must be defrayed by the municipal council within whose limits the fire plug is fixed. The Board may also fix fire plugs for private owners, provided they pay the cost of installation and maintenance.

Particulars of receipts and expenditure of both Fire Brigades Boards for the five years ended 30th June, 1925, are as follows:—

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF FIRE BRIGADES BOARDS:
RETURN FOR FIVE YEARS.

	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.*	1925.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Ordinary Receipts.</i>					
Contributions — Government, Municipal, and Insurance ...	137,626	148,139	144,587	148,576	175,064
Receipts for Services ...	10,808	12,300	14,028	16,486	20,138
Interest and Sundries ...	12,059	13,751	9,778	9,881	12,120
Total ...	160,493	174,190	168,393	174,943	207,322
<i>Ordinary Expenditure.</i>					
Salaries ...	101,392	106,046	103,416	105,749	130,723
Fire Expenses ...	3,834	4,022	4,205	2,196	4,133
Administrative Charges, &c.	28,844	25,403	29,699	28,433	32,282
Plant—Purchase and Repairs ...	9,653	8,255	9,394	17,383	16,950
Interest ...	9,595	9,213	7,468	7,746	7,753
Repayment of Loans ...	4,666	12,052	2,959	3,115	3,946
Firemen's Accident Fund	250	250	...	...	...
Superannuation Fund ...	..	..	4,684	3,900	4,880
Miscellaneous ...	3,732	11,143	7,737	3,095	4,230
Total ...	161,966	176,384	169,562	171,617	204,897
<i>Loan Expenditure.</i>					
Purchase of Land and Erection of Buildings, &c.	23,782	25,205	1,443	1,201	19,047

* The figures relating to the Country Fire Brigades Board included in this column are for a period of six months to 30th June, 1924.

ACCUMULATION.

Probates and Letters of Administration granted during 1924. The accompanying table shows, in various age groups, the number and value of estates of deceased persons of each sex in connexion with which probate or letters of administration were granted during 1924, also the average amount left by each person whose estate passed through the Probate Office, and by each person dying, and the amount of duty collected on the estates. The resident adults who left property at death in 1924 numbered 5,087, the sex distribution being 3,040 males, or 45 per cent. of male deaths over the age of 21 years, and 2,047 females, or 34 per cent. of adult female deaths. The average value of estates left by males was 63 per cent. more than that of estates left by females. It appears that the average wealth of deceased persons in 1924 reached its maximum in the age group 50 to 60 years in the case of males, and in the age group 70 to 80 in the case of females.

ESTATES OF DECEASED PERSONS IN AGE GROUPS, 1924.

Age at Death.	Estates.		Value of Estates.					Amount of Duty.
	Total Number.	Percentage Intestate.	Gross.		Net—after deducting Liabilities.			
			Real.	Personal.	Real and Personal.	Average to each Estate.	Average per Death in Victoria in each Age Group.	
MALES.								
			£	£	£	£	£	£
Under 15 years..	1	100·0	..	50	50	50	0·03	..
15 to 21 " ..	9	100·0	630	2,281	2,742	305	14	66
21 to 30 " ..	106	65·1	63,467	68,104	88,185	832	231	3,887
30 to 40 " ..	197	44·2	116,516	221,234	257,441	1,307	521	11,389
40 to 50 " ..	289	37·7	290,189	304,822	446,037	1,543	657	17,487
50 to 60 " ..	568	30·1	1,015,084	1,559,731	2,208,401	3,888	1,815	147,636
60 to 70 " ..	863	22·7	1,160,067	1,646,267	2,474,853	2,868	1,394	124,737
70 to 80 " ..	567	19·0	880,350	1,063,135	1,785,033	3,148	1,369	96,018
80 to 90 " ..	373	12·3	508,419	792,658	1,208,697	3,240	1,509	64,988
90 years and upwards ..	77	3·9	121,881	175,126	234,343	3,693	1,634	14,863
Absentees ..	312	20·5	40,220	401,719	426,421	1,367	..	17,791
Total Males	3,362	25·7	4,196,823	6,235,127	9,182,203	2,731	1,036	498,362
FEMALES.								
Under 15 years..	1	100·0	..	96	96	96	0·06	..
15 to 21 " ..	2	100·0	..	1,101	1,101	550	6	35
21 to 30 " ..	35	68·6	6,007	14,402	16,258	465	40	518
30 to 40 " ..	85	47·1	44,370	73,746	100,123	1,178	192	5,333
40 to 50 " ..	197	43·1	100,259	144,307	197,122	1,001	356	7,595
50 to 60 " ..	352	30·1	252,490	274,245	462,988	1,315	512	18,196
60 to 70 " ..	507	23·9	366,502	550,761	867,160	1,710	694	42,808
70 to 80 " ..	480	14·8	547,263	733,180	1,195,759	2,491	1,031	62,762
80 to 90 " ..	324	8·6	240,324	349,189	554,361	1,711	584	22,995
90 years and upwards ..	67	6·0	51,164	54,131	102,102	1,524	460	4,308
Absentees ..	128	30·5	17,207	138,943	151,995	1,187	..	6,950
Total Females	2,178	23·9	1,645,591	2,334,101	3,649,065	1,675	478	171,495
Total Males and Females—								
1924	5,540	25·0	5,842,414	8,569,228	12,831,268	2,316	778	669,857
1923	6,283	24·5	6,945,668	10,063,628	15,070,725	2,399	875	794,327
1922	5,445	24·8	5,395,984	8,874,337	12,641,263	2,322	834	689,543
1921	5,769	25·6	5,905,994	8,331,966	12,554,865	2,176	777	632,783
1920	5,837	27·8	5,701,914	10,641,149	14,672,239	2,514	872	908,170

The numbers and values of estates dealt with in each of the last four years, grouped according to value, and distinguishing estates of males from those of females, are as follows :—

NUMBER AND VALUE OF ESTATES OF DECEASED PERSONS, 1921 TO 1924.

Value.	1921.		1922.		1923.		1924.	
	Number.	Net Value.	Number.	Net Value.	Number.	Net Value.	Number.	Net Value.
MALES.								
		£		£		£		£
Under £100 ..	422	20,588	366	18,323	358	17,647	366	17,900
£100 to £300 ..	625	121,326	599	115,363	641	124,132	579	110,858
£300 to £500 ..	498	198,408	419	163,879	480	189,797	433	169,693
£500 to £1,000 ..	612	449,209	553	403,128	671	483,776	610	448,880
£1,000 to £2,000 ..	498	715,964	446	643,173	569	814,293	473	678,738
£2,000 to £3,000 ..	217	584,027	202	506,503	293	716,143	224	547,546
£3,000 to £4,000 ..	148	509,761	136	470,248	165	576,640	146	507,735
£4,000 to £5,000 ..	106	471,360	117	524,454	123	543,146	96	424,516
£5,000 to £10,000 ..	229	1,589,705	221	1,553,951	259	1,784,848	254	1,766,324
£10,000 to £15,000 ..	95	1,144,823	78	938,856	82	1,000,997	87	1,056,476
£15,000 to £25,000 ..	63	1,174,236	56	1,081,097	64	1,232,761	47	876,290
£25,000 to £50,000 ..	33	1,080,936	41	1,430,126	31	1,063,864	30	957,961
£50,000 to £100,000 ..	17	1,101,279	7	532,879	11	698,590	13	930,242
Over £100,000 ..	2	303,592	5	1,078,019	9	1,549,419	4	689,044
Total Males ..	3,565	9,415,214	3,246	9,459,999	3,756	10,796,053	3,362	9,182,203
FEMALES.								
		£		£		£		£
Under £100 ..	246	12,752	236	12,533	253	13,560	227	11,877
£100 to £300 ..	471	89,622	512	99,227	522	100,946	414	79,085
£300 to £500 ..	371	146,479	332	131,391	383	151,232	327	129,661
£500 to £1,000 ..	416	301,051	413	297,249	499	360,829	425	311,856
£1,000 to £2,000 ..	338	477,434	366	516,881	403	577,137	373	530,795
£2,000 to £3,000 ..	136	336,522	132	320,972	169	415,641	136	331,437
£3,000 to £4,000 ..	77	268,958	46	156,418	98	337,925	89	308,299
£4,000 to £5,000 ..	45	210,149	43	190,250	45	205,602	37	164,633
£5,000 to £10,000 ..	63	435,505	73	478,756	92	644,732	102	693,990
£10,000 to £15,000 ..	23	268,734	22	272,623	23	312,343	31	362,572
£15,000 to £25,000 ..	8	147,144	15	292,152	23	454,480	7	120,857
£25,000 to £50,000 ..	7	261,489	8	297,980	10	375,878	6	181,607
£50,000 to £100,000 ..	3	183,812	..	..	3	218,971	2	162,549
Over £100,000 ..	..	..	1	114,832	1	105,396	2	259,747
Total Females ..	2,204	3,139,651	2,199	3,181,264	2,527	4,274,672	2,178	3,649,065
GRAND TOTAL ..	5,769	12,554,865	5,445	12,641,263	6,283	15,070,725	5,540	12,831,268

The following figures prove that the economic conditions existing in Victoria during the last forty-six years have led to a wide and growing diffusion of wealth amongst the people :—

Period.	Percentage of Adults who died leaving Estates which went through the Probate Office.
	Yearly Average.
1879-83	22·6
1884-88	25·9
1889-93	30·3
1894-98	33·3
1899-1903	36·7
1904-1908	37·5
1909-1913	37·9
1914-1918	38·0
1919-1923	43·3
1924 ..	39·8

Probates and Letters of Administration granted during 1925. The only available particulars relating to probates and letters of administration granted during the year 1925 are as follows :—The total number of estates was 5,204 (3,764 probates and 1,440 letters of administration) of a gross value of £14,652,925. The net value after deducting the liabilities amounted to £13,227,243, which was an average for each estate of £2,542.

ROYAL MINT.

Royal Mint returns. The Melbourne branch of the Royal Mint was established in 1872, the date of opening being the 12th June. The following table shows for the period 1872 to 1921 and for each of the last four years the quantity of gold received at the Mint, where the same was raised, and its coinage value; also the gold coin and bullion issued during the same periods :—

GOLD RECEIVED AND ISSUED AT ROYAL MINT, 1872 TO 1925.

Gold Received.	1872 to 1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
<i>Gross Weight.</i>					
Raised in Victoria .. oz.	28,206,616	115,432	109,823	76,874	51,280
New Zealand .. "	3,823,985	..	2	13	16,579
Western Australia .. "	2,940,994	..	210	9,020	1
Elsewhere .. "	4,391,474	80,462	55,994	23,310	764,894
Total "	39,363,069	145,894	166,029	109,222	832,754
Coinage Value £	154,311,113	513,722	613,641	369,782	3,439,680
<i>Gold Issued.</i>					
Coin—					
Sovereigns No.	141,067,637	608,306	510,870	278,140	3,311,662
Half-Sovereigns "	1,893,559	..	..	..	..
Bullion—Quantity oz.	2,920,840	23,504	27,277	26,028	32,776
" Value £	12,096,846	91,521	106,209	101,347	127,584
Total value, Coin and Bullion £	154,111,262	699,827	617,079	379,487	3,439,246

N.B.—The large increase in the issue of sovereigns during 1925 was due to the receipt of gold from overseas.

Since the opening of the Mint 40,616,968 ounces of gold have been received thereat, the coinage value at £3 17s. 10½d. per ounce standard being £159,247,938, thus averaging about £3 18s. 5d. per ounce gross. Of the total quantity of gold received at the Mint, 28,560,025 ounces were raised in Victoria, 3,840,584 ounces in New Zealand, 2,950,225 ounces in Western Australia, 1,311,421 ounces in Tasmania, and 849,077 ounces in South Australia. The number of deposits received during 1925 was 1,024, of a gross weight of 832,754 ounces. The average composition of these deposits was gold 972, silver 10, and base 18 in every 1,000 parts. The average value of Victorian gold received at the Mint during the year 1925 was £3 18s. 0½d. per ounce gross, £3 17s. 11d. being the value of the gold and 1½d. the value of the silver contained therein. The output of the Mint since its establishment has consisted of 145,776,615 sovereigns, 1,893,559 half-sovereigns, and 3,030,425 ounces of gold bullion; the total value of coin and bullion being £159,246,901.

In the following table particulars of the coinages and the issue of silver and bronze pieces for the requirements of the Commonwealth Treasury are given for each of the last five years:—

**COINAGE OF SILVER AND BRONZE AT ROYAL MINT,
1921 TO 1925.**

Denomination.	Number of Pieces Issued to Commonwealth Treasury.				
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
<i>Silver—</i>					
2s. ..	1,247,000	2,057,000	1,038,000	870,000	2,399,000
1s. ..	1,122,000	1,644,000	396,000	388,000	1,114,000
6d. ..	2,636,000	..	208,000	616,000	2,176,000
3d. ..	7,216,000	5,704,000	816,000	1,160,000	3,024,000
Total Silver Pieces..	12,221,000	9,405,000	2,458,000	3,034,000	8,713,000
Value .. £	336,900	359,200	139,000	136,300	387,800
<i>Bronze—</i>					
1d. ..	7,291,200	7,646,400	5,289,600	1,339,200	1,639,200
½d. ..	..	..	..	681,600	1,147,200
Total Bronze Pieces	7,291,200	7,646,400	5,289,600	2,020,800	2,786,400
Value .. £	30,380	31,860	22,040	7,000	9,220

The next table shows the quantity and value of silver extracted from gold at the Mint and the quantities of silver and gold issued for industrial purposes in each of the last five years :—

ROYAL MINT—EXTRACTIONS OF SILVER AND ISSUE OF SILVER AND GOLD FOR INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year.	Silver extracted from Gold at Mint.		Silver extracted from Victorian Gold at Mint.		Silver issued by Mint to Jewellers, &c.	Gold issued by Mint to Jewellers, &c.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
	Fine oz.	£	Fine oz.	£	Fine oz.	Standard oz.
1921	12,843	2,127	5,204	862	28,410	21,614
1922	16,807	2,601	6,978	1,080	24,373	23,504
1923	12,409	1,897	6,304	963	19,174	27,276
1924	14,479	2,216	4,216	645	71,078	26,005
1925	6,909	999	2,082	291	16,862	32,776

The revenue derived from Mint Charges, &c. from the opening of the Mint to 31st December, 1925, is shown in the following statement :—

REVENUE DERIVED FROM MINT CHARGES, 1872 TO 1925.

Period.	Revenue.		
	From Mint Charges on Gold.	From Sale of Silver and Other Sources.	Total Revenue.
	£	£	£
1872-1880	30,055	26,082	56,137
1880-1890	48,152	61,114	109,266
1890-1900	85,961	84,553	170,514
1900-1910	93,703	75,374	169,077
1910-1920	55,288	130,981	186,269
1920	2,370	23,468	25,838
1921	1,719	33,162	34,881
1922	1,577	32,187	33,764
1923	1,500	21,885	23,385
1924	1,319	14,170	15,489
1925	5,359	28,070	33,429
Total	327,003	531,046	858,049

BANKING.

Excluding the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, there were on 30th June, 1926, fifteen institutions, having 883 branches or agencies, which were engaged in the ordinary business of banking in Victoria. These are referred to in the succeeding tables as Joint Stock Banks.

Victorian Banking.

The particulars of the Commonwealth Bank, which are shown separately on page 258, include the balances of the Savings Bank department of that institution, as it issues one general statement only of assets and liabilities.

The paid-up capital of the Joint Stock Banks operating in Victoria, together with their reserve funds, the rate per cent., and the amount of their last dividends, are shown in the following table :—

CAPITAL RESOURCES OF THE JOINT STOCK BANKS IN VICTORIA.—30TH JUNE, 1926.

Bank.	Paid-up Capital.	Rate per cent. per annum of last Dividend and Bonus.	Amount of last Half-yearly Dividend and Bonus.	Amount of Reserved Profits.
	£	%	£	£
Bank of Australasia ..	4,000,000	10 and bonus 3	260,000	3,892,886
Union Bank of Australia Ltd. ..	3,500,000	15	262,500	4,242,902
English, Scottish and Australian Bank Ltd. ..	2,250,000	12½	243,750	2,133,414
Bank of New South Wales	6,000,000	10	300,000	4,530,755
Australian Bank of Commerce Ltd. ..	1,840,000	8	73,600	794,559
Primary Producers' Bank of Australia Ltd. ..	386,830	..	..	7,691
National Bank of Australasia Ltd. ..	4,000,000	10	200,000	2,532,958
Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd. ..	3,065,722	4 Pref. ; 15 Ord.	98,013	833,036
Bank of Victoria Ltd. ..	1,478,010	10	73,900	856,755
Royal Bank of Australia Ltd. ..	750,000	10	37,500	678,036
Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd.	127,500	8	5,100	69,821
Queensland National Bank Ltd. ..	1,500,000	10	74,894	725,950
Bank of Adelaide ..	875,000	10	43,750	824,974
Total Australian Banks	29,773,062	..	1,673,007	22,123,737
Bank of New Zealand	6,154,989	"A" Pref. 10 "B" Pref., 11, $\frac{1}{11}$ Ord., 13½	712,392*	3,390,378
Comptoir National d'Es-compte de Paris ..	10,000,000	12	600,000	3,276,653
Grand Total ..	45,928,051	..	2,985,399	28,790,768

* For twelve months.

Shareholders' capital, which represents the capital of the shareholders without as well as within Victoria, amounted to about 46

millions on 30th June, 1926. The reserves at the end of 1925-26 exceeded those of the previous year by £1,973,670, and amounted to 63 per cent. of the paid-up capital.

The subjoined statement shows the average liabilities and assets *within Victoria*, and the capital and profits, of the Joint Stock Banks for the June quarters of each of the years 1922 to 1926. The liabilities are those to the general public, and are exclusive of the banks' liabilities to their shareholders, which are shown in the preceding table.

VICTORIAN BANKING RETURNS, 1922 TO 1926.

(Excluding Commonwealth Bank.)

Heading.	Quarter ended 30th June—				
	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Number of Banks in Victoria furnishing returns ..	15	15	15	15	15
Number of Branches or Agencies ..	749	818	856	859	883
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Liabilities within Victoria.</i>					
Notes in circulation not bearing interest ..	88,469	88,031	87,278	86,969	86,601
Bills in circulation not bearing interest ..	296,689	323,860	388,374	429,199	482,843
Balances due to other Banks ..	1,168,884	1,110,053	1,160,104	1,186,464	1,316,330
Deposits not bearing interest ..	32,125,952	34,530,904	33,194,062	33,825,829	33,618,224
Deposits bearing interest ..	44,420,620	50,604,835	51,107,426	51,849,166	56,449,495
Total ..	78,100,614	86,657,683	85,937,244	87,377,627	91,953,493
<i>Assets within Victoria.</i>					
Coined Gold and Silver and other metals ..	4,946,289	5,156,654	5,367,063	7,272,507	8,462,690
Gold and Silver in Bullion and Bars ..	37,177	46,195	35,790	987,728	48,124
Government and Municipal Securities ..	3,775,375	3,177,611	2,595,209	4,422,831	6,427,484
Landed and House Property ..	1,482,857	1,545,947	1,639,793	1,630,648	1,729,417
Notes and Bills of other Banks ..	755,794	798,707	792,834	861,299	863,375
Balances due from other Banks ..	1,123,647	2,460,808	2,043,725	810,985	912,479
Discounts, Overdrafts and other assets ..	53,151,759	61,055,847	63,914,412	63,181,481	67,568,544
Australian Notes ..	9,386,610	8,928,524	7,859,885	7,362,658	6,833,737
Total ..	74,659,508	83,170,293	84,248,711	86,530,137	92,845,850
<i>Capital and Profits.</i>					
Capital Stock paid up ..	36,872,469	38,914,827	41,627,576	45,581,952	45,928,051
Reserved and Undivided Profits ..	18,561,086	22,194,469	24,442,499	26,817,098	28,790,768

The principal item in each case of the liabilities and assets of the Joint Stock Banks is shown for a series of years in the next statement.

DEPOSITS IN AND ADVANCES BY JOINT STOCK BANKS
IN VICTORIA (*excluding Commonwealth Bank*), 1917 to 1926.

(Average of the June quarter of each year.)

Year.	Deposits.			Advances.*	Excess of Deposits over Advances.
	Bearing Interest.	Not bearing Interest.	Total.		
	£	£	£	£	£
1917	30,383,428	21,337,581	51,721,009	34,587,124	17,133,885
1918	31,954,868	23,642,921	55,597,789	40,067,342	15,530,447
1919	37,765,167	26,714,621	64,479,788	50,306,414	14,173,374
1920	38,454,025	37,785,998	76,240,023	44,092,846	32,147,177
1921	42,197,473	33,326,736	75,524,209	53,681,441	19,842,768
1922	44,420,620	32,125,952	76,546,572	53,151,759	23,394,813
1923	50,604,835	34,530,904	85,135,739	61,055,847	24,079,892
1924	51,107,426	33,194,062	84,301,488	63,914,412	20,387,076
1925	51,849,166	33,825,829	85,674,995	63,181,481	22,493,514
1926	56,449,495	33,618,224	90,067,719	67,568,544	22,499,175

* Including discounts, overdrafts and all other assets, but excluding Government and municipal securities.

Rates of Interest. The succeeding statement shows the range for ten years of the average rates of interest per annum paid by the Joint Stock Banks in Melbourne to depositors for twelve months:—

Year.	Average rates of Interest per annum allowed to depositors for 12 months.
	Per cent.
1916-17	4
1917-18	4
1918-19	4
1919-20	4
1920-21	4½
1921-22	4½
1922-23	4½
1923-24	4½
1924-25	4½
1925-26	4½

Analysis of bank returns. An analysis of the banks' liabilities and assets *within* the State for the years 1915-16, 1920-21, and 1925-26 gives the following results:—

For every £100 of assets the liabilities were	{	£95·95 in	1915-16
		£100·56 ,,	1920-21
		£99·04 ,,	1925-26
Coin and bullion* formed	{	57·88 per cent. of the liabilities at call in†	1915-16
		45·38 ,, ,,	1920-21
		45·53 ,, ,,	1925-26
Of the moneys deposited	{	59·68 per cent. bore interest in	1915-16
		55·87 ,, ,,	1920-21
		62·67 ,, ,,	1925-26

* Including Australian notes. † Deposits not bearing interest and bank notes in circulation.

The foregoing statements relate to all banks in Victoria excluding the Commonwealth Bank. The average liabilities and assets of that bank *within Victoria* for the June quarters in each of the last five years were as follows:—

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS OF THE COMMONWEALTH BANK
IN THE STATE OF VICTORIA, 1922 TO 1926.

Heading.	June Quarter—				
	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
	£	£	£	£	£
Liabilities—					
Bills in circulation ..	66,237	79,607	69,932	103,349	180,954
Balances due to other banks	14,861	25,450	19,718	1,058,922	2,073,744
Deposits not bearing interest ..	3,840,042	3,091,446	4,735,131	3,275,551	3,225,469
Deposits bearing interest	4,144,984	6,439,855	2,767,377	2,680,799	1,077,530
Savings Bank deposits	5,129,073	5,485,773	5,370,284	5,320,159	5,705,035
Total ..	13,195,197	15,122,131	12,962,442	12,438,780	12,262,732
Assets—					
Coin and bullion ..	445,983	447,240	338,403	1,625,442	1,743,577
Australian notes ..	1,343,762	966,925	2,969,035	3,231,260	2,727,848
Government and Municipal securities	3,299,530	3,254,720	3,910,972	3,965,538	3,663,876
Landed property ..	111,882	224,618	350,942	405,867	341,000
Notes and bills of other banks ..	2,713,865	4,339,509	160,583	167,892	161,061
Balances due from other banks ..	644,839	537,977	1,608,494	577,647	577,063
Advances ..	2,029,085	2,563,292	2,018,369	2,002,659	2,068,885
Total ..	10,588,946	12,334,281	11,356,798	11,976,305	11,283,310

Melbourne
Clearing
House.

The following table contains particulars in regard to the clearances through the Melbourne Clearing House in each of the last ten years :—

MELBOURNE CLEARING HOUSE TRANSACTIONS,
1916 TO 1925.

Year.	Clearances.		Average Weekly Clearances.
	By exchange of Cheques, Bills, &c.	By payments in Australian Notes, balances, &c.	
	£	£	£
1916 ..	357,788,000	48,441,000	6,880,500
1917 ..	377,301,000	56,120,000	7,255,800
1918 ..	493,769,000	97,305,000	9,548,400
1919 ..	544,211,000	98,466,000	10,465,600
1920 ..	725,006,000	122,290,000	13,942,400
1921 ..	609,336,000	105,682,000	11,718,000
1922 ...	623,789,000	92,073,000	11,995,000
1923 ..	697,051,000	105,197,000	13,405,000
1924 ..	734,081,000	106,642,000	14,117,000
1925 ..	803,083,000	92,865,000	15,444,000

In this table the two sides of the clearance are considered as one transaction. The amount passed through the Melbourne Clearing House during 1925 was larger than in any other year and exceeded the total for 1924 by £69,002,000.

State Savings
Bank of
Victoria.

The subjoined table shows the number of depositors and the amount remaining on deposit in the State Savings Bank at various dates since the year 1875. Particulars of depositors and deposits in the Savings Bank Deposit Stock, and

in the Penny Bank Department of the State Savings Bank are excluded.

STATE SAVINGS BANK : DEPOSITORS AND DEPOSITS, 1875 TO 1925.

(Exclusive of Penny Bank Accounts and Savings Bank Deposit Stock.)

On 30th June—	Number of Depositors.		Amount remaining on Deposit.	
	Total.	Per 1,000 of Population.	Total.	Average per Depositor.
1875	65,837	81	£ 1,469,849	£ s. d. 22 6 6
1880	92,115	108	1,661,409	18 0 9
1885	170,014	174	3,337,018	19 12 7
1890	281,509	252	5,262,105	18 13 10
1895	338,480	286	7,316,129	21 12 3
1900	375,070	314	9,110,793	24 5 10
1905	447,382	369	10,896,741	24 7 2
1910	560,515	429	15,417,887	27 10 2
1915	721,936	506	24,874,811	34 9 1
1920	886,344	589	37,232,543	42 0 2
1921	928,009	604	42,956,461	46 5 9
1922	970,431	619	45,968,222	47 7 5
1923	1,015,346	632	49,540,039	48 15 10
1924	1,059,008	646	51,497,200	48 12 7
1925	1,095,462	656	53,145,015	48 10 3

On 30th June, 1925, sixty-six persons out of every hundred in the State (including children under 15 years of age who represent 30 per cent. of the population) were depositors with an average balance of £48 10s. 3d. The figures given in the above table include each year a large number of inoperative accounts, that is to say, of small sums under £1 upon which the depositors had ceased to operate. On 30th June, 1925, these inoperative accounts numbered 235,866; omitting these, the balance of 859,596 accounts averaged

£61 15s. 9d. each, as compared with an average of £61 14s. 2d. in the previous year.

The following statement shows the transactions in connexion with the ordinary accounts for each of the last five years:—

SAVINGS BANK TRANSACTIONS, 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

Year ended 30th June	Deposits.	Withdrawals.	Number of Accounts.			Amount at credit of Depositors.*
			Opened.	Closed.	Remaining open at end of period.	
	£	£				£
1921	43,747,702	39,462,795	157,805	116,140	928,009	42,956,461
1922	40,780,185	39,377,122	153,043	110,621	970,431	45,968,222
1923	44,723,496	42,890,382	161,286	116,371	1,015,346	49,540,039
1924	50,831,162	50,700,221	171,216	127,554	1,059,008	51,497,200
1925	47,655,989	47,902,438	168,966	132,512	1,095,462	53,145,015

* Excluding Penny Bank and Deposit Stock Accounts.

The State Savings Bank on 30th June, 1925, had 1,184,213 depositors with £53,988,654 to their credit, of whom 88,751 depositors in the Penny Bank Department with £101,139 to their credit have been excluded from the preceding table, a sum of £742,500 in the Saving Bank Deposit Stock account being also excluded. From 1st February, 1923, to 31st March, 1924, the rate of interest allowed to depositors in this bank was 4 per cent. on all sums from £1 to £500, and 3 per cent. on any excess over £500 up to £750. From 1st April, 1924, interest has been allowed on the excess over £500 up to £1,000 at the rate of 3½ per cent. The last mentioned sum is the maximum which is received as an ordinary deposit. Depositors are permitted, however, to place an additional sum, not exceeding £1,000, in Deposit Stock account, which is a form of fixed deposit withdrawable at short notice—one week for every £10 up to £40, one month for sums of from £50 to £100, and longer periods for larger amounts, with a maximum of six months for sums of from £910 to £1,000. Interest is allowed on this stock at the same rate as on ordinary deposits, viz.:—4 per cent. Of the amount (£53,145,015) on ordinary current account deposit in the State Bank on 30th June, 1925, about 21 per cent. belonged to depositors with accounts up to £100 each, 32 per cent. to those with accounts over £100 and up to £300, 22 per cent. to those with accounts over £300 and up to £500, and 25 per cent. to those with accounts exceeding £500.

The next statement shows the assets and liabilities of the State Savings Bank as at 30th June, 1925, the former indicating the manner in which deposits are invested or held :—

STATE SAVINGS BANK, ASSETS AND LIABILITIES,
30TH JUNE, 1925.

<i>Assets.</i>		£
Government Debentures, Stock and Bonds		24,979,349
Fixed Deposits with eight Banks		7,964,000
Crédit Foncier Debentures		10,472,380
Municipal Debentures		2,089,445
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works Stock and Debentures		1,461,279
Commonwealth Inscribed Stock, Treasury Bonds, War Savings Certificates, etc.		1,921,106
English, Scottish and Australian Bank Stock		36,454
Mortgage Securities		1,368,232
Accrued Interest, &c., on Investments		739,256
Bank premises		639,000
Current Accounts with Bankers, Deposits at short notice		2,989,016
Cash at Head Office, Branches, Agencies, and in transit		976,753
Other Assets		23,401
Total		55,659,671
 <i>Liabilities.</i> 		
Depositors' balances, with Interest to date		53,988,654
Other liabilities		249,189
Surplus Funds allotted as follows :—	£	
Reserve Fund	1,250,000	
Fidelity Guarantee Fund	10,000	
Profit and Loss Account	161,828	
Total Surplus Funds		1,421,828
Total		55,659,671

The amount of the funds held in a liquid state at 30th June, 1925, was £12,065,767, being £3,989,171 in cash and money at call or short notice and £8,076,596 in Bank deposit receipts; the latter are fixed for two years, but are so arranged that an average amount of about £365,000 of the receipts matures each month. The liquid assets under this arrangement earn a considerable amount of income, without which the interest paid to depositors could not be maintained at the present rate.

State Savings
Bank—
Advances
department.

The "Crédit Foncier" or advances department of the State Savings Bank was established by Act of Parliament in 1896 for the purpose of making advances on farm properties in sums ranging from £50 to £2,000, and in 1910, under the authority of Act No. 2280, the system was extended to house and shop securities, permission being given to make advances of from £50 to £1,000. Funds for the purpose were obtained at the initiation of the system by the sale of mortgage bonds redeemable by half-yearly ballots; but since 1901 by the sale of debentures in denominations of £100 and over, redeemable at fixed dates not more than twenty years from date of issue. The *Savings Banks Act* 1915 gives power to substitute stock for debentures on the application of any debenture-holder or any person offering to purchase debentures. The balance of debentures and stock current on 30th June, 1925, was £16,139,850. Of this amount, £5,634,650 is held by the public, and the balance by the Commissioners themselves because of money having been invested by them out of Savings Bank funds. The sum advanced during the year 1924-25 was £3,212,310, making with the amounts previously advanced a total of £24,818,272, of which £8,836,566 had been repaid by 30th June, 1925; leaving outstanding on that date an amount of £15,981,706, representing 4,524 loans to farmers for £3,088,100, which thus averaged £683; 24,933 loans to owners of houses or shops for a total of £10,972,343, or an average per borrower of £440; and 3,201 advances under the Housing Act for £1,921,263. Under the provisions of Act No. 3007 the Commissioners were empowered to extend the "Crédit Foncier" loan facilities granted by the *Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act* 1917. In the first mentioned Act provision is made for advances to soldiers and sailors and their dependants, also to Red Cross and transport workers, at a lower rate of interest and on longer terms than are allowed to others, to assist them to acquire farms or to purchase or erect dwellings. The total amount advanced on these conditions to 30th June, 1925, was £4,616,774 (including £98,759 transferred from ordinary loans). Of this sum £945,360 had been repaid, leaving outstanding at that date £3,671,414, which is included in the total of £15,981,706 shown above.

The *Housing and Reclamation Act* 1920 authorizes the Commissioners of the Savings Bank to purchase and build houses for persons who have an income of not more than £400 per annum, and who do not own a house. Applicants are required to pay a deposit of 10 per cent. of the total cost of house and land (which is limited to £850 if the house is of wood, and to £950 if of brick, stone, or concrete). The rate of repayment is now $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum, including interest at $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., this amount repaying the loan in $23\frac{1}{2}$ years. The funds for this branch of the Bank's operations are raised by the issue of Crédit Foncier debentures, guaranteed by the Government of Victoria. The amount expended and remaining at debit of borrowers and purchasers at 30th June, 1925, was £1,921,263.

This represented £1,874,405—the balance owing on 2,909 houses erected or purchased; and £46,853—the expenditure on 292 houses in course of erection and sites for dwellings. The purchase of dwellings ceased from 31st July, 1921, since which date the policy of the Bank has been to build and not to purchase houses, except in certain country towns where it would be considered inadvisable to build new houses.

The total transactions in the “Crédit Foncier” department, under the three sections thereof, are shown below:—

STATE SAVINGS BANK—TRANSACTIONS IN ADVANCES DEPARTMENT.

Heading.		At 30th June, 1924.	During 1924-25.	At 30th June, 1925.
Stock and debentures issued ..	£	32,008,600	6,650,000	38,658,600
“ “ redeemed ..	£	18,105,140	4,413,610	22,518,750
“ “ outstanding ..	£	13,903,460	..	16,139,850
<i>Pastoral or Agricultural Property.</i>				
Applications received ..	No.	22,965	972	23,937
“ “ amount ..	£	13,458,380	916,940	14,375,320
Applications granted ..	No.	14,018	582	14,600*
“ “ amount ..	£	7,567,555	550,960	8,118,515*
Amount advanced ..	£	6,048,895	592,032	6,640,927
“ repaid ..	£	3,358,846	193,980	3,552,826
“ outstanding ..	£	2,690,049	..	3,088,101
<i>House or Shop Property.</i>				
Applications received ..	No.	46,712	3,769	50,481
“ “ amount ..	£	19,751,070	2,129,345	21,880,415
Applications granted ..	No.	38,968	3,732	42,700†
“ “ amount ..	£	15,838,692	2,005,855	17,844,547†
Amount advanced ..	£	13,951,636	2,169,427	16,121,063
“ repaid ..	£	4,360,563	788,158	5,148,721
“ outstanding ..	£	9,591,073	..	10,972,342
<i>Housing and Reclamation Act.</i>				
Applications received ..	No.	4,721	731	5,452
“ granted ..	No.	2,901	493	3,394
Amount advanced ..	£	1,605,431	450,851	2,056,282
“ repaid ..	£	76,550	58,469	135,019
“ outstanding ..	£	1,528,881	..	1,921,263

* Including £920,670 offered to, but not accepted by 1,549 applicants.

† Including £983,422 offered to, but not accepted by 2,685 applicants.

The net profit for the year in the advances department was £1,732 on working account, and £13,434 on reserve fund investments, making a total profit of £15,166. This amount will be transferred to reserve fund, and will make the total of that fund £329,088, which is held, in accordance with Act No. 2729, for the purpose of meeting any loss or deficiency that may occur in the department.

As a measure of the safety with which this department has been conducted, it may be mentioned that the instalments of principal in arrear amounted on 30th June, 1925, to £1,160, and the interest in arrear to £2,013.

The Savings Bank department of the Commonwealth Bank commenced business on 15th July, 1912. The following table shows the business transacted in *Victoria* during each of the last five years:—

COMMONWEALTH SAVINGS BANK IN VICTORIA, 1920-21
TO 1924-25.

Year ended 30th June—	Deposits.	Withdrawals.	Number of Accounts.			Amount at credit of Depositors.
			Opened.	Closed.	Remaining open at end of period.	
	£	£				£
1921 ..	7,276,259	6,739,330	35,771	23,966	127,389	5,305,597
1922 ..	5,795,036	5,995,362	24,805	18,180	134,014	5,404,114
1923 ..	6,227,476	6,207,762	23,671	16,694	140,991	5,741,782
1924 ..	6,143,773	6,544,235	24,566	17,483	148,074	5,669,977
1925 ..	5,457,224	5,834,368	24,073	19,267	152,880	5,563,241

PRICES OF VICTORIAN STOCK.

The highest and lowest London prices of Victorian representative stocks are shown for each of the last five years in the following statement:—

QUOTATIONS OF VICTORIAN STOCK IN LONDON.

Year.	3 Per Cents. (1929-49.)		3½ Per Cents. (1929-49.)		4 Per Cents. (1940-60.)		5½ Per Cents. (1924-34.)		5½ Per Cents. (1930-40.)	
	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1921 ..	58	54	64 ⁷ / ₈	61	73 ¹ / ₄	67 ¹ / ₄	95 ³ / ₈	91	..	..
1922 ..	73	57 ³ / ₈	79	64 ¹ / ₂	88	74 ¹ / ₄	104	94	105 ¹ / ₄	99 ³ / ₄
1923 ..	76	69 ¹ / ₂	81 ³ / ₈	76 ¹ / ₂	92	85 ¹ / ₂	103	99 ³ / ₈	104	101 ¹ / ₄
1924 ..	74 ³ / ₄	70 ¹ / ₄	80 ³ / ₈	77	89 ¹ / ₂	84	102 ³ / ₈	99 ³ / ₈	104	101
1925 ..	74	69 ³ / ₄	80 ¹ / ₂	76 ¹ / ₄	89 ¹ / ₂	83 ¹ / ₄	102 ¹ / ₂	99 ³ / ₈	104 ³ / ₁₆	100 ¹ / ₄

The annual interest return to investors in the above Victorian stocks, based on the mean between the highest and lowest quotations during the year, is shown hereunder. Allowance is made for an average of

three months' accrued interest, which is deducted from the market price before the computation is made, and the gain by redemption at par at maturity is taken into account.

INVESTORS' ANNUAL INTEREST RETURN FROM VICTORIAN STOCKS.

Year.	3 Per Cents. (1929-49.)	3½ Per Cents. (1929-49.)	4 Per Cents. (1940-60.)	5½ Per Cents. (1924-34.)	5½ Per Cents. (1930-40.)
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1921	6 9 8	6 8 10	6 1 4	6 8 9	..
1922	5 11 2	5 12 2	5 4 1	5 15 7	5 8 0
1923	4 18 4	5 0 4	4 14 0	5 9 10	5 7 9
1924	5 0 2	5 1 9	4 17 0	5 10 0	5 7 10
1925	5 2 0	5 2 10	4 17 6	5 11 3	5 8 4

NOTE.—The latest date of redemption in each case was adopted in the calculation.

The amount of Victorian Government stock and debentures under certain loans repayable in Melbourne, which were outstanding on 30th June, the price in January, and the annual return to the investor per cent. for each year since 1921 are shown in the statement which follows—

PRICES OF STOCK AND DEBENTURES IN MELBOURNE, 1922 TO 1926.

Year.	Amount Outstanding on 30th June.	Price in January.	Annual Return to Investor per cent.
	£	£	£ s. d.
3 PER CENT. STOCK, DUE 1917 OR AT ANY TIME THEREAFTER.			
1922	2,827,736	57	5 5 3
1923	2,804,630	60-63	4 17 7
1924	2,792,723	57½-59	5 3 0
1925	2,763,944	59½	5 0 10
1926 .. ..	..	68½-70	4 6 10
3 PER CENT. DEBENTURES, DUE 1921-30.			
1922	972,650	74½	7 5 2
1923	972,650	79	6 11 11
1924	972,650	87½-89	5 3 0
1925	972,650	87	6 2 0
1926 .. ..	..	92	5 5 5

The prices quoted in the above table do not include an allowance for accrued interest, the practice on the Melbourne Stock Exchange

differing from that on the London Exchange, where accrued interest is included in prices quoted. The 3 per cent. stock has been regarded as interminable, as the Government has the option of redeeming it at any time after giving twelve months' notice. In the case of the 3 per cent. debentures it has been assumed that redemption will be made at the latest optional date, viz., 1930.

INSURANCE.

There were twenty-nine companies transacting life assurance business in Victoria during 1925. Eight of these companies have their head offices in Victoria, fourteen in New South Wales, one in Queensland, one in New Zealand, one in America, and four in the United Kingdom. The following table shows the number and amount of policies in force in Victoria with companies whose head offices are within, and with those whose head offices are outside Victoria, for the years 1916 to 1925:—

LIFE POLICIES IN FORCE IN VICTORIA, 1916 TO 1925.

Year.	Companies with Head Offices in—						Total.
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	New Zealand.	United Kingdom.	America.	
NUMBER.							
1916	153,209	239,006	..	5,089	574	3,713	401,591
1917	164,638	250,982	..	5,803	552	3,506	425,481
1918	178,198	265,044	..	6,712	516	3,254	453,724
1919	192,595	281,936	..	6,959	435	3,040	484,965
1920	210,200	303,326	..	7,767	435	2,792	524,520
1921	225,821	325,947	..	7,562	427	2,575	562,332
1922	247,998	348,809	37	8,249	427	2,320	607,840
1923	266,893	371,945	452	9,189	402	1,551	650,432
1924	287,587	390,213	519	9,575	390	1,427	689,711
1925	305,947	404,027	595	9,570	366	157	720,662
AMOUNT.							
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1916	12,955,683	31,468,506	..	140,916	267,423	1,313,045	46,145,573
1917	13,941,629	32,776,565	..	163,126	259,157	1,248,369	48,389,346
1918	15,442,555	34,498,021	..	205,224	241,572	1,176,262	51,563,634
1919	17,318,071	36,827,095	..	219,548	171,226	1,120,676	55,656,616
1920	19,736,511	40,207,515	..	235,805	155,085	1,070,989	61,405,905
1921	20,993,483	43,688,946	..	257,046	148,966	1,014,189	66,102,630
1922	23,090,011	47,839,132	8,681	271,705	146,122	991,571	72,347,222
1923	25,712,908	51,571,604	136,914	305,591	134,743	823,859	78,690,619
1924	28,046,381	54,752,084	189,212	329,460	136,441	820,142	84,273,720
1925	31,004,123	57,536,252	258,028	338,319	124,770	66,493	89,327,985

The figures in the preceding table relate to simple life assurance, endowment assurance, and pure endowment policies, in both the ordinary and industrial classes.

In addition to the 29 companies included in the above table there is one which is registered as a life assurance company with its head office in Victoria but has not transacted ordinary life assurance business. It contracts for medical, sick and funeral benefits, and its premium income for the year ended 31st December, 1925, was £13,208.

Of the total amount assured (£89,327,985), at the end of 1925, 99·79 per cent. was in Australasian, ·14 per cent. in British, and ·07 per cent. in American offices. The corresponding percentages at the end of 1915 were 96·26, ·64, and 3·10.

The business transacted by the different offices comprises many varieties of assurance, but these may be grouped into three large classes—(1) simple assurance payable only at death; (2) endowment assurance, payable at the end of a specified term or at previous death; (3) endowments payable only should a person named survive a specified term. An endeavour has been made to obtain direct from each office the business under each of these classes; but in the case of three of the offices the separation between simple assurance and endowment assurance cannot be effected.

Industrial Assurance policies are usually for small amounts, and the premiums are collected at weekly or fortnightly intervals by agents of the insurance company who call at the homes of the assured. Many of these policies are on the lives of children. The Commonwealth *Life Assurance Companies Act* 1905 places a limitation on the amount which may be assured on the life of a child under the age of ten years, the amount varying from £5 in the first to £45 in the tenth year.

The next table contains particulars of life assurance policies in force in the Ordinary and Industrial departments of companies in each of the last five years:—

LIFE ASSURANCE POLICIES IN FORCE, 1921 TO 1925.

Heading.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
<i>Ordinary Business.</i>					
Number of Policies—					
Assurance	234,326	246,161	257,410	263,044	264,965
Endowment Assurance ..					
Pure Endowment	12,915	13,342	13,806	14,848	15,131
Total	247,241	259,503	271,216	277,892	280,096
Amount Assured—	£	£	£	£	£
Assurance	54,814,045	59,231,002	63,769,366	67,329,725	70,645,684
Endowment Assurance ..					
Pure Endowment	1,529,844	1,586,356	1,689,842	1,864,373	1,948,878
Total	56,343,889	60,817,358	65,459,208	69,194,098	72,594,562
Bonus Additions—*				£	£
Assurance				9,828,131	10,774,791
Endowment Assurance ..					
Pure Endowment				42,952	44,591
Total .. .. .	..	..	..	9,871,083	10,819,382
Annual Premiums—	£	£	£	£	£
Assurance	1,892,059	2,039,230	2,196,554	2,327,265	2,432,980
Endowment Assurance ..					
Pure Endowment	60,704	63,320	67,884	75,323	79,013
Total	1,952,763	2,102,550	2,264,438	2,402,588	2,511,993
<i>Industrial Business.</i>					
Number of Policies—					
Assurance	54,084	54,658	54,165	53,360	52,481
Endowment Assurance ..	243,958	273,890	303,586	334,745	362,295
Pure Endowment	17,049	19,789	21,465	23,714	25,790
Total	315,091	348,337	379,216	411,819	440,566
Amount Assured—	£	£	£	£	£
Assurance	1,104,292	1,145,328	1,162,881	1,132,587	1,107,839
Endowment Assurance ..	8,181,188	9,726,499	11,287,221	13,038,890	14,608,565
Pure Endowment	473,261	658,037	781,309	908,145	1,017,019
Total	9,758,741	11,529,864	13,231,411	15,079,622	16,733,423
Bonus Additions—				£	£
Assurance				32,967	34,382
Endowment Assurance ..				80,846	111,514
Pure Endowment				426	257
Total .. .. .	..	..	..	114,239	146,153
Annual Premiums—	£	£	£	£	£
Assurance	59,645	62,365	63,197	62,879	61,695
Endowment Assurance ..	529,972	621,432	707,988	815,300	907,077
Pure Endowment	31,949	42,209	49,367	58,204	65,560
Total	621,566	726,006	820,552	936,383	1,034,332

* Excluding one small company which has been unable to supply the figures.

There has been an increase of 2,204 ordinary and 28,747 industrial policies since 1924, the increase in the total sum assured by the ordinary policies being £3,400,464 and in that by the industrial policies £1,653,801.

The average amount of policy in the former category for 1925 was £259, and—calculated from the returns of those societies which distinguish between simple assurance and endowment assurance—the average amount of the simple assurance policy in the ordinary branch was £443, and that of the endowment assurance policy £180, the total amounts of the policies in the two forms of assurance being £26,118,751 for simple assurance, and £25,779,421 for endowment assurance. The amount secured under pure endowment policies was £1,948,878, or an average of £129 under each policy. In the industrial branch of the business the average amount of policy was £38·0, the average amounts in the three classes being:—simple assurance, £21·1; endowment assurance, £40·3; and pure endowment, £39·4. The total amounts assured in the three classes were £1,107,839, £14,608,565, and £1,017,019 respectively. Taking these figures in conjunction with those relating to the ordinary business (with the restriction before mentioned) a preference in favour of endowment assurance is shown. A better test of popularity is furnished by the number of policies in the respective classes. In the ordinary branch of the business of the companies where the distinction is made there were 58,911 simple assurance, and 142,931 endowment assurance policies, and, in the industrial branch, 52,481 and 362,295 policies respectively. The popularity of the endowment assurance policy has been evidenced by the figures for many years past.

The following statement shows for each of the last ten years the average amount of policy held in the Ordinary and Industrial branches of the business respectively, also the amount assured and the premium payable per head of population in both branches combined:—

AVERAGE AMOUNTS OF ORDINARY AND INDUSTRIAL POLICIES, AND BUSINESS PER HEAD OF POPULATION, 1916 TO 1925.

Year.	Average Amount of Policy.		Ordinary and Industrial Business per head of Population.	
	Ordinary Branch.	Industrial Branch.	Amount Assured.	Annual Premium Payable.
	£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1916	210	22·9	32 17 0	1 5 0
1917	211	23·2	34 2 10	1 6 5
1918	215	24·4	35 17 5	1 7 7
1919	220	26·1	37 0 6	1 8 7
1920	223	28·4	40 3 8	1 11 3
1921	228	30·9	42 12 5	1 13 2
1922	234	33·1	45 9 9	1 15 7
1923	241	34·9	48 8 3	1 18 0
1924	249	36·6	50 17 2	2 0 4
1925	259	38·0	53 0 11	2 1 1

The following are the number and amount of annuity policies which were in force in Victoria at the end of each of the last ten years, a distinction being made between those in force in companies whose head offices are inside, and those in companies whose head offices are outside Victoria :—

ANNUITY POLICIES IN FORCE IN VICTORIA,
1916 TO 1925.

Year.	Head Offices in Victoria.		Head Offices outside Victoria.		Total.	
	Number.	Amount per Annum.	Number.	Amount per Annum.	Number.	Amount per Annum.
		£		£		£
1916 ..	192	11,541	419	19,836	611	31,377
1917 ..	194	11,598	437	20,427	631	32,025
1918 ..	196	11,934	415	19,364	611	31,298
1919 ..	201	12,464	396	18,875	597	31,339
1920 ..	204	12,584	388	18,484	592	31,068
1921 ..	203	12,880	376	17,846	579	30,726
1922 ..	206	13,633	363	17,627	569	31,260
1923 ..	242	16,072	319	16,067	561	32,139
1924 ..	249	16,243	322	17,220	571	33,463
1925 ..	253	14,641	317	17,089	570	31,730

Of the 317 annuities held in 1925 in companies whose head offices were outside Victoria, 306 for £15,986 per annum were in New South Wales offices, 6 for £999 in English offices, and 5 for £104 in American offices. The figures in the above table include annuities granted by industrial departments of life assurance companies, of which there was one for £49 in force on 31st December, 1925.

The preceding tables relate to policies in force. The succeeding table contains summarized information in relation to the new business written by all life assurance companies during each of the last five years, the number of policies, sum assured, and premium income being given.

Life
assurance—
new business.

LIFE ASSURANCE—NEW POLICIES ISSUED, 1921 TO 1925.

Heading.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
<i>Ordinary Business.</i>					
Number of Policies—					
Assurance	5,758	7,542	8,385	7,542	8,751
Endowment Assurance	18,764	17,171	20,211	16,121	14,332
Pure Endowment	1,993	2,001	2,077	2,776	2,297
Total	26,515	26,714	30,673	26,439	25,380
Annuities	22	28	57	35	32
Sum Assured—	£	£	£	£	£
Assurance	2,960,958	3,925,308	4,490,334	4,350,260	5,333,679
Endowment Assurance	3,662,190	3,695,133	4,273,358	3,881,965	3,238,341
Pure Endowment	325,416	301,481	321,488	419,498	362,084
Total	6,948,564	7,921,922	9,085,180	8,651,723	8,934,104
Annuities	1,131	2,414	3,786	3,123	2,128
Single Premiums—	£	£	£	£	£
Assurance	932	11,399	5,356	2,720	11,331
Endowment Assurance	1,538	428	2,565	804	3,204
Pure Endowment	115	503	1,307	..	540
Total	2,585	12,330	9,228	3,524	15,075
Annuities	11,037	17,998	32,322	21,624	18,652
Annual Premiums—	£	£	£	£	£
Assurance	96,566	127,918	141,329	143,210	171,686
Endowment Assurance	144,813	140,952	170,151	160,007	135,162
Pure Endowment	13,018	12,116	13,193	17,178	15,100
Total	254,397	280,986	324,673	320,395	321,948
Annuities	17	72	178	..	23
<i>Industrial Business.</i>					
Number of Policies—					
Assurance	3,987	4,065	3,576	3,120	2,784
Endowment Assurance	54,882	60,137	64,291	73,407	76,644
Pure Endowment	4,694	6,607	7,982	7,862	8,875
Total	63,563	70,809	75,849	84,389	88,303
Sum Assured—	£	£	£	£	£
Assurance	142,744	161,225	148,143	131,466	108,175
Endowment Assurance	2,566,352	2,849,401	3,021,393	3,522,512	3,718,810
Pure Endowment	215,507	314,865	397,008	354,209	388,585
Total	2,924,603	3,325,491	3,566,544	4,008,187	4,215,570
Single Premiums—	£	£	£	£	£
Assurance	11	23	113	28	412
Endowment Assurance .. .. .	..	..	107	80	11
Pure Endowment .. .. .	..	..	113	25	..
Total	11	23	333	133	423
Annual Premiums—	£	£	£	£	£
Assurance	8,754	10,059	9,304	8,507	7,114
Endowment Assurance	155,158	173,009	186,759	216,322	230,718
Pure Endowment	13,354	19,458	23,503	22,741	24,940
Total	177,266	202,526	219,566	247,570	262,772

The new business for 1925 includes 25,330 ordinary assurance policies for £8,934,104 and 88,303 industrial policies for £4,215,570,

the former averaging £352 and the latter £48 in amount. The policies in force in the two sections of the business increased in the year by 2,204 for £3,400,464 and 23,747 for £1,653,801 respectively. Those which became claims by death or maturity or were discontinued during 1925 must therefore, after deduction of revivals, have numbered 23,176 for £5,533,640 in ordinary, and 59,553 for £2,561,769 in industrial assurance business.

There were 123 companies transacting general insurance (other than life) business in Victoria during 1925. The revenue and expenditure relating to the principal classes of insurance are shown in detail for that year in the following statement:—

GENERAL INSURANCE BUSINESS IN VICTORIA, 1925.

Nature of Insurance.	Revenue in Victoria.			Expenditure in Victoria.			
	Premiums less Reinsurances and Returns.	Other Revenue.	Total.	Losses, less Reinsurances.	Expenses of Management.		Total.
					Commis- sion and Agents' Charges.	Other.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fire	1,761,308	73,028	1,834,336	1,033,833	277,075	508,732	1,820,240
Marine	335,151	18,821	353,972	149,914	28,635	76,163	254,712
Guarantee	17,783	817	18,600	2,499	2,242	5,146	9,887
Live Stock	13,589	197	13,786	4,248	2,487	3,410	10,145
Plate Glass	37,810	803	38,613	13,068	6,972	8,844	28,884
Motor Car	452,091	7,771	459,862	259,395	61,458	100,051	420,904
Accident (personal) ..	73,348	1,112	74,460	28,775	17,118	16,453	62,346
Workers' Compensation	346,892	19,192	366,084	198,251	32,478	77,583	308,312
Other	128,415	5,644	134,059	43,251	18,977	37,089	99,317
Total	3,166,887	127,385	3,293,772	1,733,234	448,042	833,471	3,014,747

The following table shows the transactions of insurance companies doing other than life business which operated in Victoria during the period 1921 to 1925 :—

INSURANCE—OTHER THAN LIFE, 1921 TO 1925.

Nature of Insurance.	Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
		Premiums.	Other.	Total.	Losses.	Other.*	Total.
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Fire ..	1921	1,539,167	73,256	1,612,423	463,854	708,346	1,172,200
	1922	1,521,868	82,812	1,604,680	438,127	692,491	1,130,618
	1923	1,900,614	75,716	1,976,330	589,613	703,530	1,293,143
	1924	1,735,975	85,443	1,821,418	744,309	766,495	1,510,804
	1925	1,761,308	73,028	1,834,336	1,033,833	786,407	1,820,240
Marine ..	1921	403,027	20,474	423,501	157,239	119,817	277,056
	1922	342,544	18,923	361,467	84,820	111,434	196,254
	1923	326,955	12,017	338,972	134,637	100,448	235,085
	1924	336,658	12,334	348,992	217,514	114,744	332,258
	1925	335,151	18,821	353,972	149,914	104,798	254,712
Guarantee ..	1921	13,281	786	14,067	1,399	5,319	6,718
	1922	14,163	799	14,962	1,321	5,932	7,253
	1923	16,279	732	17,011	2,758	6,404	9,162
	1924	18,716	1,148	19,864	2,605	7,531	10,136
	1925	17,783	817	18,600	2,499	7,388	9,887
Live Stock ..	1921	10,200	158	10,358	4,790	4,054	8,844
	1922	13,745	208	13,953	7,340	5,844	13,184
	1923	13,376	259	13,635	5,194	5,096	10,290
	1924	15,081	296	15,377	7,401	5,916	13,317
	1925	13,589	197	13,786	4,248	5,897	10,145
Plate Glass ..	1921	29,917	796	30,713	12,174	12,768	24,942
	1922	31,344	966	32,310	10,821	13,028	23,849
	1923	35,131	907	36,038	12,640	14,273	26,913
	1924	37,431	1,122	38,553	13,398	15,469	28,867
	1925	37,810	803	38,613	13,068	15,816	28,884
Motor Car ..	1921	106,569	3,303	109,872	60,118	37,835	97,953
	1922	156,839	3,996	160,835	85,718	59,791	145,509
	1923	233,213	5,623	241,836	123,021	81,332	204,353
	1924	355,071	8,127	363,198	221,133	118,795	333,928
	1925	452,091	7,771	459,862	259,395	161,509	420,904
Accident (Personal)	1921	48,672	1,133	49,805	18,732	20,797	39,529
	1922	56,686	1,521	58,207	20,714	25,235	45,949
	1923	57,520	1,196	58,716	22,292	22,955	45,247
	1924	61,160	1,407	62,567	17,026	19,061	36,087
	1925	73,348	1,112	74,460	28,775	33,571	62,346
Workers' Compensation	1921	268,181	13,369	281,550	133,759	88,089	221,848
	1922	298,060	16,875	304,935	149,036	97,156	246,192
	1923	313,917	17,375	331,292	176,701	98,424	275,125
	1924	339,474	18,745	358,219	235,308	101,340	336,648
	1925	346,892	19,192	366,084	198,251	110,061	308,312
Other ..	1921	82,186	7,329	89,515	39,503	37,852	77,360
	1922	87,181	4,395	91,576	35,679	38,248	73,927
	1923	102,181	4,170	106,351	40,540	43,557	84,097
	1924	115,422	4,520	119,942	40,970	48,113	89,083
	1925	128,415	5,644	134,059	43,251	56,066	99,317
Totals ..	1921	2,501,200	120,604	2,621,804	891,573	1,034,877	1,926,450
	1922	2,512,430	130,495	2,642,925	833,576	1,049,159	1,882,735
	1923	2,702,081	117,995	2,820,076	1,107,396	1,076,019	2,183,415
	1924	3,014,938	133,142	3,148,130	1,499,664	1,197,464	2,697,123
	1925	3,166,387	127,385	3,293,772	1,733,234	1,281,513	3,014,747

* Including Commission and Agents' Charges.

The particulars given in the above tables relate to Victorian risks, that is, to all business written on the Victorian registers of the

companies represented in the returns. The figures are net, being, in the case of premiums, the amount thereof after deduction of premiums paid to reinsuring offices in Australasia and returns; the losses are reduced by the amounts recovered from Australasian reinsuring offices, but include losses on Victorian risks wherever paid. Premiums paid and losses recovered under re-insurances of Victorian business effected outside Australasia have not been deducted in compiling the figures.

The total amount at risk is not available, but it is obvious, from the extent of the premiums, that the amount covered must be very large. The total losses on all classes of insurance for the five years given in the table represent 43·6 per cent. of the premiums.

COMPANIES.

A statement of the number and the nature of the business of trading companies floated and registered in Victoria during the year 1925 is appended:—

Trading
companies
registered.

TRADING COMPANIES REGISTERED IN VICTORIA, 1925.

Nature of Business.	No. Registered.	Nature of Business.	No. Registered.
MANUFACTURING—		MANUFACTURING—continued.	
Tanneries	1	Milk products	4
Soap	4	Flour milling	1
Brick, pottery, tile	2	Preserves	2
Concrete	7	Confectionery	2
Fibro-plaster	2	Cordials	2
Glass	1	Breweries, Distillers, &c.	3
Sawmilling, timber merchants, &c.	26	Ice	3
Engineering, ironfounding, and machinery	54	Woollens and Knitting	11
Other metal working	9	Clothing, dressmaking, &c.	15
		Boot, shoe, heel	13
		Printing and publishing	21

TRADING COMPANIES REGISTERED IN VICTORIA, 1925—continued.

Nature of Business.	No. Registered.	Nature of Business.	No. Registered.		
MANUFACTURING—continued.					
Motor bodies, &c.	7	TRANSPORT—			
Furniture	5				
Drugs, Chemicals	11				
Electrical Apparatus	4				
Leather Goods	3				
Rubber Goods	5				
Gas	2	Motor garage, taxi-cab	17		
Miscellaneous	22	Motor bus, char-a-banc	8		
		Carriers	6		
		Shipping	1		
PRIMARY PRODUCTION—					
Plantations	3	MISCELLANEOUS—			
Pastoralists	10				
Farmers	10				
Mining and prospecting	11				
Orchardists	2				
Dairymen	3				
Quarries	15				
				Hotels, restaurants, &c.	30
				Builders and contractors	23
				Clubs	11
		Educational	6		
		Caterers for amusement	11		
		Grocers, storekeepers	12		
		Drapers	9		
		Advertising	5		
		Weighbridge	3		
		Butchers	6		
		Electric Supplies	4		
		Booksellers	2		
		Bakers	9		
		Chemists	3		
		Jewellers	3		
		Plumbers	3		
		Furriers	6		
		Fruit Packing	5		
		Laundries	2		
		Other	30		
TRADING—					
Warehousemen, merchants, dealers, &c.	114				
FINANCIAL—					
Land and property invest- ment	75				
Auctioneering, Estate agents Indenting, agency, importers, &c.	22				
Insurance, brokers, and under- writers	49				
Financiers	7				
	10				

The figures in the above table refer only to companies floated and registered in Victoria under Part I. of the *Companies Act* 1915, and are exclusive of 51 foreign companies registered during the year. Thirty-eight ordinary mining companies were registered during 1925 under Part II. of the Act. These, as well as insurance companies doing life business only, and building societies, are also excluded from the table.

Of the 788 companies registered during 1925 as shown above, 704, or about 89 per cent., were registered as proprietary companies.

Particulars relating to companies registered under Parts I. and II. of the *Companies Act 1915*, in so far as these are recorded in the Registrar-General's office, are shown for the last five and a half years in the following statement:—

COMPANIES REGISTERED IN VICTORIA, 1921 TO 30TH
JUNE, 1926.

(Parts I. and II. of *Companies Act 1915*.)

Year ended 31st December—	New Companies.						Number of existing Trading Companies.		Increase in Nominal Capital of Existing Companies during the year.*	
	Number Registered.				Nominal Capital.		Victorian.	Foreign.	Victorian Trading.	Mining.
	Victorian Trading.	Foreign.	Mining.	Total.	Victorian Trading (excluding Foreign).	Mining.				
					£	£			£	£
1921	496	64	50	610	48,287,648	1,218,375	2,202	698	3,572,632	304,750
1922	601	45	68	714	26,438,980	1,684,350	2,709	709	2,490,250	315,225
1923	732	59	65	856	27,397,945	1,419,500	3,221	753	3,692,347	490,417
1924	781	46	47	874	29,852,473	1,070,800	3,858	790	12,725,036	204,750
1925	788	51	38	877	3,7397,557	1,613,775	4,583	836	4,370,600	391,000
1926 (to 30th June)	419	16	23	458	18,723,152	1,467,850	4,796	852	2,161,800	78,500

* Increase in nominal capital subsequent to first registration.

The subscribed capital of the mining companies registered during 1925 was £1,214,847, and of those registered during the first six months of 1926, £1,057,666.

Since the *Building Societies Act 1874* came into operation, 158 societies have been registered in accordance with its provisions. The business of the societies was extensive up to the year 1892, but it has since declined. The number of companies still carrying on business is 27, of which 5 were established

**Building
Societies.**

on the Starr-Bowkett principle. The following table gives particulars of the principal items of business for the last five years:—

BUILDING SOCIETIES, 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

Heading.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
Number of societies ...	30	29	27	27	27
" shareholders	7,893	8,329	8,919	9,707	10,050
" borrowers ..	9,520	9,298	9,673	9,936	10,618
Transactions during the Year—					
Income from loans and investments	£ 214,392	£ 235,261	£ 262,421	£ 294,921	£ 311,069
Loans granted ...	934,992	840,398	1,094,994	1,022,272	970,284
Repayments ...	770,114	831,610	962,390	921,176	879,332
Deposits received	925,533	1,013,665	1,268,266	1,355,493	1,548,022
Working expenses, including interest on deposits, &c.	81,529	96,075	106,740	122,521	137,054
Assets—					
Loans on mortgage	2,661,272	2,870,430	3,277,145	3,552,523	3,882,236
Properties in possession or surrendered	181,625	170,288	93,491	112,980	101,372
Other advances ...	16,075	11,619	12,648	11,707	12,005
Cash in hand, &c. ...	56,914	43,099	43,039	22,925	39,671
Other assets* ...	76,321	86,701	68,474	60,380	67,753
Total ...	2,992,207	3,182,137	3,494,797	3,760,515	4,103,037
Liabilities—					
To shareholders ...	1,358,458	1,455,837	1,530,426	1,623,680	1,773,059
" depositors ...	959,206	1,002,550	1,170,352	1,289,191	1,493,119
Bank overdraft ...	51,343	55,814	65,483	97,695	80,975
Other ...	92,069	94,449	67,501	85,683	87,627
Total ...	2,461,076	2,608,650	2,833,762	3,096,249	3,434,780
Reserve Funds ...	429,478	492,388	549,427	536,970	549,954

* Including Commonwealth War Loans Stock, £70,225 in 1920-21, £72,108 in 1921-22, £56,188 in 1922-23, £49,344 in 1923-24, and £58,109 in 1924-25.

The appended table contains particulars for the year 1925 of the Co-operative Societies operating in Victoria. In past issues of the *Year-Book* only societies registered under the Provident Societies Act have been taken into consideration, but in the figures for 1925 are included the returns of those trading companies which are actually co-operative in principle and which comply with the following definition, i.e., Co-operative Societies are such producing, manufacturing, marketing, or distributing societies as fulfil these conditions:—(1) Dividend on share capital not to exceed 8 per cent; (2) The greater portion of the business of the

Co-operative societies.

company to be done with its own shareholders; (3) Any distribution of surplus, after payment of dividend on share capital, to be amongst suppliers or customers, in proportion to the business done with the company; (4) Limitation of voting powers.

The returns have been divided into two classes — (i) those engaged in the manufacture and marketing of primary products and trade requirements, and (ii) those engaged in retailing general household requirements. The former may be described briefly as Producers' Co-operative and the latter as Consumers' Co-operative Societies.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES, 1925.

Heading.	* Producers' Societies.	Consumers' Societies.	Total— All Societies.
Number of Societies	71	53	124
Number of Branches	53	17	70
Membership	52,425	17,305	69,730
	£	£	£
Total Sales	12,375,858	1,365,594	13,741,452
Other Income	265,927	25,237	291,164
Total Income	12,641,785	1,390,831	14,032,616
Total Working Expenses	2,044,814	222,128	2,266,942
Total Net Profits	116,592	37,855	154,447
Interest paid on Loan Capital—			
Amount	£ 19,517	4,983	24,500
Rate per cent.	6·02	6·06	6·04
Interest paid on Bank Overdraft—			
Amount	£ 45,207	8,795	54,002
Rate per cent.	6·90	6·98	6·94
Dividend paid on Share Capital—			
Amount	£ 38,249	10,695	48,944
Rate per cent.	6·79	6·50	6·64
Rebates paid on Purchases—			
Amount	£ 11,111	12,776	23,887
Rate per cent.	5·79	4·35	5·07
	£	£	£
<i>Liabilities—</i>			
Share Capital —Paid-up	1,254,521	220,725	1,475,246
Loan Capital	290,147	54,082	344,229
Bank Overdraft	734,030	124,005	858,035
Accumulated Profits	218,012	51,607	269,619
Reserve Funds	218,187	100,763	318,950
Sundry Creditors	486,880	98,267	585,147
Other Liabilities	459,157	23,018	482,175
Total	3,660,934	672,467	4,333,401

* The figures of the Victorian Wheatgrowers Corporation Ltd. are included. This Association was incorporated to market Victorian wheat, and it does not trade for the purposes of profit.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES, 1925—*continued.*

Heading.	Producers' Societies.	Consumers' Societies.	Total—All Societies.
<i>Assets—</i>			
Land and Buildings ..	1,409,862	202,248	1,612,110
Fittings, Plant and Machinery }			
Stock	439,843	223,961	663,804
Sundry Debtors	954,393	203,280	1,157,673
Cash in hand or on Deposit ..	430,646	23,055	453,701
Profit and Loss Account ..	48,408	4,337	52,745
Other Assets	377,782	15,586	393,368
Total	3,660,934	672,467	4,333,401

Trustees, Executors, and Agency Companies.

There are eight trustee companies transacting business in Victoria. From their published balance-sheets the following particulars for 1924-25 have been obtained:—Paid-up capital, £455,530; reserve funds, &c., £291,661; other liabilities, £161,212; total liabilities, £908,403. The assets were:—Deposits with Government, £122,404; other investments in public securities, &c., £238,728; loans on mortgage, £31,855; property, £313,741; other assets, £201,675. The net profits for the year were £82,859, and the amount of dividends and bonuses was £55,857. The net profits are equivalent to 11 per cent. on the shareholders' funds, as represented by paid-up capital, reserves, and undivided profits.

LAND TRANSFERS, MORTGAGES, LIENS, ETC.

A summary of land transactions under the Transfer of Land Acts in the Titles Office for each of the last ten years is given hereunder.

DEALINGS LODGED AT THE TITLES OFFICE (UNDER THE TRANSFER OF LAND ACTS), 1916 TO 1925.

Year.	Transfers.	Mortgages.		Leases.	Plans of Sub-division.	Other Dealings.	Total Dealings.
		Number.	Amount.*				
	No.		£	No.	No.	No.	No.
1916 ..	26,059	10,840	7,485,247	134	281	16,115	53,429
1917 ..	26,796	9,487	5,327,321	122	244	16,426	53,075
1918 ..	33,771	10,627	5,956,603	100	264	19,075	63,837
1919 ..	45,555	13,581	7,815,209	136	368	23,051	82,691
1920 ..	64,555	19,373	12,489,329	136	663	31,191	115,918
1921 ..	48,670	19,822	14,588,121	112	522	26,462	95,588
1922 ..	57,772	20,704	15,046,025	150	594	27,798	107,018
1923 ..	62,225	24,513	17,268,625	113	922	30,117	117,890
1924 ..	54,735	27,209	20,722,146	88	979	29,535	112,546
1925 ..	49,842	24,238	18,770,112	103	1,541	29,653	105,377

* Excluding the amounts lent by building societies which are secured by transfers, and the amounts owing under mortgages given to secure overdrafts on current accounts.

TITLES ISSUED, 1916 TO 1925.

Year.	Certificates of Title.		Crown Grants.	Crown Leases.	Total Titles.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1916	13,795	2,080	2,147	18,022	
1917	13,148	2,108	1,618	16,874	
1918	15,426	2,057	1,504	18,987	
1919	19,120	1,762	1,117	21,999	
1920	25,583	2,186	1,437	29,206	
1921	21,027	1,759	1,410	24,196	
1922	26,041	1,879	2,597	30,517	
1923	27,781	2,086	2,378	32,245	
1924	27,996	2,122	2,086	32,204	
1925	24,251	2,138	1,841	28,230	

Dealings
under the
Real Property
Act.

A statement of mortgages registered and reconveyances under the *Real Property Act 1915* (commonly known as the General Law) is also appended:—

DEALINGS UNDER THE REAL PROPERTY ACT, 1916 TO 1925.

Year.	Mortgages Registered.		Reconveyances.	
	Number.	Amount.*	Number.	Amount.
1916	672	£ 529,819	599	£ 329,537
1917	529	434,464	509	193,204
1918	548	721,888	646	281,265
1919	635	471,870	741	343,500
1920	970	810,050	1,057	524,242
1921	983	881,325	933	404,685
1922	950	915,443	889	379,880
1923	1,043	1,409,242	869	434,548
1924	1,132	1,357,048	806	294,047
1925	858	1,453,041	784	411,999

* Excluding the amounts owing under mortgages given to secure overdrafts on current accounts.

Stock
mortgages,
liens on wool
and crops.

The number and amount of stock mortgages, liens on wool, and liens on crops registered during each of the last five years were as shown below. Releases are not shown, as releases of liens are not required to be registered, the liens being removed from the register after the expiration of twelve months, with the exception of some liens to the Closer Settlement Board which cover a period of two or three years. Very few of the

mortgagors of stock trouble to secure themselves by a registered release.

STOCK MORTGAGES AND LIENS ON WOOL AND CROPS, 1921 TO 1925.

Security.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Stock Mortgages—					
Number ..	2,736	2,253	2,053	1,371	1,437
Amount £	640,841	404,803	385,080	306,299	289,574
Liens on Wool—					
Number ..	35	25	16	26	33
Amount £	55,899	18,935	10,420	22,040	52,124
Liens on Crops—					
Number ..	2,795	3,758	4,069	3,190	3,989
Amount £	590,675	839,709	1,347,004	2,007,790	2,389,695
Total—					
Number ..	5,566	6,036	6,138	4,587	5,459
Amount £	1,287,415	1,263,447	1,742,504	2,336,129	2,731,393

Bills and contracts of sale.

Two forms of security are taken by lenders over personal chattels, viz., a bill of sale (absolute or conditional), or a contract of sale for letting and hiring. The former is a simple mortgage of the chattels; whilst the latter purports to be an absolute sale of the chattels to the lender, with an agreement by the lender to hire the goods back to the borrower at a certain rental, which takes the place of interest. Before filing a bill of sale fourteen days' notice of intention to file must be lodged with the Registrar-General, within which period any creditor may lodge a "caveat" to prevent the filing of the bill without the payment by the borrower of his claim. The following are the numbers and amounts of bills and contracts of sale which have been filed in each of the last five years:—

BILLS AND CONTRACTS OF SALE, 1921 TO 1925.

Security.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Bills of Sale—					
Number ..	1,235	1,470	1,429	1,551	1,542
Amount £	430,475	801,298	526,940	658,815	580,737
Contracts of Sale—					
Number ..	19	27	23	27	24
Amount £	2,008	2,865	3,275	5,170	4,321

LAW, CRIME, ETC.**THE LEGAL SYSTEM IN VICTORIA.**

The law of Victoria, in its basic principles and main provisions, is founded on the law of England. All laws in force in England in 1828 were, so far as they should be held to apply to the circumstances of Australia, by Imperial Statute made law in New South Wales (which then included Victoria); and, in case of any doubt as to their applicability, the Colonial Legislature was empowered to declare whether or not they did apply, or to establish any modification or limitation of them within the colony. The same Statute established a Legislature within New South Wales with power to make laws for that colony; and Supreme and other courts were constituted. On the separation of Port Phillip from New South Wales in 1851 the new colony of Victoria was invested with similar powers, which were widened on the establishment of responsible government in 1855. In order, therefore, to ascertain the law of Victoria as to any particular matter or point, considerable research is often involved. The first step is a search of the Victorian Statutes. If the matter is fully dealt with there, the labour is concluded; but, if it has never been dealt with by any Victorian Act, recourse must be had to the Statutes of New South Wales and the Imperial Statutes specially applicable to New South Wales passed between 1828 and 1851. If no law on the point is obtainable from these sources, the law of England in 1828 must be ascertained, which in most cases is found in the English text-books. Having found the apparent law from one of these sources, it is still necessary to search through series of law reports for decisions which may either modify or interpret the same.

LITIGATION AND LEGAL BUSINESS.

The Supreme Court of Victoria was first established in 1852, and its constitution and powers remain substantially unaltered by recent legislation, although the procedure was entirely remoulded by the "Judicature Act 1883" (now incorporated in the Supreme Court Act 1915). There were in 1926 seven Judges, viz., a Chief Justice and six Puisne Judges.

Supreme
Court civil
business.

The following is a statement of Supreme Court business during the last year of each of the six decennial periods ended 1920, and the last five years:—

SUPREME COURT CIVIL CASES, 1870 TO 1925.

Year.	Writs of Summons.		Causes Entered for Trial.	Causes Tried.	Verdicts for—		Amount Awarded.
	Number Issued.	Amount Claimed.			Plaintiff.	Defendant.	
1870 ..	5,583	£ 154,296	237	165	133	29	£ 29,298
1880 ..	5,065	185,131	221	161	133	28	47,401
1890 ..	6,619	687,503	535	297	229	65	68,592
1900 ..	825	137,083	161	106	62	31	101,896
1910 ..	743	69,182	129	85	37	16	7,984
1920 ..	632	74,288	132	80	39	17	9,036
1921 ..	822	164,898	198	82	46	17	13,623
1922 ..	726	155,329	187	67	31	23	13,063
1923 ..	779	178,542	201	75	43	12	17,543
1924 ..	946	383,399	171	94	41	16	13,623
1925 ..	992	229,398	182	71	27	18	35,187

Decline in Litigation. There has been a considerable decline in litigation in the Supreme Court since 1890. In 1925 the writs issued were one-seventh, the amount sued for was one-third and the causes which actually came to trial were about one-fourth of the corresponding numbers in 1890. The figures show that a very small proportion of writs result in actual trials, whilst a large number of trials are either abandoned before a verdict is given, postponed to the following year, or settled.

County Court business. County Courts have a jurisdiction both in equity and common law cases, limited to £500; also in cases remitted by the Supreme Court. The cause of action must have arisen within 100 miles of the court in which proceedings are taken, which court must not be more than ten miles further away from defendant's residence than some other County Court in which the plaintiff might have sued. In 1925 there were 106 sessions lasting 473 days and held in 36 places. Particulars of litigation in the last

year of each of the six decennial periods ended 1920 and in each of the last five years are as follows :—

COUNTY COURT CASES, 1870 TO 1925.

Year.	Number of Cases Tried.	Amount Sued For.	Amount Awarded.	Costs Awarded to—	
				Plaintiff.	Defendant.
		£	£	£	£
1870 ..	11,866	277,236	102,822	13,815	4,268
1880 ..	9,498	215,929	99,338	13,765	3,956
1890 ..	12,635	340,028	127,433	15,363	6,072
1900 ..	789	160,676	49,595	5,188	2,782
1910 ..	626	144,550	45,196	5,199	1,992
1920 ..	680	283,238	113,804	*	*
1921 ..	824	399,801	213,113	*	*
1922 ..	796	385,074	200,534	*	*
1923 ..	934	428,153	219,602	*	*
1924 ..	959	570,951	289,517	*	*
1925 ..	961	613,781	305,997	*	*

* No record.

The number of cases tried in 1925 was above the average of recent years, but was only about 8 per cent. of the number in 1890. The amounts sued for and awarded were, however, greater than the amounts for that year. The decline in the number of cases would seem to indicate that the public is less inclined than formerly to institute legal proceedings for the settlement of disputes; and that the County Court is not resorted to for the recovery of petty and trade debts to the same extent as in former years.

The number of requests for arbitration under the **Workers' Compensation—Arbitration cases.** Workers' Compensation Act during the year 1925 was 255. The aggregate amount of compensation claimed was £53,099, and the amount awarded, £46,248. These figures are not included in the above table.

Petty Sessions civil business. Courts of Petty Sessions were held at 229 places in Victoria in 1925 by stipendiary magistrates and honorary justices. Clerks of courts of ten years' standing, who have passed the prescribed examination, and barristers of five years' standing are eligible for appointment as police magistrates, but there is no legal training or knowledge of the law required as a condition precedent to the appointment of a person as an honorary justice of the peace. The jurisdiction in civil cases is limited to what may be called ordinary debts, damages for assault, and restitution of

goods, where the amount in dispute does not exceed £50. Particulars of such cases heard during a series of years are given hereunder :—

COURTS OF PETTY SESSIONS: CIVIL CASES, 1870 TO 1925.

Year.			Cases Heard.	Amount Claimed.	Amount Awarded.
				£	£
1870	..	..	27,722	190,242	105,086
1880	..	..	19,983	75,684	50,764
1890	..	..	30,466	196,917	132,663
1900	..	..	17,577	95,890	80,960
1910	..	..	29,902	186,538	146,284
1920	..	..	38,300	218,408	158,198
1921	..	..	45,319	271,634	202,606
1922	..	..	47,140	384,441	295,697
1923	..	..	58,502	528,968	413,417
1924	..	..	73,264	637,137	497,833
1925	...	...	82,589	727,013	552,788

In addition to the ordinary cases above mentioned, and to the criminal jurisdiction hereafter mentioned, Courts of Petty Sessions deal with other business of a civil and quasi-criminal nature. During the year 1925, 736 appeals against municipal ratings, 206 Children's Maintenance Act cases, 759 ejectment cases, 1,416 fraud summons cases against debtors, 2,159 garnishee cases, 11,672 cases relating to licences and certificates, 1,584 maintenance cases, 161 prohibition cases, and 1,139 miscellaneous cases were heard, and 282 persons alleged to be lunatics were examined.

A statement is given below of the number of writs received by the Sheriff in the last year of each of the six decennial periods ended 1920 and the last five years, from which it will be seen that the numbers in recent years have been much less than in 1890 :—

WRITS RECEIVED BY THE SHERIFF, 1870 TO 1925.

Year.	King's Writs against Person and Property.	Subjects' Writs against—		Total.	
		The Person.	Property.		
1870	...	35	75	2,146	2,256
1880	...	35	58	1,944	2,037
1890	...	13	21	2,282	2,316
1900	...	4	3	199	206
1910	4	166	170
1920	3	124	127
1921	9	186	195
1922	...	3	3	187	193
1923	...	6	1	237	244
1924	...	3	6	353	362
1925	...	1	5	315	321

High Court of Australia.

A statement showing the nature of this court and the powers vested in it appears in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 433.

Intestate Estates.

The rules by which the property and effects, both real and personal, of persons dying intestate are by law distributed are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 437.

INSOLVENCIES.

Insolvencies, &c.

The number of failures and the declared assets and liabilities during the last year of each of the six decennial periods ended 1920 and in each of the last five years were as follows:—

**INSOLVENCIES AND DEEDS OF ARRANGEMENT,
1870 TO 1925.**

Year.	Insolvencies.			Deeds of Arrangement.		
	Num ber.	Declared Liabilities.	Declared Assets.	Number.	Declared Liabilities.	Declared Assets.
1870	996	£ 479,491	£ 150,170	*	*	*
1880	768	526,130	298,384	*	*	*
1890	795	2,301,271	2,041,200	*	*	*
1900	344	183,531	88,760	149	168,700	159,771
1910	359	132,841	54,381	131	113,597	91,271
1920	186	154,658	53,229	69	82,692	73,591
1921	300	180,044	92,048	100	186,305	140,430
1922	322	349,118	189,016	99	178,986	127,657
1923	414	323,540	152,602	133	199,074	139,757
1924	520	504,678	311,290	232	350,350	263,124
1925	563	446,438	249,251	233	321,877	273,933

* Information not available.

The number of insolvencies in 1925 was the highest recorded in years subsequent to 1905, when the number was 570. The average yearly number during the ten years 1909 to 1918 was 358, and the average declared liabilities, £226,517. During the ten years 1899 to 1908 the average yearly number was 445, with declared liabilities of £244,538, whereas, during the ten years 1889 to 1898, when the failures resulting from the financial crisis of that period swelled the returns, the average yearly number was 833, with declared liabilities of £2,213,592. During the ten years 1879 to 1888 the average yearly number was 612, with declared liabilities of £661,720.

Insolvencies are of two kinds, voluntary and compulsory. The following table shows the number of petitions of each kind in the last five years :—

Year.	Voluntary.	Compulsory.	Total.
1921 ... ..	... 270	30	300
1922 ... ..	... 289	33	322
1923 ... ..	... 376	38	414
1924 ... ..	... 462	58	520
1925 ... ..	... 519	44	563

Occupations of Insolvents.

In the next return will be found the occupations, in six classes, of those who became insolvent or compromised with their creditors during the last five years, also the number of breadwinners in each class at the census of 1921, and the proportion of the former to the latter. The total number of insolvents does not include 101 whose occupations were not stated :—

OCCUPATION OF INSOLVENTS, 1921 TO 1925.

Occupation Groups.	Number of Breadwinners, Census, 1921.	Average Yearly Number of Insolvents, 1921 to 1925.	Insolvents to every 10,000 Breadwinners.
Professional	60,585	21	3.47
Domestic	58,225	17	2.92
Commercial	108,011	186	17.22
Transport and Communication	53,332	32	6.00
Industrial	234,245	237	10.12
Primary Producers	147,438	70	4.75
Total	661,836*	563	8.51

* Exclusive of 7,617 persons of independent means.

The number of breadwinners of the domestic and professional classes who became insolvent was smaller, in proportion to their numbers in the community, than those of any other class, whilst a greater proportion of the commercial than of any other class found it necessary to file their schedules or compound with their creditors.

A table showing the occupations of insolvents in detail for the years 1912 to 1916 appears in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 444.

DIVORCE.

The present law in regard to divorce is contained in the *Marriage Act* 1915, and a summary thereof is given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 445. The Act of 1915 was amended by Acts passed in 1919, 1921, and 1923, but the amendments relate to minor matters and do not affect the main features of the principal Act. The grounds upon which divorce might be granted were considerably extended by an Act passed in 1889.

Number of Divorces.

Since jurisdiction was first conferred upon the Supreme Court of Victoria in matters matrimonial in 1861, 7,060 decrees for dissolution of marriage and 115 decrees for judicial separation have been granted. Of these, 6,712 and 44 respectively have been issued since 1890; so that, during the 30 years ended 1890, only 348 decrees for dissolution of marriage and 71 for judicial separation were issued, or an average per annum of about twelve of the former and two of the latter; whereas, since the Divorce Act of 1889 received the Royal Assent in 1890, no fewer than 192 decrees per annum for dissolution of marriage have been granted, while the decrees for judicial separation have decreased to about one per annum.

Divorces, Sex.

The following table gives the number of petitions filed by husband and wife respectively, and the number of decrees granted for divorce, judicial separation, and nullity of marriage during the year 1925 :—

DIVORCES, 1925.

	Petitions filed by—			Decrees granted to—		
	Husband.	Wife.	Total.	Husband.	Wife.	Total.
Dissolution of Marriage	214	321	535	160	285	445
Judicial Separation ...	...	3	3	...	3	3
Nullity of Marriage ...	5	4	9	5	5	10
Total ...	219	328	547	165	293	458

Grounds of divorce.

The grounds upon which divorces were granted during the year 1925 were as follows :—

Grounds on which Granted.	Divorce.		Judicial Separation.		Nullity of Marriage.	
	Husband.	Wife.	Husband.	Wife.	Husband.	Wife.
Adultery ...	53	72	...	2	...	...
Bigamy ...	...	2	...	...	1	3
Consanguinity ...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Cruelty, repeated acts of ...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Desertion ...	101	197	...	...	...	...
Desertion and adultery ...	2	3	...	...	...	...
Drunkenness (habitual) ...	1	6	...	...	...	...
Impotence ...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Informal marriage ceremony ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Insanity ...	3	1	...	...	...	...
Sentences for crime ...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Sodomy ...	...	3	...	...	...	...
Total ...	160	285	...	3	5	5

Divorces, 1881 to 1925. The following is a statement of the number of petitions and decrees for dissolution of marriage and judicial separation in the State of Victoria during the last year of each of the five decennial periods ended 1921 and each of the last four years, also of the proportion of decrees per 100,000 married couples living :—

**DIVORCES AND JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS IN VICTORIA,
1881 TO 1925.**

Year.	Petitions for—		Decrees for—		Divorces and Separations per 100,000 Married Couples Living.
	Dissolution of Marriage	Judicial Separation.	Dissolution of Marriage.	Judicial Separation.	
1881	18	10	9	..	7
1891	153	1	99	..	57
1901	148	2	83	..	46
1911	262	2	211	..	99
1921	446	4	380	3	136
1922	478	2	370	1	129
1923	528	3	426	2	145
1924	533	5	399	2	133
1925	535	3	445	1	146

The extension of the grounds upon which divorce might be obtained had the effect of greatly increasing the number of petitions and decrees.

In New South Wales, where the law in regard to divorce does not differ much from that in Victoria, there were, in 1924, 1,100 decrees for dissolution of marriage and judicial separation. The number of divorces and separations in that year per 100,000 married couples living was 265. The average annual number for the five-year period 1920-24, in proportion to a like number of married couples, was 205, as compared with an average of 135 for the same period in Victoria.

CRIME.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE CRIMINAL LAW.

In nearly all cases where the criminal law has been broken the alleged offender is brought at the very first opportunity before a Court of Petty Sessions, before two honorary justices or a police magistrate, or both, or in some cases a single magistrate, and the court, if the matter is one which comes within its summary jurisdiction, disposes of the case summarily. If the offence is an indictable one, the magistrates hold a preliminary investigation, and, if they are satisfied that a prima facie case has been made out by the prosecution, the accused

is committed for trial to a superior court. There are two superior courts with criminal jurisdiction, viz., the Supreme Court, and a Court of General Sessions, which are held at various places throughout the State. The latter court may deal with all cases of an indictable nature except such as are expressly excluded from its jurisdiction, viz., ten of the most serious crimes. A person may be brought before magistrates by three modes of procedure, viz., by an arrest by a police officer on warrant issued on a sworn information; or in a limited number of cases without warrant if the offence has been witnessed by the arresting constable; or by a summons. If at a coroner's inquest a verdict is returned of murder or manslaughter, the accused person is sent for trial to the Supreme Court without any investigation before magistrates. The Attorney-General or Solicitor-General also has the power of presenting any person for trial before a superior court without the necessity of a preliminary magisterial hearing; and upon the application of any person, properly supported by affidavit, a grand jury may be summoned, on the order of the Full Court, if the affidavit discloses that an indictable offence has been committed by a corporate body; or that such an offence has been committed by any person, and that some justice has refused to commit such person for trial; or in the case of a committal that no presentment has been made at the court at which the trial would in due course have taken place. The grand jury, which consists of 23 men, investigates the charge, and, if it is of opinion that a *prima facie* ground of action has been made out, the case is sent for trial. The cases which are presented under these latter forms of procedure are, however, very rare.

Indeterminate sentences.

The Indeterminate Sentences Act came into force on 1st July, 1908. Its principal provisions are—

1. The adoption of the indeterminate sentence for (a) habitual criminals, and (b) certain classes of other offenders.
2. The appointment of an Indeterminate Sentences Board.
3. The establishment of reformatory prisons.
4. A system of probation applicable to adults as well as minors.

A Board was appointed on 18th August, 1908. Its present members are:—The Hon. S. Mauger (chairman), Dr. C. S. Godfrey, and Mr. W. R. Anderson, I.S.O., P.M., formerly Secretary to the Crown Law Department. The secretary is Mr. G. F. Dickèr, Chief Secretary's Office, Melbourne.

The chief functions of the Board are to make visits of inspection monthly to each reformatory prison, to examine the conduct reports of the inmates and accounts of their earnings, to authorize promotion in grade, to approve of indulgences, and to make careful inquiries as to whether any persons detained in a reformatory prison are sufficiently reformed to be released on probation, and submit recommendations accordingly to the Chief Secretary; also generally to

report on the working of the Indeterminate Sentences Act and the regulations. Other important powers were vested in the Board under the provisions of the Amending Indeterminate Sentences Act of 1915, chief among which are :—

- (a) To parole a prisoner temporarily for the purpose of testing his reform ;
- (b) To impose conditions of release ;
- (c) To transfer prisoners from one reformatory prison to another ;
- (d) To hear charges of misconduct and impose punishment at a reformatory prison for the detention of persons not habitual criminals, the power formerly conferred on visiting justices in this regard being cancelled ;
- (e) To control the disbursement of a prisoner's earnings upon release ; and
- (f) To recommend to the Minister that he make an order permitting a prisoner detained in a reformatory prison to leave such prison temporarily—
 - (1) for the purpose of being treated in a hospital ; or
 - (2) to visit a relative believed to be dying ; or
 - (3) for any other reason which appears to the Board to be sufficient.

An important alteration under the Amending Act is the substitution of "Minister" for "Governor in Council" as the authority by whose direction a prisoner may be released on probation on the Board's recommendation. Regulations governing the treatment of declared habitual criminals, and of offenders not habituals, who are detained under indeterminate sentence in a reformatory prison, are now in operation.

In the early part of the financial year 1916-17 the Board brought into operation two valuable aids to the reformation of the inmates of the reformatory prisons, by the Government sanctioning the purchase of a farm in connexion with the Castlemaine Reformatory, and the establishment of a forestry settlement at French Island.

The equipment of the Castlemaine Reformatory was further improved in 1917 by the addition of the necessary plant and tools for imparting technical instruction to the inmates. A new workshop has since been erected and also a new schoolroom with modern equipment. The appointment to the staff of this reformatory in 1924 of a trained teacher from the Education Department to take charge of the school work has led to very satisfactory results. The inmates received class instruction in the forenoon and also tuition from seven to nine o'clock on five nights of each week. At the beginning of 1926 an instructor from the Education Department, trained in technical subjects, was also added to the staff, and to him is entrusted the practical training of the lads in the use of tools, framing, joining, &c. Much

useful work has already been accomplished, and it is intended in the near future to form a class for instruction in sheet metal work.

At the farm a number of improvements have been carried out and additional buildings erected. Accommodation is now provided for a married officer and his family, and also for a second officer, and for thirteen inmates. Poultry farming is carried on upon a fairly large scale, and additional land has been purchased for agricultural purposes.

At the Afforestation Camp, French Island, the industry of the prisoners has won the commendation of the officers of the Forests Commission. The land previously held by the Commission has recently been handed over to the Penal Department, and is being utilized for agricultural pursuits, as well as for afforestation (pines and wattles).

Some marked improvements have been effected at this camp within the last two or three years, and a considerable area of land, formerly a swamp, has been reclaimed and is now under crop. Several acres of suitable land have been set aside for the purpose of a nursery, and pine seedlings, which formerly were received from State nurseries, are now raised locally. The planting season usually extends from May to September in each year. During other months a number of the men are employed in cutting fire breaks and preparing for the next planting season. The men at this establishment are chosen from those under indeterminate detention at Pentridge. At no time are they under lock and key, and they enjoy a considerable amount of freedom, yet with few exceptions they have responded loyally to the trust placed in them. Any who fail to rise to the standard of conduct and industry required of them are immediately returned to Pentridge.

The number of prisoners under indeterminate detention on 30th June in each of the last five years was as follows:—

Name of Reformatory Prison.	Year ended 30th June.				
	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Pentridge Reformatory Prison ..	39	31	41	51	54
Castlemaine Reformatory Prison ..	42	39	60	66	86
Reformatory for Females, Coburg ..	2	..	..	1	1
McLeod Settlement, French Island ..	31	35	31	37	39
Geelong Reformatory Prison ..	..	..	6	7	7
Total	114	105	138	162	187

Probation officers to supervise first offenders released by the courts on recognizance under the provisions of the *Crimes Act* 1915 are appointed by the Governor in Council on the recommendation of the Board. The number of such officers who have been appointed to date is 243.

OFFENCES HEARD BY MAGISTRATES.

Arrests and
summonses
for various
offences.

The following are particulars of the different classes of offences dealt with by magistrates in 1925 :—

ARRESTS AND SUMMONSES FOR VARIOUS OFFENCES, 1925.

Nature of Offence.	Total.	Summarily Convicted, &c.		Discharged by Magistrates.		Committed for Trial.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Against the Person—							
Murder and attempts at	6	...	...	2	...	4	...
Manslaughter ...	6	...	...	2	...	4	...
Shooting at, wounding, &c. ...	30	...	...	8	1	19	2
Assaults ...	1,381	710	49	553	69	...	...
Others ...	214	37	4	53	5	111	4
Total ...	1,637	747	53	618	75	138	6
Against Property—							
Robbery, burglary, &c.	380	57	6	60	2	244	11
Larceny and similar offences ...	2,214	1,284	132	483	53	247	15
Wilful damage ...	512	342	19	139	7	5	...
Others ...	566	395	9	141	6	14	1
Total ...	3,672	2,078	166	823	68	510	27
Forgery and Offences against the Currency	17	...	...	4	...	13	...
Against Good Order—							
Drunkenness ...	9,430	5,229	538	3,288	375	...	...
Others ...	8,038	6,658	648	1,460	272	...	...
Total ...	17,468	10,887	1,186	4,748	647	...	...
Other Offences—							
Perjury ...	8	...	...	...	...	5	3
Breaches of—							
Defence Act ...	1,186	1,038	3	145	...	...	...
Education Act ...	13,976	10,861	1,737	1,081	297	...	...
Electoral Act ...	1,017	657	207	108	42	3	...
Licensing Act ...	4,887	3,150	470	996	271	...	...
Pure Food Act ...	526	363	42	113	8	...	...
Miscellaneous ...	28,952	23,995	1,239	3,357	322	33	6
Total ...	50,552	40,064	3,698	5,800	940	41	9
Grand Total ...	73,346	53,776	5,103	11,993	1,730	702	42

These particulars include the arrests and summonses disposed of in Children's Courts, which are detailed in the next table, other than arrests of neglected children.

Of the persons dealt with in the 55,424 summons cases, 47,040 were summarily convicted, 8,288 were discharged, and 96 were

committed for trial. Of the total persons dealt with (73,346), 58,879 were summarily convicted, 13,723 were discharged, and 744 were committed for trial.

The table which follows shows the number of arrests and summonses for various offences which were disposed of in Children's Courts during the year 1925 :—

CHILDREN'S COURTS: ARRESTS AND SUMMONSES FOR VARIOUS OFFENCES, 1925.

Nature of Offence.	Number of Offences for which—				Others (Application to board out, &c.).		Total Offences.	
	Arrests were made.		Summonses were issued.		M.	F.	M.	F.
	M.	F.	M.	F.				
Against the Person—								
Assaults	30	1	20	4	..	..	50	5
Others	1	..	10	1	..	..	11	1
Total	31	1	30	5	..	..	61	6
Against Property—								
Larceny, &c.	550	45	741	16	..	..	1,291	61
Wilful Damage	3	..	274	1	..	..	277	2
Others	10	1	64	..	..	..	74	..
Total	563	46	1,079	17	..	..	1,642	63
Against Good Order—								
Drunkenness	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	1
Others	25	8	536	9	..	..	561	17
Total	26	9	536	9	..	..	562	18
Other Offences—								
Breaches of Defence Act ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" Licensing Act..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	..
Miscellaneous	93	28	818	24	107	90	1,018	142
Total	93	28	820	24	107	90	1,020	142
Grand Total	713	84	2,465	55	107	90	3,285	229

The arrests of neglected children, which in 1925 numbered 104, viz., 57 males and 47 females, have been included in this table to indicate the business done by Children's Courts, but they are eliminated from all other criminal tabulations.

Of the persons who were brought before magistrates during the last five years, 25 per cent. were arrested, and 75 per cent. summoned. The great increase in summons cases since 1906 is due principally to the number of prosecutions under the Licensing, Pure Foods, Commonwealth Electoral, and Defence

**Arrests and
summons
cases.**

Acts, and is also partially accounted for by more parents having been summoned for neglecting to send their children to school than in previous years—the compulsory clauses of the Amending Education Act requiring children to attend a greater number of times than formerly. Particulars for the last year of each of the five decennial periods ended with 1921, and for each of the last four years, are given in the subjoined table:—

ARRESTS AND SUMMONSES, 1881 TO 1925.

Year.	Arrested by the Police.	Brought before Magistrates on Summonses.	Total.
1881	22,640	19,384	42,024
1891	31,971	24,525	56,496
1901	27,855	21,130	48,985
1911	19,398	25,128	44,526
1921	15,249	47,153	62,402
1922	16,163	47,550	63,713
1923	17,223	49,889	67,112
1924	17,786	50,708	68,494
1925	17,922	55,424	73,346

Neglected children arrested.

The arrests of neglected children, which are excluded from the above table and the tables which follow, numbered 112 in 1921, 115 in 1922, 98 in 1923, 108 in 1924, and 104 in 1925.

There has been a great falling off in the arrests in the last six years, as compared with previous years, the principal reason being that children boarded out with their own mothers by the Children's Welfare Department are not now arrested by the police.

The following table shows for each of the last five years the number of offences for which persons were arrested or summoned, summarily convicted, discharged by magistrates, committed for trial, and convicted after commitment, also the number per 10,000 of the population:—

NUMBER OF ARRESTS AND SUMMONS CASES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year.	Total.	Summarily Convicted.	Discharged by Magistrates.	Committed for Trial.	Convicted after Commitment.
1921 ...	62,402	46,924	14,702	776	520
1922 ...	63,713	49,464	13,516	733	463
1923 ...	67,112	53,183	13,295	634	400
1924 ...	68,494	54,376	13,516	602	401
1925 ...	73,346	58,879	13,723	744	510
Number per 10,000 of Population.					
1921 ...	405·9	305·2	95·6	5·1	3·4
1922 ...	405·5	314·8	86·0	4·7	2·9
1923 ...	412·9	327·2	81·8	3·9	2·5
1924 ...	417·2	331·2	82·3	3·7	2·4
1925 ...	438·8	352·3	82·1	4·4	3·1

In regard to persons arrested, minor charges are excluded, and only that charge which throughout the hearing of the case was most prominent is taken account of; but, in summons cases, the unit is each separate charge or case, and the number of convictions, discharges, &c., is, therefore, greater than the number of persons concerned.

CRIME AND DRUNKENNESS.

Offences and drunkenness.

The subjoined table shows, for a series of years, the number of persons arrested or summoned, also the number per 1,000 of the population, for the only classes of offence for which complete comparisons can be made:—

CRIME IN THE STATE OF VICTORIA, 1890 TO 1925.

Year.	Number of Persons Arrested or Summoned for—				
	Offences against the Person.	Offences against Property.	Drunkenness.	Other Offences.	Total.
1890	4,091	5,036	18,501	36,456	64,084
1895	2,344	3,336	11,143	20,843	37,666
1900	2,103	3,106	15,878	28,003	49,090
1910	1,663	3,052	12,719	34,626	52,060
1920	1,909	4,877	7,154	42,758	56,698
1921	1,840	4,321	7,621	48,620	62,402
1922	1,570	3,639	8,773	49,731	63,713
1923	1,687	3,605	10,131	51,689	67,112
1924	1,767	3,626	9,814	53,287	68,494
1925	1,637	3,672	9,430	58,607	73,346
	Number per 1,000 of the Population.				
1890	3·66	4·50	16·54	32·59	57·29
1895	1·98	2·82	9·41	17·60	31·81
1900	1·76	2·60	13·31	23·47	41·14
1910	1·30	2·38	9·92	27·00	40·60
1920	1·26	3·23	4·73	28·27	37·49
1921	1·20	2·81	4·96	31·62	40·59
1922	1·00	2·32	5·58	31·66	40·56
1923	1·04	2·28	6·17	31·80	41·29
1924	1·08	2·21	5·98	32·45	41·72
1925	·98	2·20	5·64	35·06	43·88

Drunkenness. The most noticeable feature of the above table is the large decrease in the arrests for drunkenness in the last six years as compared with earlier years.

Offences against the person and property. Almost all serious crimes are either offences against the person or offences against property. The first-named consist mainly of assault, but include murder, manslaughter, shooting, wounding, and all crimes of lust. Offences against property consist principally of larceny and similar offences; but include burglary, robbery, &c., cattle stealing, and wilful damage to property.

The only serious crimes included under "Other Offences" are forgery, counterfeiting, conspiracy, and perjury, and these are very few in number, there having been in Victoria in 1925 only 25 of such crimes out of a total of 38,607 in the category to which they belong. A large proportion of the cases under the heading "Other Offences" are merely breaches of various Acts of Parliament, by-laws, &c., which indicate no degree of criminal instinct or intent on the part of the person charged. There is also among them a large number of offences against good order, including insulting behaviour, vagrancy, &c.

If it be desired to compare the above figures with those relating to other States or countries several considerations must be taken into account. The first point necessary is that the criminal law in the places compared be substantially the same; the second, that it be administered with equal strictness; and the third, that proper allowances be made for differences in the age and sex constitution of the population. These considerations must also be taken into account in comparing crime in recent years with that in previous periods when there may have been differences in the law and when the population was very differently constituted in regard to sex and age.

SENTENCES PASSED.

The results of summary disposal of cases by magistrates sentenced by magistrates. during 1925 were as follows:—

SUMMARY DISPOSAL BY MAGISTRATES OF PERSONS ARRESTED, 1925.

Sentence.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Fines paid	5,012	579	5,591
Imprisonment for—			
Under 1 month	3,426	406	3,832
1 and under 6 months	1,082	116	1,198
6 and under 12 months	195	27	222
1 to 2 years	2	...	2
2 years	4	...	4
Ordered to find bail or sentence suspended on entering surety	376	46	422
Admonished	383	33	416
Sent to Industrial or Reformatory Schools	59	4	63
Otherwise dealt with	84	5	89
Total sentenced	10,623	1,216	11,839
Discharged	4,844	591	5,435
Total summarily disposed of	15,467	1,807	17,274
Sentenced per 10,000 of population	127·7	14·5	70·8

Sentences in
superior
courts.

The following were the sentences of the arrested persons tried and convicted in superior courts during 1925 :—

SENTENCES OF ARRESTED PERSONS TRIED AND CONVICTED, 1925.

Sentence.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Imprisonment for—			
Under 1 month	3	...	3
1 and under 6 months	50	2	52
6 " 12 "	156	3	159
1 " 4 years	79	1	80
4 " 8 "	10	...	10
Death recorded	2	...	2
Ordered to find bail or sentence suspended on entering surety	95	10	105
Sent to Reformatory Prison	38	...	38
" " School	2	...	2
Total convicted	435	16	451
Acquitted	153	20	173
Not prosecuted	12	1	13
Convictions per 10,000 of population...	5·23	·19	2·70

In addition to being sent to gaol, three prisoners were ordered one whipping each, and one prisoner two whippings, with a birch or a cat-o'-nine-tails.

Prisoners remaining for trial from the previous year and sentenced in the year mentioned are included in the above statement, but those awaiting trial at the end of the year are excluded.

In compiling the criminal statistics of the State each year a person arrested more than once is counted as a separate individual in respect of each arrest. It is possible to ascertain approximately the number of distinct persons passing through the hands of the police by making a close comparison

Arrests of
distinct
individuals.

DISTINCT INDIVIDUALS ARRESTED, 1925.

Sex and Age of Persons Arrested.	Number of Arrests.	Number of Distinct Individuals Arrested.	Number of Times on which Distinct Individuals were Arrested.																
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	17	19	
SEX.																			
Males	16,082	12,870	10,998	1,274	311	137	52	36	23	7	9	6	6	5	2	1	1	2	
Females	1,840	1,235	968	144	47	27	20	10	5	5	3	2	2	1	..	..	..	1
Total	17,922	14,105	11,966	1,418	358	164	72	46	28	12	12	8	8	6	2	1	1	3	
AGE.																			
Under 10 years ..	4	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10 to 15	75	71	67	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15 to 20	1,114	1,010	926	68	12	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20 to 25	2,348	2,078	1,882	152	28	8	5	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25 to 30	2,519	2,147	1,880	200	42	17	4	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
30 to 40	4,266	3,424	2,920	346	76	45	17	8	6	..	2	1	1	..	1	..	..	1
40 to 50	3,582	2,577	2,074	304	91	37	24	16	15	3	5	2	3	3	..	..	..	..
50 to 60	2,411	1,700	1,361	204	60	27	15	11	4	5	3	3	2	3	1	..	1	..	
60 to 70	1,379	931	722	119	42	25	6	5	1	4	..	2	2	..	..	1	..	2
70 to 80	201	152	124	17	7	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
80 years and over ..	28	11	6	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

of names, ages, birth-places, religions, occupations, &c., of the individuals dealt with. This has been done for 1925, in so far as the sex and age of the persons arrested are concerned, and the result is given in the following table :—

Individuals arrested more than once. Of the total number of arrests, 17,922, only 14,105, or 79 per cent., were of distinct individuals. Of these, 11,966, or 85 per cent., were arrested only once; 1,418, or 10 per cent., twice; 358, or 3 per cent., three times; 164, or 1 per cent., four times; and 199, or 1 per cent., five times and over—three of these persons having been arrested nineteen times. The table which follows gives a comparison of 1925 with 1907—a year in which an important Act relating to the obtaining and holding of licences came into force. From this it will be seen that there was a large decrease in the later year in the number of distinct persons arrested:—

DISTINCT PERSONS ARRESTED, 1907 AND 1925.

Year.	Distinct Persons Arrested.						Percentage Arrested.				
	Number.			Per 100,000 of the Population.			Once.	Twice.	Thrice.	Four Times.	More than Four Times.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.					
1907 ...	14,519	2,297	16,816	2,410	369	1,372	83	10	3	2	2
1925 ...	12,870	1,235	14,105	1,547	147	844	85	10	3	1	1

Sexes of those arrested more than once. The tendency of females to be arrested over and over again is much greater than that of males, for, while only 15 per cent. of the males who fell into the hands of the police were arrested more than once in 1925, as many as 22 per cent. of the females were so arrested.

Distinct persons arrested more than once for drunkenness. The distinct persons arrested for drunkenness during 1925 numbered 6,948, and, of these, 1,242, or 18 per cent., were arrested more than once, viz., 790 twice; 205 thrice; 93 four times; 65 five times; and 89 more than five times, of whom 2 were arrested eighteen times.

Drunkenness, 1907 and 1925. The number of distinct persons arrested for drunkenness was 10,944 in the year 1907, and 6,948 in 1925. The proportions per 1,000 of the population were 8.93 and 4.16 respectively in the years mentioned, the decrease in the later year being equivalent to a reduction of 53 per cent.

Drunksards charged with other offences. Whilst the number of distinct persons arrested for drunkenness in 1925 was 6,948, the charges of drunkenness brought against them numbered 9,318; these persons were also charged with 1,201 other offences, so that the total number of charges of all kinds against drunksards was 10,519. Fifty-two per cent. of the arrests during 1925 consisted of persons who were charged with drunkenness.

Drunkenness, 1921 to 1925. The number of persons and the number per 1,000 of the population arrested or summoned for drunkenness during the last five years are given hereunder :—

PERSONS ARRESTED OR SUMMONED FOR DRUNKENNESS, 1921 TO 1925.

Year.	Number of Persons—			Number per 1,000 of Population.
	Arrested.	Summoned.	Total.	
1921 ...	7,542	79	7,621	4·96
1922 ...	8,684	89	8,773	5·58
1923 ...	10,029	102	10,131	6·17
1924 ...	9,713	101	9,814	5·98
1925 ...	9,318	112	9,430	5·64

Drunkenness—Comparison with previous years. The amount of drunkenness in proportion to population, as evidenced by arrests, being taken as 100 in 1874-8, the corresponding numbers for subsequent periods will show the increase or decrease by comparison. These numbers are given in the following statement :—

Period.	Index Number.	Period.	Index Number.
1874-78	100	1916	55
1879-85	88	1917	37
1886-92	106	1918	29
1893-97	65	1919	29
1898-1902	84	1920	32
1903-07	77	1921	34
1908-12	68	1922	38
1913	72	1923	42
1914	69	1924	40
1915	64	1925	39

A very considerable decrease in drunkenness is shown for the five years 1893-97, which was a period of general depression. In the five years following an increase occurred, but since that time the arrests for this offence have declined. In the middle of the year 1915 an Act was passed limiting the number of hours during which alcoholic liquors could be sold in hotels, and a further limitation was made in the following year. This probably accounts for the marked decrease in drunkenness in the last ten years. The index numbers for that period are the lowest on record.

The accompanying table shows the number of persons under 20 years of age arrested for drunkenness, also the number arrested per 100,000 of the population under that age, from which it will be seen that very few young persons are arrested for this offence :—

ARRESTS OF PERSONS UNDER 20 YEARS OF AGE CHARGED WITH DRUNKENNESS, 1895 TO 1925.

Year.	Number.	Number per 100,000 of the Population under 20 years of age.
1895	185	35·60
1900	222	42·38
1910	128	24·19
1920	140	24·15
1921	110	18·72
1922	118	19·58
1923	143	23·07
1924	159	25·24
1925	130	20·27

The crimes for which juvenile offenders were arrested in 1925, and their ages are given in the subjoined statement :—

OFFENCES CHARGED AGAINST JUVENILES ARRESTED DURING 1925.

Nature of Offence.	Ages.										Total.	
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
<i>Against the Person—</i>												
Assault	1	..	2	3	6	
Others	2	2	
<i>Against Property with Violence—</i>												
Housebreaking	1	2	4	2	4	5	6	9	12	45	
Others	
<i>Against Property without Violence—</i>												
Larceny, &c.	1	2	5	6	6	15	20	33	88		
Others	1	1	1	2	7	4	8	24		
<i>Against Good Order—</i>												
Drunk and disorderly		
Offensive behaviour, &c.	1	..	4	9		
Others	1	..	..	..	1	4	6		
<i>Miscellaneous—</i>												
Escaping from legal custody	1	2	..	1	1	3	14		
Others		
Total	1	3	9	10	11	16	29	43	72	194	

Education of persons arrested. One per cent. of the distinct individuals arrested in 1925 were entirely illiterate, 98 per cent. could read only, or read and write, and under 1 per cent. were possessed of superior or good education.

CONSUMPTION OF INTOXICATING LIQUOR.

Consumption of intoxicating liquor. The next table shows for a period of years the average yearly consumption of intoxicating liquors in Australia and New Zealand. It is not possible to give the Victorian consumption for a later year than 1909, as the Commonwealth Government discontinued keeping records of Inter-State trade in the following year.

AVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF SPIRITS, BEER, AND WINE IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

	Yearly Average Quantity Consumed, 1st July, 1920, to 30th June, 1925.			Consumption per Head.		
	Spirits.	Beer.	Wine.	Spirits.	Beer.	Wine.
	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.
Commonwealth of Australia ..	2,226,400	64,517,700	2,749,000	·39	11·46	·49
*Dominion of New Zealand ..	662,600	13,333,100	183,800	·52	10·46	·14

* Average for five years ended 31st December, 1925.

The quantities consumed per head in Australia and New Zealand during three quinquennial periods in the years 1909 to 1925, were as follows:—

	Australia.			New Zealand.		
	1909-13.*	1915-20.†	1920-25.†	1909-13.*	1916-20.*	1921-25.*
	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.
Spirits	·82	·53	·39	·79	·66	·52
Beer	12·40	12·32	11·46	9·69	11·05	10·46
Wine	·42	·33	·49	·14	·14	·14

Average for five years ended—

* 31st December.

† 30th June.

With the assistance of the figures in the preceding table, it is possible to estimate for Australia and New Zealand, with some degree of accuracy, the approximate expenditure of the people on intoxicating liquors in a year. The following table shows the average yearly consumption over a period of years :—

**AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND DRINK BILL.—
YEARLY AVERAGE.**

	Expenditure by the People on—					
	Spirits.	Beer.	Wine.	Total.		
				Amount.	Per Head.	Per Adult Individual.
	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
*Commonwealth of Australia ..	9,266,300	18,057,900	2,443,500	29,767,700	5 5 5	9 0 3
†Dominion of New Zealand ..	2,740,700	3,731,200	166,700	6,638,600	5 4 2	8 18 11

* Average for five years ended 30th June, 1925.
† Average for five years ended 31st December, 1925.

These figures show that the average yearly expenditure on drink in Australia during the five years ended 30th June, 1925, was £29,767,700, and that in New Zealand during the quinquennium 1921 to 1925 it was £6,638,600. The expenditure per head for the Commonwealth was £5 5s. 5d., and for New Zealand, £5 4s. 2d. The corresponding expenditures for the quinquennium 1909–13 were £3 10s. 2d., and £2 18s. 2d. per head, and for a similar period in the years 1915 to 1920, £3 11s. 3d., and £3 15s. 3d. per head.

LOCAL OPTION.

At the general elections for the State Legislative Assembly, held on 21st October, 1920, the provision in the *Licensing Act* 1906 (incorporated in the Act of 1915), which required a poll of the electors to be taken on the question of the number (if any) of liquor licences to be held in the various licensing districts of the State, was submitted to the electors. The resolutions were :—

- A. That the number of licences existing in this district continue.
- B. That the number of licences existing in this district be reduced.
- C. That no licences be granted in this district.

If resolution C had been previously carried and was in force in the district, the following was to be submitted instead of the resolutions mentioned above :—

- D. That licences be restored in this district.

Resolution A or B was carried if a majority of the votes given was in favour of such resolution. Resolution C was carried if three-fifths at least in number of the votes given was in favour of that resolution, it being provided that, where less than such number was given, the votes recorded in favour of resolution C should be added to the votes given for resolution B. Resolution D was carried if three-fifths at least in number of the votes given was in favour of that resolution. Resolutions C and D could not be carried unless 30 per cent. or more of the number of electors on the electoral rolls for the district voted for the resolution.

In two licensing districts in the State, viz., Boroondara and Nunawading, resolution C was carried. Seven hotels in the former district and three in the latter had, therefore, to be closed. The amount of compensation awarded by the Licences Reduction Board was £12,100, or an average of £1,210 for each hotel.

Act of 1922. By an amending Licensing Act (No. 3259) assented to on 21st December, 1922, it is provided that a vote of the electors for the Legislative Assembly be taken on the licensing question once in every eighth year on a day to be fixed by proclamation of the Governor in Council, published in the *Government Gazette*, not being a day within three months before or after the day for a general election, the first of such polls to be taken in the year 1930.

At the first of such votes and at any subsequent vote, whenever licences exist, the following resolution only shall be submitted to the electors:—

Abolition.—That licences shall be abolished (Resolution I.).

If at any vote Resolution I. is carried the following resolution only shall be submitted to the electors at each subsequent vote until carried:—

Restoration.—That licences shall be restored (Resolution II.).

Hotels Closed, 1885-1905. During the period 1885 to 1905, 217 hotels were closed as the result of local option polls. The amount of compensation awarded was £212,771, or an average of £980 for each hotel. This sum was provided partly out of the Licensing Fund, and, when this was insufficient for the purpose, out of the general revenue.

Restricting the hours for the sale of intoxicants. In the year 1915 an Act was passed (No. 2584) which fixed the hours during which alcoholic liquors might be sold in hotels during the period of the war at from 9 o'clock in the morning until half-past 9 at night. By an Act passed in 1916 (No. 2827) the closing hour was fixed at 6 o'clock instead of 9.30. The latter provision was made permanent by Act No. 3028, passed on 19th December, 1919.

LICENCES REDUCTION BOARD.

Licences
Reduction
Board.

The Licences Reduction Board, provided for by the *Licensing Act* 1906, was appointed on 21st May, 1907. At the same time a Compensation Fund was instituted, which was raised by means of a percentage fee of £3 for every £100 of purchases of liquor, the owner of the premises being chargeable with two-thirds and the tenant with one-third of the fee. The duties of the Board are referred to in the *Year-Book* for 1915-16, page 476. Just before the close of the year 1916 an amending Licensing Act (No. 2855) was passed, by which the members of the Licences Reduction Board were constituted a Licensing Court for the whole State. The taking of a local option poll was postponed to the second general election after January, 1917, and the court was authorized in the meantime to close hotels to the extent of the Compensation Fund available, as if reduction had been carried in every Licensing District. No alteration was made in the provisions abolishing the statutory number of hotels for a district, so that the number existing on 1st January, 1917, is now the maximum number, a similar provision applying to spirit merchants' licences, grocers' licences, Australian wine licences, and club licences. The Mallee area was made the subject of special legislation, under which it is possible after a petition and a poll to obtain victuallers' licences in proclaimed areas containing at least 500 electors. These victuallers' licences are to be 12 miles apart, except at Mildura, where there can be three hotels. The whole system of licence-fees was re-cast, fixed fees in the retail liquor trade being abolished and percentage fees substituted. In the wholesale section there are now percentage fees for the sales to private customers, and fixed fees in respect of the balance of the trade. The percentage fee in the case of hotels has been fixed at 6 per cent. of the annual liquor purchases, the owner paying three-eighths, and the licensee five-eighths. This combines and takes the place of the old fixed fees, the 3 per cent. compensation fee, and the assessments for lost licence fees arising out of the closing of hotels. Spirit merchants and holders of grocers' licences and Australian wine licences pay 4 per cent. of the cost of liquors sold to non-licensed purchasers.

Provision was made by Act No. 2776 for an adjustment of rents owing to the reduction effected by the "9.30 Closing Act" in the number of hours allowed for selling liquor, and this provision was extended by Act No. 2855 so as to provide for adjustments by reason of the further restrictions imposed by Act No. 2827—the "6 o'clock Closing Act." The work of adjustment was entrusted to the Board. Under the provisions of these Acts over 700 applications were received from licensees for adjustment of rent and licence-fee rebates.

Up to 31st December, 1926, 1,633 hotels had been closed by the Board or had surrendered their licences. The total sum paid in compensation was £1,047,571, or an average of £642 each. Five hundred and nine of these hotels were located in the Greater Melbourne district ;

the compensation paid in connexion with these totalled £543,307, making an average of £1,067 each. There were 1,124 hotels closed in country districts, whose owners and licensees received £504,264, or an average of £449 for each hotel.

Particulars of the hotels closed and compensation awarded in metropolitan and country districts in each year since the constitution of the Board are set forth in the following table :—

NUMBER OF HOTELS CLOSED AND COMPENSATION AWARDED, 1907 TO 1926

Year Ended—	Number of Hotels Closed.			Amounts Awarded Owners and Licensees.		
	Greater Melbourne.	Country.	Total.	Greater Melbourne.	Country.	Total.
31st December—				£	£	£
1907 ..	26	37	63	26,471	6,125	32,596
1908 ..	43	90	133	33,764	32,817	66,581
1909 ..	30	78	108	20,021	21,648	41,669
1910 ..	28	78	106	27,636	26,507	54,143
1911 ..	17	85	102	15,501	32,953	48,454
1912 ..	24	72	96	20,511	30,877	51,388
1913 ..	26	76	102	24,775	25,346	50,121
1914 ..	19	70	89	20,040	30,033	50,073
1915 ..	30	82	112	25,800	35,883	61,683
1916 ..	40	103	143	35,485	48,658	84,143
1917 ..	23	60	83	19,193	30,415	49,608
30th June—						
1918 ..	10	34	44	7,475	15,802	23,277
(six months)						
30th June—						
1919 ..	22	57	79	19,825	29,635	49,460
1920 ..	39	36	75	39,080	21,595	60,675
1921 ..	35*	57	92*	43,355	34,230	77,585
1922 ..	7	41	48	9,070	35,915	44,985
1923 ..	21	12	33	33,000	5,185	38,185
1924 ..	11	11	22	18,270	3,025	21,295
31st December,—						
1925 ..	27	31	58	44,335	21,450	65,785
(18 months)						
1926 ..	31	14	45	59,700	16,165	75,865
Total ..	509	1,124	1,633	543,307	504,264	1,047,571

* Including ten hotels closed as the result of a Local Option poll held on 21st October, 1920.

In addition to the above closings, the following have been deprived of their licences, as a result of the local option poll held on 21st October, 1920:—5 spirit merchants, 4 grocers, 1 club, and 4 Australian wine licensees. The amount of compensation awarded was £550. Since 1922, 3 spirit merchants', 2 grocers', and 31 Australian wine licences have been taken away, for which compensation to the amount of £7,358 has been awarded.

A table showing the number of hotels closed in each licensing district to 30th June, 1921, appears in the *Year-Book* 1920-21, pages 296 to 299.

The return given hereunder shows the number of hotels, **Hotels, 1885, 1906 and 1926.** including roadside licences, in Victoria in 1885, 1906 and 1926, and the number of persons to each hotel in those years. The years 1885 and 1906 have been selected, because in those years important alterations were made in the liquor licensing laws :—

NUMBER OF HOTELS, 1885, 1906 AND 1926.

Year.	Estimated Population.	Number of Hotels.*	Persons to each Hotel.
1885	969,200	4,339	223
1906	1,244,470	3,520	354
1926	1,707,000	1,910†	894
Increase, 1885 to 1926 ...	737,800	...	671
Decrease, ,, ,, ...	...	2,429	...

* Including Roadside Licences.

† Forty-one of these hotels will be closed on the 1st January, 1927.

While the population has increased by 76 per cent. since 1885, the number of hotels has decreased by 56 per cent., and the number of persons to an hotel is now 301 per cent. more than it was in that year. During the period 1885-1926, 227 hotels were closed as the result of local option polls, 1,633 were deprived of their licences by the Licences Reduction Board, or surrendered their licences to the Board, and 673 were closed voluntarily. During the period of twenty years, 1907 to 1926, 53 new licences were granted.

Race-course licences and percentage fees.

The *Lotteries Gaming and Betting Act* 1906 (now Section 152 of the *Police Offences Act* 1915) provides that all race-courses shall be licensed, for which a fee of £1 per annum is charged. It is stipulated that, in addition to this fee,

there shall be paid annually a sum equal to 3 per cent. of the gross revenue derived from all sources. Where the gross revenue is less than £1,500, but more than £600, the annual sum payable is 2 per cent. of the revenue, and, where the gross revenue is £600 or less, no percentage is charged. The amounts paid into the Consolidated Revenue in licence fees and percentages on receipts during the last ten years were as follows :—

REVENUE FROM RACE-COURSE LICENCES AND PERCENTAGE FEES, 1917 TO 1926.

Year ended 30th June.	Amount.	Year ended 30th June.	Amount.
	£		£
1917	13,380	1922	17,578
1918	11,346	1923	20,124
1919	11,557	1924	20,516
1920	13,416	1925	21,714
1921	17,731	1926	23,270

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

Gaols and
prisoners.

There are seven gaols in Victoria, including the Pentridge Penal Establishment, and five reformatory prisons, also two police gaols which are used as receiving stations; the figures given below show that there is accommodation in the gaols for more than twice the average number of prisoners in confinement. The following statement contains information for the year 1925 in regard to the accommodation for prisoners, the daily average number in confinement, the number received during the year, and the number in confinement at the end of the year :—

GAOL ACCOMMODATION AND PRISONERS, 1925.

Name of Institution.	Number of Prisoners.							
	For whom there is Accommodation.		Daily Average.		Total Received.		In Confinement, 31.12.25.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Pentridge ..	669	..	491	..	1,581	..	537	..
Pentridge Reformatory Prison ..	68	..	56	..	82	..	57	..
Ballarat ..	62	18	15	..	217	10	16	1
Bendigo ..	116	28	14	..	229	12	14	..
Castlemaine Reformatory Prison	97	..	65	..	122	..	71	..
Coburg Female Prison ..	..	123	..	44	..	540	..	43
Coburg Reformatory Female Prison ..	..	10	..	1	..	2	..	..
Geelong ..	187	29	56	..	320	6	58	..
Geelong Reformatory Prison ..	10	..	5	..	14	..	3	..
McLeod Settlement Reformatory Prison ..	42	..	35	..	37	..	36	..
Metropolitan ..	111	..	104	..	4,013	..	110	..
Sale ..	30	5	4	..	71	1	5	..
Police Gaols* ..	26	..	5	..	151	5	8	..
Total ..	1,418	213	850	45	6,837	576	915	44

* Police gaols at Beechworth and Hamilton were closed on the 11th and 24th August, 1925, respectively.

Prisoners in
confinement,
1871 to 1925
—decrease.

A statement is given below of the average number of prisoners in detention in the gaols of the State in the last year of each of the decennial periods 1871 to 1921 inclusive, and in each of the last four years. From this it will be seen that there has been a considerable decrease in late years as compared

with earlier periods. The rate per 10,000 of population, aged fifteen years and over, was, in 1925, 14 per cent. less than in 1911, 47 per cent. less than in 1901, 70 per cent. less than in 1891, 75 per cent. less than in 1881, and 80 per cent. less than in 1871.

PRISONERS IN CONFINEMENT, 1871 TO 1925.

Year.	Average Number of Prisoners in Confinement.			Number per 10,000 of Population, aged 15 years and over.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1871 ...	1,345	274	1,619	54·77	15·46	38·30
1881 ...	1,294	304	1,598	45·25	12·35	30·03
1891 ...	1,550	350	1,900	38·78	10·07	25·43
1901 ...	951	200	1,151	23·92	5·06	14·53
1911 ...	713	100	813	15·73	2·16	8·87
1921 ...	741	54	795	14·56	·98	7·40
1922 ...	752	54	806	14·36	·98	7·31
1923 ...	735	60	795	13·38	1·04	7·05
1924 ...	734	48	782	13·00	·82	6·79
1925 ...	850	45	895	14·74	·75	7·63

The birthplaces, religions, and ages of prisoners constantly detained, as deduced from the numbers passing through the gaols, are shown below for the five decennial periods ended with 1921 and for 1925 :—

BIRTHPLACES, RELIGIONS, AND AGES OF PRISONERS CONSTANTLY DETAINED, 1881 TO 1925.

—	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1921.	1925.
Total	1,598	1,900	1,151	813	795	895
Birthplace—						
Australia and New Zealand	584	845	689	595	660	652
England and Wales	401	420	149	87	64	128
Scotland	105	129	56	26	18	39
Ireland	378	336	160	62	23	35
China	27	14	18	4	1	2
Others	103	156	79	39	29	39
Religion—						
Protestants	888	1,098	651	476	479	532
Roman Catholics	671	729	465	317	293	339
Jews	7	14	8	4	4	3
Buddhists, Confucians, &c..	27	14	12	1	..	1
Others	5	45	15	15	19	20
Age—						
Under 20 years	229	129	75	54	85	72
20 to 30 years	473	669	316	205	287	301
30 to 40 years	312	457	337	211	190	235
40 to 50 years	294	279	234	193	126	146
50 to 60 years	166	193	102	96	68	98
60 years and over	124	173	87	54	39	43

BIRTHPLACES, RELIGIONS, AND AGES OF PRISONERS
CONSTANTLY DETAINED, PER 10,000 OF POPULATION,
1881 TO 1925.*

—	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1921.	1925.
Birthplace—						
Australia and New Zealand	10·84	10·65	7·25	5·32	4·92	4·45
England and Wales ..	27·20	25·78	12·72	9·73	} 6·53	11·50
Scotland ..	21·81	25·46	15·66	9·78		
Ireland ..	43·58	39·39	26·01	14·95	} 3·54	6·67
China ..	22·88	16·53	28·89	7·14		
Others ..	35·34	39·24	25·80	11·64	11·13	13·72
Religion—						
Protestants ..	14·36	13·12	7·19	4·90	4·12	4·40
Roman Catholics ..	32·98	29·33	17·63	11·07	9·08	9·63
Jews ..	16·17	21·68	13·54	6·38	5·21	3·59
Buddhists, Confucians, &c.	24·20	20·75	21·95	6·18	..	6·67
Others ..	2·00	10·78	7·03	3·05	4·97	3·88
Age—						
Under 20 years ..	35·30	2·53	1·42	1·01	1·45	1·12
20 to 30 years ..	34·18	27·36	15·30	8·67	10·93	10·50
30 to 40 years ..	34·82	31·30	18·23	11·66	8·35	9·46
40 to 50 years ..	20·95	32·00	20·07	11·64	7·20	7·64
50 to 60 years ..	34·84	23·95	15·35	9·60	4·50	5·92
60 years and over ..	30·88	23·90	8·73	5·58	3·07	3·10

* The ratios refer to 10,000 persons in the community whose birthplaces, religions, or ages were as stated above.

POLICE PROTECTION.

The following table shows the numbers in the various grades of the police force in Victoria on the 31st December, 1925:—

POLICE IN VICTORIA, 31ST DECEMBER, 1925.

Designation.	Number.		
	Metropolitan.	Country.	Total.
<i>Foot.</i>			
Chief Commissioner ..	1	..	1
Superintendents ..	3	9	12
Inspectors ..	7	4	11
Sub-Inspectors ..	20	4	24
Sergeants, First class ..	37	14	51
„ Second class ..	32	17	49
Senior Constables ..	153	76	234
Constables ..	943	264	1,207
Detectives ..	24	1	25
Others ..	..	..	..
Total ..	1,225	389	1,614

POLICE IN VICTORIA, 31ST DECEMBER, 1925—continued.

Designation.	Number.		
	Metropolitan.	Country.	Total.
<i>Mounted.</i>			
Sergeants, Second class	1	...	1
Senior Constables	2	...	2
Constables	40	218	258
Total	43	218	261
Grand Total	1,268	607	1,875

The number of police in Victoria per 100,000 of the population and the corresponding proportions for other States, at the end of 1925, were as follows:—Victoria, 111·3; New South Wales, 127·6; Queensland, 138·8; South Australia, 114·6; Western Australia, 142·9; Tasmania, 109·7; and Northern Territory, 1,039·4.

The next table contains a statement of the amount and the amount per head of population expended in connexion with the police, and the penal establishments and gaols of Victoria, in the year 1871-2 and every tenth year thereafter until 1911-12 inclusive, also in each of the five years ended with 1924-25:—

EXPENDITURE ON POLICE AND GAOLS, 1871-2 TO 1924-25.

Year ended 30th June.	Amount Expended (exclusive of Pensions) on—					Amount per Head of Population.
	Maintenance, &c.		Buildings.		Total.	
	Police.	Gaols and Penal Establishments.	Police.	Gaols and Penal Establishments.		
	£	£	£	£	£	s. d.
1872 ..	190,711	57,855	5,722	2,133	256,421	6 10
1882 ..	201,063	53,032	14,996	3,328	272,419	6 2
1892 ..	283,409	65,679	19,113	23,319	391,520	6 9
1902 ..	271,561	51,948	7,064	3,613	334,186	5 6
1912 ..	316,456	48,514	12,856	2,300	380,126	5 8
1921 ..	528,168	73,902	5,752	2,079	609,901	8 0
1922 ..	527,305	71,825	6,681	2,336	608,147	7 10
1923 ..	531,440	75,732	8,597	4,631	620,400	7 10
1924 ..	540,109*	85,963	20,997	15,159	662,228	8 2
1925 ..	602,222	92,635	20,109	7,097	722,063	8 9

* This does not include amounts paid to members of the Special Constabulary Force, which was employed temporarily after the Police strike of 1923.

The police perform a number of duties in addition to those connected with the maintenance of law and order. The actual cost to the community of the police protection afforded is, therefore, less than the expenditure shown in the above table for maintenance of the police force.

Executions. During the twenty-one years ended with 1925 there were only eight executions in Victoria, one of which took place in 1908, one in 1912, two in 1916, two in 1918, one in 1922, and one in 1924. Since the first settlement of Port Phillip in 1835, 176 criminals have been executed within the State, of whom only four were females.

The *Year-Book* for 1916-17 contains on page 490 a table showing the offences for which criminals were executed, also their birthplaces and religions, for the years 1842 to 1916.

Inquests. The number of inquiries into the causes of deaths of individuals during each of the last five years is given below:—

INQUESTS, 1921 TO 1925.

Cause of Death found to be due to—	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
External Causes—					
Accident	509	461	524	601	619
Homicide	8	10	11	7	11
Suicide	165	123	125	128	170
Execution .. .. .	..	1	..	1	..
Doubtful	20	17	18	19	21
Disease or Natural Causes	645	556	714	688	603
Intemperance	1	..	6	..	..
Unspecified or Doubtful Causes	7	5	3	4	3
Being "Still Born"	2	1	..	1	1
Total	1,357	1,174	1,401	1,449	1,428
Number per 10,000 of Population	8·83	7·47	8·71	8·82	8·54

Of the deaths from external causes during the last five years, 76 per cent. were due to accidental causes, 1 per cent. to homicide, and 20 per cent. to suicide; in 3 per cent. of the cases the nature or motive of the violence which caused death was doubtful.

SOCIAL CONDITION.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.

The University of Melbourne.

The University of Melbourne was incorporated and endowed by an Act of the Governor and Legislative Council of Victoria, to which the Royal assent was given on 22nd January, 1853. The University buildings, together with those of the affiliated colleges, are situated on 106 acres of land in the southern part of Carlton. Under the provisions of Act No. 3285 assented to on 23rd October, 1923, the University is to consist of a Council and Convocation. It has power to grant degrees, diplomas, certificates, and licences in all faculties except divinity. There is no religious test for admission.

The Council is composed of 31 members, as follows :—

Eight to be appointed by the Governor in Council, of whom one shall be a member of the Legislative Council, two shall be members of the Legislative Assembly, one shall represent manufacturing and commercial interests, one shall represent agricultural interests, two shall represent industrial interests, and one shall be elected by the councils of the technical schools.

Ten to be elected by the Convocation, none of whom shall be a member of the teaching staff or other officer of the University or the head of an affiliated college.

Three (being professors or deans of faculties) to be elected by the professors.

One (a member of the teaching staff) to be elected by the teaching staff other than the professors.

Two to be elected by the undergraduates, but not to include any member of the teaching staff or any person under the full age of 21 years.

Two to be heads of affiliated colleges, and to be appointed by co-option of the Council.

Two to be appointed by co-option of the Council.

Three—the Director of Education, the Chairman of the Council of Agricultural Education, and the President of the Professorial Board—to be *ex officio* members of the Council.

The tenure of office of members of the Council is four years, but one-half of the number elected at the first election by the Convocation must retire at the end of two years, the Council determining by lot which of the members are to retire.

The Convocation consists of all graduates. It elects a Warden annually, or whenever a vacancy occurs, from its own members.

Power is given to the Convocation to submit suggestions to the Council with respect to the affairs of the University. Provision is made for the constitution of a standing committee of Convocation, consisting of the Warden of Convocation *ex officio* and not less than 40 other persons who are members of Convocation.

A University Students Loan Fund has been established to which a payment of £10,000 has been made from the Assurance Fund under the Transfer of Land Acts and a grant of £2,000 is to be made annually from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for ten years from 1st July, 1923. In addition, all moneys received in repayment with interest of loans to University students and all moneys standing to the credit of any trust fund in the Treasury in respect of loans to students made by the Treasurer of Victoria before the passing of Act No. 3285 are to be credited to the Fund. Out of this Fund loans may be made to students who are nominated by a committee of three members of the Council appointed for the purpose.

The Act of 1923 provided for an endowment of £45,000 annually from 1st July, 1923. An additional grant of £8,500 is to be made for each of the ten financial years commencing 1st July, 1923. The amount of this grant is to be expended on the maintenance within the University of a school (including a faculty) of commerce for the teaching of and conducting research in commerce and the granting of degrees or diplomas in commerce; also for teaching and conducting research in science, and the establishment and maintenance within the University of a University Extension Department.

By Royal letters patent of 14th March, 1859, it is declared that the degrees of the University of Melbourne shall be as fully recognised as those of any University in the United Kingdom. Scholarships, exhibitions, and prizes are provided in all the principal subjects, the cost being defrayed partly out of University funds and partly by private bequests. In the matter of endowment by private persons the Melbourne University does not compare favorably with other Universities. Still, the investments at present held as the result of private benefactions, together with donations which have been expended

on buildings and equipment, amount to about £327,000. In addition, gifts, which have been spent on buildings and equipment, amount to about £41,000. Since 1853 the amount received from the Government has been £1,715,782—£426,763 for building and apparatus, £884,500 endowment under "Special Appropriation Acts" 16 Vic. 34 and 13 George 3285, and £404,519 additional endowment by annual votes of the Legislature. In addition to grants from the Government the Council derives income from the fees paid by students for lectures, examinations, certificates, and diplomas.

The system of junior and senior public and commercial examinations was superseded in December, 1917, by examinations for Intermediate and School Leaving Certificates. Under the regulations the rights of all candidates who have passed any subject of the junior or senior public examinations are reserved. The appended table gives the results of the public examinations conducted by the University during 1925 :—

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS CONDUCTED BY THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1925.

	Number who attempted to Pass fully.	Number who Passed fully.	
		Total.	Percentage.
Examination—			
Intermediate	4,165	1,919	46·07
Leaving	2,335	1,098	47·02

There is included in the above, a number of candidates, in whose cases Headmasters' Certificates were accepted as wholly or partially satisfying the requirements of the examination, qualified for Certificates as follows :—Intermediate 873; Leaving 316.

The number of degrees taken in 1925 was 644, all of which were direct, as against a total of 2,473 for the preceding five years, or an average of 494 per annum for that period. During those five years all the degrees obtained were direct and none *ad eundem*. Of the total of 10,237 degrees granted since the establishment of the University, 1,502 have been conferred on women, 1,496 of which were direct and 6 *ad eundem*. These were apportioned as follows :—680 Bachelor of Arts, 256 Master of Arts, 166 Bachelor of Medicine, 12 Doctor of Medicine, 164 Bachelor of Surgery, 21 Bachelor of Laws, 3 Master of Laws, 5 Doctor of Science, 114 Bachelor of Science, 33 Master of Science, 34 Bachelor of Music, 13 Bachelor of Dental Science, and 1 Bachelor of Agricultural Science. The following

table shows the number of degrees conferred at the University between the date of its first opening and the end of 1925—the particulars for the years 1924 and 1925 being given separately:—

DEGREES CONFERRED.

Degrees	Prior to 1924.			During 1924.			During 1925.			Total.		
	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem.</i>	Total.	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem.</i>	Total.	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem.</i>	Total.	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem.</i>	Total.
Bachelor of Arts ..	1887	118	2005	129	..	129	108	..	108	2124	118	2242
Master of Arts ..	841	184	1025	36	..	36	41	..	41	918	184	1102
Doctor of Letters	14	1	15	1	..	1	1	..	1	16	1	17
Bachelor of Medicine	1672	15	1687	131	..	131	145	..	145	1948	15	1963
Doctor of Medicine	262	107	369	14	..	14	8	..	8	284	107	391
Bachelor of Surgery	1603	4	1607	131	..	131	145	..	145	1879	4	1883
Master of Surgery	36	..	36	1	..	1	..	..	..	37	..	37
Bachelor of Laws	657	12	669	37	..	37	49	..	49	743	12	755
Master of Laws ..	124	3	127	7	..	7	4	..	4	135	3	138
Doctor of Laws ..	22	23	45	..	..	..	..	..	..	22	23	45
Bachelor of Civil Engineering ..	260	2	262	13	..	13	24	..	24	297	2	299
Bachelor of Mining Engineering ..	55	1	56	2	..	2	1	..	1	58	1	59
Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering	13	..	13	2	..	2	1	..	1	16	..	16
Bachelor of Electrical Engineering	27	..	27	8	..	8	12	..	12	47	..	47
Bachelor of Metallurgical Engineering	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	1
Master of Engineering ..	92	..	92	10	..	10	6	..	6	108	..	108
Doctor of Engineering ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Bachelor of Science	332	5	337	41	..	41	46	..	46	419	5	424
Master of Science	111	2	113	7	..	7	5	..	5	123	2	125
Doctor of Science	*29	20	49	4	..	4	1	..	1	34	20	54
Bachelor of Music	36	2	38	2	..	2	7	..	7	45	2	47
Doctor of Music ..	1	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	3
Bachelor of Dental Science ..	251	..	251	32	..	32	23	..	23	306	..	306
Doctor of Dental Science ..	21	..	21	..	..	..	..	..	..	21	..	21
Bachelor of Veterinary Science ..	81	..	81	8	..	8	3	..	3	92	..	92
Master of Veterinary Science ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Doctor of Veterinary Science ..	10	..	10	..	..	..	1	..	1	11	..	11
Bachelor of Agricultural Science	33	..	33	3	..	3	10	..	10	46	..	46
Master of Agricultural Science ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	2	3	..	3
Total ..	8473	501	8974	619	..	619	644	..	644	9736	501	10237

* Two of these degrees were by special grace.
NOTE.—*Ad eundem* degrees have been abolished.

Students attending lectures, and undergraduates admitted.

The number of persons attending lectures has greatly increased during the past ten years, the total in 1925 having been 2,557 as compared with 1,351 in 1915, thus showing an advance of 89 per cent. A great improvement is also shown in the admission of undergraduates, the number having increased by 90 per cent. in the period mentioned. Details for the last five years are given in the following statement :—

PERSONS ADMITTED AS UNDERGRADUATES AND STUDENTS ATTENDING LECTURES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year.	Number of Persons Matriculated and Admitted as Undergraduates.			Number of Students Attending Lectures.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1921 ..	460	150	610	2,003	651	2,654
1922 ..	422	126	548	1,973	672	2,645
1923 ..	348	148	496	1,848	636	2,484
1924 ..	374	135	509	1,764	659	2,423
1925 ..	463	137	600	1,919	638	2,557

Of the number attending lectures in 1925—2,557—697 were students in Arts, Education and Journalism, 305 in Laws, 177 in Engineering, 413 in Medicine, 220 in Science, 201 in Music, 80 in Dentistry, 323 in Commerce, 33 in Agriculture, 21 in Veterinary Science, 3 in Public Health, and 67 in Architecture, and 17 were doing Science Research Work.

University finance.

A statement of receipts and expenditure for the year 1925 is given below :—

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1925.

—	General Account.	Other Accounts.	All Departments.
	£	£	£
Receipts—			
Government Grants ..	45,000	22,167	67,167
Lecture, Degree, Examination, and other Fees ..	55,744	15,199	70,943
Other sources	11,038	34,269	45,307
Total	111,782	71,635	183,417
Expenditure	127,053	45,288	172,341

Included in the amounts shown above, the University received £26,815 from private benefactors, to be held in trust for scholarships and other purposes.

AFFILIATED COLLEGES.

The affiliated colleges. The permission accorded by the "University Act of Incorporation" for the establishment of affiliated colleges has been taken advantage of by the clergy and people of the Church of England, Presbyterian, Methodist, and Roman Catholic Churches of Victoria. Large residential colleges have been built upon the sites reserved for this purpose in the northern portion of the University grounds fronting Sydney-road and College-crescent, Carlton. These colleges, which admit students without regard to their religious beliefs, maintain efficient staffs of tutors and lecturers for the teaching of the principal subjects in each of the University courses. They also provide training for the ministers of their respective denominations. In 1906 the Australian College of Dentistry was formally affiliated with the University, which obtained certain rights of supervision and control, and in return undertook to recognise the professional teaching of the College in connexion with the Degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery.

Information relating to the foundation and progress of Trinity, Ormond, and Queen's Colleges is given in the *Year-Book* for 1917-18 on pages 319 to 321.

Trinity College. This college, which was established by the Anglican Church, is open to students of all religious denominations, and the same remark applies to Janet Clarke Hall. The latter was established for the benefit of women students, and is an integral part of Trinity College. The college buildings consist of a chapel, dining hall, chemical and biological laboratories, lecture-rooms, libraries, billiard-room, and students' common-room, in addition to apartments for the Warden, tutors, and students.

The Warden of the college is J. C. V. Behan, M.A., LL.D. (Melb.), M.A., B.C.L. (Oxon.)—first Rhodes Scholar for the State of Victoria, formerly Stowell Civil Law Fellow and Dean of University College, Oxford—who is assisted by a staff of tutors and lecturers. The college holds annually, in the month of November, an examination for open scholarships and exhibitions. Prospectuses may be obtained on application to the Warden.

Ormond College. This college, which was established by the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, is a residential college for students of the University of Melbourne (without restriction as to religious denomination). It has a staff of lecturers and tutors from whom the students receive the assistance they require in their University work; non-resident students are also admitted to the college classes. The work of the Theological Hall of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria is carried on in the Victoria Wing; there is an independent staff of professors and lecturers for this work. Theological students may reside in the college if they are matriculated students of the University.

The *Year-Book* for 1919-20 contained a statement of the nature of the college buildings, and reference was made to additions and alterations to the buildings. This information was amplified in subsequent issues.

During the year 1925-26, extensive internal alterations have been made in the Master's Lodge, to make it better suited to present-day domestic conditions. The lodge is an architecturally beautiful building, of which all Ormond men are very proud.

Early in 1926, the college sustained a great loss by the sudden death of Rev. Professor J. L. Rentoul, M.A., D.D. An old student of the college, Rev. F. E. Oxer, M.A., has been appointed Professor of Theology in place of the late Dr. D. S. Adam. Two other old Ormond men, Sir Littleton Groom and Hon. J. G. Latham, have been raised to high office in the Federal Parliament—as Speaker and Attorney-General, respectively.

The 1925 Rhodes Scholarship for Melbourne University has been awarded to Mr. G. W. Paton of this college.

The Master of the College is D. K. Picken, M.A. (Cambridge, Glasgow, Melbourne), formerly Professor of Pure and Applied Mathematics in Victoria University College, Wellington, N.Z. All inquiries as to admission, scholarships, &c., should be made to him.

This college was founded by the Methodist Church of Victoria, and its lectures are open to non-resident as well as resident students. It is capable of accommodating about 90 students in residence. The building comprises fully equipped lecture-rooms, laboratories, library, reading-rooms, and apartments for the Master, tutors and students. It has been enlarged at a cost of some £50,000, and includes a central tower, a memorial chapel to soldiers who were connected with the Methodist Church, a new common room, a large library, and additional lecture rooms; as well as some 40 additional students' rooms. The new portion of the building was opened in March, 1923. The Master is the Rev. E. H. Sugden, M.A., B.Sc., Litt.D., and the Vice-Master, Mr. K. H. Bailey, B.C.L. (Corpus Christi Coll., Oxford).

**Queen's
College.**

Newman College is built in the section of the University Reserve granted by the Government of Victoria to the Roman Catholic Church in the Act of Incorporation of 2nd October, 1882. The foundation-stone was laid by the late Archbishop of Melbourne (the Most Reverend Thomas Joseph Carr, D.D.), on 11th June, 1916. It was founded by the generosity of the Roman Catholic people of the State of Victoria, and cost nearly £70,000. The Archbishop Carr Memorial Chapel, to be erected at a cost of £20,000, will be a striking addition to the College. A separate study and a bedroom are provided for each student. There is also provision of hot and cold shower and plunge baths, a large covered-in swimming bath, a gymnasium, and billiard and recreation rooms. The library consists of more than 10,000 volumes. Lectures, demonstrations, and private

tuition are given in the College with the special object of assisting students in their University work. Women students as well as men extern students are admitted to all college lectures. St. Mary's Hall, Royal Park, is the residential hall for women students of Newman College. Students of the college enjoy the advantage of residence, instruction in the doctrine and discipline of the Roman Catholic Church, and tuition supplementary to University lectures.

All applications for information, &c., should be made to the Rector. The present Rector is the Very Rev. J. M. Murphy, S.J., M.A. He is assisted by the Rev. Dominic Kelly, S.J., M.A., the Rev. Wilfrid Ryan, S.J., M.A., F.G.S., and a staff of competent lecturers and tutors.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

University extension.

Tutorial Classes organized by the Workers' Educational Association of Victoria are conducted by the University Extension Board. The personnel of the Board, numbering 22, appointed by the University, comprises an equal number of representatives from the Workers' Educational Association and the teaching staff of the University and other persons representing the public. The Government grants a sum annually (now £2,500) for the development of Tutorial Class work. In addition to these classes, which are in operation in the city, suburbs, and country, the University Extension Board has inaugurated a system of advice by correspondence for the benefit of country students. This advice is confined to social and cultural subjects, and is not intended for those seeking to qualify for degrees. Its purpose is rather to cultivate knowledge of such subjects as will elevate the mind and fit the student the better to discharge the more social functions of his daily life and citizenship. In this connexion and also for the arranging of Extension Lectures and Vacation Schools, the Government grant is £1,500.

Professor J. A. Gunn, M.A., Ph.D., is Director of Tutorial Classes and Chairman of the University Extension Board. The Secretary to the Board is Mr. S. D. Thompson, Education Department, Melbourne.

THE STATE EDUCATION SYSTEM.

The educational system of Victoria.

The present system of "free, compulsory, and secular" education came into operation on 1st January, 1873, the Act which introduced it having been passed in the previous year. Subsequently, this Act and two amending Acts passed in 1876 and 1889 were consolidated in the *Education Act* 1890, which in turn was amended by Act No. 1777 passed in December, 1901, Act No. 2205 passed in December, 1905, Act No. 2301 passed in December, 1910, and Act No. 2330 passed in October, 1911, and is now, with its amendments, incorporated in the *Education Act* 1915, No. 2644.

Under the Act of 1872 education was made free to all willing to accept it; compulsory, in the sense that whether they attend or do not attend State schools, evidence must be produced that all children are educated up to a certain standard; and secular, no teacher being allowed to give other than secular instruction in any State school building. Facilities are, however, afforded to persons other than State school teachers to give religious instruction, on one or two days each week, to the children of the parents who desire that their children shall receive such instruction. In each school four hours at least are set apart during each school day for secular instruction, two of which must be before, and two after, noon.

In December, 1910, an Act of Parliament of a most comprehensive and far-reaching character was passed. It marked a most important epoch in the history of education in Victoria, and laid the foundation of a complete national system from the infants' school to the highest educational institutions in the State. Power is given in this Act for the establishment of higher elementary schools, and of secondary and technical schools of various types, the aim being to create a co-ordinated system of public education, leading through elementary schools and evening continuation classes to trade and technical schools on the one hand, or through elementary schools and high schools to the University or to higher technical schools on the other. Provision is also made for evening continuation classes, in which the education of children who have left the day school at fourteen years of age may be continued till they are seventeen years of age. Power is given to make attendance at evening continuation classes compulsory in any district proclaimed for that purpose. Education is made compulsory in the case of deaf and dumb, blind, and physically or mentally defective children between seven and sixteen years of age.

In order to provide for the due co-ordination of all branches of public education a Council of Public Education has been created, representative of the various educational and industrial interests of the State. This body, which consists of 20 members presided over by the Director of Education, reports annually to Parliament on the development of public education in Victoria and elsewhere.

Parents and custodians of children not less than six nor more than fourteen years of age are required to cause such children (unless there is a "reasonable excuse") to attend a State school on every school half-day in each week. Non-attendance may be excused for any of the five following reasons:—

Compulsory nor
Clauses. more than fourteen years of age are required to cause such children (unless there is a "reasonable excuse") to attend a State school on every school half-day in each week. Non-attendance may be excused for any of the five following reasons:—

- (1) If the child is receiving efficient instruction in some other manner, and is complying with the prescribed conditions as to regularity of attendance; or
- (2) has been prevented from attending by sickness, reasonable fear of infection, temporary or permanent infirmity, or any unavoidable cause; or
- (3) has been excused by a general or particular order of the Minister; or
- (4) is at least thirteen years of age, and has obtained a certificate of merit as prescribed; or
- (5) that there is no

State school within 1, 2, 2½, or 3 miles in the case of children under seven, between seven and nine, between nine and eleven, and over eleven years of age respectively. Parents and custodians who fail to make a child attend as provided may be summoned and fined not less than 2s., nor more than 10s., for each such offence, or in default may be imprisoned for any term not exceeding three days. Attendance officers are appointed to see that the compulsory provisions are carried out.

Conveyance allowance. In cases where schools are closed through low average attendance, or where, though there is no school, the number of children would warrant the Department in establishing a school, allowances are made by the Department for the conveyance of children to the nearest school. The amount of the allowance is 3d. per day for children over six and under eleven who reside between 2½ and 3 miles from the nearest school, and 4d. per day for children over six and under fourteen who reside 4 miles or over from such school or, where schools have been closed, 3 miles therefrom.

School Committees. Under Act No. 2301 (now incorporated in the *Education Act 1915, No. 2644*) provision was made for the appointment of a School Committee for each school consisting of not more than seven persons. The members of School Committees are nominated by the parents of children attending the school for which the Committee is to be appointed. The main duties of such Committees are :—(a) to exercise a general oversight over the buildings and grounds, and to report to the Minister on their condition when necessary; (b) to carry out any necessary work referred to the Committee in connexion with maintenance or repair of or additions to buildings; (c) to promote the beautifying and improvement of school grounds, the establishment and maintenance of school gardens and agricultural plots, the decoration of the schoolroom, and the formation of a school library and museum; (d) to provide for the necessary cleansing and the sanitary services of the school; (e) to visit the school from time to time; (f) to use every endeavour to induce parents to send their children to school; and (g) to arrange, where necessary, for suitable board and lodging at reasonable rates for teachers (especially women teachers) appointed to the school.

Free subjects. The following are the subjects in which instruction is absolutely free :—English (literature, reading, recitation, spelling, writing, composition, grammar), mathematics (arithmetic, algebra, geometry), nature knowledge (geography, science, nature-study), hygiene, history and civics, manual work (drawing, needlework, woodwork, and other occupations such as modelling in clay or plasticine, or brush drawing, or weaving with some material other than paper, for example, raffia), singing, physical training, and,

where practicable, agriculture for boys, cookery and domestic economy for girls, gymnastics, and swimming. Pupils buy their own books and material.

New Features. The course of study (issued February, 1920) contains provisions to secure a more realistic treatment than formerly of the essential subjects of school education, and a larger share of attention to the training of the hand and eye through manual instruction in various forms. The requirements from teachers of infants are also such as to secure methods of teaching in accord with the principles enunciated by Froebel, the founder of the kindergarten system and by Dr. Maria Montessori. Great activity has been displayed in the training of teachers for their work. During the past few years a large number of teachers have taken the course at the Teachers' College and the Melbourne University, and, in addition, hundreds have been instructed (especially in those subjects the method of teaching which has undergone modification recently) in special classes held in the evenings and on Saturdays at centres of population, and, on a larger scale still, during the Christmas vacations at what are called "Summer Schools." The Education Department, in collaboration with the Extension Board of the Melbourne University, held a vacation school at the University in May, 1925. It was attended by teachers and by members of the general public, and lasted for a fortnight. Probably further schools of a like nature will be held. The vacation school appears to have established itself as a successful educational experiment in Victoria. Much attention has been given to the beautifying and improvement of school grounds by the planting of trees and shrubs, and by the establishment of school gardens. One day in each year—termed Arbor Day—is specially set apart for tree-planting, and for the giving of lessons on the value of trees. The teaching of elementary agriculture is warmly encouraged by both the Department of Education and the Department of Agriculture, and the subject is being dealt with in a very practical way.

Drill, swimming, school gardens, &c. There were, on 30th June, 1925, 76 woodwork centres in operation, having an attendance of 9,262 boys; and 60 cookery centres, with an attendance of 9,600 girls. Nine Schools of Domestic Arts, attended by 2,860 girls, have been established. In these schools girls over twelve years of age are given, during the last two years of their school life, a training in the subjects of a comprehensive domestic arts course. At the same time their general education is continued. In addition to the instruction given in the woodwork centres woodwork is being taught to 580 boys in 50 country schools by the head teachers as one of the ordinary subjects. Swimming is taught in schools that have the necessary facilities, the children being formed into swimming clubs, which hold annual competitions at various centres. Drill is taught in all schools. During 1912 the system of physical training approved of by the Commonwealth military

authorities was introduced. Nearly every State school now has its garden and some of the school gardens are among the beauty spots of their districts. The Victorian State Schools Horticultural Society, founded in 1913, assists teachers in obtaining the best seeds, seedlings, ornamental trees, and flowering shrubs. It has a nursery of its own at Oakleigh, maintained partly by members' subscriptions (5s. yearly), and partly by a Government grant. Most of the State schools are affiliated with the Society, which sent out in 1925 to its members, at reduced rates, 22,000 packets of seeds, 170,000 seedlings, 2,625 rooted roses, 10,250 shrubs, 3,725 herbaceous plants, 765 climbers, 4,680 indoor pot-plants, and 2,600 dahlias.

Special days.

In addition to Arbor Day (to which reference has been made), other special days—Anzac Day, Discovery Day, Pioneers' Day, Shakespeare Day, Empire Day, and Bird Day—call for mention. The landing of the Australians and New Zealanders on the Gallipoli Peninsula on 25th April, 1915, has been commemorated in the schools each year since, on Anzac Day, by the holding of a special service, consisting of hymns and addresses together with the saluting of the flag. The schools of Victoria held a celebration of Empire Day in 1905, being among the first of the oversea Dominions to recognise the day, and have since enthusiastically kept it in remembrance year by year. The first sighting of Australia by Captain Cook in April, 1770, is commemorated on Discovery Day, though this is merging into Pioneers' Day, when honour is paid not only to explorers and discoverers but also to the early settlers—the path-finders in general. The date chosen for Pioneers' Day was the 19th of November, the day on which Edward Henty landed on the shores of Portland Bay to establish a pastoral and agricultural settlement in 1834. On Shakespeare Day, the teachers and children commemorate the birth of Shakespeare by readings from his works, and the recital and acting of selected passages. Bird Day has for its object the protection of native birds and their eggs. On that day lessons are given on bird life, and, where possible, bird-observing excursions are made. Over 61,000 of the older school children have joined the "Gould League of Bird Lovers," which was established for the protection of bird life.

Patriotic Fund.

During the Great War the teachers and children in the State schools, with the aid of departmental officers, school committees, and parents, were instrumental in raising a sum of £440,000 for the Department's War Relief Fund. Particulars are given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, pages 333 and 334. The fund was closed in 1920. At the end of 1922, the executive committee of the fund transferred the balance of £84,910 to a body of seven trustees, who were empowered by the deed of trust to expend the money, as occasion arose, for the benefit of seriously disabled soldiers and their dependants. The sum of £40,000 was invested to form an old-age fund; £25,000 was set aside as a housing fund, and the remain-

ing £20,000 is being used from time to time for the cases that stand in need of immediate assistance. On 30th June, 1926, there was a sum of £45,822 invested, and £1,838 to the credit of the general account.

Schools have taken up the Junior Red Cross movement **Social Service.** in order to continue the training afforded by the Young Workers' Patriotic Guild, in which pupils earned money during the war period and gave it to the War Relief Fund. Members of the Junior Red Cross branches are assisting their local charities or helping local cases of indigence in their neighbourhood.

League of Young Gardeners.

A widespread movement is being fostered for the carrying out of "home projects," as has been done in the United States of America. The idea is to link school, home, and farm in one common interest. The growing of sugar-beet, the culture of the potato, the selection of wheat, and the rearing of poultry and stock have engaged the united attention of children, teachers, and parents in various Victorian school districts.

School Forestry.

A scheme for the utilization of waste lands by the establishment of school plantations of hardwood and soft-wood trees was inaugurated in 1923. Areas up to 50 acres in extent in the vicinity of State schools have been reserved for the purpose. These are vested in local trustees, are fenced by voluntary local effort, and are planted by the children at the rate of about two acres per year. When the trees reach maturity, the revenue derived from the sale of the timber will be used by the trust for the benefit of the school concerned. Monetary gains will accrue, and further gains also—a training in practical forestry, and a training in unselfish social service. By the end of December, 1925, there had been established 69 of these school plantations, with an area of 1,400 acres, and applications were being considered for 28 more.

Medical Inspection.

The need for the medical inspection of school children has received widespread recognition, and the Victorian Education Department has followed the lead of progressive countries by appointing medical inspectors. They consist of four full-time school medical officers and four district health officers. The latter perform part-time school medical inspection duties as well as the duties they are entrusted with by the Health Department. There are also two full-time school nurses employed. The medical officers devote their time to investigating the hygienic condition of school premises and the physical and mental condition of the pupils, and to giving instruction to teachers.

Dental Clinic.

A dental clinic has been established and is under the charge of two full-time school dentists with dental attendants. Great service is being rendered by this clinic.

Teachers' remuneration and classification.

Under the provisions of Act No. 3059, assented to on 14th September, 1920, male teachers are divided into five and female teachers into four classes, there being no female teachers in the first class. The salaries of males, excluding junior teachers, range from £156 to £600, and those

of females, excluding junior teachers and sewing mistresses, range from £120 to £420. In addition to the head and assistant teachers, there are three classes of junior teachers, with salaries ranging for males from £60 to £84 and for females from £50 to £70. An annual allowance of £12 (in addition to salary) is paid to junior teachers who have passed the Intermediate Examination of the University of Melbourne, and of £24 to those who have passed the Leaving Examination. Sewing mistresses receive £60 yearly. Junior Teachers residing away from home are paid an allowance sufficient to bring total emolument to £84 per annum.

The following statement shows the progress as regards State schools, teachers, and scholars since 1872. The figures relating to the number of schools and teachers refer to 30th June for all years to 1921, and to 31st December from the year 1922. Those relating to the number of scholars refer to the financial year ended 30th June, for the eight years ended 1916-17; the reference is to 31st December and the years ended on that date respectively for returns for years prior to 1901-2 and for the years 1917 to 1924:—

STATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, 1872 TO 1924.

Year.	Number of Schools at end of Year.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Scholars.		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In Average Attendance.	Distinct Children (estimated).
1872	1,049	2,416	136,055	68,456	113,197
1880	1,810	4,215	229,723	119,520	195,736
1890	2,170	4,708	250,097	133,768	213,886
1900	1,948	4,977	243,667	147,020	218,240
1909-10 ..	2,036	4,957	235,042	145,968	206,263
1910-11 ..	2,059	5,087	234,766	146,464	204,086
1911-12 ..	2,093	5,533	238,111	151,247	205,695
1912-13 ..	2,127	5,683	241,042	152,600	209,172
1913-14 ..	2,175	5,710	246,447	158,213	214,986
1914-15 ..	2,227	6,085	250,264	160,885	218,427
1915-16 ..	2,225	6,194	257,726	161,632	221,777
1916-17 ..	2,202	6,275	254,033	161,034	221,202
1917 (31st Dec.)	2,236	6,455	†214,048	†161,574	†186,523
1918	2,272	6,570	240,664	164,350	208,861
1919	2,280	6,518	235,292	160,345	207,633
1920	2,333	6,637	247,337	158,554	213,738
1921	2,334	6,784	247,204	167,154	216,037
1922	2,405	6,789	248,882	171,129	216,329
1923	2,460	6,919	253,307	167,638	218,835
1924	2,503	*6,977	254,144	171,382	217,858

* In addition to these teachers, 467 were temporarily employed on 31st December, 1924.

† These are the figures for the six months ended 31st December, 1917; hence the apparent falling off in "number enrolled" as compared with the number for the preceding year. Had the figures been compiled to June, 1918, probably the new number would have been greater, not less than that of the previous year. An increase in the same ratio as the increase in average attendance would fix the number at 255,280.

Ages of State school scholars. The following table shows the number and percentage of children attending State primary schools, below, at, and above the school age (6 and under 14), during the year ended 31st December, 1924 :—

AGES OF STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS, 1924.

Ages.	Net enrolment of Children attending Day Schools—	
	Number.	Percentage.
Under 6 years	13,176	6.1
6 to 14 ,,	192,222	88.2
14 years and upwards	12,460	5.7
Total	217,858	100.0

REGISTRATION OF TEACHERS AND SCHOOLS.

Registration of teachers and schools. By Act No. 2013, passed in 1905, all private schools and teachers of private schools had to be registered by the Teachers and Schools Registration Board. This Board consisted of three representatives of the Education Department, four of non-State schools, two of the University, and one of State-aided technical schools. Its chief functions were to see (1) that only qualified persons were employed in private schools; and (2) that private schools met requirements in hygienic matters. Under the provisions of Act No. 2301, passed in December, 1910, the Teachers and Schools Registration Board was abolished, and its duties were taken over by the Council of Public Education.

Registered schools, 1872 to 1925. The appended statement shows the number of registered schools, of instructors in same, and of individual scholars in attendance in 1872, the year before the adoption

* The latest statistics published by the Education Department of Victoria (*vide* "Report of the Minister of Public Instruction for the year 1924-25") are for the period ended 31st December, 1924.

of the present secular system, and in a number of subsequent years, including the latest year for which particulars are available :—

**REGISTERED SCHOOLS AND ATTENDANCE,
1872 TO 1925.**

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Individual Scholars.
1872	888	1,841	24,781
1880	643	1,516	28,134
1890	791	2,037	40,181
1900	884	2,348	48,483
1909-10	641	2,067	49,964
1914-15	509	1,879	52,638
1915-16	495	1,909	57,400
1916-17	495	1,970	56,193
1917-18	499	2,002	58,366
1918 (31st December)	493	1,903	56,996
1919	486	1,991	56,684
1920	489	1,950	59,314
1921	486	2,063	59,922
1922	486	2,109	60,105
1923	489	2,154	64,195
1924	486	2,154	63,105
1925	490	2,163	64,265

**Scholars
attending
State and
registered
schools.**

On comparing the number of scholars with the number attending schools, it is seen that 22 per cent. of the scholars during 1924 attended registered schools, and that the balance, 78 per cent., attended State primary and secondary schools.

THE TRAINING OF TEACHERS.

Teachers' College. During the year 1926, the training of teachers for the State Department has been much modified and altered. In future, all intending teachers will have to complete a successful probationary period as Junior Teachers in the schools before entering one of the Teachers' Colleges. Junior teachers who do not complete their Leaving Certificate, or who are unable to obtain studentships at a Teachers' College will, at the end of five years, be asked to leave the Service. This will ensure a reasonable aptitude for the work of teaching.

There are three Teachers' Colleges in Victoria—Melbourne, Ballarat and Bendigo. The Melbourne College is the largest institution, training students for all types of teaching work; Ballarat and Bendigo are smaller colleges preparing teachers for work in the Rural Schools. From 1927 onwards, the only avenue of promotion in the Service will be through the Teachers' Colleges; that is, there will be no untrained teachers entering the Department's service. In order to make this

position possible, a new Teachers' College is to be built in Melbourne on the Market site. This College will accommodate up to 600 students, while Ballarat and Bendigo will be able to take up to 100 each. Thus, in a few years' time, the three Colleges will have an output each year of 500 trained teachers for the Primary and Rural Schools, together with nearly 100 trained graduates for work in all kinds of Secondary Schools.

The courses of training in the Melbourne College at present are as follows:—

1. Primary Course for teachers going to take charge of Rural Schools. One year.
2. Infant Teachers' Course for students going out to Kindergarten work. Two years.
3. Manual Arts Course for students who will teach Arts and Crafts in the Secondary schools. Three years.
4. Domestic Arts Course for students who will teach Household subjects in the Secondary Schools. Three years.
5. Secondary Course for students who will teach general subjects in the High Schools. Four years.

The Secondary studentship is one of the most valuable in Australia. It involves a four years' course at the University without any expense to the student concerned. In addition, he receives an allowance for books and ordinary expenses. Thus, at the end of four years, he should have a University degree, the Diploma of Education and an assured position in a High School without any expense to himself.

In view of the extension and development of these facilities, and of the liberal allowances paid to students in training, it is expected that, before very long, the system of training teachers for the Victorian service will be able to compare favorably with most other modern systems of training in the world.

DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOLS.

District High Schools. The Education Act of 1910 authorized the establishment of these schools in order to open a broad highway, at little or no cost to the parents of the pupils, leading from the elementary schools to the technical schools and the University. A further important function of these institutions is to give the necessary preliminary education to boys and girls intending to take up teaching. Under the scheme of training now in operation aspirants for the teaching profession are expected during the period spent at a district high school to complete their preliminary studies. Any pupil who has satisfactorily completed the work of Grade VI. in an elementary school is qualified for admission to a district high school. The course of study lasts for six years in the case of pupils who enter from the sixth grade of the elementary school after obtaining the qualifying certificate, or for four or five years in the case of those who enter from the eighth grade after completing the course of the elementary school. Winners of Government scholarships are also trained at these schools, but parents are at

liberty to select an approved secondary school for the education of their boys and girls. Besides the day classes there are formed at a few of the district high schools evening classes for the instruction of teachers living in the vicinity, and correspondence classes for those residing at a distance. Eight of the District High Schools are specially equipped for the teaching of agriculture in addition to providing other courses of secondary education. There are district high schools at Ararat, Bacchus Marsh, Bairnsdale, Ballarat,* Benalla, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Coburg, Colac,* Dandenong, Echuca, Essendon, Frankston, Geelong, Hamilton, Horsham, Kerang, Kyneton, Leon-gatha,* Maryborough, Melbourne, Mildura,* Mordialloc-Carrum, Sale,* Shepparton,* St. Arnaud, Stawell, University (Carlton), Wangaratta,* Warracknabeal, Warragul,* Warrnambool, and Williams-town. The schools the names of which are asterisked are equipped with farms.

During the term ended 31st December, 1924, there were in attendance at these schools 7,719 pupils, of whom 3,920 were boys and 3,799 were girls. Education is free up to the age of fourteen years, after which a fee of £6 per annum is charged. Travelling expenses (up to £5 per annum) are provided for children living beyond four miles from the school, if the parents' income does not exceed £150 per annum. In special cases the Department has power to make grants in aid of school requisites up to £2 per annum, and of the cost of maintenance up to £26 per annum, to enable pupils to continue their studies at district high schools and higher elementary schools.

For the practical part of the work of training secondary teachers the institution now known as the University High School. School was opened in a State building in 1910, and the school was specially staffed by lecturers in methods of teaching in addition to the teachers of the ordinary form subjects of secondary schools. The practical training in teaching received at this school is part of what is prescribed for the course for the Diploma of Education at the Melbourne University. In its management of the school the Department is aided by an advisory committee from the Faculty of Arts of the University.

HIGHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

On 31st December, 1924, there were forty-five higher elementary schools—at Beechworth, Birchip, Boort, Bright, Camperdown, Casterton, Charlton, Chiltern, Clunes, Cohuna, Corryong, Daylesford, Dimboola, Donald, Euroa, Foster, Gisborne, Hampton, Heathcote, Inglewood, Korumburra, Kyabram, Lilydale, Maffra, Mansfield, Mirboo North, Murtoa, Nathalia, Nhill, Numurkah, Orbost, Portland, Rainbow, Rochester, Rushworth, Rutherglen, Sea Lake, Seymour, Swan Hill, Terang, Traralgon, Werribee, Yarram, Yarrawonga, and Yea. During the term ended 31st December, 1924, there were in attendance at these schools 4,033 pupils, of whom

University
High School.

Higher
Elementary
Schools and
Classes.

2,108 were boys and 1,925 were girls. Education in the higher elementary schools is free throughout the course, which extends over two or four years.

There were also twenty-three schools, twelve in the metropolitan area and four in urban and seven in country centres—known as “Central” schools—in which a preparatory course of secondary education was provided. These were attended by 3,436 pupils in 1924.

The purpose of the district high school and the higher elementary school is to provide the essentials of a good general education for pupils who have completed the work of the sixth grade in elementary schools, and are likely to profit by a further course of study, and to give them, in the third and fourth years, a specialized training which will help to prepare them for their several careers in life. These schools thus form a link between the elementary school and technical institutions, or the University, or vocations that may be followed by pupils upon the completion of the course of study.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND ALLOWANCES TO PUPILS.

The Minister of Public Instruction awarded scholarships at the beginning of 1926 as under:—

No. and Kind.	Age Requirement of Candidates	Period of Tenure.	Annual Value.
100 Junior scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Under 14½ years	4 years	Free tuition at a district high school and £4 for school requisites, or £12 towards tuition fees and school requisites at an approved registered secondary school; also, in certain cases, up to £26 for maintenance or up to £5 for transit.
44 Senior scholarships open to candidates attending district high schools, technical schools, and registered secondary schools	About 18 years	3-6 years	£40 towards expense of a course at the University.
60 Teaching scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	14-17 years	3 years	As for Junior scholarships.
50 Junior Technical scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Under 14 years	3 years	Free tuition at a junior technical school and £4 for school requisites; also, in certain cases, up to £26 for maintenance or £5 for transit.
55 Senior Technical scholarships open to candidates attending district high schools, technical schools, and registered secondary schools	16-18 years	3-5 years	Free tuition for full length of approved courses at technical schools; also £30 for day students and £10 for evening students.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND ALLOWANCES TO PUPILS—*continued.*

No. and Kind.	Age Requirement of Candidates	Period of Tenure.	Annual Value.
20 Free Places in agriculture, metallurgy, mining, or veterinary science at the University open to candidates attending district high schools, technical schools, and registered secondary schools	About 18 years	4-5 years	Exemption from payment of fees for lectures and examinations at University; also, in special cases, an allowance up to £50 for maintenance.
50 Free Places in any course (other than dental science) at the University open to candidates attending district high schools, technical schools, and registered secondary schools	About 18 years	3-6 years	
5 Free Places in an approved course at the University open to officers (other than teachers) in the employment of the Government of Victoria	Under 25 years.	3-4 years	
15 Free Places in the course for Arts, Commerce, Science or Education at the University open to certificated teachers of the Education Department	..	3-4 years	

In addition to these scholarships, there is a scheme whereby free tuition and allowances for school requisites up to £2 per annum and for maintenance up to £26 per annum or for transit up to £5 per annum may be granted to enable pupils who show special capacity and promise, and whose parents are in necessitous circumstances, to attend district high schools, higher elementary schools, schools of domestic arts, central schools, central classes and technical schools. Free tuition is allowed also to children of deceased or totally and permanently incapacitated sailors and soldiers attending district high schools or technical schools.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION IN STATE SCHOOLS.

Religious Instruction in State Schools. At the request of the Joint Council for Religious Instruction in Day Schools, Victoria, the Education Department sent out circulars to all the head teachers, and, as a result, the Council has been able to tabulate the following information from the answers received :—

Number of schools which returned answers to circular	2,460
Number of schools receiving religious instruction ..	949
Number of schools not receiving religious instruction	1,511
(These are chiefly outlying schools of low attendance. The large technical schools are also included.)	
Number of instructors engaged	2,181
Number of scholars enrolled for religious instruction	122,598
Net enrolment for the 2,460 schools	218,835

Information relating to Melbourne and suburbs and the rest of Victoria is given below. The area included in Melbourne and suburbs is a radius of ten miles from the Elizabeth-street Post Office, and includes a few schools outside that radius, as far as Croydon and Mordialloc.

MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS.

Number of schools in which religious instruction is given	185
Number of instructors engaged	827
Number of pupils receiving religious instruction ..	64,322

REST OF VICTORIA.

Number of schools in which religious instruction is given	764
Number of instructors engaged	1,354
Pupils receiving religious instruction	58,276

The objective of the Joint Council is to obtain more instructors for those schools in the metropolis where the staffs are weak, and for the country schools where religious instruction is not given.

STANDARD OF EDUCATION.

The number of marriages celebrated in 1925 was 13,370, and there were only 16 men and 12 women who showed their want of elementary education by signing the marriage register with a mark instead of in writing. This indicates a very high elementary standard of education in this State, which, in this respect, occupies the highest position in Australasia.

Signing with marks.

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

The whole of the technical schools in the State, prior to 1910, were under the control of local councils. Act No. 2301, passed in that year, provided for the schools being brought under the control of the Minister of Public Instruction. The Education Department, in all cases, retains the general direction of technical education. Regulations are issued defining the powers of the councils, allotting the Government grants, and providing for the instruction and examination of the students. The number of technical schools receiving aid from the State on 31st December, 1925, was 26.

Technical schools.

The former lack of organized method in preparing pupils for courses in technical schools largely neutralized the efforts of the instructors in these institutions. In order to overcome this difficulty, junior or preparatory technical schools have been established in connexion with all the higher technical schools. These schools offer a course of two or three years' instruction for boys between the ages of twelve and a half and fifteen years. Instruction in English subjects is carried on in conjunction with mathematics and the more technical subjects. The curriculum is designed to qualify for entrance to the senior schools. A large majority of the students doing full day diploma courses come from the junior technical schools, while nearly all the effective trade students attending evening classes are drawn from that source.

The aim of the Victorian technical schools is to provide vocational courses of training in industrial subjects, and, as far as possible, to provide for the training of the expert technologist. The various branches of engineering and its subdivisions, mining, metallurgy, technical and agricultural chemistry, subjects connected with the building trades (including architecture) and with other trades, applied art, commercial subjects and those connected with household economy are included in their syllabuses. Trade courses correspond to the period of apprenticeship, which extends over five years.

The larger technical schools, such as the Working Men's College, the Swinburne Technical College, and the Ballarat and Bendigo Schools of Mines, have an extensive curriculum embracing the most important industrial subjects. Of the smaller schools, some in country districts have courses in mining,

metallurgy, and engineering subjects as well as courses in drawing and applied art work, while in a few schools the subjects taught are mainly drawing and art work. The only technical schools for women's industries are the College of Domestic Economy and the girls' junior technical departments in the Swinburne, Ballarat, Prahran, Box Hill, and Brighton Schools.

The fees per term range from 10s. per subject per annum to £35 per course of subjects per annum.

The following is a statement of the Government expenditure on each technical school during the five years ended 1924-25:—

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON SCHOOLS OF MINES AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

Name.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
	£	£	£	£	£
Ararat	143	154	130	129	91
Bairnsdale	4,750	4,237	3,246	3,376	3,696
Ballarat	18,943	18,463	17,883	18,181	20,358
Beechworth	1,106	1,119	1,079	1,205	1,334
Bendigo	9,982	11,217	11,398	12,222	11,973
Box Hill .. .. .	..	..	..	6,706	4,428
Brighton	5,967	10,558	16,883	16,169	13,675
Brunswick	13,405	13,100	8,367	8,590	10,467
Castlemaine	4,902	4,823	5,060	5,755	5,865
Caulfield	4,173	13,232	11,911	8,832	12,322
College of Domestic Economy ..	2,356	2,581	2,461	2,943	3,261
Collingwood	7,264	8,378	9,578	30,179	18,904
Daylesford	1,997	2,041	2,083	2,466	1,990
Echuca	2,650	2,411	2,586	2,607	4,438
Footscray	9,740	10,698	12,037	13,343	23,540
Geelong (Gordon Tech. Col.) ..	7,259	11,133	8,725	10,019	12,458
Glenferrie (Swinburne Tech. Col.)	13,963	15,122	16,675	21,728	20,540
*Horsham	926	1,199	511	6	..
Maryborough	3,275	4,919	5,233	5,604	5,439
Melbourne (Working Men's Col.)	26,782	29,013	33,956	33,434	35,277
Prahran	6,474	6,778	8,073	8,052	9,166
Richmond .. .. .	..	..	..	..	9,159
Sale	2,405	2,712	2,909	2,648	2,997
South Melbourne	7,533	8,734	9,020	9,014	9,982
Stawell	2,742	2,835	2,895	3,129	5,195
Sunshine	3,341	2,189	2,726	3,969	6,330
Wangaratta .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1,650
Warrnambool	3,842	4,661	4,806	5,433	8,107
West Melbourne	10,243	11,463	12,055	14,006	13,117
Wonthaggi	3,164	10,262	5,027	4,409	7,038
Other votes for technical schools	10,579	12,604	3,695	3,741	4,768
Miscellaneous	2,309	2,625	2,970	3,070	†5,326
Total	192,215	229,261	223,978	260,965	292,891

* Closed 31st December, 1923.

† Including £1,518 for building for technical art exhibits.

College of
Dentistry and
Pharmacy.

Particulars relating to the Australian College of Dentistry and the Melbourne College of Pharmacy are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 516 to 519.

THE WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, MELBOURNE.

Working
Men's
College,
Melbourne.

The Working Men's College is a technical institution and school of mines, founded in 1887. It is open to all classes and both sexes, and supplies the higher technical instruction. Its revenue is obtained from students' fees, supplemented by a Government grant. There are both day and evening courses.

Fees. All fees are payable in advance, and no refund is allowed. Examinations are held in November, and entrance to these examinations is free to students of the college attending the classes in which they present themselves for examination, provided they have made the necessary attendances, and completed sufficient Laboratory Work. The year is divided into three terms.

Fees Payable.

Full Day Courses.		Fee.		
		£	s.	d.
Preparatory School for Diploma Courses—				
First year	... ..	3	15	0
Second year	... ..	4	7	6
Diploma Courses—Mechanical, Electrical, Municipal, Marine, and Mining Engineering—				
First year	... ..	5	10	0
Second year	... ..	6	15	0
Third year	... ..	8	0	0
Diploma Course—Metallurgy—				
First year	... ..	5	10	0
Second year	... ..	6	15	0
Third year	... ..	8	0	0
Diploma Courses—Applied Chemistry—				
First year	... ..	5	10	0
Second year	... ..	6	15	0
Third year (Inorganic Diploma)	... ..	8	0	0
Fourth year (Organic Diploma)	... ..	8	0	0
Carpentry Apprenticeship Course	... ..	3	15	0
Motor Mechanics Course—				
First year	... ..	7	0	0
Second year	... ..	7	0	0
Woolsorting	... ..	8	0	0
Art Course, Full Time	... ..	3	15	0
„ „ Five Half-Days	... ..	3	0	0
Dressmaking, Five Half-Days	... ..	3	0	0
Millinery, Five Half-Days	... ..	3	0	0

Evening Classes.	Fee.
Arithmetic	} Various amounts ranging from 15s. upwards per term
Algebra	
Geometry	
Trigonometry	
Graphical Algebra and Analytical Geometry	
Differential and Integral Calculus	
Practical Geometry	
Dressmaking	
Millinery	
Applied Mechanics	
Applied Electricity	
Heat Engines	
Architecture	
Building Construction	
Surveying	
Civil Engineering	
Hydraulics	
Chemistry	
Assaying	
Metallurgy	
Engineering Drawing	
Science, Trade, Commercial, Mining, and numerous other Subjects	
Evening Art and Applied Art Courses (Drawing, Design, Modelling, &c.)	30s. per term.
Preliminary Year for Courses for Experts' Certificates	35s. per term.
Courses for Experts' Certificates	From 40s. per term.

Special prizes are awarded to students annually. There is a prize to the best student in each year of the day courses, and to the best student in each of the evening classes. The Magee prize, of the annual value of £3, is awarded to the student who obtains highest marks at examination in the work of the senior mechanical drawing class. The Sir George Verdon prize, which is of an annual value equal to the interest on the amount of the donor's endowment of £210, is awarded for excellence of design and workmanship in the technical or trade subject selected by the council at the beginning of each year. The Royal Victorian Institute of Architects awards prizes in the architecture and building construction classes, the Green Field Tap and Die Corporation gives a set of stocks and dies to the best student in fitting and turning, and Messrs Brown and Sharp give a set of fitter's tools to the best student in the second grade fitting and turning class, and a micrometer to the best student in milling. Several employers donate prizes, notably in the Printing and Plumbing trades.

The Beazley Bequest Scholarships, of which there are thirty of the value of £8 10s., are awarded annually for trade subjects. The following scholarships cover five years' free instruction in the day courses:—The Danks (2), The Arnot, and The Colin Thompson. Twenty entrance scholarships, value £24 each, are awarded annually to the preparatory school for Day Courses; five, value £11 each, are awarded to the carpentry apprenticeship course of one year, and twenty-five, value £4 to

£8, to the commercial day classes. There are three scholarships available to students in the Preparatory School and tenable at the Diploma Courses, value £60 each. There are also numerous Government Scholarships available to students and tenable at the College or the University.

The receipts from the Government in 1925 amounted to £31,136.

About 180 classes are held in the following departments:—Commercial, Elocution and Music, Mathematics, Engineering and Science, Architecture, Chemistry, Mining and Metallurgy, Art and Applied Art, Rural Industries, and Trade Courses. The work is divided into—(1) day courses, and (2) evening courses and classes. In the day school students are prepared for the higher positions of industrial life in the following complete courses:—(1) Mechanical Engineering, (2) Electrical Engineering, (3) Civil Engineering, (4) Marine Engineering, (5) Mining Engineering, (6) Metallurgy, and (7) Applied Chemistry. To students who complete any of the above courses, pass the necessary examinations, and produce evidence of having obtained twelve months' approved practical experience, the Diploma of "Associateship" of the College is issued. The entrance standard for these courses is the Intermediate Certificate or the completion of a two years' course in the College Preparatory Technical School. The preparatory school bridges the gap between the Merit Certificate and the entrance to the Diploma Courses. It also gives a two years' preparation for industrial life in town or country.

In the Applied Art School classes are held in the following subjects:—Drawing, Design, Modelling, Architecture, Building Construction, Geometrical Drawing, Practical Plane and Solid Geometry, Perspective, Blackboard Drawing, Still Life Painting, Anatomy, Figure Drawing, Figure Composition, Book Illustration, Lettering, Illuminating, Stencilling, Leather Embossing, Decorative Metalwork, Silver-smithing, Jewellery, Engraving, Die Sinking, Lead Glazing, Stained Glass, Plaster Casting, Signwriting, Ticket Writing, Lithography, Process Engraving, Textile Design and Weaving, Dress-making, Millinery, and Plain and Decorative Needlework.

In the evening school the following courses for certificates are in operation:—Assayers, geologists, electrical engineers, civil engineers (municipal and hydraulic), mechanical and marine engineers, land surveyors, mechanical draughtsmen, public analysts, architects, carpenters, printers, signwriters and house decorators, plumbers, coach builders, and motor car body makers. The following figures

give an indication of the comparative amount of work done at the College during the years 1921 to 1925 :—

STUDENTS AT WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, 1921 TO 1925.

—	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Students enrolled—					
Average per term	2,604*	2,465*	2,370	2,511	2,629
Males over 21	586	533	577	571	568
„ under 21—Apprentices	601	634	592	605	647
„ „ Others	1,109	1,025	946	1,059	1,099
Females	308	273	255	276	315
Fees received during the year ..	£9,263†	£11,354†	£11,504†	£11,891†	£13,063†
Average fee per student	96s. 3d.	99s. 7d.	99s. 2d.	93s. 10d.	106s. 5d.
Number of classes	180	176	175	177	179
„ instructors	115	117	116	128	131
Salaries paid instructors	£24,390	£25,629	£25,764	£27,241	£29,234

* In addition, 230 students were receiving vocational training for the Repatriation Department in 1921 and 200 in 1922.

† This does not include fees for correspondence courses, which amounted to £1,752 in 1921, £797 in 1922, £539 in 1923, £1,034 in 1924, and £1,057 in 1925. The subjects taught by correspondence are those included in the college curriculum.

LIBRARIES.

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF VICTORIA.

Public Library of Victoria. The buildings of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of Victoria cost £326,946. The funds were provided by the Government, as also were further moneys expended on maintenance (including salaries) and amounting, with the sum just named, to a total of £1,751,953 at the end of 1925. The Library consists of three distinct sections, viz. :—the Reference Library, the Lending Library, and the Country Lending Library. In regard to the Reference Library, the librarian reports that 7,942 volumes were purchased, 2,023 volumes presented, 474 volumes obtained under the “Copyright Act,” and 46,592 newspapers added to the Library during the year 1925. At the end of that year the Reference Library contained 327,953 volumes. It is open to the public without payment on week days (Christmas Day and Good Friday excepted) between the hours of 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. The Lending Branch, which is also free to the public, issued 119,786 volumes during 1925, the number of persons to whom the books were lent being 8,321. The number of volumes in the Lending Library at the end of the year mentioned was 43,565, of which 2,425 were added during the year.

National Gallery. The National Gallery at the end of 1925 contained 21,210 works of art, viz., 704 oil paintings, 5,450 objects of art, statuary, &c., and 15,056 water colour drawings, engravings, photographs, &c. It is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily on week days (Christmas Day and Good Friday excepted), and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. The school of painting in connexion with the institution was attended during the year by 28 students,

and the school of drawing by 118 students. The income from the Felton bequest amounted to £24,000, which was available for expenditure on paintings, statuary, and other works of art.

Industrial Museum. The Industrial and Technological Museum occupies the whole of the first floor of the building facing Swanston-street. At the end of 1925 it contained more than 10,000 exhibits.

National Museum. The collection in the National Museum, formerly kept in a building situated on the grounds of the Melbourne University, is now located in the Public Library Buildings. It comprises natural history, geology, and ethnology. The National Museum is open to the public free of charge on all week days throughout the year, except Christmas Day and Good Friday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

Patent Office Library. There is a free library attached to the Commonwealth Department of Patents, which contains over 10,000 volumes, including the Patents Acts, official Gazettes and patents specifications of the principal countries of the world, and a comprehensive selection of technical works. The library is open to the public on each week day, except Saturday, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4.30 p.m., and on Saturday from 9 a.m. until noon.

Supreme Court Library. The Supreme Court Library at Melbourne has nineteen branches in the assize towns. It is free to members of the legal profession between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., except on Saturdays, when it closes at noon. It is supported by fees paid under Acts of Parliament and Rules of Court for the admission of barristers and solicitors.

OTHER LIBRARIES.

Free Libraries. Most of the suburban and country libraries receive Government aid—the amount granted in 1924-1925 having been £3,163. Of these libraries 526 furnished returns in 1925, which show that they possessed 959,855 volumes, and received £102,962 in revenue, that the total expenditure was £95,902—£13,002 on books, &c., and £82,900 on maintenance—and that 2,348,580 visits were paid to the 428 institutions which kept records of the attendances of visitors.

EXHIBITION BUILDINGS.

Exhibition Buildings, Aquarium, and Museum. The Exhibition Buildings, which are situated in the Carlton Gardens, Melbourne, when first opened for the purpose of an exhibition in October, 1880, occupied a total space of 907,400 square feet. The original cost of the permanent structure, temporary annexes, &c., was £246,365. After the close of the exhibition, on 30th April, 1881, the annexes were removed, and the permanent building was vested in trustees.

Another exhibition was opened in the building on 1st August, 1888, to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the first Australian Colony. On that occasion a further sum of £262,954 was expended. At the close of the exhibition there was realized from the sale of various materials, including temporary annexes, a sum of £56,904.

The receipts for the twelve months ended 30th June, 1925, amounted to £9,191, consisting of rents £6,585, aquarium receipts £2,136, and other receipts £470. The expenditure totalled £7,511, viz. :—£2,990, expenses of the aquarium; and £4,521 for general maintenance, improvements to buildings, insurance and sundry expenses. The deposits and balances in banks to the credit of the trust at 30th June, 1925, amounted to £1,658.

THE MELBOURNE BOTANIC GARDEN.

**Botanic
Garden.**

The Melbourne Botanic Garden, which was established in 1846, is situated on the south side of the Yarra, at a distance of about one mile from the city. The area of the garden proper is 102 acres, and includes lakes, lawns, groups, plantations, conservatories, &c. Associated with the Botanic Garden are the grounds of Government House, the Domain, the Alexandra Park and Gardens, and the Queen Victoria Gardens. The Botanic Garden and the Domain are administered by the Lands Department, the Government House Grounds temporarily by the Federal Government, and Alexandra Park and Queen Victoria Gardens solely by the Melbourne City Council. The whole reservation, probably the most valuable asset of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere, embraces an area of approximately 320 acres, and, in addition to the divisions mentioned above, includes the grounds and buildings of the Observatory and the National Herbarium.

Records of the commencement of the Gardens and their progress until 1908 are to be found in the *Descriptive Guide to the Botanic Gardens*, published by the Government Printer in that year, and obtainable at a price of 6d. A reference to some of the principal features appears in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 525 to 527.

The Gardens are open to the public daily from 7 a.m. in summer and 7.30 a.m. in winter, and are closed at sunset.

ROYAL ZOOLOGICAL AND ACCLIMATISATION SOCIETY.

**Royal
Zoological
and Accli-
matisation
Gardens.**

The gardens of the Royal Zoological and Acclimatisation Society of Victoria are situated in the centre of Royal Park, on the northern side of the city, nearly 2 miles distant from the Elizabeth Street Post Office, and can be reached by trams starting every few minutes from the lower end of Elizabeth street, or by electric train to Royal Park Station. The electric

tramway from West Brunswick, through Royal Park, is now completed, and it provides another facility for reaching the Gardens.

The ground enclosed contains 50 acres, rather more than half of which is laid out as a Zoological garden and the rest in deer paddocks. Most of the large animals of the world, such as the hippopotamus, giraffe, Indian elephant, &c., are exhibited there, as well as many native animals. The Patron of the Society is His Excellency the State Governor, and the Director is Mr. A. Wilkie.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA.

A brief statement of the history of this society and of the work carried on by it appears in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 528 and 529. The membership subscription is 10s. per annum. Two shows are held each year, one in the autumn and one in spring. The members' monthly meeting is held on the second Thursday of each month.

The business of the society is vested in a committee, consisting of the president, four vice-presidents (two amateur and two professional), an honorary treasurer, and sixteen members (eight amateurs and eight professionals), the administrative work being conducted by the honorary secretary, Mr. A. J. Witcher, "Hiawatha," 6 Pine-street, Hawthorn.

Other societies. There are about 40 other horticultural societies in the State, situated at Ballarat, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Kyneton, Mildura, Terang, Traralgon, and other centres.

PUBLIC RESERVES.

Public reserves. The total area devoted to public reserves in Greater Melbourne in 1925 was 6,245 acres. A list of the public reserves in 1917, together with a statement of their respective areas, appeared in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 529 to 533.

A further statement showing the number and area of reserves in 17 of the largest towns outside Melbourne was given on page 533 of the same volume.

At the end of 1925 there were in the State, according to returns received, 3,270 regular churches and chapels, and 1,792 other buildings where religious services were held—a total of 5,062 places of public worship—and these were attended by 2,268 regular clergymen. The following statement contains particulars in regard to the different denominations :—

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS, 1925.

Denominations.	Number of Clergy, Ministers, &c.	Buildings used for Public Worship.		
		Churches and Chapels.	Other Buildings.	Total.
Protestant Churches—				
Church of England ..	433	732	620	1,352
Presbyterian Church of Victoria ..	295	625	317	942
Free Presbyterian ..	3	7	2	9
Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland ..	1	1	..	1
Methodist ..	283	826	427	1,253
Independent or Congregational ..	74	80	45	125
Baptist ..	97	117	57	174
Lutheran ..	16	30	15	45
Salvation Army ..	531	148	38	186
Church of Christ ..	95	100	16	116
Church for Deaf Mutes ..	2	1	1	2
Other Protestant ..	36	31	21	52
Roman Catholic Church ..	360	562	227	789
New Church (or Swedenborgian) ..	1	2	..	2
Catholic Apostolic Church ..	11	1	..	1
Jews ..	4	3	1	4
Re-organized Church of Latter-Day Saints ..	19	3	4	7
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints ..	7	1	1	2
Total ..	2,268	3,270	1,792	5,062

The Sunday Schools of the various religious bodies numbered 3,073, and the teachers 23,324; the number of scholars on the rolls was 229,130—100,714 males and 128,416 females.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

Friendly societies seem to have been established in Victoria very soon after the first settlement of the territory, but it was not until after the passing of the 1855 Act that any steps were taken for their registration as institutions recognised by law. That statute consolidated and amended the laws then in force relating to friendly societies, and was the first Act passed in this connexion by the Victorian Legislature after the separation of Victoria from New South Wales in 1851. It was assented to on 12th June, 1855, and provided for the appointment of a registrar, and also a certifying barrister, to whom the rules of a society had to be submitted for examination, and whose certificate, that these rules were in accordance with the law, was necessary before registration could be effected. It also provided that the tables of contributions should be certified by an actuary of an assurance company, or "some person" appointed by the registrar before the rules of the society could be registered.

Registration was not, however, made compulsory, and the actuarial certificate, given by the actuary appointed by the registrar under the provisions of the Act for this purpose, was only of a provisional nature, issued subject to the condition that the tables were to be submitted to him for approval after a certain period had elapsed. This temporary certificate was given because there were no data then available in Australia on which to calculate the amount necessary to provide the sickness benefits. As there was no power under the Act to compel a society to apply to the actuary for a renewal of the provisional certificate when the time covered by that certificate had expired, the registration of these institutions was unfortunately permanently effected with rates of contribution which afterwards proved to be, in almost every instance, inadequate. The control exercised over friendly societies as a result of this legislation was very slight.

No further serious attention was given by the Government to friendly societies until 1875, when a Commission was appointed to inquire into "the working of the Friendly Societies Statute, the position and operations of the societies registered under it, and what amendment, if any, is desirable in the existing law." The outcome of this Commission was the 1877 Act, which provided (*inter alia*) for the appointment of a barrister of not less than seven years' standing as registrar, and also that each society should furnish returns annually to the Government Statist, and once at least in every five years should either have its assets and liabilities valued by a valuer appointed by the society or send such particulars to the Government Statist as would enable him to have the valuation made. The fees for valuation were purposely fixed at a low rate, and average less than two-pence per member, the result being that, although it is competent for the societies to employ outside valuers, should they so desire, as a matter of fact they have rarely done so, and nearly all the valuations have been made by the Government Actuary. The passing of this

Act had the effect of considerably increasing the control exercised by the Government over the operations of friendly societies.

In accordance with its provisions, an actuary was appointed under the Government Statist in 1881, whose chief duty was to make periodical valuations of the assets and liabilities of societies, and the result of these valuations disclosed the fact that, in almost every instance, the rates then being paid by the members were insufficient to provide the benefits which the societies had by their rules agreed to pay. The Act gave no power to enforce payment of adequate rates of contribution, and the actuary could not therefore compel a society to take such steps as would enable it to meet its liabilities, but could only give advice as to the best means to be adopted to secure that end. It is only just to the managing bodies of these institutions, however, to state that most of the principal societies made a serious effort to carry out the suggestions of the actuary. Several of them passed rules requiring future members to pay adequate rates of contribution, and in nearly every case some effort was made to improve the financial position.

It was not until 1907 that registration of societies was made compulsory, and that they were required to adopt adequate rates of contribution in respect of all members, existing as well as new members. An Act which was passed in that year embodied these provisions, the penalty for failure to adopt adequate rates of contribution being cancellation of registration. The operation of the Act, in so far as it related to the scale of contributions payable, was, however, limited to a period of eighteen months. This was a serious defect, as contributions which are sufficient at one time may at a future date become inadequate, owing to fluctuations in interest, sickness, or mortality rates or faulty management. To remedy this defect an amending Act was passed in the year 1911. This Act provides that, if a society receives two successive notifications from the Government Statist that its rates are inadequate, it must adopt adequate rates within twelve months of the second notification, otherwise its registration will be cancelled. There must be an interval of at least three years between the two notifications. It is expected that a society on receiving the first notification will take such steps to improve its position as will obviate the necessity for the second being issued.

The legislation which has been referred to has had a very beneficial effect on societies. Of fifteen societies having a membership of over 500 each, thirteen have assets whose ratio to liabilities exceeds, or closely approximates to, 20s. in the £, and of all the Victorian societies only one has a lower ratio than 18s. in the £. In Victoria the societies have received no subvention from the State.

If, on an actuarial valuation being made, a surplus is found to exist in any one fund of a society, the Government Statist may authorize the utilization of the whole or a portion of such surplus for the purposes of the same or any other fund.

Central bodies of societies are empowered by statute to appoint auditors to audit and inspect the accounts and securities of branches

at such time as the central body may direct. Every trustee, treasurer, secretary, chairman or member of the committee of management who takes any money or valuable thing in consideration of any benefit received or to be received by any member of an unregistered society is liable to a penalty of £50. Trade unions are exempted from registration. The investment of funds on leasehold property is now illegal, but the power to invest is extended to any securities on which a trustee is under any Act authorized to invest any trust funds in his hands. All loans on freehold property must be on first mortgage only, and are not to exceed three-fifths of the value as certified by a practical surveyor or valuer. The trustees are prohibited from investing on mortgage if the fee-simple of the property has been in the possession of a trustee or his wife during the previous five years. An Act passed in 1910 created a new stock for the special benefit of friendly societies, investment in which is optional and on which interest is payable at 4 per cent. The amount invested in the stock at the end of June, 1925, was £320,691. Prior to the year 1907 it was not lawful for a friendly societies' dispensary to sell patent or other medicines to members of friendly societies or their relatives, but this restriction has been amended, so that all benefit members, who have paid the full subscription to the dispensary and the full amount payable to their society for medicines and medical appliances, may now be supplied with medicines for which payment is required.

The *Friendly Societies Act* 1915 consolidates all Acts passed up to 1914 inclusive. An Act passed in 1915—the *Friendly Societies Act* 1915 (No. 2)—gave power to societies to reinsure with the Government or with an approved life assurance company their liabilities to members who were engaged on naval or military service in connexion with the war. The number of societies which took advantage of the scheme was twelve, and the number of their enlisted members was about 15,120. The sum paid by them in sickness and mortality benefits on account of those members under the contracts which were reinsured was about £232,000, and of this sum £46,500 was reimbursed to the societies by the Government in accordance with the arrangement made with it.

The amounts of the sickness and mortality benefits paid by all societies on account of members who took part in the war was about £286,000. In addition, the societies paid the contributions of enlisted members during their absence from Australia. The amount of these contributions was about £152,000.

An Act was passed in 1922 in relation to Dividing Societies, *i.e.*, friendly societies which divide the whole or a portion of their funds each year. Its principal provisions are (1) that no dividing society shall be established in future unless it limits its membership to the employees of a particular Government department, municipality, company, or other body firm or person; and (2) that every existing dividing society, the operations of which are not limited in the manner indicated, shall re-register every year, and, as a precedent to such re-registration, shall

forward to the Registrar an actuarial certificate that its rates of contribution are adequate to provide the benefits specified in its rules.

Under the *Friendly Societies Act* 1923, which was assented to on 2nd October, 1923, societies may provide for the payment of sums of money on the deaths of members, their husbands, wives, widows, children, or kindred up to an aggregate of £100 instead of sums for defraying the expenses of burial of members and the other persons mentioned. Societies are also permitted to contract with a person for the payment of a maximum amount of sick pay of £3 per week. Previously the periodical payment was limited to £2 per week. Another important provision of the Act is that the Government Statist may make or cause to be made such inspection and examination of the books of a society or branch as he deems necessary.

The societies perform a function which cannot be carried out with the same success by other means—that of providing for the loss which would otherwise be sustained by the wage-earners of the community and those dependent on them, through illness or death. Their organization enables them to keep in touch with their members, to guard against malingering, and to perform satisfactorily a work which, on account of its peculiar nature, could not be attended to satisfactorily by institutions organized on the lines of the ordinary insurance company. Their main objects are to afford relief in sickness, and to provide a moderate payment on the death of a member or his wife. The usual sickness benefits are 20s. per week during the first six months of sickness, 10s. per week during the second six months, and 5s. per week thereafter so long as the sickness continues. The member has also the benefit of medical attendance and medicine for himself and his near relatives. A sum of £20 is usually payable on the death of the member, and £10 on the death of his wife should she predecease him. In pursuance of the provisions of the *Friendly Societies Act* 1923, referred to in a previous paragraph, members of some of the societies are now being given the opportunity to contribute for larger sickness and death benefits than those which have hitherto been provided. The benefits coming under the heading of medical attendance and medicine extend usually to the whole family, embracing in the general case member, wife, and children up to the age of 16 years in the case of males and 18 years in the case of females, widowed mother of unmarried member, and also widow and family after death of member on payment of medical fees.

The funds of the societies are divided into two or more portions. Of these the most important are the sick and funeral fund, out of which are payable the sickness and death benefits, and the medical and management fund, from which are taken the payments for medical attendance, medicines, and management expenses. The weekly contribution to the sick and funeral fund for the benefits above mentioned usually ranges from 6d. for entry ages 16 to 19 to 1s. for ages at entry 37 to 39. The contribution to the other fund

**Benefits
and
contributions.**

is fixed irrespective of age at entry, the usual charge being from 8d. to 10d. per week, the rate varying according to the cost of medical benefits. The total sums payable by members thus ranges from about 1s. 2d. to 1s. 10d. per week. There are in addition small initiation fees, and, in some instances, registration fees for second wives.

The total membership of Victorian friendly societies decreased from 159,741 at the end of 1914 to 155,378 in the middle of 1925—a decrease during the ten and a half years of 4,363 members.

There was a slight decline in the membership between the ends of the years 1914 and 1917 due to deaths of members while on active service and to the absence from Victoria of many young men who might otherwise have joined the societies. A marked decrease in the membership of nearly all societies occurred in 1918 and 1919—the decrease in the earlier year was 7,004 in male and 1,619 in female members, and in the later year 3,918 in male and 1,360 in female members. In 1920 there was a further decline of 757 male and 502 female members, making a total loss for the three years of 11,679 males and 3,481 females. This numerical decrease was principally due to a dispute between the British Medical Association and the societies which led to the resignation of nearly all the medical officers as from 1st February, 1918. A settlement of the dispute has now been arrived at between the Association and all the societies. In 1921 numerical recovery set in, there was an increase during that year of 618 male and 181 female members, and in 1922 of 2,448 male and 420 female members. During the eighteen months ended in June, 1924, there was a further increase of 6,660 and 492 male and female members respectively. In the twelve months ended in June, 1925, the membership continued to advance, the increase during that period being 1,229 males and 309 females.

The funds increased during the ten and a half-year period 1914 to June, 1925, from £2,644,216 to £4,065,808, there being an addition of £1,421,592. They are well invested, the return from the sick and funeral fund for the year 1924–25 averaging 5.32 per cent. There is a number of female societies, the particulars for which are included above. At the end of June, 1925, these had a membership of 11,096 and funds amounting to £94,632.

A table is appended showing the membership, revenue, expenditure, and total funds of friendly societies in Victoria during the five and a half years 1920 to June, 1925:—

Year.	Membership (end of year).	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Funds.
		£	£	£
1920	143,021	681,232	564,220	3,173,678
1921	143,820	763,031	561,659	3,375,050
1922	146,688	790,788	616,040	3,549,798
1923–24*	153,840	1,193,550	905,296	3,838,052
1924–25	155,378	800,028	572,272	4,065,808

* A period of eighteen months.

The statement which follows contains further information in regard to the societies for the five and a half years, 1920 to 1924-25 :—

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES, 1920 TO 1924-25.

(Including Female Societies.)

	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923-24.*	1924-25.
Number of societies ..	55	56	57	60	58
Number of branches ..	1,475	1,464	1,467	1,469	1,470
Average number of members ..	143,651	143,421	145,254	150,264	154,609
Number of members sick ..	29,063	27,342	26,275	41,688	28,850
Weeks for which sick pay was allowed ..	294,818	258,540	258,851	405,245	268,209
Deaths of members ..	1,381	1,302	1,299	2,153	1,394
Deaths of registered wives ..	471	526	476	771	480
	£	£	£	£	£
Income of sick and funeral fund.. ..	358,726	408,193	370,568	584,487	412,979
Income of incidental fund ..	289,367	319,957	385,321	544,879	346,582
Other Income ..	33,139	34,881	34,399	64,184	40,467
Total Income ..	681,232	763,031	790,788	1,193,550	800,028
Expenditure of sick and funeral fund ..	250,589	235,593	286,631	383,454	218,829
Expenditure of incidental fund.. ..	282,592	295,447	296,980	465,739	317,737
Other Expenditure ..	31,039	30,619	32,429	56,103	35,706
Total Expenditure ..	564,220	561,659	616,040	905,296	572,272
Amount to credit of sick and funeral fund ..	2,985,000	3,157,600	3,241,528	3,442,561	3,636,711
Amount to credit of incidental fund ..	109,903	134,413	223,223	302,363	331,208
Amount invested—sick and funeral fund ..	2,889,409	3,046,251	3,155,993	3,371,784	3,566,778
Amount invested—incidental fund ..	109,871	134,413	221,174	299,777	324,652
Amounted invested—other funds ..	76,680	80,144	81,898	89,033	92,277
Total invested ..	3,075,960	3,260,808	3,459,065	3,760,594	3,983,707
„ funds ..	3,173,678	3,375,050	3,549,798	3,838,052	4,065,808

* A period of eighteen months.

NOTE.—There are juvenile branches connected with some of the societies, but the information in regard to these has not been considered of sufficient importance to be included in the above table.

During the twelve months ended in June, 1925, the societies lost by secession 10,682 members, which was equal to a rate of 6.9 per cent. The annual rate of secession during the period of eighteen months ended in the middle of 1924 was 6.5 per cent. It was also 6.5 per cent. in 1922, 7.8 per cent. in 1921, 8.2 per cent. in 1920, 8.5 per cent. in 1919, 7.5 per cent. in 1918, and 6.0 per cent. in 1917. The higher secession rates in the four years 1918-1921 were due mainly to the dispute between the British Medical Association and the societies, which is referred to in a previous paragraph. They were due, in part, to a

Secessions and expenses.

number of members who had been on active service and whose contributions had been paid for them while absent from Australia having failed to resume payment of contributions on their return. As a rule, most of the secessions are those of new members who allow their membership to lapse before they have time to appreciate its value. Expenses of management absorbed 18.7 per cent. of the contributions to all funds during the period 1924-25. This ratio is considerably below the usual rate in industrial assurance business. When it is remembered that the benefits and contributions are generally payable fortnightly and that this entails a great deal of administrative work, it will be seen that the rate of expense is very moderate.

Sickness and mortality experience, 1903-07. An investigation was made into the sickness and mortality experience of three of the largest Victorian friendly societies for the period 1903-07. This relates to male lives only. Tables containing rates of sickness and mortality obtained by the investigation are given in the *Year-Book* for 1913-14.

Sickness and mortality, 1914-1924-25. The following statement shows the number of weeks' sickness experienced by male members of ordinary friendly societies in respect of which claims for sick pay were received in 1914 (the last year unaffected by the war), 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, and 1924-25; also the number of weeks' sickness per effective member and the number of deaths of male members of such societies in those years and the number per 1,000 effective members:—

Year.	Average Number of Effective Members.	Weeks of Sickness.		Deaths.		
		Number.	Number per Effective Member.		Number.	Number per 1,000 Effective Members.
		Weeks.	Weeks.	Days.		
1914 ..	125,952	216,520	1	4	1,263	10.03
1917 ..	128,989	257,847	2	0	2,409	18.68
1918 ..	125,667	288,088	2	2	2,457	19.55
1919 ..	119,308	382,247	3	1	2,080	17.43
1920 ..	114,797	278,401	2	3	1,313	11.44
1921 ..	113,666	240,207	2	1	1,224	10.77
1922 ..	115,426	241,021	2	1	1,221	10.58
1923 ..	118,502	249,113*	2	1	1,328*	11.21
1924-25	123,505	247,524	2	0	1,296	10.49

* These represent two-thirds of the number for the period of eighteen months 1923-24.

The large increase in the sickness rate of 1919 was due chiefly to members who had been on active service having deferred until their return to the Commonwealth their claims for sick pay for incapacity arising out of sickness experienced and wounds received during previous years. It was also due in part to the influenza epidemic of that year

In the following table the mortality rates of three of the largest Victorian Friendly Societies in recent years are compared with the Australian population mortality rates according to the mortality table known as the "Australian Life Table (males) 1901-1910." This table is based upon the mortality experience of the Commonwealth of Australia for the years mentioned. The rates given are averages for five-yearly age groups which have as their centres the ages shown in the table. Those relating to friendly societies apply only to members who did not take part in the war.

FRIENDLY SOCIETY MORTALITY RATES COMPARED WITH THOSE OF THE AUSTRALIAN POPULATION.

Age next Birthday. (1).	Mortality Rates per 100 Lives of—		Ratio of Col. (2) to Col. (3). (4).
	Three large Friendly Societies, 1914-21. (2).	Australian Population, 1911. (3).	
18	·21	·32	Per cent. 66
23	·34	·41	83
28	·32	·48	67
33	·40	·57	70
38	·53	·72	74
43	·70	·94	74
48	·88	1·23	72
53	1·11	1·59	70
58	1·77	2·16	82
63	2·51	3·15	80
68	4·15	4·87	85
73	7·13	7·69	93
78	8·94	11·40	78
83	16·23	16·12	101
88	24·52	22·61	108
93	28·57	31·15	92
98	66·67	41·42	161

CONDITIONS OF LABOUR IN FACTORIES AND SHOPS.

The earliest attempt at regulating the conditions of labour in Victoria was made by the passing of an Act dated 11th November, 1873, forbidding the employment of any female for more than eight hours in any day in a factory. The

Labour
legislation.

same Act defined "factory" to be a place where not fewer than ten persons were working.

This small provision was administered by the Board of Public Health, and was followed, in 1885, by a much larger statute, providing for the registration of factories, their sanitation, fire escape, and guarding of machinery, and regulating the conditions of work generally to a much greater extent than formerly, besides providing for the closing of shops at fixed hours. These latter provisions were designed to give some relief to the employees, who could previously be kept at work in shops as long as their employers chose.

From that time onwards further legislative provisions were introduced at frequent intervals, and gradually the community has come to recognise the necessity of securing the health, comfort, and reasonable ease of the workers. The opposition, which was at first very strong, has gradually disappeared, until now it is safe to say that all sections of the community realize the humanitarian aspects of the movement, and have accepted the principle that the rights of work-people shall be conserved by law.

The interests of the factory worker as regards wages, personal safety, and health now receive a large amount of attention. Government inspectors prosecute employers wherever underpayment is found. They take proceedings also to carry out all the provisions of the factory laws. No one can occupy a factory unless the place is properly lighted and ventilated, has ample means of escape in case of fire, has all its machinery fenced and guarded, and has proper sanitary arrangements provided for both sexes. The Minister may now require the occupier of any factory, shop, or place to provide for the use of the employees a dining-room and a bath-room, and, for the use of the female employees, suitable sitting accommodation and a rest-room. The closing time of shops is carefully regulated. The hours of shop employees are restricted, and they must be given a half-holiday every week.

Wages Boards. The Wages Board method of fixing wages and settling the conditions of employment had its origin in Victoria. It was introduced into an Act of Parliament in 1896 by Sir Alexander Peacock. The principle embodied in the British jury system that a man can only be tried by his peers is the essence of the Victorian Wages Board system. The Boards are composed of equal numbers of employers and employees. The representatives are carefully chosen, so that every shade of interest in the trade shall be represented as fully as possible on the Board. The Board thus becomes a jury of trade experts, all of whom are versed in the requirements and intricacies of the trade they are dealing with.

An application for a Board in any trade which has not been brought under the Wages Board system can be made either by

a Union or by a meeting of employees. Upon receipt of such an application the Minister usually orders the collection of figures to show the rates of wages, the average number of hours worked, the number of persons employed in the trade, and so on. If he finds that there is good reason therefor, the Governor in Council may appoint a Wages Board and define the scope of its operations. The Board consists of from six to ten members (half elected by employers and half by employees), who nominate some outside person as chairman; or, if no agreement can be arrived at as to such nomination, then the Minister appoints the chairman. The Board may fix the rates of payment either by piece-work or wages, or both; the maximum number of hours per week or per day for which such rates shall be paid; a higher rate for work done in excess of such maximum number of hours; the times of beginning and ending work, including the hours of each shift; a higher rate for work done outside such times; special rates for casual work in the case of any trade not usually carried on in a factory or shop, or for work done on Sundays and public holidays, and for time occupied in travelling to and from work; the day and latest hour when payment of wages is to be made, also what notice of termination of employment shall be given by either employer or worker; and the number of and the rates of pay to apprentices and improvers who may be employed. Casual work is now defined in the Act as work or labour during any week for not more than one-half of the maximum number of hours fixed by the Wages Board appointed to fix rates for the work in question.

By an amendment of the law made in 1922 the Boards are given power to provide that in trades carried on in factories or shops a person working fewer hours than those fixed for an ordinary week's work shall be paid from 33 to 50 per cent. above ordinary wages' rate for the first half of such week's work. For each hour worked beyond the aforesaid first half ordinary rates are payable up to but *not exceeding* the wage fixed by the Board for the full week's work.

By this provision the wages of an employee are stabilized as far as possible. Previously he could be employed on a systematic short time principle each week, and be paid only *pro ratâ* for the hours worked. As a safeguard against imposition on the part of the worker, he is not entitled to any wages if he refuses to complete the full number of hours fixed as a week's work.

NEW BOARDS AND ALTERATION OF POWERS.

The powers conferred on the Governor in Council by the *Factories and Shops Act 1920* to appoint Wages Boards without reference to Parliament were, during the year 1925, exercised in the following eleven cases :—

Four new Boards appointed as follows :—

Farriers (Country) Board.
Hospital Attendants (Country) Board.
Tanners (Furred Skins) Board.
Tramway Conversion Board.

Powers were varied in four cases, as follows :—

Boardinghouses Board	..	Board has been given power to determine rates for boardinghouses with accommodation for four or more boarders.
Carters and Drivers Board	..	} New powers in lieu of those previously held were given to each of these Boards.
Gas Works Board	..	
Ice Board	..	.. This Board now consists of six members and a chairman.

Powers were extended in the case of one Board, viz. :—

Hairdressers Board.

Powers were adjusted in the case of two Boards, viz. :—

The Tanners Board was deprived of the power to determine prices or rates to be paid to persons employed in the trade of a tanner of all kinds of furred skins, and such power was conferred exclusively on the Tanners (Furred Skins) Board.

The Tramway Board was deprived of the power to determine the prices or rates to be paid to any persons employed in the occupation of converting cable tramway lines to electric traction, and such power was exclusively conferred on the Tramway Conversion Board.

On 31st December, 1925, there were 181 Wages Boards existent or authorized, affecting about 193,000 employees.

A Wages Board, having been constituted, meets (until the first Determination is made) as often as it chooses, usually once a week, at the Factories Office. An officer of the Department of Labour acts as secretary. The chairmen and members of Boards are paid as follows :—

Three hours' attendance or less—Chairman, 15s. ; member, 7s. 6d.
Over three hours' attendance—Chairman, 30s. ; member, 15s.
Any member residing 10 miles or more from Melbourne is paid, in addition, train fares and 15s. per day expenses.

Provided that members are not to be paid fees, fares, or expenses for more than—

(a) Ten meetings in the first twelve months after the constitution of the Board.

(b) Six meetings in any subsequent year.

When computing the time occupied in attendance, intervals for meals are not to be counted.

After a Determination has been arrived at it is sent to the Minister of Labour and gazetted, and it thereupon becomes law. It is then the duty of the officers of the Department of Labour to enforce it. Where the Minister considers that any breach of the law is trivial, or has occurred through a mistake, he administers a warning; in more serious cases he orders a prosecution. The prosecutions are carried out by the officers of the Department of Labour, without expense to the worker, and on a conviction being obtained the Court may make an order for arrears of wages, that may be due for any period not exceeding twelve months, to be paid. It is, however, open to any worker, if he has made demand in writing on the employer within two months from the date same became due, to sue in a civil court for the amount of wages owing to him.

Appeals. Provision has been made in the law for the constitution of a Court of Industrial Appeals for deciding all appeals against a Determination of a Wages Board, and for dealing with any Determination of a Wages Board referred to the Court by the Minister. Seventy-five applications have been made for alteration of Determinations by the Court. Since 1st January, 1915, it has consisted of a President and two other persons. The President, who must be a Judge of the Supreme Court, holds such office for such period as the Governor in Council thinks fit, and must sit in every Court of Industrial Appeals. Mr. Justice J. R. Macfarlan has been appointed President. The other members can only act in the Court for which they are appointed, and one must be a representative of employers and the other a representative of employees. Each must be nominated in writing by the side which he represents, and must have been *bonâ fide* and actually engaged in the trade concerned for at least six months during the three years immediately preceding his nomination. Subject to the Act a majority decision decides every reference to the Court. Since its re-constitution in 1915 it has dealt with thirty-eight cases. The determination of the Court may now be altered by the Wages Boards without the leave of the Court if twelve months has elapsed since the date of the last Determination of the Court.

Rise in earnings. During the year 1925 Determinations made by 170 Boards appointed under the Act were in force. The following statement shows the average weekly wage paid to employees in certain trades (1) before the first Determination was

made, (2) in 1914, and (3) in 1925, the figures for the two last mentioned years being the amounts paid to the employees under the Determinations of Wages Boards:—

Trade.	Average Weekly Wage Paid to all Employees.		
	Before First Determination was made.	In 1914.	In 1925.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Aerated Water	1 6 7	1 17 8	3 17 3
Agricultural Implements	1 19 5	2 10 1	4 8 9
Asphalters	2 2 10	2 13 8	4 15 11
Bedsteadmakers	1 12 2	2 9 6	4 8 4
Boot	1 3 2	2 1 7	3 9 1
Bread	1 12 6	3 2 7	5 7 3
Brewers	1 14 4	2 10 2	5 5 4
Brushmakers	1 3 1	2 4 9	3 15 0
Candlemakers	1 4 8	2 4 2	4 2 2
Carpenters	2 7 6	3 3 10	5 13 6
Clothing	1 0 0	1 6 9	2 16 0
„ Waterproof	1 2 3	1 17 4	3 1 3
Commercial Clerks	1 10 7	2 9 6	3 14 1
Coopers	1 15 7	3 6 3	6 12 10
Engravers	1 16 11	2 5 11	3 19 11
Farriers	1 15 2	2 4 5	4 14 6
Furniture Trade—			
(a) European (Cabinet making &c.)	1 9 1	2 5 10	4 0 2
(b) European (Mantelpieces) ..	1 13 6	2 9 7	4 8 11
Glassworkers	1 14 11	2 7 3	4 16 0
Hairdressers	1 2 9	2 2 7	3 14 3
Ice	2 10 3	3 4 7	5 11 8
Jewellers	1 13 10	2 9 8	4 2 11
Lift Attendants	1 5 2	2 7 8	4 1 2
Malt	2 1 1	2 17 1	5 1 6
Marine Store	1 5 7	2 5 0	4 5 1
Millet Broom	1 7 11	2 2 9	3 18 10
Painters	2 0 9	2 14 11	4 16 4
Picture Frame	1 3 11	1 19 9	4 3 9
Plate Glass	1 7 6	2 5 11	4 8 6
Plumbers	1 12 8	2 14 4	5 0 0
Pottery	1 8 1	2 0 8	3 17 5
Saddlery	1 7 1	2 2 11	} 4 0 2*
„ Country	1 10 7	1 16 11	
Shops Board No. 1—(Boot Dealers)	1 6 11	2 0 11	3 1 8
Shops Board No. 3—(Butchers) ..	1 17 8	3 1 2	4 8 8
Shops Board No. 15—(Grocers) ..	1 7 4	2 6 8	3 14 7
Slaters and Tilers	2 0 8	3 7 3	5 5 6
Starch	1 0 9	2 0 6	4 12 0
Stonecutters	1 15 11	3 2 0	5 5 6
Tanners	1 11 9	2 10 6	4 8 1
Watchmakers	1 14 2	2 19 2	4 9 3
Wicker	1 2 11	2 2 4	4 0 10
Woodworkers	1 13 2	2 11 9	4 15 4
„ Country	2 9 0	2 14 11	4 17 3

* Now one Board (Saddlery and Harness).

Apprentices. The wages of apprentices in Victoria are fixed by the Wages Boards in each trade. These Boards also prescribe the form of indenture and the term of apprenticeship. Once a boy is indentured, it becomes the duty of the Department of Labour on the one hand to see that he is taught his trade properly, and on the other to enforce his proper attendance at his work, and generally to protect both parties and see that they carry out the agreement.

Factories. A factory is defined to mean any place in which four or more persons, other than a Chinese, or in which one or more Chinese are employed in any handicraft, or in preparing articles for trade or sale; or any place in which one or more are employed, if motive power be used in the preparation of such articles, or where furniture is made, or where bread or pastry is made or baked for sale, or in which electricity is generated for the supply of heat or light, or power, or in which coal gas is made; and also any clay pit or quarry worked in connexion with and occupied by the occupier of any pottery or brickyard. The expression "handicraft" includes any work done in a laundry or in dyeworks. Provision is made for the registration of factories, and inspectors are appointed to inspect and examine them in order to insure that the health requirements and other provisions of the Acts are complied with. The employment of males under 14 and females under 15 years of age is debarred, but provision is made by which a girl of 14 can receive permission to work in a factory if it be shown that the parents are poor, and that the best interests of the girl will be served. A strict limitation is placed on the hours of employment of all females and of males under sixteen. There are special provisions to guard against accidents, and persons in charge of engines and boilers must hold certificates of competency of service. The working hours of Chinese are specially restricted, with the object of preventing or lessening unfair competition. Every employee in a factory must be paid at least 2s. 6d. per week, this provision being, of course, intended as a protection for juvenile workers. All earnings must be paid at least once in every fortnight. There were registered in 1886 only 1,949 factories, with 39,506 employees, whereas in 1925 the figures were 10,174 factories, with 128,013 employees.

The Factories and Shops Acts were consolidated during the year 1915 by the *Factories and Shops Act 1915*, No. 2650. No changes were effected in the law by this measure. The existing Acts were merely consolidated.

The *Factories and Shops Act 1919* (No. 3048), passed at the close of the year 1919, made some important changes in the law, but it consists mainly of machinery clauses designed in the interests of the smooth working of the law.

Two short Amending Acts passed at the close of the year 1920 made important alterations in the law.

The *Factories and Shops Act 1920*, No. 3093, altered the procedure regarding the appointment of Wages Boards. Prior to that

Act coming into operation these Boards could only be created whilst Parliament was in session. The Governor in Council now has the power to appoint a Wages Board whenever it is deemed expedient to do so, and to alter the scope of any existing Wages Board.

The *Factories and Shops Act 1920*, No. 3112, introduced a new principle into the legislation. For many years the closing hour of shops has been fixed by law. This Act for the first time fixed a legal opening hour which affects butchers' shops in the Metropolitan District.

The *Factories and Shops Act 1922*, No. 3252, made **Act of 1922.** some important alterations, the principal of which are as follows :—

A new scale of fees was fixed for registration of factories and shops, which resulted in an increase in revenue nearly sufficient to cover the whole cost of the administration of the Department of Labour.

The powers of Wages Boards were simplified and consolidated.

Rates for casual workers in factories and shops were put upon a different basis with a view to the stabilizing of the weekly wage.

The appointment of members of Wages Boards was simplified. Members had previously been appointed for three years, and much trouble was caused in getting new nominations at the date of expiry of each Board. Now Boards are appointed for one year, and every Board expires on the 30th September of each year, but will be automatically re-appointed unless objection is lodged. The result has been a saving of much time and expense as very few objections have been received.

The Minister now makes all appointments to fill vacancies instead of the Governor in Council.

The Governor in Council has now power to exempt new industries from the provisions of Wages Boards for six months, to enable operatives to learn their work.

Bread may now be sold at any hour of the day or night.

The provisions of the Act relating to the guarding of dangerous machinery have been extended so that chaffcutting machines on farms or elsewhere may be guarded for the protection of the workers.

Boards are empowered to fix what notice shall be given by either side of the termination of employment, also to fix the day and latest hour on which wages shall be paid.

Shortly stated, in the Metropolitan District, as defined in the *Factories and Shops Act 1915*, the hours for closing shops are as follows :—Hairdressers' shops must be closed on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 8 p.m., on Friday at

**Shops,
Metropolitan
District.**

9 p.m., and on Saturday at 1 p.m. Tobacconists' shops must be closed on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 8 p.m.; if the shop be closed on Saturday at 1 p.m., it must be closed on Wednesday at 8 p.m., and may be kept open until 9 p.m. on Friday; if it be closed at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, it may be kept open until 8 p.m. on Friday and 9 p.m. on Saturday. Until a choice is made the shop must be closed on Wednesday at 1 p.m. Butchers' shops are required to close at 5 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, at 6 p.m. on Friday, and at 12.30 p.m. on Saturday. They are required to be closed till 6 a.m. on Saturday and 7.30 a.m. on other week days. All other shops (except Fourth Schedule shops) must be closed at 6 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. On Friday the closing hour is 9 p.m., and on Saturday 1 p.m.

The Fourth Schedule shops are :—

- Bread shops.
- Booksellers' and news agents' shops.
- Confectionery and pastry shops.
- Cooked meat (other than tinned meat) shops.
- Eating-houses.
- Fish and oyster shops.
- Flower shops.
- Fruit and vegetable shops.

The hours for closing such shops are not fixed by the Act, but the Governor in Council is given power to make Regulations for their closing. Section 2 of Act No. 3181, which came into force on 29th August, 1922, provides that such Regulations shall not apply to fruit shops in the area enclosed by Flinders, Spencer, Latrobe, Victoria, and Spring streets, Melbourne.

The following are the only cases where these Regulations have been made. The hour of closing on each day of the week is given :—

—	Regulation Gazetted.	Sun.	Mon.	Tu.	Wed.	Th.	F.	Saturday.
		P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
Booksellers and News Agents	21st October, 1925	7	7	7	7	7	9	1 and may re-open from 5 to 9 p.m. 1
Cooked Meat (other than tinned meat)..	27th October, 1920	..	6	6	6	6	9	1
Fruit and Vegetable (May to September inclusive only. See previous paragraph re exempted area)..	16th October. 1918	..	7	7	7	7	..	..

Under the provisions of the *Factories and Shops Act 1915* the Minister can grant permission to keepers of certain shops known as "small shops," who would ordinarily be required to close their shops at 6 p.m., to keep open till 8 p.m. Such permission can only be granted to widows and old people, or in cases of great hardship, and applies only to the Metropolitan District.

Provision is also made under the Acts for overtime and tea money for shop employees.

Shops outside the Metropolitan District. The shops provisions of the Acts now apply to the whole State. Previous to 1st January, 1915, they did not apply to shires or portions of shires unless the shopkeepers therein had petitioned for them to be extended, and there was little uniformity throughout the Country Districts either as to the hours of closing shops or the observance of a weekly half-holiday. A universal Saturday half-holiday was legalized by Act No. 2558, passed in November, 1914, the shops being allowed to remain open till 10 p.m. (now altered to 9 p.m.) on Fridays, and the Country Districts were thus brought into line with the Metropolitan District, in which the Saturday half-holiday had been observed for years. In certain cases an exemption may be petitioned for and the half-holiday fixed for a day other than Saturday.

The hours of closing *on other days* outside the Metropolitan District are fixed at 7 p.m., but, if a petition be received from a majority of any class of shopkeepers, they may be fixed earlier or later. The hours have been altered in accordance with this provision in a few municipalities. Hairdressers and tobacconists outside the Metropolitan Districts may choose either Wednesday or Saturday as the day on which they will observe the half-holiday, but, if they choose Wednesday, they are required to close at 7 p.m. on Friday and 10 p.m. on Saturday. If they choose Saturday, or do not make a choice of half-holiday, they are required to close at 7 p.m. on Wednesday and 10 p.m. on Friday. Fourth Schedule shops are not affected by these provisions. Petrol may be sold at any hour to travellers to enable them to continue their journey.

Registration of Shops. Registration of shops became compulsory as from 1st March, 1915. The registration fee formerly ranged from 2s. 6d. to 63s., according to the number of persons employed, but from 1st March, 1923, it has varied from 2s. 6d. to £10 (Act 3252, Sec. 4). During the year 1915, 26,401 shops, employing 25,632 persons, were registered, whereas in 1925 the figures were 34,692 shops, with 36,912 employees.

Registered shops are divided into 27 classes. There was an increase for the year 1925 as compared with 1924 of 1,304 shops and 2,059 employees. Particulars of the increases and decreases in shops registered are given below:—

INCREASES AND DECREASES IN SHOPS REGISTERED, 1925.

	Metropolitan and Provincial Cities.		Country.		Whole State.	
	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
Bread	314	..	153	..	467	..
Confectionery and Pastry	..	17	7	..	..	10
Booksellers, News Agents						
Fancy Goods Dealers						
Boot Dealers	9	..	..	8	1	..
Boot Repairers	89	..	3	..	92	..
Butchers	51	..	45	..	96	..
Chemists	22	..	22	..	44	..
Crockery	2	..	2	..	4	..
Cycle and Motor	92	..	74	..	166	..
Dairy Produce and Cooked Meat	20	..	..	3	17	..
Drapery .. ..	..	145	38	..	..	107
Fish	41	..	9	..	50	..
Florists	20	..	8	..	28	..
Fruit and Vegetable .. ..	..	115	72	..	..	43
Fuel and Fodder	106	..	10	..	116	..
Furniture .. ..	..	40	..	13	..	53
Grocers	5	..	..	82	..	77
Hairdressers	95	..	20	..	115	..
Hardware .. ..	..	53	34	..	..	19
Jewellery .. ..	..	4	7	..	3	..
Leather Goods .. ..	..	2	..	5	..	7
Men's Clothing .. ..	..	10	17	..	7	..
Musical Instruments	46	..	15	..	61	..
Tobacconists	161	..	25	..	186	..
Mixed .. ..	..	31	65	..	34	..
Shops not classified	78	..	55	..	133	..
Totals	1,151	417	681	111	1,620	316

GOVERNMENT LABOUR EXCHANGE.

Prior to 1st October, 1900, two labour bureaux were administered by the Railway Department. One registered men in search of work, and distributed all Government work, each Department paying the cost. The other was a Railway Staff Office, regulating and distributing all temporary and casual railway employment. Both these are now administered by an exchange under the control of the Labour Department, where applicants are

**Government
Labour
Exchange.**

registered for temporary or casual employment, principally as artisans and labourers on Government works, including railways. Men are supplied, when work is available, according to their order of registration, subject to fitness. The Exchange also undertakes to supply workmen for private employment, and advances railway tickets to deserving applicants who may themselves have obtained employment in country districts, which they would otherwise be unable to reach, these advances being subject to orders for repayment out of earnings.

The following is a summary of the operations of the Exchange for the year 1925 in respect to registrations and applicants sent to employment :—

GOVERNMENT LABOUR EXCHANGE.

Year and Month.	Number of Applicants for Work as Registered at the end of each Month in the Metropolis.	Number of Men for whom Employment was Obtained.
1925—January	1,973	99
February	1,499	174
March	1,574	199
April	1,760	122
May	2,458	349
June	3,219	312
July	2,857	445
August	2,900	303
September	2,505	245
October	1,578	202
November	2,243	373
December	1,539	245
Total	26,105	3,068

In the next table particulars are given of the operations of the Exchange during the five years ended 1925 :—

Year.	Registrations Effected.		Engagements Effected.
	In the City.	In the Country.	
1921	15,376	1,274	4,457
1922	12,361	1,065	1,913
1923	11,233	718	1,703
1924	14,030	526	2,550
1925	26,105	1,311	3,068

Regarding the number of distinct individuals included in the registrations and engagements effected, the officer in charge of the Exchange states that the number of men who are regular applicants at the Exchange is very considerable, especially amongst unskilled labourers, and consequently a large allowance must be made for duplication of registrations. It would probably be safe to say that the number of distinct individuals applying in any one year would be represented by about half the registrations effected. Also in connexion with the engagements effected in the course of a year allowance must be made for the fact that the same applicants may be employed more than once during the year, and this further employment, it is considered, would represent about one-sixth to one-eighth of the engagements made.

During the year 1925 the number of railway tickets advanced was 4,782, valued at £4,467, of which £3,859 has been refunded. During the past twenty-five years 67,386 railway tickets have been advanced, of the value of £55,795, of which £38,823 has been refunded.

REPATRIATION.

On 8th April, 1918, Repatriation became an Australian national undertaking for the provision of benefits for Australian soldiers, sailors and nurses who served in the great war. On that date the Commonwealth Government established the Department of Repatriation, with (the late) Senator the Hon. E. D. Millen as first Minister. Its objects are to find employment for the fit, to re-establish the disabled, to provide for the dependants of those who have died and of those who are no longer able, in consequence of war disabilities, to support themselves, and to supply medical and surgical treatment for disabilities due to or aggravated by war service.

Organization of Department. A description of this is given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, page 369.

The *Year-Book* for 1920-21 contains, on pages 383 to 385, an epitome of the main work of the Department, also particulars of the sustenance rates granted to applicants awaiting fulfilment by the Department of certain specified obligations, and of the rates of pension payable to ex-members of the Forces and their dependants.

Administration of Department. The administration of the Department has rested with the Repatriation Commission since 1st July, 1920, and its Head-quarters Office is at 54 Market-street, Melbourne. The Victorian branch office is in St. Kilda-road. The personnel of the Commission is Colonel J. M. Semmens, O.B.E., V.D. (Chairman), Lieut.-Colonel L. E. Tilney, D.S.O., and Major M. B. Ryan. The Deputy-Commissioner for Victoria is Mr. J. C. McPhee.

A Repatriation General Hospital (Caulfield), Repatriation Sanatorium (Macleod), Anzac Hostel (Brighton), Out-patient Clinic (St. Kilda-road), and Commonwealth Artificial Limb Factory (South Melbourne) are conducted.

The activities of the Department include the administration of a wide variety of benefits, such as employment, vocational training, medical treatment, children's education, land settlement and assistance. Under "assistance" establishment in small businesses, furniture loans and grants, educational grants, equipment with tools of trade, and funeral expenses are provided. With the progress of time, the great majority of the ex-soldiers have become re-established in the community, and the benefits of assistance to establish small businesses, to secure furniture and tools of trade are now required only in very few cases. Also, vocational training is nearly completed, and with few exceptions, trainees have been absorbed in their respective callings. In co-operation with the State Governments a land settlement scheme has been devised, whereby the Federal Government loans the States money to provide the required holdings and to construct railways or other works necessary to their successful operation. Under this scheme the Commonwealth Government will also make available an average grant of £625 per settler. This will afford every ex-soldier possessing the natural aptitude and fitness an opportunity of ultimately owning his own farm. With the exception of South Australia, all the States have agreed to extend the benefits of the Land Settlement scheme to persons who were munition or war workers, and the Commonwealth Government's advance of £625 will be available for such persons.

The following is a summary of the work of the Department in Victoria from its inauguration, 8th April, 1918, to 30th June, 1926 :—

Summary of Work of Department.

Employment—				
Number of applications received	..	..	..	85,339
Number of positions filled	..	..	..	47,876
Assistance other than vocational training and employment—				
Number of applications received	..	..	..	224,264
Number of applications approved	..	..	..	204,433
Assistance granted—				
Gifts	..	..	..	£3,099,760
Loans	..	..	..	520,600
General	..	..	..	1,328,002
Total	..	..	..	<u>£4,948,362</u>

Vocational training statistics from 8th April, 1918, to 30th June, 1926 :—

Number of applications received	16,544
Number of applications approved	11,729
Completed training	5,640
In training at 30th June, 1926	98

N.B.—The above figures relate to day training only.

War Pensions.

Since 1st July, 1920, war pensions have been administered by the Repatriation Commission. The number of such pensions in force in Victoria on 30th June, 1926, was 84,253 and the annual liability of the Commonwealth Government in connexion therewith was £2,105,012. Of the total number of pensioners, 23,569 were incapacitated members of the Forces, and 60,684 were dependants of deceased and incapacitated members.

Workers' Compensation Act.

The principal provisions of this Act are outlined in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 552 to 558. It was amended by an Act (No. 3,217) passed in December, 1922.

The latter Act made the following alterations :—

- (1.) The maximum weekly compensation was increased from £1 10s. to £2.
- (2.) The maximum compensation for total disability or on death (with total dependency) was increased from £500 to £600.
- (3.) The payment for funeral expenses was increased from £50 to £75.
- (4.) The minimum weekly payment to an adult worker was fixed at £1.
- (5.) Various anomalies in the Fourth Schedule were corrected, and
- (6.) Men who contract to fell trees and deliver timber were included in the definition "worker."

STATE ACCIDENT INSURANCE OFFICE.

A State Accident Insurance Office was established shortly after the passing of the Workers' Compensation Act for the purpose of enabling employers to obtain from the State policies of insurance indemnifying them against their liability in relation to workers' compensation. It commenced business on the day on which the Act came into operation—7th November, 1914.

The following table contains a statement of the premium income, the claims paid, and the accumulated funds for each year since the establishment of the office :—

PREMIUMS RECEIVED, CLAIMS PAID, AND ACCUMULATED FUNDS OF THE STATE ACCIDENT INSURANCE OFFICE, 1914-15 to 1925-26.

Year.	Premiums received, less Reinsurances, Rebates, &c.	Claims (including those outstanding).	Accumulated Funds.	
			General Reserve.	Bonus Reserve.
	£	£	£	£
1914-15* ..	27,502	3,006	2,750	1,494
1915-16 ..	25,647	12,370	9,750	5,459
1916-17 ..	26,249	13,977	14,750	†7,506
1917-18 ..	27,426	14,250	19,000	3,824
1918-19 ..	24,650	17,567	23,000	6,986
1919-20 ..	32,473	21,412	26,000	†10,080
1920-21 ..	39,363	26,863	28,500	2,702
1921-22 ..	42,475	26,765	32,000	6,747
1922-23 ..	50,222	26,752	38,500	†14,552
1923-24 ..	57,748	38,664	42,500	6,094
1924-25 ..	62,627	37,049	49,500	13,363
1925-26 ..	64,825	45,800	56,000	†20,738

* Refers to a period of eight months only (7th November, 1914, to 30th June, 1915). Insurance was not compulsory until 7th May, 1915.

† Bonus distributed amongst policy holders in the year.

The net profit for the year amounted to £13,875, of which £6,500 has been set aside for the General Reserve Fund, and £7,375 for Bonus Reserve. The expense rate of the year 1925-26 was 12.9 per cent. This satisfactory figure is the result of careful regard to economy, and is the lowest expense rate of any insurance office in Australasia transacting Workers' Compensation Insurance business. The number of claims settled in the year mentioned and in course of settlement at the end of the year was 3,457, including 26 death claims.

It is obligatory on every employer to obtain from the **Compulsory Insurance.** State Accident Insurance Office or from an insurance company approved by the Governor in Council a policy of accident insurance for the full amount of his liability to pay compensation under the Act.

The number of insurance companies approved by the Governor in Council as at 30th June, 1926, was 62. One of the conditions of approval was that the company should deposit with the Treasurer a sum of not less than £6,000 (except in the case of subsidiary or acquired companies, where provision has been made for a smaller deposit), which sum was to be held in trust to insure the due fulfilment of policy obligations. The total amount lodged by all the companies which had been approved at the date mentioned was £344,000.

Schemes of Compensation. Up to the present (October, 1926) one scheme of compensation has been certified by a Judge of County Courts in accordance with Section 13 of the Act.

Accounts. The Revenue Account and Profit and Loss Account for the year ended 30th June, 1926, and the Balance-sheet as at the end of that year are appended:—

STATE ACCIDENT INSURANCE OFFICE.

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1926.

	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Claims			45,800	0	45,800	0
Less claims recovered	1,924	14	2			
And provision for unadjusted claims as at 30th June, 1925	12,692	0	0			
			14,616	14	2	
Provision for unearned premiums			31,183	6	3	
Provision for unadjusted claims			29,171	7	1	
Net Revenue, carried down			13,078	0	0	
			19,575	12	9	
Total			£93,008	6	1	

	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Premiums for year	67,599	6	11	
Less reinsurances and rebates	2,773	12	4	
			64,825	14
Provision for unearned premiums, 1925			28,182	11
Total			£93,008	6

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1926.

	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Administration Expenses, Acts Nos. 2750-3217	200	0	200	0
Agents' Expenses and Commission	2,337	19	8	
Expenses of Management, including Salaries	5,865	17	11	
Net Profit	13,875	18	3	
Total			£22,279	15

	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Net Revenue, brought down	19,575	12	9	
Interest on Investments and Funds at Treasury	2,704	3	1	
Total			£22,279	15

BALANCE-SHEET AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1926.

<i>Liabilities.</i>	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Unearned Premiums			29,171	7
Outstanding Claims			13,078	0
Sundry Accounts unpaid—				
On account Agents	649	6	8	
Others	99	0	9	
			748	7
General Reserve			49,500	0
Bonus Reserve			13,363	16
Profit for year 1925-26 to be appropriated—				
To General Reserve	6,500	0	0	
Bonus Reserve.. .. .	7,375	18	3	
			13,875	18
Total			£119,737	9

<i>Assets.</i>	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Amount of Fund at Treasury			56,070	2
Premiums due			187	18
Treasury Interest Accrued			589	16
Stamps on hand			25	16
General Reserve Fund			49,500	0
Bonus Reserve Fund			13,363	16
Total			£119,737	9

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.

Charitable and reformatory institutions, &c. The total number of organizations throughout the State which administered relief to persons in necessitous circumstances or were of a reformatory character, and which forwarded returns to the Government Statist for the year 1925, was 241. The total receipts of all the organizations were £4,056,167, of which £3,174,932 was contributed by the Government and £881,235 was received from all other sources. The total expenditure was £4,071,240. The daily average number under care indoors throughout the year in charitable and reformatory institutions was 16,474.6, and there were no less than 250,478 distinct cases of out-door relief. With regard to the out-door relief, it has been ascertained that in some institutions the "distinct cases treated" represent the actual number of persons treated; in others, they represent the actual cases of illness, accident, or disease; in these latter cases, unfortunately, the books of the institutions do not furnish the necessary particulars as to the number of distinct persons. Again, it is considered probable that some obtained relief at more than one establishment, and that some, in the course of the year, became inmates of one or other of the institutions. There is no available information upon which an estimate of the number of these duplications can be based.

The following table gives in summarized form full particulars in relation to all these charitable and reformatory institutions, and shows the number in each class, the daily average number of persons under care in the institutions, and the total number of distinct cases receiving out-door relief, together with the receipts and expenditure:—

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS, ETC.— INMATES, RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, 1924-25.

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Daily Average in-door Patients.	Out-door Relief Distinct Cases.	Receipts.			Expenditure (including Building Expenses for Year).
				From Government.	From Other Sources.	Total.	
				£	£	£	£
HOSPITALS.							
General Hospitals	53	2,360.0	113,698	108,852	381,574	490,426	479,007
Women's Hospital	1	192.3	5,300	5,189	27,455	32,644	84,466
Children's Hospital	1	203.0	22,324	5,816	28,320	34,136	43,770
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children ..	1	65.2	8,867	4,201	13,786	17,987	18,164
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	1	58.0	..	5,190	305	5,495	5,495
Heatherton Sanatorium ..	1	114.3	..	7,720	9,032	16,752	15,479
Convalescent Homes	2	47.8	..	300	3,705	4,005	3,726
Deaf and Dumb, Blind, and Eye and Ear Institutions ..	4	414.8	15,934	5,100	51,560	56,660	46,731
Hospitals for Insane, Idiot Asylum, and Receiving Houses	12	6,226.0	..	482,075	48,601	530,676	530,676
Foundling Hospitals	2	309.5	..	7,225	7,204	14,429	12,325
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	1	311.0	..	31,871	32,353	64,226	62,224
Total	79	10,301.9	166,123	663,539	603,901	1,267,440	1,302,063

**CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS, ETC.—INMATES,
RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, 1924-25—continued.**

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Daily Average in-door Patients.	Out-door Relief Distinct Cases.	Receipts.			Expenditure (including Building Expenses for Year).
				From Government.	From Other Sources.	Total.	
				£	£	£	£
BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS AND SOCIETIES.							
Benevolent Asylums ..	8	1,957·4	251	24,683	63,227	87,910	80,396
Old Colonists' Association ..	1	80·5	..	..	8,042	8,042	12,107
Benevolent Societies ..	97	..	18,435	10,200	53,250	63,450	52,637
Orphan Asylums	10	1,670·8	..	5,736	59,535	65,271	69,437
Total	116	3,708·7	18,686	40,619	184,054	224,673	214,577
REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.							
Children's Welfare Department	12	557·5	13,950	336,011	16,681	352,692	352,692
Lara Inebriates' Institution ..	1	41·0	..	3,357	1,179	4,536	4,536
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	1	19·9	..	282	1,324	1,606	1,738
Female Refuges	10	681·0	..	2,670	41,247	43,917	46,896
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	3	141·5	..	320	9,106	9,426	8,945
Prisoners' Aid Society of Victoria	1	..	776	400	735	1,135	1,133
Goals and Penal Establishments	14	895·0	..	99,732	..	99,732	99,732
Total	42	2,335·9	14,726	442,772	70,272	513,044	515,672
MISCELLANEOUS.							
Old-age and Invalid Pensioners ..	..	..	46,795	2,027,202	..	2,027,202	2,027,202
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	1	128·1	..	750	18,216	18,966	7,628
Charity Organization Society	1	..	468	..	3,836	3,836	3,182
Free Dispensaries	2	..	3,680	50	956	1,006	916
Total	4	128·1	50,943	2,028,002	23,008	2,051,010	2,038,928
Grand Total..	241	16,474·6	250,478	3,174,932	881,235	4,056,167	4,071,240

Charitable Institutions—receipts and expenditure.

The receipts of all charitable institutions for the year 1924-25 amounted to £1,929,233, of which £1,047,998, or 54 per cent., was contributed by Government, and the expenditure amounted to £1,944,306. Of the Government contribution, £834,353 was expended on the Receiving House for the Insane, Hospitals for the Insane, the Idiot Asylum, the Children's Welfare Department, the Greenvale and Heatherton Sanatoria for Consumptives, and the Lara Inebriates' Institution, which are Government institutions.

Charitable Institutions—receipts and expenditure, 1916-1925.

The expenditure of charitable institutions has considerably increased during the past ten years. In 1916 it was £945,106, and it had increased to £1,944,306 in 1925. This is equivalent to an advance of about 106 per cent. The aid from Government increased by 99 per cent., and that from other sources by 111 per cent. in the period mentioned. Information in regard to the receipts and expenditure in each year of the period is given in the accompanying table:—

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, 1916 TO 1925.

Year ended 30th June.	Receipts.			Expenditure.			
	Government aid.	Other.	Total.	Building and extraordinary Repairs.	Main-tenance.	Other.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1916 ..	525,682	418,050	943,732	89,904	846,339	8,863	945,106
1917 ..	543,225	502,598	1,045,823	132,601	850,357	10,619	993,577
1918 ..	541,817	465,809	1,007,626	67,254	895,919	8,968	972,141
1919 ..	578,055	497,945	1,076,000	62,144	963,647	16,504	1,042,295
1920 ..	681,626	638,356	1,319,982	66,191	1,155,558	8,817	1,230,566
1921 ..	818,766	709,011	1,527,777	95,153	1,351,856	12,154	1,459,163
1922 ..	815,316	753,757	1,569,073	166,145	1,339,982	15,151	1,521,278
1923 ..	794,706	775,243	1,569,949	119,520	1,351,949	16,589	1,488,058
1924 ..	870,984	859,720	1,730,704	182,094	1,433,791	33,089	1,653,974
1925 ..	1,047,998	881,235	1,929,233	375,988	1,532,695	35,623	1,944,306

Charitable
Institutions
—average
cost per
inmate.

The following statement shows the average number of inmates of the respective institutions, the total cost of their maintenance, and the average cost for the year of each inmate :—

COST OF MAINTENANCE, 1924-25.

Description of Institution.	Daily Average Number of Inmates.	Total Cost of Maintenance.	Average Cost of each Inmate.
		£	£ s. d.
General Hospitals	2,360	365,282	154 15 7
Women's Hospital	192	28,530	148 11 11
Children's Hospital	203	30,002	147 15 10
Eye and Ear Hospital	73	11,620	159 3 7
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	65	15,740	242 3 1
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	31i	54,037	173 15 1
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows) ...	138	4,081	29 11 5
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	171	6,986	40 17 1
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	58	5,495	94 14 10
Heatherton Sanatorium	114	11,391	99 18 5
Receiving Houses for the Insane	6,226	418,837	67 5 5
Hospitals for the Insane			
Idiot Asylum	1,957	62,978	32 3 7
Benevolent Asylums			
Convalescent Homes	48	3,517	73 5 5
Blind Asylums	216	4,846	22 8 8
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	126	6,778	53 15 10
Orphan Asylums	1,671	35,219	21 1 6
Children's Welfare Department	14,507*	339,392	23 7 11
Female Refuges	681	45,098	66 4 6
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	142	8,507	59 18 2
Old Colonists' Association	81	4,665	57 11 10
Lara Inebriates' Institution	41	4,536	110 12 8
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	20	1,738	86 18 0
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	123	5,552	43 7 6
Total	29,529	1,474,827	49 18 11

* Including children boarded out with their own mothers.

In calculating the average cost of each inmate the cost of treating out-patients is necessarily included, as there is no available information showing the cost of in-patients and out-patients separately.

The institutions showing the lowest average cost per inmate are the Orphan Asylums, the Children's Welfare Department, Blind Asylums, the Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows), and the Benevolent Asylums. As many of the wards of the Children's Welfare Department

cost the State nothing—maintaining themselves at service or being supported by relatives—the cost of maintenance per head shown above is not a correct indication of the burden on the public. The true cost per head of those supported by the State is somewhat higher. The average cost per inmate of the Foundling Hospitals, Female Refuges, and Salvation Army Homes would be reduced if allowance were made for mothers of infants in the Foundling Hospitals, and for infants in the other institutions mentioned.

Of the total income of charitable institutions in 1924-25 more than half was contributed by the Government, and about 11 per cent. was collected from patients. The receipts of hospitals and other charitable institutions in the State under various headings are shown hereunder :—

Income of Charitable Institutions.

**SOURCES OF INCOME OF CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS
IN VICTORIA, 1924-25.**

Receipts.	General Hospitals.	Women's Hospital.	Children's Hospital.	Eye and Ear Hospital.	Queen's Memorial Hospital.	Other Hospitals.	Other Institutions.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Government Aid	108,852	5,189	5,816	2,250	31,871	11,426	882,594	1,047,998
Municipal Grants	16,781	653	695	374	31,869	648	12,448	63,468
Private Contributions ..	65,384	3,555	7,867	1,943	..	2,152	88,611	169,512
Proceeds of Entertainments ..	26,644	232	1,157	6	..	91	4,823	32,953
Legacies, Bequests, Special Donations and Proceeds of Intestate Estates	133,782	6,356	7,112	435	..	6,481	80,408	234,574
Hospital Sunday and Church Donations	18,874	2,020	3,258	1,087	..	756	4,786	30,781
Contributions of Indoor Patients	56,180	9,490	3,335	1,816	..	3,648	103,507	177,976
Out-patients' Fees	19,467	823	2,591	2,587	..	2,324	..	27,792
Proceeds of Inmates' Labour	..	..	..	..	..	..	42,717	42,717
Interest or Rent	23,575	2,067	2,280	495	270	2,963	23,459	55,118
Other Sources	20,887	2,259	16	732	220	1,927	20,303	46,344
Total	490,426	32,644	34,136	11,725	64,230	32,416	1,263,656	1,929,233

Charitable Institutions—accommodation.

Particulars relating to the accommodation in the most important of the various classes of charitable institutions in the State are given below. The information relates to the year ended 30th June, 1925, except in the case of the

Hospitals for the Insane, the Idiot Asylum, and the Children's Welfare Department, where it relates to the calendar year 1925. Of the general hospitals, six are in Melbourne, and the remainder in country towns. The accommodation available for indoor patients was as follows:—

AMOUNT OF ACCOMMODATION, 1924-25.

Description of Institution.	Number of Institutions.	Dormitories.		Number of Beds for Inmates.	Number of Cubic Feet to each Bed.
		Number.	Capacity in Cubic Feet.		
General Hospitals ..	53	445	5,117,813	3,801	1,346
Women's Hospital ..	1	27	229,970	209	1,100
Children's Hospital ..	1	22	178,900	188	952
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children ..	1	14	59,021	65	908
Eye and Ear Hospital ..	1	16	89,298	92	971
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital ..	1	50	499,098	514	971
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows) ..	1	7	77,876	186	419
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home ..	1	3	129,250	113	1,144
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives ..	1	13	58,582	90	651
Heatherton Sanatorium ..	1	14	133,660	124	1,078
Receiving Houses for the Insane ..	2	22	63,782	95	671
Hospitals for the Insane ..	9	1,321	3,863,033	5,547	696
Idiot Asylum ..	1	20	110,288	378	292
Benevolent Asylums ..	8	184	2,565,335	2,317	1,107
Convalescent Homes ..	2	25	69,780	62	1,125
Blind Asylums ..	2	18	99,850	91	1,097
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ..	1	4	98,037	115	852
Orphan Asylums ..	10	89	907,732	1,726	526
Children's Welfare Department ..	12	71	661,472	980	675
Female Refuges ..	10	173	630,990	801	788
Salvation Army Rescue Homes ..	3	16	84,418	173	488
Lara Inebriates' Institution ..	1	11	46,796	50	936
Brightside Inebriates' Institution ..	1	15	25,407	33	770
Talbot Colony for Epileptics ..	1	24	116,885	132	885
Total ..	125	2,604	15,917,273	17,882	890

Charitable
institutions
—inmates
and deaths.

The next statement shows the number of inmates and of deaths in these institutions :—

INMATES AND DEATHS, 1924-25.

Description of Institution.	Number of Inmates.		Number of Deaths.	Proportion of Deaths to Total Number of Inmates.
	Total during the Year.	Daily Average.		
				per cent.
General Hospitals	37,184	2,360·0	3,087	8·3
Women's Hospital	5,925	192·3	92	1·6
Children's Hospital	3,654	203·0	490	13·4
Eye and Ear Hospital	1,980	72·9	7	·4
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	1,337	65·2	49	3·7
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	3,950	311·0	120	3·0
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows)	239	138·0	15	6·3
Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	243	171·5	2	·8
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	179	58·0	8	4·5
Heatherton Sanatorium	268	114·3	67	25·0
Receiving Houses for the Insane	862	76·5	40	4·6
Hospitals for the Insane	7,068	5,744·5	337	4·8
Idiot Asylum	438	405·0	19	4·3
Benevolent Asylums	3,643	1,957·4	448	12·3
Convalescent Homes	990	47·8	1	·1
Blind Asylums	251	215·7	3	1·2
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	145	126·2	1	·7
Orphan Asylums	2,279	1,670·8	2	·1
Children's Welfare Department	15,479	14,507·0	35	·2
Female Refuges	1,231	681·0	16	1·3
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	508	141·5	..	..
Old Colonists' Association	89	80·5	7	7·9
Lara Inebriates' Institution	229	41·0	1	·4
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	71	19·9	1	1·4
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	166	128·1	3	1·8
Total	88,408	29,529·1	4,851	5·5

In addition to the inmates shown in the above table, there were 38 mothers of infants in the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home, 77 mothers of infants in St. Joseph's Foundling Hospital, Broadmeadows, 306 infants in the Female Refuges, and 220 infants in Salvation Army Homes during the year.

The following statement contains particulars as to the number of beds, the number of patients treated, and the deaths which occurred in general hospitals during the year 1924-25. The receipts, distinguishing moneys received from the Government and from other sources, and the expenditure per head for

Patients
treated, etc.,
in hospitals.

maintenance (based on the average number of indoor patients) are also shown :—

NUMBER OF PATIENTS TREATED IN GENERAL HOSPITALS ;
ALSO DEATHS, TOTAL RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE
PER HEAD FOR MAINTENANCE, 1924-25.

Hospital.	Number of Beds.	Total Indoor Patients treated during Year.	Average Daily Number of Indoor Patients treated.	Number of Deaths.	Receipts.			Expenditure per Head for Maintenance.
					From Government.	Other.	Total.	
					£	£	£	£ s. d.
Amherst ..	112	333	77.5	17	4,653	866	5,519	62 18 1
Ararat ..	60	499	27.0	27	900	2,387	3,287	117 19 3
Bairnsdale ..	39	424	26.0	37	700	4,612	5,312	124 13 10
Ballarat ..	202	1,517	76.9	128	6,000	11,969	17,969	126 15 6
Beechworth ..	95	258	15.4	30	700	1,850	2,550	149 17 5
Bendigo ..	222	1,379	90.2	125	4,218	9,562	13,780	172 16 9
Castlemaine ..	75	354	26.4	38	1,005	2,057	3,062	124 17 9
Colac ..	66	704	36.7	39	850	3,537	4,387	119 9 8
Daylesford ..	52	146	14.9	24	439	2,812	3,251	139 13 3
Echuca ..	46	530	31.4	33	650	3,603	4,253	69 17 5
Geelong ..	162	1,565	86.2	106	2,500	9,492	11,992	145 7 2
Hamilton ..	91	733	38.2	21	1,000	4,705	5,705	126 19 3
Horsham ..	40	416	25.0	14	650	8,573	9,223	120 9 7
Kyneton ..	54	290	19.1	33	500	2,308	2,808	132 18 8
Maryborough ..	95	476	28.2	37	1,000	2,827	3,827	109 15 0
Melbourne ..	358	7,052	396.7	858	24,664	82,925	107,589	219 10 9
Alfred ..	340	6,079	269.3	514	15,197	54,171	69,368	197 8 6
Austin ..	234	589	288.8	205	6,800	40,010	46,810	113 9 5
St. Vincent's ..	73	1,170	76.5	74	2,000	13,589	20,589	178 11 3
Mildura ..	120	2,657	128.0	131	17,500	27,260	44,760	204 12 0
Mooroopna ..	60	992	44.0	56	1,000	8,894	9,894	129 13 8
Sale ..	104	1,190	80.2	70	2,750	12,660	15,410	96 6 11
Stowell ..	68	810	52.3	63	1,500	7,024	8,524	127 4 11
St. Arnaud ..	66	322	18.5	15	450	1,944	2,394	134 18 5
St. Hill ..	52	558	30.3	29	800	3,582	4,382	125 3 8
Wangaratta ..	30	366	24.9	23	1,550	2,768	4,318	116 17 4
Warragul ..	81	876	41.8	39	1,250	4,139	5,389	96 6 10
Warrnambool ..	50	462	25.0	26	524	4,577	5,101	101 12 10
Williamstown ..	92	493	35.3	39	1,100	3,445	4,545	113 19 11
Wonthaggi ..	30	401	23.3	20	175	3,345	3,520	79 7 1
Other Hospitals*	28	427	18.0	23	..	4,602	4,602	178 2 3
Other Hospitals*	544	3,116	190.0	193	5,827	30,479	36,306	161 18 6
Total ..	3,801	37,184	2,360.0	3,087	108,852	381,574	490,426	154 15 7

* 22 in number.

HOSPITALS AND CHARITIES ACT 1922.

An Act (No. 3260) to amend the law relating to the management of hospitals and charities in the State of Victoria was passed by the State Parliament in the year 1922. Its principal provisions are as follows :—

Part I. provides for the appointment by the Governor in Council of a Board to be called the Charities Board of Victoria and to consist of 14 members, which is to be constituted as under :—

- (a) Four persons to be nominated by the body known as the Metropolitan Hospitals Association, one at least of whom is to be a legally qualified medical practitioner ;

- (b) Four persons to be nominated by the body known as the Country Hospitals Association, one at least of whom is to be a legally qualified medical practitioner ;
- (c) Two persons to be appointed from persons nominated by the committees of subsidized institutions and benevolent societies within the metropolis (other than hospitals), one at least of whom is to be a woman ;
- (d) Two persons to be appointed from persons nominated by the committees of subsidized institutions and benevolent societies outside of the metropolis (other than hospitals), one at least of whom is to be a woman ;
- (e) Two other persons, one of whom is to be appointed as a member of the Metropolitan Standing Committee and the other as a member of the Country Standing Committee to be provided for under the Act.

The duties of the Board are from time to time to make such inquiries as it thinks fit and to report to the Minister as to :—

- (a) What charitable relief is required to meet the needs of the diseased, infirm, incurable, poor, or destitute persons resident in Victoria (including children and convalescent patients) ;
- (b) What institutions or benevolent societies should in the opinion of the Board be subsidized ;
- (c) What sum of money should in the opinion of the Board be paid from the Fund, and for what purposes, to each subsidized institution or benevolent society in any financial year ; and
- (d) Any amendments of existing legislation and proposals for future legislation which are in its opinion desirable for carrying into effect any of the objects or purposes referred to in the Act, and in particular for improvement in and the prevention of overlapping in the administration of institutions and benevolent societies.

Special powers of the Board include the closing of any subsidized institution including a benevolent society (not being a separate institution) and the amalgamation of any two or more subsidized institutions (not being separate institutions). Before the Board can exercise the power of closing an institution it must be satisfied that the institution or benevolent society is seriously mismanaged or that the funds thereof are substantially applied otherwise than for affording the relief for which the institution or benevolent society exists, or that the accommodation provided is defective, insanitary, or unsuitable, or that relief can be provided more effectively and economically by some other institution or benevolent society. All institutions existing before the commencement of the Act must be registered within six months of a date to be

fixed by the Board, and every institution established subsequently must register in order to participate in any grant or aid of any kind from the Consolidated Revenue or from any municipality. A non-registered charity will not be allowed to appeal or apply to any person or body of persons for any contributions towards its funds.

A fund called "The Hospitals and Charities Fund" is kept in the Treasury. To this fund the Government contributed a sum of £156,548 for the financial year 1924-25, and £193,356 for 1925-26. The salary of an Inspector of Charities, who has been appointed under the Act, together with the remuneration of other necessary officers and expenses, are paid out of the fund. Subject to these payments the fund may be applied to the establishment or maintenance of subsidized institutions or benevolent societies, the cost of the erection of new buildings or of repairs, additions, alterations, or equipment of existing buildings used for the purposes of any subsidized institution or for any other prescribed purposes. Matters to be considered in making payments out of the fund are the financial position of each institution or benevolent society, and the amount likely to be contributed to it during the next financial year otherwise than from the fund, the probable net receipts and expenditure of that financial year, also the actual number of persons relieved by it, the average number of beds (if any) occupied, the average length of stay of patients, and the average cost per bed during the preceding financial year.

Other sections relate to restrictions on certain means of raising money for institutions, the incorporation and government of hospitals and philanthropic institutions generally, the liability of patients to contribute for the relief afforded them according to their means, and the power to resume land required for institutions in the manner provided by the *Lands Compensation Act 1915*.

Since the appointment of the Board some important reforms have been given effect to. The Caulfield Military Hospital has been taken over from the Defence Department and will be managed by the Melbourne Hospital. The whole of the Metropolitan General Hospitals are co-operating in the scheme, and have agreed, after the subsidies provided have been exhausted, to recompense the Melbourne Hospital for net expenditure on a proportionate basis of available beds in the respective institutions for the types of patients likely to be sent to Caulfield, viz., adult medical and surgical. To put the institution in working order substantial financial assistance was received from the Government. The official opening took place on 13th May, 1925, and 50 beds were at once made available. The number was subsequently increased to 125 beds and it is probable that further additional beds will have to be provided.

During the year 1925-26 patients to the number of 27 were transferred from the metropolitan area to vacant accommodation in country

institutions. This was done in order to make available more beds in the metropolitan area. In all cases the transfers were acquiesced in by the patients.

A standard has been set as the minimum requirements for a base hospital in the country. The number of occupied beds is to be not fewer than 50, giving in addition to general medical and surgical accommodation, beds for midwifery and children, each at least 5 per cent. of total accommodation. Fully established and equipped Out-Patients' Department to be established, available to patients at any time in case of emergency, and with at least tri-weekly attendance of honorary medical officer. Equipped sub-departments of radiology, pathology and bacteriology, massage, and other sub-departments to be maintained as the needs arise. Honorary attending medical officers to be elected to the various positions for a fixed term; applications to be called publicly. A training school for nurses to be in operation. The hospitals proposed to be raised to base grade, are:—Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, Hamilton, Horsham, Mildura, Mooroopna, Sale and Warrnambool. The committees of the larger provincial hospitals have adopted the Board's proposals, and plans have been approved of or are under consideration for the structural alterations or additions required. In Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, Mildura, Mooroopna and Warrnambool the works are in hand; at Horsham plans are completed whilst, at Hamilton and Sale schemes are under consideration. It is anticipated that within a short time the nine hospitals concerned will be completed and equipped up to full base standard. When this is accomplished country patients will be able to take advantage of local facilities and thus relieve to a considerable extent the demand on metropolitan institutions. Each base hospital and the district hospitals at Daylesford, Stawell and Echuca have agreed to the Board's proposals to establish midwifery wards.

Combined hospitals and benevolent asylums have ceased to exist, and asylum patients have been transferred to appropriate institutions. The authorities of the hospitals affected are unanimous in the opinion that the decision of the Board has been attended with advantage to the patients and the institutions concerned.

Efforts are being made to improve public dispensaries and to install proper ambulance services in country districts, but so far without success.

During the years 1924–25 and 1925–26 continuous representations have been made by the Board to secure the reservation of the Parkville site for the provision of a hospital adequate for the demands of the districts north of the Yarra. The Faculty of Medicine of the Melbourne University has advocated the urgent need for a teaching hospital in connexion with the medical school and it is considered that if a hospital were built on this site this purpose would be satisfactorily served.

With regard to intermediate hospitals the Board is of opinion that these institutions should be established as adjuncts to existing hospitals and that the details of management be subject to conditions prescribed by regulations.

It is considered that institutions which exist for the welfare of orphans and neglected or destitute children should wherever practicable be under the care of religious organizations.

The suggestion is made that the organization of local relief should be vested in the municipal authorities operating in conjunction with the ladies' benevolent societies.

The origin of this institution belongs to the very earliest days of Melbourne. The *Year-Books* for 1915-16 and 1916-17 contain a statement of the circumstances associated with the foundation of the hospital in 1846, and a reference to its rebuilding in recent years.

**Melbourne
Hospital.**

It has always been the principal general hospital of Victoria, and the chief medical training school for University students. The wards now contain normally 358 beds. The number of in-patients treated in 1924-25 was 7,052, the daily average number being 397. In the out-patients' and casualty departments 45,561 persons were treated in that year. The aggregate number of attendances of out-patients was 247,918.

The usefulness of the Melbourne Hospital since its inauguration may be judged from the work carried out. The in-patients treated to 30th June, 1925, numbered 313,133, and the out-patients, 1,393,860.

In 1924-25 the Government grant for maintenance amounted to £24,664; the revenue derived from municipal grants was £2,548; private contributions amounted to £13,906; revenue from entertainments in aid to £472; bequests to £26,096; Hospital Sunday collections to £5,591; payments and contributions by indoor patients to £9,677; and out-patients' fees to £8,219; interest yielded a revenue of £9,157; and £7,259 was received from all other sources. The receipts for the twelve months reached a total of £107,589 and the expenditure was £89,849.

The Melbourne Hospital is also a training school for nurses, and has a nursing staff of 174. Attached to the hospital is the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Research in Pathology and Medicine, which is endowed by the Trustees of the Walter and Eliza Hall Trust. The Institute is proving of valuable assistance in the many lines of research which are being conducted by an efficient and highly-trained staff.

To relieve the pressure on the City Hospitals the Convalescent Hospital at Caulfield was established in 1925. In five wards there are 125 beds open, 119 of which are occupied daily. The management is undertaken by the committee of the Melbourne Hospital. The total expenditure for the year 1924-25 was £16,464.

In the year 1868 a large committee of Melbourne citizens decided that the establishment of a second general hospital for Melbourne had become imperatively necessary. A site comprising 13 acres within the municipality of Prahran was secured, and the foundation stone of "The Prince Alfred Hospital" (so

**Alfred
Hospital.**

named in commemoration of the escape from assassination of Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh), was laid in March, 1869. In May, 1871, the hospital was opened, the buildings being added to in 1885. In 1921 an extensive scheme of building expansion was approved, subject to funds becoming available. Since then remarkable progress has taken place. The whole of the original buildings have been remodelled and enlarged, while many buildings, including new wards, operating theatres, research and investigation departments, a fine new nurses' home, and important additions to existing buildings have been erected. The cost of works carried out in this scheme of expansion up to the end of June, 1926, was £160,500. The hospital is recognized by the Melbourne University as a clinical school for medical students, and is also a training school for nurses. On 30th June, 1926, there were 340 beds and cots in the Institution. The total number of in-patients who received treatment during the year 1924-25 was 6,079, and during 1925-26 the number was 6,553. In the out-patients and casualty departments, 32,281 persons were treated in 1924-25, while in 1925-26 the total was 37,643. The attendances of these patients rose in number from 129,633 in 1924-25 to 172,149 in 1925-26. The total of the receipts for the year 1925-26 in all the accounts was £60,945. The principal items of receipt were Government grants, £15,000; municipal grants, £1,486; private contributions, £54,371; revenue from entertainments in aid, £1,419; Hospital Sunday collections, £1,620; Lord Mayor's Fund, £1,861; in-door patients' fees, £7,831; out-door patients' fees, £6,489; interest, £1,043; visitors' contributions, £4,011; special donations and bequests, £11,918; and miscellaneous, £2,773 (including £1,352 Government on account V.D. Clinic). The total expenditure on maintenance was £63,208, and in addition £16,501 was spent on buildings, furniture, fittings, &c. The Alfred Hospital was equipped early in 1924 with a powerful wireless receiving plant, with installation throughout the different wards, enabling most of the patients to receive the benefit of wireless broad-casting by means of individual head telephone sets. The Hospital is recognized by the University of Melbourne as a clinical school for gynaecology and the diseases of children. During 1925 extensive additions were made to the X-ray pavilion and a fine new building for the bio-chemistry department was erected and equipped. This is now known as the Thos. Baker, Alice Baker and Eleanor Shaw Medical Research Institute, and its maintenance is guaranteed until 1931 by the sponsors of the Institute. Important additions to the out-patients' building are in progress.

The Alfred Hospital has a very fine clinic for the treatment of venereal diseases, the institution being the first in this State to establish such a department.

Other Hospitals, &c. Statements showing the nature of the work performed by other hospitals, societies, &c., are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 568 to 582, and 586.

HEALTH ACT 1919.

The main features of this Act are given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, pages 383 to 385.

SANATORIA FOR CONSUMPTIVES.

Greenvale Sanatorium. The Greenvale Sanatorium at Broadmeadows for incipient and early stage cases was opened for the reception of patients on 10th May, 1905. It was established by the Government, and is under the control of the Public Health Department. Females only are now admitted to the institution, and provision is made for 90 patients. During the year ended 31st December, 1925, 173 patients were treated at the sanatorium, 53 of these being cases admitted during the previous year. Of this number, 50 did very well and were discharged apparently cured or greatly benefited, and 28 were discharged not benefited or incurable. Coupled with the last-mentioned cases were other patients who were discharged either at their own request after a brief stay, or for disciplinary reasons, and some who were sent in for a short period for educational purposes, making a total of 30. Four deaths occurred during the year. At the end of the period under review there were 61 patients remaining under care. The benefits of treatment and education that the institution affords to cases of consumption in the early stages have now been received by 5,463 patients. Of these, 3,374 had the disease arrested or their condition much improved; 1,065 were not benefited or were incurable; 112 died; and 851 left of their own accord. A most important function of the institution is the teaching of patients how to avoid communicating the disease to others. Immediately after the admission of a patient to the sanatorium the house or room vacated is disinfected under the supervision of the municipal council of the district, a centre of infection being thus removed.

Amherst and Heatherton Sanatoria.

The Amherst Sanatorium, for early-stage cases, is maintained by the Government and administered by the local hospital authorities under the direction of the Public Health Department. It is now reserved for the treatment of males only, and there is, ordinarily, accommodation at the institution for 80 patients. During the year 1925, 209 patients were treated, of whom 122 were discharged with the disease arrested or their condition much improved; 9 left, not benefited; 6 died; and 72 remained under treatment at the end of the year. Sanatorium treatment has now been received by 2,456 patients. Of these, 2,032 were discharged cured or relieved; 84 left of their own accord; 202 were incurable; 66 died; and 72 remained on 31st December, 1925.

There is a sanatorium for intermediate and advanced cases of both sexes at Heatherton, near Cheltenham, adjacent to the Melbourne Benevolent Asylum. The sanatorium now contains 124 beds. There were on 1st January, 1925, 113 persons in the institution, and the number admitted during the succeeding twelve months was 156, making a total of 269 who received treatment during the year 1925. Of these, 94 were discharged, 66 died, and 109 were under care at the end of the year.

With regard to other cases of advanced consumption, 158 beds are provided at the Austin Hospital, and 36 beds at Janefield, which is controlled by the Austin Hospital authorities.

St. John Ambulance Association. The work carried on by this Association is referred to in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 582. Its objects are to instruct all classes of people in the preliminary treatment of the sick and the injured. Full information in regard to the formation of classes may be obtained from the secretary, Mr. J. Harold Lord, 217 Lonsdale-street, Melbourne. (Telephone, Central 1370.)

Victorian Civil Ambulance Service. This service attended to 10,579 calls, of which 1,688 were connected with accidents, during the year ended 30th June, 1926; the mileage travelled was 108,136. In 2,583 cases no fee was paid. Country trips, to the number of 1107 (one of over 300 miles), were undertaken during the year. The decentralisation of the service has commenced by the inauguration of Ambulance Stations at Preston, Prahran and Hawthorn, with the intention of extending same to all suburban areas.

In addition, sixteen Country Ambulance Stations have been successfully opened and operated since March, 1923, under the Country Division of the Service, with a view to providing ambulance facilities throughout all districts in Victoria. These Country Stations conveyed 653 patients, the distance covered being 16,500 miles.

The registered office and head depot is situated at 217 Lonsdale-street, Melbourne. (Telephone, Central 121.)

Charity Organization Society. A statement of the objects of this society appears in the *Year-Book* 1916-17, page 583.

The income and outgo for the year ended 30th June, 1926, were—Administration Account (for payment of all general expenses of management as well as all charges connected with the administration of the trust and relief funds)—Receipts, £2,680; expenditure, £2,762; Trust Account (being donations for special applicants and objects)—Receipts, £2,025; expenditure, £2,217; Emergency Relief Account—Donations and refunds, £290; expenditure, £317. The number of separate cases dealt with during the year was 3,884, of which 1,573

had not previously come under the notice of the society. The total number of cases actually investigated was 2,051. During the year under review 124 men and women obtained temporary or permanent employment through the Society's assistance. The records of the Society now contain more than 36,000 social histories of distressed families and individuals.

Royal Humane Society. The Royal Humane Society of Australasia was established in 1874 under the name of "The Victoria Humane Society." Its objects are as follows:—(1) To bestow awards on all who promptly risk their lives to save those of their fellow-creatures; (2) To provide assistance, as far as it is in the power of the society, in all cases of apparent death occurring in any part of Australasia; (3) To restore the apparently drowned or dead, and to distinguish by awards all who, through skill and perseverance, are successful; (4) To collect and circulate information regarding the most approved methods and the best apparatus to be used for such purposes.

During the year ended 30th June, 1926, 108 applications for awards were investigated, with the result that 36 certificates, 34 bronze medals, 7 silver and 1 gold medal were granted. The receipts during 1925-26 amounted to £518, and the expenditure to £472. The institution has placed and maintains 343 life-buoys at various places on the coast, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs throughout all the Australian States and Fiji. The society has an honorary correspondent in the capital city of each State.

Swimming competitions have been inaugurated in the schools of the Commonwealth, and awards of medals and certificates are made to those pupils who attain proficiency in exercises which have special reference to saving life from drowning. The society makes a special feature of the development of swimming and life saving proficiency.

Royal Life Saving Society. With a desire to minimize the great loss of life from drowning a society was established in Melbourne in 1904 entitled the "Royal Life Saving Society." Its objects are:—(1) To promote technical education in life saving and resuscitation of the apparently drowned; (2) To stimulate public opinion in favour of the general adoption of swimming and life saving as a branch of instruction in schools, colleges, &c.; (3) To encourage floating, diving, plunging, and such other swimming arts as would be of assistance to a person endeavouring to save life; (4) To arrange and promote public lectures, demonstrations and competitions, and to form classes of instruction, so as to bring about a widespread and thorough knowledge of the principles which underlie the art of natation; (5) To arrange and promote lectures, motion picture exhibitions, demonstrations and competitions, and compile and disseminate propaganda literature for the purpose of educating the members of the

community in the principles of avoiding and preventing accidents of all kinds.

The work done by the society has increased greatly since its inauguration, and in 1925-26 the awards granted totalled 1,791. The whole of the State schools in Victoria have become affiliated to the society, and it is expected that the awards will be considerably increased as the result of this connexion.

Society for the Protection of Animals. The objects of this society are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 589. During the year ended 30th June, 1925, 3,177 cases were dealt with by it, of which 2,240 were connected with cruelty to horses. There were 211 prosecutions in cases of deliberate cruelty, in nearly all of which the law was vindicated by the punishment of the offenders. The receipts for the year amounted to £4,250, and the expenditure to £3,600.

Lord Mayor's Fund. The initiation of the movement to assist in the maintenance of the Metropolitan Hospitals and Charities, which resulted in the inauguration of the Lord Mayor's Fund, is credited to the late Sir J. W. Swanson, K.B., a former Lord Mayor of Melbourne. The first definite step to make the fund a permanent one was taken in April, 1923, when a chief executive officer and organizing secretary was appointed. An important feature of the first year's work was the merging of the Hospital Saturday Fund in the Lord Mayor's Fund. No change was made in regard to the constitution or administrative functions of the Hospital Sunday committee. The receipts and disbursements of the Lord Mayor's Fund from 1st July, 1925, to 30th June, 1926, are given hereunder :—

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS OF THE LORD MAYOR'S FUND, 1ST JULY, 1925, TO 30TH JUNE, 1926.

Receipts	Amount.	Expenditure.	Amount.
	£		£
Hospital Saturday (1925) ..	13,986	Distributions made to Institutions from General Fund	17,690
General donations	2,086	Distributions to specified donees	19,315
Police Carnival	2,445	Salaries of secretary and staff	1,883
Flower Day	3,277	Miscellaneous	1,672
Donations for specified institutions	19,316	Surplus	550
Total	41,110		41,110

The amounts allocated to the various charitable institutions in 1925-26 from the Lord Mayor's Fund, including Hospital Saturday receipts, and from the Hospital Sunday Fund were as follows :—

Institution.	From Lord Mayor's Fund.	From Hospital Sunday Fund.	Total.
	£	£	£
Melbourne Hospital	5,029	2,561	7,590
Alfred Hospital	2,696	1,637	4,333
Children's Hospital	3,944	965	4,909
Women's Hospital	1,654	941	2,595
Austin Hospital	1,473	921	2,394
St. Vincent's Hospital	1,420	853	2,273
Melbourne Benevolent Asylum	786	697	1,483
Queen Victoria Hospital	1,014	286	1,300
Homœopathic Hospital	806	278	1,084
Melbourne Ladies' Benevolent Society	1,156	..	1,156
Eye and Ear Hospital	827	374	1,201
Williamstown Hospital	279	..	279
Melbourne District Nursing Society	586	252	838
Salvation Army	309	..	309
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	597	196	793
St. John Ambulance Association	15	..	15
Other institutions	14,415	780	15,195
Total distributed	37,006	10,741	47,747

Hospital Saturday and Sunday. In Melbourne and suburbs the last Saturday and Sunday of October in each year are set apart for making collections for the Hospital Saturday and Sunday Funds. The following amounts were collected in each of the last ten years :— 1916, £18,525 ; 1917, £19,020 ; 1918, £22,447 ; 1919, £18,586 ; 1920, £19,750 ; 1921, £29,723 ; 1922, £20,368 (including a bequest of £2,461 from the estate of a deceased person) ; 1923, £24,013 ; 1924, £30,100 ; and 1925, £31,100. The amount distributed in 1925 was £29,850.

The total amount which has been collected since the movement was inaugurated in 1873 is £580,532.

Wattle Day. On a day fixed, about the middle of August in each year, ladies attired in white costumes sell sprigs of wattle blossom in the streets and elsewhere, and the amounts obtained are allotted to charities for children. The sums which have been raised each year during the last twelve years are as follows :—1914, £2,115 ; 1915, £2,553 ; 1916, £8,604 ; 1917, £7,000 ; 1918 £7,238 ; 1919, £5,393 ; 1920,

£4,304; 1921, £5,951; 1922, £5,293; 1923, £6,674; 1924, £7,645; and 1925, £5,872. From 1915 to 1920 the Wattle Day collection was organized and controlled by the Commonwealth Button Fund, and emblematic "buttons" and badges were sold in addition to wattle blossom. The Commonwealth Button Fund was wound up in January, 1921, and the organization of the annual Wattle Day appeal is now undertaken by the Children's Welfare Association. This association consists of all the societies participating in the appeal, and its work is carried out by a body of voluntary assistants. Since 1923 Mrs. J. S. Winter has been the hon. organizer for the movement.

INVALID AND OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

These pensions are payable by the Commonwealth Government under an act passed in 1908 and amending acts. The *Year-Book* for 1916-17 contains, on pages 591 to 597, information relating to the amounts of pensions payable and the persons entitled to receive them. The amounts have since been increased.

The maximum pension, whether old-age or invalid, is £1 per week. This rate was paid from 8th October, 1925. The commencing age for old-age pensions is 65 years in the case of men (60 years where a man is permanently incapacitated for work) and 60 years in the case of women.

The number of old-age and invalid pensioners in Victoria on 30th June, 1926, was as follows:—Old-age pensioners—men, 13,889; women, 22,911; total, 36,800. Invalid pensioners—men, 6,420; women, 7,642; total, 14,062.

Of the persons living in Victoria at or above the ages at which old-age pensions commence, 33 per cent. were receiving pensions on 30th June, 1926.

The State system of old-age pensions came into force on 18th January, 1901, and the highest number of pensioners was reached in November, 1901, when 16,300 were on the register. Alterations in the Act in the direction of compelling relatives, when in a position to do so, to support applicants for pensions had the effect of reducing the number to 10,732 in 1907. On 1st July, 1909, when the Federal Act came into operation, there were 12,368 old-age pensioners in Victoria. Thereafter the number rapidly increased, and on 30th June, 1926, it had reached a total of 36,800

**Pensioners,
1901 to
1925-26.**

(exclusive of invalid pensioners). The number of old-age and invalid pensioners at the end of each financial year from the inception of the system and the amount expended each year are shown in the following statement :—

OLD-AGE AND INVALID PENSIONERS IN VICTORIA,
1901 TO 1926.

Financial Year.	Number of Pensioners at end of Period.			Actual Amount Paid in Pensions. £
	Old-Age.	Invalid.	Total.	
18th January to 30th June, 1901 (under State Act)	16,275	...	16,275	129,338
1901-2	14,570	...	14,570	292,432
1902-3	12,417	...	12,417	215,973
1903-4	11,609	...	11,609	205,150
1904-5	11,209	...	11,209	200,464
1905-6	10,990	...	10,990	189,127
1906-7	10,732	...	10,732	187,793
1907-8	11,288	...	11,288	233,573
1908-9	12,368	...	12,368	270,827
1909-10 (under Federal Act)...	20,218	...	20,218	470,656
1910-11	23,722	2,272	25,994	573,699
1911-12	24,449	3,162	27,611	672,593
1912-13	25,434	3,918	29,352	715,924
1913-14	27,150	4,844	31,994	795,449
1914-15	28,365	6,054	34,419	839,718
1915-16	28,446	6,869	35,315	908,159
1916-17	29,064	7,921	36,985	1,070,386
1917-18	29,159	8,901	38,060	1,168,498
1918-19	29,179	9,337	38,516	1,199,787
1919-20	29,565	10,277	39,842	1,348,100*
1920-21	30,385	11,174	41,559	1,533,430*
1921-22	30,958	11,444	42,402	1,581,898*
1922-23	31,248	11,707	42,955	1,589,362*
1923-24	32,603	12,220	44,823	1,947,069*
1924-25	33,845	12,950	46,795	2,027,202*
1925-26	36,800	14,062	50,862	2,348,571*

* This includes payments of pensions of 2s. per week (increased to 3s. per week from 13th September, 1923, and to 4s. per week from 8th October, 1925) to inmates of Benevolent Asylums. There were 1,205 such pensions in force on 30th June, 1926.

An act was passed by the Federal Parliament in October, 1912, providing for the payment, on application, of £5 to the mother of every child born in the Commonwealth on and after 10th October, 1912. The number of claims granted in Victoria to 30th June, 1926, was 479,144, and the total of the allowances paid in the State to that date was £2,395,720.

For the year ended 30th June, 1926, the number of claims granted was 36,025, and the amount paid in allowances, £180,125.

LUNACY DEPARTMENT.

The subjoined table sets forth the numbers under the care of the Department for the years 1924 and 1925 :—

INSANE PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS OF THE LUNACY DEPARTMENT, 31ST DECEMBER, 1924 AND 1925.

	On 31st December—		Increase (+). Decrease (-).
	1924.	1925.	
In State Hospitals	5,366	5,406	+ 40
On Trial Leave from State Hospitals	600	659	+ 59
Boarded Out	130	127	- 3
In Licensed Houses	79	75	- 4
On Trial Leave from Licensed Houses	16	15	- 1
Total Number of Registered Insane	6,191	6,282	+ 91
In Receiving Institutions	72	93	+ 21
Total	6,263	6,375	+ 112
Voluntary Boarders	62	72	+ 10
Cases of Mental Disorder in Returned Soldiers (not included in other statistics)	133	150	+ 17

The number of admissions to Hospitals for Insane for each of the years 1921 to 1925 is given below :—

Year.	First Admissions.			Re-admissions.			Total Admissions.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
1921	341	335	676	42	84	126	802
1922	388	330	718	46	74	120	838
1923	379	284	663	91	73	164	827
1924	349	314	663	53	93	146	809
1925	370	283	653	29	64	93	746

The number of discharges from, and the deaths in, the Hospitals for the Insane for each of the years 1921 to 1925 are given below :—

Year.	Discharges.			Deaths.			Total of Discharges and Deaths.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
1921 ..	155	190	345	242	198	440	785
1922 ..	156	143	299	231	145	376	675
1923 ..	160	153	313	276	198	474	787
1924 ..	142	151	293	254	176	430	723
1925 ..	147	145	292	198	158	356	648

The numbers admitted to the various Receiving Houses have varied during the last five years between 829 and 936, and in 1925 there were 850 such admissions; of these 269 were discharged, 519 transferred to other Institutions, and 40 died. Quite 40 per cent. of these admissions could have been certified and sent direct to State Hospitals, thereby avoiding considerable circumlocution and double handling, but the Receiving House procedure appeals to friends and medical practitioners alike, and has come to stay in consequence.

In 1925 there were 184 voluntary requests for admissions to the various institutions; 72 were in residence at the end of the year; and the number of military mental cases had risen to 150—an increase of 17. These are principally accommodated in special wards at Bundoora and Mont Park, and they are a charge on the Department of Repatriation.

With an increase of about 27,000 in the population of Victoria, and an increase of 91 in the total of the registered insane, the actual ratio of insane to population is approximately the same as last year, i.e., 1 in 268 persons; this contrasts favourably with the year 1911, when the ratio was 1 in 245.

CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

There were at the end of 1925 two industrial and four reformatory schools in the State. Two of these (one industrial and one reformatory school) are wholly maintained and managed by the Government, and are used merely as receiving and distributing dépôts, the children being sent as soon as possible after admission thereto to foster homes or situations, or to other institutions for dealing with State wards. The other schools are under private management and receive a capitation allowance from the Government for those inmates who are wards of the Children's Welfare Department. Many of the inmates of the reformatories are either placed with friends or licensed out. The wards of the State on 31st December, 1925, numbered 6,712—6,577

Neglected and reformatory children.

neglected and 135 reformatory children—and there were 28 others, free from legal control, who, being incapacitated, were maintained by the State. The following table shows the number of neglected and reformatory children under control at the end of each of the last five years :—

NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY CHILDREN,
1921 TO 1925.

Year.	NUMBER OF NEGLECTED CHILDREN AT THE END OF THE YEAR.					Total Neglected Children.
	Boarded Out.	Placed with friends on Probation.	Maintaining themselves at Service or Apprenticed.	In Institutions (including Hospitals)	Visiting Relatives, &c.	
1921 ...	4,281	860	458	498	7	*6,104
1922 ...	4,189	904	434	515	5	*6,047
1923 ...	4,133	1,172	431	510	1	*6,247
1924 ...	4,123	1,263	480	495	2	*6,363
1925 ...	4,212	1,355	501	508	1	*6,577

Year.	NUMBER OF REFORMATORY CHILDREN AT THE END OF THE YEAR.					Total Reformatory Children.
	In Reformatory Schools.	Placed with Relatives.	Maintaining themselves at Service.	In Institutions (including Hospitals).	Visiting Relatives, &c.	
1921 ...	78	13	27	4	...	122
1922 ...	65	23	29	3	1	121
1923 ...	64	22	26	1	...	113
1924 ...	75	30	19	...	1	125
1925 ...	86	29	19	1	...	135

* Under the provisions of section 9 of the *Children's Maintenance Act* 1919, 5,392 children who had previously been committed as "neglected" children and boarded out to their mothers, were discharged as wards of the State, but payments for their maintenance were continued to the mothers. At the end of 1925 there were 3,154 such children.

The welfare of the children boarded out is cared for by **Children boarded out, &c.** honorary committees, who send to the Department reports as to their general condition. The rate paid by the Government to persons accepting charge of these children is 12s. 6d. per week for children under 18 months, and 8s. per week for those over that age. These rates have been payable since 1st December, 1921. For the previous twelve months the rates were 11s. 6d. per week for children under 12 months, and 8s. per week for those of an older age. Children from either industrial or reformatory schools may be placed with friends on probation, without wages, or at service.

Children
committed to
the care of the
State, 1925.

The circumstances leading to the commitment of children to the care of the Department in 1925 were as follows:—

Cases in which Parents were held to be—	Number.
Blameable—One Parent—	
Father dead and mother deserted	4
" " " of doubtful character	3
" deserted and mother dead	31
" " " in asylum	4
" " " invalid	1
" " " poor	274
" drunkard and mother dead	2
" " " poor	3
" in gaol and mother poor	9
" " " dead	3
" Sanatorium and mother deserted	1
" invalid and mother deserted	4
" of doubtful character and mother poor	7
" poor and mother deserted	15
" " " of doubtful character	7
" unknown and mother dead	5
" " " mentally afflicted	2
" " " poor	27
Both Parents—	
Father deserted and mother in gaol	2
" " " of doubtful character	8
" in gaol and mother deserted	2
" " " of doubtful character	3
" of doubtful character and mother deserted	1
" unknown and mother deserted	14
" " " of doubtful character	5
Parents deserted	17
" of doubtful character	12
" unknown	7
Total	473
Blameless—Both Parents—	
Father an invalid and mother dead	25
" " " poor	5
" dead and mother poor	73
" " " insane	2
" " " invalid	1
" in asylum and mother poor	5
" " " dead	8
" Sanatorium and mother in asylum	1
" " " dead	1
" poor and mother dead	34
" " " invalid	2
Parents dead	64
" poor	144
" invalids	1
Total	366
Total number of children placed under control during the year ..	839

CHILDREN'S MAINTENANCE ACT 1919, No. 3001.

A statement of the principal provisions of this Act is given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, pages 395 and 396. For the twelve months ended 31st December, 1925, assistance was granted under the Children's Maintenance Act in respect of 2,464 children, and 8,154 children were boarded out to their mothers at the end of the year, an increase of 494 as compared with the number at the end of the previous year, viz., 7,660.

The following statement shows the number of wards of the State and of children boarded out with their mothers for the years 1911 to 1925 inclusive :—

WARDS OF STATE AND CHILDREN BOARDED OUT WITH MOTHERS, 1911 TO 1925.

Year.	Number boarded out to Foster Mothers at end of Year.	Number boarded out with Mothers at end of Year.	Total number boarded out at end of Year.	Total Cost of maintenance of boarded out Children.	Other Wards of State.	Total Wards of State and Children† boarded out with Mothers.
				£		
1911 ..	2,958	2,358	5,316	74,719	1,865	7,181
1912 ..	2,991	2,978	5,969	83,327	1,815	7,784
1913 ..	3,090	3,696	6,786	93,509	1,767	8,553
1914 ..	3,342	4,144	7,486	102,051	1,853	9,339
1915 ..	3,359	4,681	8,040	127,898*	2,136	10,176
1916 ..	3,817	4,984	8,801	140,752	1,979	10,780
1917 ..	3,979	5,151	9,130	147,794	2,013	11,143
1918 ..	3,981	5,324	9,305	153,350	2,042	11,347
1919 ..	3,989	6,206†	10,195	161,944*	2,142	12,337
1920 ..	4,128	6,928†	11,056	210,457*	2,098	13,154
1921 ..	4,281	7,534†	11,815	249,555*	1,945	13,760
1922 ..	4,189	7,651†	11,840	264,257	1,979	13,819
1923 ..	4,133	7,641†	11,774	268,255	2,227	14,001
1924 ..	4,123	7,660†	11,783	274,628	2,365	14,148
1925 ..	4,212	8,154†	12,366	284,384	2,500	14,866

* Payment for children over the age of two years was increased from 5s. to 6s. per week from 1st April, 1915, and from 6s. to 7s. per week from 1st December, 1919. On 1st November, 1920, payment was increased from 10s. to 11s. 6d. per week for children under the age of 12 months, and from 7s. to 8s. per week for all over that age. From 1st December, 1921, the rate of pay for children under the age of 12 months was increased from 11s. 6d. to 12s. 6d. per week, and for those between 12 and 18 months from 8s. to 12s. 6d. per week.

† Not wards of State.

‡ These children were wards of State prior to 1919.

Cost of maintenance of neglected and reformatory children.

The governmental expenditure for the maintenance of neglected children amounted in 1925 to £319,962, and that for reformatory school children to £4,304; the expenses of administration amounted to £15,126, making a total gross expenditure of £339,392. A sum of £16,402 was received from parents for maintenance, and of £280 from other sources, making the net expenditure £322,710. The number of neglected children under supervision on 31st December, 1925, was 6,577; of this total, 4,212 were maintained in foster homes, 203 were in Government receiving dépôts, 35 were in private industrial schools, 239 were in other institutions, 501 were at service earning their own living, 31 were in hospitals, 1 was on a visit, and 1,355 were with relatives and others at no cost to the State. The number of reformatory wards under supervision on 31st December, 1925, was 135. Of this number 86 were maintained in private schools, 19 were in service earning their own living, 1 was in hospital, and 29 were with relatives at no cost to the State. The expenditure for the maintenance of neglected children has increased greatly during the past ten years, as is shown by the statement which follows:—

NET COST TO THE STATE OF NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY SCHOOL CHILDREN, 1916 TO 1925.

Year.			Net Expenditure.	Year.			Net Expenditure.
			£				£
1916	..	..	159,929	1921	..	..	282,380
1917	..	..	167,214	1922	..	..	295,440
1918	..	..	171,474	1923	..	..	299,456
1919	..	..	181,385	1924	..	..	312,943
1920	..	..	238,448	1925	..	..	322,710

Neglected children maintained by societies or private persons.

Part VIII. of the *Children's Welfare Act* 1915 deals with the committal of neglected children to the care of private persons or institutions approved by the Governor in Council, and also provides for the wardship of the children, and for their transference, if there be sufficient cause, to the control of the Children's Welfare Department. The following return shows the societies and persons registered under the

provisions of this part of the Act, and gives particulars respecting the children under their care during 1925 :—

WORK OF SOCIETIES AND PERSONS REGISTERED UNDER
PART VIII. OF THE CHILDREN'S WELFARE ACT.

Name of Society or Person.	Number of Children under Supervision on 31.12.24.	Admissions during 1925.			Number of Children under Supervision on 31.12.25.
		Court Committals.	Transfer of Guardianship.	Voluntary Admissions.	
Melbourne Orphan Asylum ..	240	..	..	109	305
Burwood Boys' Home ..	43	..	..	32	35
Church of England Mission..	136	11	4	42	101
Gordon Institute, Melbourne..	68	4	1	24	64
Methodist Boys' Training Farm, Burwood East ..	87	1	..	13	75
Methodist Homes for Children	306	8	8	54	300
Presbyterian and Scots' Church Children's Aid Society ..	296	2	11	7	289
Presbyterian Rescue Home, Elsternwick ..	32	4	8	1	36
St. Joseph's Home, Surrey Hills	318	2	14	61	248
Victorian Children's Aid So- ciety ..	126	..	1	34	132
Sutherland Home ..	178	..	12	76	156
Minton Boys' Home, Frankston	35	..	22	2	43
Church of England Boys' Home, Auburn ..	48	2	6	6	57
Kilmany Park Boys' Home	21	7	6	9	28
Total	1,934	41	93	470	1,869

The number of children who were under the guardianship of the State or maintained in public institutions or by societies on 31st December, 1925, reached the large total of 18,476, viz., 6,740 (6,712 State wards and 28 incapacitated) under the control of the Children's Welfare Department, 8,154 boarded out with mothers, 1,869 under the supervision of societies registered under Part VIII. of the Children's Welfare Act, 319 in Foundling Hospitals, and 1,394 in Orphan Asylums.

Infant Life Protection Act. With the view generally of exercising more efficient supervision over unprotected child life, and of lessening the excessive mortality amongst boarded-out children, the State Legislature passed an act, No. 2102 (which came into force on 31st December, 1907), to amend the Infant Life Protection Act of 1890. These acts are now incorporated in the *Infant Life Protection Act 1915 (No. 2670)*

On 31st December, 1925, there were 395 children under supervision in registered homes under the provisions of this Act. The

deaths during the year numbered 21. In addition, 153 children became wards of the Children's Welfare Department by the operation of section 15 of the Act. Thirty-seven cases of adoption of children were notified during the year. Five female inspectors are engaged in the work of inspection.

RELIEF FUNDS.

VICTORIAN MINING ACCIDENT RELIEF FUND.

In December, 1882, an inrush of water in the New Australasian Company's mine at Creswick caused the deaths of 22 miners. Consequent on this disaster 79 persons, comprising 18 widows and 61 children, were left in destitute circumstances. Public subscriptions to the amount of £21,602 were raised throughout Victoria for the relief of the widows and orphan children of those who lost their lives, and a fund was established, out of which the widows and children to a certain age were paid weekly allowances. On 31st December, 1925, there remained on the fund five widows, who were receiving 15s. per week each. In addition to the amounts paid to these recipients, grants of surplus moneys are made annually to deserving cases. In 1925, the sum so allotted was £521. The amount at credit of the fund on that date was £17,616, of which £12,000 was the estimated value of freehold premises in Queen-street, Melbourne, £5,607 was in Government inscribed stock and debentures, and £9 was cash in hand.

**Victorian
Mining
Accident
Relief Fund.**

VICTORIAN COAL MINERS' ACCIDENTS RELIEF FUND.

A provision of the *Coal Mines Regulation Act 1909* (No. 2240)—now the *Coal Mines Regulation Act 1915* (No. 2630)—relates to the constitution of a Fund called the Victorian Coal Miners' Accidents Relief Fund, to which every person employed in a coal mine is compelled to contribute 4½d. per week, the mine-owners paying an amount equal to one-half of that deducted from the miners' wages, and the Government of Victoria a sum equal to the payment by the owners. The Board held its first meeting on 4th April, 1910, and decided that the employers' contributions should commence from 2nd April, 1910. Committees were formed at the collieries (numbering 7 in 1925), their principal functions being to collect contributions and, subject to the approval of the Board, to allot the allowances.

During 1925 the contributions from employees amounted to £1,853, and the allowances paid at the mines totalled £961. For the year ended 31st December, 1925, the total revenue was £3,745—remittances from committees at the mines amounting to £926, miscellaneous to £4, and interest to £972, and the balance being contributed by the mine-owners (£924) and the Government (£919). The expenditure included £1,252 paid in allowances in addition to the amounts paid at the mines, and £412 cost of administration. The accumulated

**Victorian
Coal Miners'
Accidents
Relief Fund.**

funds amounted to £22,762—£8,700 invested in Victorian Government 3½ per cent. inscribed stock, £1,300 in Victorian Government 6 per cent. inscribed stock, £12,500 in Commonwealth inscribed stock, and £262 bank balance. Relief was given in 393 non-fatal cases. In respect to non-fatal accidents, there are 21 persons on the permanently disabled list, the number of children dependent upon such persons being 13. Two fatal accidents occurred during the year. There are 13 widows, 3 mothers, and 23 children receiving aid from the fund as the result of fatalities during 1925 and previous years.

WATSON SUSTENTATION FUND.

**The Watson
Sustentation
Fund.**

This fund was inaugurated as the result of an offer made by the late Mr. J. B. Watson to the Bendigo Miners' Association about the year 1889. Information in relation to its establishment is given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 612. Payments to beneficiaries were first made in 1891 at the rate of 5s. per week, and this rate was maintained for about two years, when the sick pay was increased to 7s. 6d. per week. Further changes were afterwards made as necessity arose.

The following are the particulars of members of the Fund relieved, &c., and of receipts and expenditure:—From the inception of the Fund in 1891 to the end of 1925 the total expenditure was £39,102, of which £35,086 represented sick pay and £3,228 donations to members and wives and families of deceased members. During 1925, 46 members were relieved and 8 died, and 38 were on the funds at the end of the year. The receipts for the year were £587. Sick pay for 1925 amounted to £494, donations to members and wives and families of deceased members to £37, and expenses of administration to £31; the total expenditure being £562. The balance in hand at the end of the year 1924 was £739, and at the end of 1925, £764.

QUEEN'S FUND.

Queen's Fund. This fund was instituted in 1887 by Lady Loch to commemorate the Jubilee of the late Queen Victoria. It is for the relief of women in distress, and it is arranged that only the interest on the capital shall be expended yearly. The number of women relieved during 1925-26 was 57, to whom £548 was allotted either by way of grant or loan, and the cost of management was £140. The accumulated fund on 30th June, 1926, was £16,402. In addition to the ordinary receipts of the Fund for the year 1925-26 (£971) an amount of £312 was received from the trustees of the Walter and Elizabeth Hall Trust for distribution to governesses, nurses, and ladies in similar positions who from age, misfortune, or infirmity were unable to earn their living. A sum of £308 was distributed in this manner, £1 was expended on management, and £18 remained in the bank at the date of balancing.

PATRIOTIC FUNDS.

**Patriotic
Funds.**

The *Year-Book* for 1918-19 contains, on pages 391 and 392, a statement of the collections in money and the value of the goods contributed in the State of Victoria to the various Patriotic Funds from the outbreak of hostilities to the 31st December, 1918. The total amount for the State, including contributions received after the last-mentioned date, is estimated to have been well over £4,000,000.

IMMIGRATION BUREAU.

**Immigration
Bureau.**

The Immigration Bureau, which is a branch of the Lands Department, deals with the subject of assisted immigration to Victoria.

On 1st March, 1921, a joint Commonwealth and State Scheme of Immigration came into operation, and from that date the Government of the Commonwealth assumed responsibility for the booking of passages for nominated and other settlers proceeding to Australia, and took over all administrative work in London, including advertising and the medical inspection of prospective settlers.

Approval of nominations is dealt with by the State authorities, who also indicate the classes and numbers of persons who it is considered may be absorbed in the population without detriment to local artisans and other residents, and for whom it is desired that passages be arranged. To the States is also intrusted the matter of settling on the land or providing employment for new arrivals.

The Government, through this Bureau and in other ways, affords all advice and assistance possible to prospective settlers arriving from overseas, whether desiring to take up land or to obtain employment. In the cases of private purchases of land by new arrivals, valuations on their behalf will, if desired, be made by expert officers free of charge. Nominated passages may be arranged from Great Britain, also under special conditions from Canada and other British Dominions and the United States of America. The Government contributes from £16 10s. upwards towards the fares of approved nominees from Great Britain, special concessions being available in the cases of married couples, widows and widowers with young families.

Nomination forms and all particulars as to rates, &c., may be obtained on application to the Officer-in-Charge, Immigration Bureau, 17 Russell-street, Melbourne, with whom nominations should be lodged. Inquiries in Great Britain should be addressed to the Director, Commonwealth Migration and Settlement Office, Australia House, Strand, London.

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 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*. The value of goods is taken to be the fair market value in the principal markets of the country whence the goods were exported, or the actual price paid or to be paid, if higher, plus 10 per cent. to cover the cost of insurance, freight, and other charges. When the invoice value of imported goods is shown in any currency other than British currency, 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.

The total values and the values per head of population of imports from and exports to oversea countries for the ten years 1916-17 to 1925-26 are set forth hereunder :—

VALUE OF OVERSEA IMPORTS AND EXPORTS,
1916-17 TO 1925-26.

Year.	Merchandise.	Specie and Bullion.*	Total.	Per Head of Population.
IMPORTS (OVERSEA).				
	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1916-17	25,427,527	47,312	25,474,839	18 2 8
1917-18	20,669,696	443,892	21,113,588	14 18 0
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†	50,285,140	47,705	50,332,845	29 17 9
EXPORTS (OVERSEA).				
	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1916-17	19,024,830	5,316	19,030,146	13 10 11
1917-18	18,715,252	2,001,436	20,716,688	14 12 4
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†	33,043,967	66,264	33,110,231	19 13 3

* 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 1926 (£83,443,076) represents a decrease in imports of £3,956,845, and also in exports of £8,531,748, 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.
	£	£	£	%	%	%
1916-17 ..	76,228,679	97,955,482	174,184,161	33·4	19·4	25·6
1917-18 ..	62,334,449	81,429,221	143,763,670	33·9	25·4	29·1
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* ..	151,557,598	148,419,047	299,976,645	33·2	22·3	27·8

* 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. The number of divisions in this classification has been reduced from 23 to 21 since 1st July, 1922.

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM OVERSEA COUNTRIES INTO VICTORIA DURING THE FINANCIAL YEARS 1922-23 TO 1925-26.

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
CLASS I.—FOODSTUFFS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN, BUT EXCLUDING LIVING ANIMALS.	£	£	£	£
Butter	156,217	63,171	45	166,382
Cheese	11,243	18,729	13,080	35,375
Fish—				
Preserved in Tins	256,514	317,182	332,298	335,419
All other	80,602	91,068	105,143	106,332
Meats	111,529	114,001	134,823	173,739
All other Animal Foodstuffs	9,014	13,538	10,877	11,405
Total, Class I.	625,119	617,689	596,266	828,652

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM OVERSEA COUNTRIES
INTO VICTORIA, 1922-23 TO 1925-26—*continued.*

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
CLASS II.—FOODSTUFFS OF VEGETABLE ORIGIN; NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND SUBSTANCES USED IN MAKING.	£	£	£	£
Caramel, Caramel Paste, Cocoa Butter, &c.	91,984	77,106	60,894	82,754
Cocoa and Chocolate	129,033	134,886	126,158	139,706
Coffee and Chicory	53,081	52,716	64,115	80,507
Confectionery	17,702	19,150	27,230	31,272
Fruits, Dried	55,157	46,676	39,465	41,262
Fruits, Fresh	2,523	7,054	1,725	533
Fruits &c., Preserved	17,509	20,942	29,079	43,192
Grain and Pulse—				
Rice	46,749	110,909	67,938	145,026
All other	75,951	73,473	17,998	152,223
Hops	17,796	6,942	3,533	5,788
Mustard	28,048	45,379	27,308	28,434
Nuts, Edible	126,778	133,008	143,250	182,808
Pickles and Sauces	12,899	12,699	14,281	16,389
Sago and Tapioca	32,431	40,484	29,824	17,866
Spices	59,013	52,632	90,319	75,061
Sugar (Cane)	23,565	42	184	77
Tea	903,814	1,197,546	1,298,213	1,128,547
All other Vegetable Foodstuffs	71,683	102,686	96,987	121,704
Total, Class II.	1,765,716	2,134,330	2,138,501	2,293,149
CLASS III.—SPIRITUOUS AND ALCOHOLIC LIQUORS.				
Ale, Beer, and Porter, &c.	62,088	70,931	61,397	61,813
Spirits (Beverages)—				
Brandy	42,669	47,332	40,834	33,593
Gin	34,039	36,095	40,163	47,095
Whisky	251,411	246,370	253,434	325,066
Other	12,677	14,070	11,816	10,995
Wine (Fermented)—				
Sparkling	12,843	23,353	29,932	25,197
Other	8,634	11,839	10,940	12,710
Total, Class III.	424,361	449,990	448,516	516,469
CLASS IV.—TOBACCO AND PREPARATIONS THEREOF.				
Tobacco—				
Manufactured	17,604	20,309	19,217	24,197
Unmanufactured	613,146	909,543	564,650	447,619
Cigars	28,739	34,008	35,208	40,879
Cigarettes	46,943	59,930	81,405	123,919
Snuff	285	775	274	375
Total, Class IV.	706,717	1,024,565	700,754	636,989

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM OVERSEA COUNTRIES
INTO VICTORIA, 1922-23 TO 1925-26—*continued.*

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
CLASS V.—LIVE ANIMALS ..	£ 28,521	£ 98,256	£ 35,947	£ 72,523
CLASS VI.—ANIMAL SUBSTANCES (MAINLY UNMANUFACTURED), NOT FOODSTUFFS.				
Gelatine and Glue of all kinds	21,422	18,254	19,655	17,255
Skins—				
Hides (Calf, Cattle, and Horse)	330,322	347,471	363,093	336,118
Other	78,519	87,975	80,531	107,678
Wool	36,707	288,476	143,481	118,547
All other Animal Substances ..	49,641	48,236	51,760	52,899
Total, Class VI. ..	516,611	790,412	658,520	632,497
CLASS VII.—VEGETABLE SUB- STANCES AND FIBRES.				
Fibres—				
Flax and Hemp	147,470	184,432	209,760	225,787
Kapok	102,535	91,544	100,290	106,971
All other	109,632	111,472	126,739	109,509
Gums and Resins	105,011	75,827	87,032	116,514
Grass or Straw, for hatmaking, furniture, mats, &c. ..	81,567	72,760	62,037	42,214
Pulp for Papermaking	38,140	24,790	55,493	70,412
Seeds	77,676	130,410	233,913	201,753
Tanning Substances	48,067	38,752	43,052	48,858
All other Vegetable Substances	38,564	41,379	44,774	45,084
Total, Class VII. ..	748,662	771,366	963,090	967,102
CLASS VIII.—(a) APPAREL; (b) TEXTILES; (c) MANUFACTURED FIBRES.				
(a) <i>Apparel.</i>				
Apparel—				
Blouses, Skirts, Costumes, &c.	104,235	129,227	204,603	174,990
Boots and Shoes	136,357	154,278	215,225	175,927
Corsets	178,129	80,921	61,085	51,122
Furs and other Skins—Dressed	128,790	205,422	230,309	215,733
Gloves	357,582	274,831	298,978	259,445
Hats and Caps	177,201	180,839	206,039	278,183
Hosiery and Knitted Apparel (including Socks and Stock- ings)	913,258	700,730	769,953	727,421
Men's and Boys' Outer Garments	31,301	58,415	78,864	69,852
Shirts, Collars, Ties, &c. ..	62,783	38,973	43,650	22,821
Trimmings	603,745	479,487	502,730	468,312
Other	467,575	403,550	467,869	324,272

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM OVERSEA COUNTRIES
INTO VICTORIA, 1922-23 TO 1925-26—*continued.*

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
CLASS VIII.—(a) APPAREL; (b) TEXTILES; (c) MANUFACTURED FIBRES— <i>continued.</i>	£	£	£	£
<i>(b) Textiles.</i>				
Piece Goods—				
Canvas and Duck	512,699	367,628	340,823	389,821
Cotton and Linen	4,705,743	3,845,601	4,048,732	3,731,006
Silk	1,643,684	2,053,096	2,145,793	2,083,050
Woollen	2,033,674	1,554,839	1,380,020	962,761
Other	1,005,686	1,001,465	1,111,705	972,497
Floor Coverings—Carpets, Lino- leums, Mats, &c.	1,100,722	1,142,906	1,044,122	877,882
Sewing and Embroidery Silks, &c.	554,057	480,031	478,066	337,181
All other Textiles	509,349	493,894	527,934	516,574
<i>(c) Manufactured Fibres.</i>				
Bags and Sacks—				
Bran, Chaff, and Compressed Fodder	250,818	261,581	100,664	128,703
Corn and Flour	583,118	569,403	1,043,274	970,043
All other	120,084	93,969	227,294	155,825
Cordage and Twines (excluding Metal Cordage)	58,378	83,202	54,546	57,084
Yarns—				
Cotton	193,643	273,347	316,882	285,850
Wool	1,002,516	458,946	573,861	221,712
Other	153,299	111,106	233,863	234,892
Total, Class VIII.	17,588,426	15,497,687	16,706,884	14,692,959
CLASS IX.—OILS, FATS, AND WAXES.				
Oils (in bulk)—				
Kerosene	223,840	233,881	225,079	229,859
Lubricating (Mineral)	216,670	238,375	273,384	307,306
Petroleum Spirit	1,076,118	1,461,014	1,708,898	2,076,763
All other Oils, Fats, and Waxes	386,171	524,734	458,595	564,708
Total, Class IX.	1,902,799	2,458,004	2,665,956	3,178,636
CLASS X.—PAINTS AND VARNISHES	227,489	239,872	230,283	241,218
CLASS XI.—STONES AND MIN- ERALS, INCLUDING ORES AND CONCENTRATES	121,863	197,689	145,770	197,594

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM OVERSEA COUNTRIES
INTO VICTORIA, 1922-23 TO 1925-26—*continued.*

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
	£	£	£	£
CLASS XII.—METALS, METAL MANUFACTURES, AND MACHINERY.				
<i>(a) Machines and Machinery.</i>				
Electrical Machinery and Appliances—				
Cable and Wire, Covered..	436,983	364,683	391,088	396,787
N.E.I.	1,574,304	1,242,884	1,425,943	1,474,308
Implements and Machinery (Agricultural, Horticultural, and Viticultural)	179,182	235,994	278,405	237,658
All other Machines and Machinery	2,066,932	2,305,107	1,970,700	2,174,751
<i>(b) Metals and Metal Manufactures, other than Machinery.</i>				
Alloys	98,409	118,132	110,128	135,476
Gas Appliances	16,308	24,659	24,927	26,148
Iron and Steel—				
Bar, Rod, Hoop, Ingots, Blooms, &c.	538,936	393,543	440,065	350,283
Girders, Beams, Channels, Joists, &c.	107,333	111,585	140,989	114,181
Pig and Scrap	106,892	70,389	89,318	62,513
Pipes and Tubes	371,931	401,886	338,372	375,795
Plate and Sheet	1,473,913	1,665,443	1,646,431	1,525,400
Railway and Tramway Material	138,278	87,787	15,479	22,019
Wire	390,535	298,057	325,305	269,992
Tools of Trade (not being Machines)	273,133	391,235	341,000	306,411
Vehicles—				
Motor Cycles, Tricycles, &c.	118,091	243,875	249,411	200,423
Bodies for Motor Cars, &c.	143,912	366,996	423,225	381,998
Chassis for Motor Cars, &c.	2,012,257	3,172,567	3,185,302	3,098,031
Other, and Parts	471,381	684,870	597,382	735,031
All other Metals and Metal Manufactures other than Machinery	1,937,680	2,188,562	1,861,433	2,022,191
Total, Class XII. ..	12,456,390	14,368,254	13,854,903	13,909,396

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM OVERSEA COUNTRIES
INTO VICTORIA, 1922-23 TO 1925-26—*continued.*

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
	£	£	£	£
CLASS XIII. — RUBBER AND LEATHER AND MANUFACTURES THEREOF AND SUBSTITUTES THEREFOR.				
<i>(a) Rubber and Rubber Manufactures.</i>				
Rubber, Crude, Powdered or Reclaimed	127,365	275,307	437,033	1,474,312
Rubber Manufactures	509,851	700,607	610,131	770,770
<i>(b) Leather and Manufactures of Leather and Substitutes therefor.</i>				
Patent and Enamelled	129,498	87,605	79,397	47,472
All other	186,487	117,424	106,375	105,045
Total, Class XIII.	953,201	1,180,943	1,232,936	2,397,599
CLASS XIV.—WOOD AND WICKER, RAW AND MANUFACTURED.				
<i>Timber—</i>				
Dressed	890,897	917,646	707,636	763,072
Undressed	1,056,153	1,511,625	1,013,969	1,314,271
Wood and Wicker Manufactures, including Furniture	184,638	229,252	220,174	192,789
Total, Class XIV.	2,131,688	2,658,523	1,941,779	2,270,132
CLASS XV. — EARTHENWARE, CEMENTS, CHINA, GLASS, AND STONWARE.				
Cement (Portland)	42,770	11,533	24,075	13,020
Earthenware, China, &c.	224,714	275,206	276,156	246,801
Glass and Glassware	365,208	384,640	388,302	392,358
All other Earthenware, Cements, China, Glass, and Stoneware.	69,780	97,422	83,981	85,477
Total, Class XV.	702,472	768,801	772,514	737,656

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM OVERSEA COUNTRIES
INTO VICTORIA, 1922-23 TO 1925-26—*continued.*

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
CLASS XVI.—PAPER AND STATIONERY.	£	£	£	£
(a) <i>Paper—</i>				
Cardboard and other Paper				
Boards	71,883	72,068	77,261	74,964
Printing	794,612	916,165	1,021,762	1,064,736
Wrapping of all Colours ..	144,934	137,804	112,125	111,631
Writing and Typewriting ..	270,497	176,875	215,632	197,673
All other	176,648	215,513	197,954	188,617
(b) <i>Stationery and Paper Manufactures—</i>				
Books (Printed), Directories, &c.	337,080	342,391	358,476	420,468
All other	384,870	435,334	373,368	391,489
Total, Class XVI. ..	2,180,524	2,296,150	2,356,578	2,449,578
CLASS XVII.—JEWELLERY, TIME-PIECES, AND FANCY GOODS.				
Fancy Goods	437,431	407,027	441,115	429,194
Jewellery, including Cameos, &c	274,294	274,354	263,389	227,531
Watches, Clocks, Chronometers, &c.	138,473	225,507	201,101	199,504
Total, Class XVII.	850,198	906,888	905,605	856,229
CLASS XVIII.—OPTICAL, SURGICAL, AND SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS.				
Surgical and Dental Instruments, &c.	101,449	99,998	105,487	106,797
Talking Machines—Phonographs, &c.	48,106	95,239	153,715	188,574
All other Optical and Scientific Instruments	124,312	141,501	157,961	145,652
Total, Class XVIII. ..	273,867	336,738	417,163	441,023
CLASS XIX.—DRUGS, CHEMICALS, AND FERTILIZERS.				
Cream of Tartar	84,219	55,809	68,460	68,287
Dyes	132,923	110,493	102,053	85,103
Fertilizers	288,600	339,852	349,538	344,550
Oils, Essential (Non-spirituous) ..	31,597	28,604	39,345	42,028

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM OVERSEA COUNTRIES
INTO VICTORIA, 1922-23 TO 1925-26—*continued.*

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
CLASS XIX.—DRUGS, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS—<i>continued.</i>	£	£	£	£
Perfumery and Toilet Preparations	78,975	78,785	87,410	96,164
Proprietary Medicines	37,922	59,613	60,828	57,787
Sodium Salts	179,646	130,224	151,438	135,678
Sulphur (Brimstone)	74,325	116,806	106,983	148,090
All other Drugs and Chemicals ..	465,978	469,011	504,364	523,781
Total, Class XIX.	1,374,185	1,389,197	1,470,419	1,501,468
CLASS XX.—MISCELLANEOUS.				
Arms, ammunition, and explosives	270,285	239,443	254,918	376,589
Brushware	99,574	113,296	109,394	110,397
Matches and Vestas	71,024	82,138	74,781	65,789
Musical Instruments, &c.—				
Pianos and Parts	168,159	389,324	397,888	307,678
Other and Parts	62,582	76,230	60,713	62,834
Soap	24,513	20,617	25,607	28,195
All other Articles	449,433	459,817	581,634	512,789
Total, Class XX.	1,145,570	1,380,865	1,504,935	1,464,271
CLASS XXI.—GOLD AND SILVER; AND BRONZE SPECIE.				
Gold	393	4,999	4,532,991	29,944
Silver	3,442	21,397	9,329	17,734
Bronze—Specie	886	28	51	27
Total, Class XXI.	4,721	26,424	4,542,371	47,705
Grand Total	46,729,100	49,592,643	54,289,690	50,332,845

The articles imported were mainly manufactured goods. Apparel, textiles, manufactured fibres, machinery, and manufactures of metal amounted to 59½ per cent. of the total value of imports in the last five years. Excluding gold and bullion, &c., the imports for 1926 showed an increase of £537,821, as compared with the previous year. The items showing the largest increases were as follows:—Rubber, £1,197,918; oils, fats, and waxes, £512,680; timber (undressed), £300,302; and butter, £166,337. The chief decreases were in the following:—Textiles, £1,206,423; manufactured fibres, £496,275; apparel, £311,227; and tea, £169,665.

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 1922-23 TO 1925-26.

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
CLASS I.—FOODSTUFFS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN, BUT EXCLUDING LIVING ANIMALS.	£	£	£	£
Butter	3,190,805	2,751,312	4,051,632	2,542,626
Cheese	22,955	31,071	65,130	14,406
Meats—				
Bacon and Hams	23,491	22,352	17,055	18,206
Preserved by Cold Process—				
Beef	41,890	22,944	61,829	59,465
Lamb	1,493,156	656,438	905,743	1,263,511
Mutton	880,472	13,757	95,022	145,261
Rabbits and Hares	10,176	8,477	5,196	53,423
Preserved in Tins	48,750	9,409	33,011	65,639
Other	125,022	28,267	58,581	199,320
Milk and Cream	1,198,708	1,040,183	1,620,068	1,433,925
All other Animal Foodstuffs	6,315	3,323	6,193	28,038
Total, Class I.	7,041,740	4,587,533	6,919,460	5,823,820
CLASS II.—FOODSTUFFS OF VEGETABLE ORIGIN; NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND SUBSTANCES USED IN MAKING.				
Biscuits	52,036	59,413	61,807	100,761
Fruits, Dried	810,103	826,028	1,327,734	961,587
Fruits, Fresh	182,414	131,323	256,478	307,412
Fruits and Vegetables—Preserved				
Grain and Pulse—				
Unprepared—				
Wheat	2,498,066	3,922,823	10,413,976	3,132,983
Other	93,607	84,127	93,014	23,031
Prepared—				
Flour (Wheaten)	2,024,921	2,175,854	2,408,542	2,177,935
Other	32,144	43,245	75,373	32,326
Jams and Fruit Jellies	26,968	24,467	16,840	18,310
Tea	58,365	47,328	53,931	40,232
All other Vegetable Foodstuffs	95,490	198,863	175,965	128,730
Total, Class II.	5,955,102	7,767,940	15,151,158	7,143,468

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES EXPORTED TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES
FROM VICTORIA, 1922-23 TO 1925-26—*continued.*

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
CLASS III.—SPIRITUOUS AND ALCOHOLIC LIQUORS.. ..	£ 39,726	£ 48,862	£ 55,119	£ 100,377
CLASS IV.—TOBACCO AND PREPARATIONS THEREOF.. ..	528,616	286,581	286,122	153,838
CLASS V.—LIVE ANIMALS ..	38,351	22,244	61,421	24,961
CLASS VI.—ANIMAL SUBSTANCES (MAINLY UNMANUFACTURED), NOT FOODSTUFFS.				
Skins—				
Hides (Calf, Cattle, Horse) ..	46,781	78,915	164,890	121,322
Rabbit and Hare	237,853	282,266	349,956	579,000
Sheep	1,241,533	1,214,069	1,523,606	1,340,173
Other	36,405	129,607	119,789	233,468
Wool—				
Greasy	12,231,285	11,578,094	12,858,063	13,552,856
Scoured and Washed	3,469,056	1,255,769	1,459,918	1,533,187
Tops	415,630	233,838	128,397	316,757
All other Animal Substances ..	19,253	20,786	20,864	21,878
Total, Class VI. ..	17,697,796	14,793,344	16,625,483	17,698,641
CLASS VII.—VEGETABLE SUBSTANCES AND FIBRES ..	47,511	45,079	48,652	50,068
CLASS VIII.—(a) APPAREL; (b) TEXTILES; AND (c) MANUFACTURED FIBRES.				
Boots and Shoes	6,656	3,662	2,455	2,363
All other Apparel	75,257	36,053	38,505	31,347
All other Textiles, including Bags, Cordage, Yarns, &c. ..	173,285	91,042	109,052	76,203
Total, Class VIII. ..	255,198	130,757	150,012	109,913
CLASS IX.—OILS, FATS, AND WAXES.				
Tallow—Unrefined	451,405	188,767	441,986	399,783
All other Oils, Fats, and Waxes ..	40,264	78,237	152,711	110,590
Total, Class IX. ..	491,669	267,004	594,697	510,373

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES EXPORTED TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES
FROM VICTORIA, 1922-23 TO 1925-26—*continued.*

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
CLASS X.—PAINTS AND VARNISHES	£ 6,550	£ 4,999	£ 6,784	£ 3,869
CLASS XI.—STONES AND MINERALS, INCLUDING ORES AND CONCENTRATES	77,300	24,374	50,293	21,365
CLASS XII.—METALS, METAL MANUFACTURES, AND MACHINERY.				
(a) <i>Machines and Machinery</i> — Machines and Machinery	148,574	239,580	237,846	136,484
(b) <i>Metal and Metal Manufactures other than Machinery</i> —				
Iron and Steel	16,613	9,624	6,526	14,865
Lead—Pig and in Matte	1,295	450	2,292	1,827
Tin Ingots	137,531	68,944	19,722	55,532
Zinc—Bars, Blocks, &c.	50,689	51,965	296	194
All other Metals and Manufactures thereof	95,970	122,644	157,558	226,713
Total, Class XII.	450,672	493,207	424,240	435,615
CLASS XIII.—RUBBER AND LEATHER, AND MANUFACTURES THEREOF, AND SUBSTITUTES THEREFOR.				
Indiarubber and Manufactures	120,673	123,476	93,132	85,559
Leather and Manufactures	305,744	295,350	253,232	180,397
Total, Class XIII.	426,417	418,826	346,364	265,956
CLASS XIV.—WOOD AND WICKER, RAW AND MANUFACTURED	29,867	19,236	30,180	25,950
CLASS XV. — EARTHENWARE, CEMENTS, CHINA, GLASS, AND STONWARE	14,356	14,705	15,536	13,823
CLASS XVI.—PAPER AND STATIONERY.				
Paper	11,389	20,224	27,690	23,871
Stationery	67,368	113,450	58,649	39,335
Total, Class XVI.	78,757	133,674	86,339	63,206

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES EXPORTED TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES
FROM VICTORIA, 1922-23 TO 1925-26—continued.

Article.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
CLASS XVII.—JEWELLERY, TIME-PIECES, AND FANCY GOODS.				
Precious Stones, Unset; Pearls, Cameos, &c.	£ 6,029	£ 4,401	£ 11,312	£ 6,713
All other Jewellery, Timepieces, and Fancy Goods ..	17,161	15,298	17,396	17,761
Total, Class XVII. ..	23,190	19,699	28,708	24,474
CLASS XVIII.—OPTICAL, SURGICAL, AND SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS..	36,218	49,987	56,031	63,598
CLASS XIX.—DRUGS, CHEMICALS, AND FERTILIZERS.				
Fertilizers—				
Ammonium Sulphate ..	28,395	4,971	10,088	10,230
Other	9,434	6,160	6,105	7,208
Oil—Eucalyptus	26,083	53,836	62,252	61,742
All other Drugs and Chemicals ..	155,722	108,228	130,248	110,112
Total, Class XIX. ..	219,634	173,195	208,693	189,292
CLASS XX.—MISCELLANEOUS.				
Soap	208,957	189,866	221,165	204,163
All other Articles	99,193	120,637	105,007	117,197
Total, Class XX. ..	308,150	310,503	326,172	321,360
CLASS XXI.—GOLD AND SILVER; AND BRONZE SPECIE.				
Gold	805	299	170,515	60,466
Silver	1,076	500	..	5,798
Total, Class XXI. ..	1,881	799	170,515	66,264
Australian produce	33,148,563	29,088,613	41,066,355	32,652,454
Other produce	620,138	523,935	575,624	457,777
Grand Total	33,768,701	29,612,548	41,641,979	33,110,231

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 70 per cent. of the total exports for that period. There was a decrease of £8,531,748 in the exports of 1926, as compared with the previous year. The articles which accounted for the chief decreases were:—Wheat, £7,280,993; butter, £1,509,006, and fruits (all kinds), £362,550. Wool and meats exported showed increases of £956,422 and £628,388 respectively.

Imports from
and exports to
principal
countries.

The value of Victorian trade with various oversea countries and the surplus of imports or exports in each case, during the year ended 30th June, 1926, 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, 1925-26.

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 ..	22,114,491	14,082,376	- 8,032,115
Canada	1,198,117	84,663	- 1,113,454
Ceylon	553,090	174,093	- 378,997
Hong Kong	256	156,221	+ 155,965
India	2,083,826	382,279	- 1,701,547
Irish Free State	1,374	40,484	+ 39,110
Malaya (British)	1,260,622	1,160,853	- 99,769
New Zealand	1,111,846	1,578,250	+ 466,404
Pacific Islands	276,295	71,265	- 205,030
South African Union	238,070	365,605	+ 127,535
Other British Possessions	195,560	110,945	- 84,615
FOREIGN.			
Belgium	317,461	494,392	+ 176,931
China	231,080	141,730	- 89,350
Czecho-Slovakia	138,476	7,176	- 131,300
Egypt	3,694	661,974	+ 658,280
Finland	18,486	73,173	+ 54,687
France	1,599,725	3,855,842	+ 2,256,117
Germany	1,106,558	725,505	- 381,053
Italy	640,003	1,042,467	+ 402,464
Japan	1,360,648	2,343,215	+ 982,567
Netherlands	325,995	37,280	- 288,715
Netherlands East Indies	1,748,122	1,117,295	- 630,827
Norway	548,192	83,198	- 464,994
Persia	230,329	..	- 230,329
Peru	145	180,354	+ 180,209
Philippine Islands	127,199	25,923	- 101,276
Sweden	636,148	27,505	- 608,643
Switzerland	817,714	2,371	- 815,343
United States of America	10,863,215	3,934,531	- 6,928,684
Other Foreign Countries	586,108	149,266	- 436,842
Total	50,332,845	33,110,231	- 17,222,614

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
THERE TO, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.**

Country.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
	Imports of Products or Manufactures of—				
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom*	18,835,097	24,657,303	22,923,002	23,867,972	22,114,491
Canada	1,219,609	1,741,814	1,543,897	1,022,400	1,198,117
India and Ceylon	1,782,350	1,814,912	2,008,835	2,580,414	2,636,916
Malaya (British)	412,976	124,171	240,800	379,777	1,60,622
New Zealand	837,731	1,005,708	1,202,647	1,057,004	1,111,846
South African Union	161,169	213,987	193,010	4,584,675	238,070
Other British Possessions	399,534	411,771	481,717	454,981	473,485
Belgium	393,146	324,480	331,223	348,799	317,461
China	320,121	313,178	293,412	265,830	231,080
Egypt	1,188	10,211	9,746	61,111	3,694
France	1,140,223	1,306,191	1,860,115	1,886,800	1,599,725
Germany	66,296	295,126	582,664	939,372	1,106,558
Italy	423,742	513,153	543,580	685,168	640,003
Japan	1,061,238	1,203,346	1,145,473	1,310,104	1,360,648
Netherlands	205,662	220,133	209,478	257,474	325,995
Netherlands East Indies	927,041	1,427,037	1,577,364	1,769,793	1,748,122
Norway	386,566	850,698	682,207	696,126	548,192
Philippine Islands	72,696	66,706	75,631	77,700	127,199
Sweden	372,347	625,236	799,895	520,071	636,148
Switzerland	808,288	946,282	1,029,798	1,008,153	817,714
United States of America	6,135,555	8,006,961	11,220,595	9,806,692	10,863,215
Other Foreign Countries	378,481	557,481	637,574	783,564	973,544
Total	36,352,056	46,729,100	49,592,643	54,289,690	50,332,845
	Exports to—				
United Kingdom*	16,308,839	19,163,057	12,852,761	18,781,126	14,082,376
Canada	93,341	94,236	74,553	63,395	84,663
India and Ceylon	1,535,548	253,172	312,334	635,364	556,372
Malaya (British)	842,251	627,207	817,368	819,192	1,160,853
New Zealand	1,673,784	1,497,238	1,406,618	1,589,996	1,578,250
South African Union	680,118	647,742	621,908	1,004,077	365,605
Other British Possessions	327,372	343,211	429,573	428,703	378,915
Belgium	590,352	358,102	692,233	970,792	494,392
China	125,984	48,643	362,187	145,171	141,730
Egypt	1,361,936	514,029	760,376	944,210	661,974
France	1,965,004	2,374,421	2,801,079	5,205,757	3,855,842
Germany	399,635	295,279	652,787	1,043,907	725,505
Italy	1,673,832	1,221,882	1,357,588	2,575,374	1,042,467
Japan	2,499,434	2,153,961	2,821,192	1,825,592	2,343,215
Netherlands	91,150	11,863	248,018	340,228	37,280
Netherlands East Indies	1,117,009	1,127,099	914,308	1,348,037	1,117,295
Norway	285,634	42,773	31,321	17,015	83,198
Philippine Islands	96,413	80,239	53,146	35,649	25,923
Sweden	8,351	49,836	72,936	67,885	27,505
Switzerland	4,815	1,691	3,348	517	2,371
United States of America	2,342,628	2,673,354	2,086,626	3,208,312	3,934,531
Other Foreign Countries	610,642	181,586	240,183	591,180	409,969
Total	34,644,182	33,768,701	29,612,548	41,641,979	33,110,231

*Great Britain and Northern Ireland for 1924-25 and 1925-26.

Nearly 43 per cent. of the total value of the exports in 1926 were sent to Great Britain and Northern Ireland, whilst 44 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, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Articles.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.*	1926.*
<i>Imported into Victoria (of United Kingdom origin).</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Whisky	159,782	251,372	245,891	253,091	324,532
Apparel and Attire	710,294	1,179,643	895,478	1,100,614	864,723
Trimmings and Ornaments	121,822	151,093	144,185	156,359	143,810
Piece Goods—					
Cotton and Linen	2,528,758	4,261,605	3,451,274	3,627,899	3,275,167
Woolen	1,316,445	1,983,388	1,423,628	1,251,429	850,302
Silk	267,785	213,897	237,915	303,075	338,884
Canvas and Duck	256,418	425,078	328,021	323,881	342,110
Velvets, and Lace for Attire	232,130	209,025	250,168	256,746	136,547
Other	309,445	383,200	335,273	355,205	357,441
Floor Coverings	656,745	1,042,462	1,078,911	1,000,075	838,998
Sewing and Embroidery Silks, &c.	334,250	479,620	407,719	408,052	293,138
Yarns	796,881	1,300,772	788,226	1,049,626	635,240
Machines and Machinery	1,984,705	2,436,253	2,164,259	2,192,286	2,083,474
Metals and Metal Manufactures—					
Iron and Steel	1,366,898	2,703,326	2,723,455	2,748,131	2,401,098
Vehicles and Parts	374,956	538,581	839,172	1,065,681	1,284,278
Other	1,202,051	1,683,200	1,773,682	1,534,781	1,544,597
Rubber and Rubber Goods	121,266	187,205	160,164	206,834	280,703
Paper	428,767	690,860	1,001,360	1,195,431	1,122,409
Books	260,678	301,330	308,337	321,068	381,442
Dyes	118,514	109,490	99,044	92,909	73,915
All other Articles	5,287,407	4,125,903	4,266,480	4,442,801	4,525,683
Total	18,835,097	24,657,303	22,923,002	23,867,972	22,114,491
<i>Exported from Victoria to United Kingdom.</i>					
Butter	2,439,098	2,586,722	2,055,754	3,442,588	1,934,801
Meats—					
Beef, Mutton and Lamb	1,088,846	2,403,593	679,607	1,075,566	1,417,784
Rabbits and Hares	35,210	9,689	8,049	4,526	52,177
Preserved in tins	11,603	26,934	2,979	17,767	52,636
Milk and Cream	420,229	50,025	8,870	111,667	31,922
Fruits—all kinds	1,146,743	882,536	1,038,037	1,588,458	1,242,905
Wheat and Flour	3,692,630	1,172,682	1,725,689	4,536,944	1,301,460
Hides and Skins	443,224	785,385	1,031,611	1,124,305	1,159,554
Wool	6,078,549	10,087,573	5,297,501	5,978,351	6,061,382
Tallow, unrefined	130,010	227,968	35,300	131,626	128,918
Tin Ingots	118,621	135,688	63,286	17,565	39,075
Leather, &c.	113,063	140,480	113,422	90,140	37,699
All other Articles	591,073	700,782	792,656	666,293	622,123
Total	16,308,899	19,163,057	12,852,761	18,781,126	14,082,376

* The figures for 1924-25 and 1925-26 relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The value of the trade with India and Ceylon was £3,193,288 in 1926, and was less than in the previous year by £22,490. There was an increase in imports of £56,502, and a decrease in exports of £78,992. The principal articles interchanged during the last five years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES INTERCHANGED WITH INDIA AND CEYLON, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Articles.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Imported into Victoria (of Indian and Cingalese origin).</i>					
Cocoa Beans	8,993	8,228	11,608	14,323	11,822
Coffee	19,942	22,466	15,953	21,672	19,618
Rice	129,853	94,714	97,672	55,451	131,802
Nuts	42,667	27,816	38,427	38,337	35,869
Tea	355,716	384,958	522,342	479,011	572,558
Hides and Skins	49,786	35,680	17,958	14,646	7,069
Fibres	25,135	32,475	38,590	45,246	39,442
Gums and Resins	28,873	43,163	21,123	36,701	29,788
Seeds	9,147	2,802	25,193	120,271	76,556
Hessians	98,325	146,736	139,461	223,469	247,893
Floor Coverings	8,631	23,382	14,102	10,548	9,814
Bags and Sacks	911,099	952,611	924,498	1,367,838	1,249,427
Oils in Bulk	4,394	6,386	6,978	8,352	10,829
Waxes	5,896	2,769	1,816	3,647	6,895
Rubber, &c.	2,216	2,524	12,854	40,560	65,452
All other Articles	81,677	88,202	120,260	106,277	122,082
Total	1,782,350	1,814,912	2,008,835	2,580,414	2,636,916
<i>Exported from Victoria to India and Ceylon.</i>					
Butter	7,107	15,215	17,562	10,842	12,463
Meats	8,137	20,492	5,239	14,702	9,026
Milk and Cream	67,690	45,727	25,488	159,010	215,103
Biscuits	4,594	4,914	4,475	5,872	6,888
Hay and Chaff	4,175	4,248	2,472	10,326	10,294
Fruits (preserved in liquid)	8,425	9,107	1,452	2,537	2,546
Wheat, Flour, and Oatmeal	1,282,040	52,800	81,952	121,759	130,207
Jams and Jellies	7,180	3,755	3,656	2,828	5,612
Horses	7,430	19,739	5,606	12,010	12,012
Wool	42,559	11,485	111,817	103,884	14,790
Tallow	23,191	25,966	14,272	33,377	29,611
Leather, &c.	3,610	2,758	2,469	3,228	3,168
Soap	2,740	5,234	5,477	4,949	6,830
Specie and Bullion .. .. .	.. .. .	453	.. .. .	108,639	53,804
All other Articles	66,670	31,279	30,397	41,261	44,018
Total	1,535,548	253,172	312,334	635,364	556,372

The value of the trade with New Zealand for the year ended 30th June, 1926, was £2,690,096. The exports thereto amounted to £1,578,250, and represented 4·8 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, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Articles.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
<i>Imported into Victoria (of New Zealand origin).</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Butter	16,020	153,184	61,807	9	166,371
Fish	38,940	33,809	33,894	39,360	32,872
Milk and Cream .. .. .	.. .. .	1,782	.. .. .	2,551	3,021
Meats	5,961	7,081	24,727	16,437	17,435
Hops	7,430	10,316	4,927	1,510	5,002
Animals (horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs)	7,447	11,006	45,882	7,722	15,597
Hides and Skins	262,158	319,660	351,750	328,150	315,788
Wool	2,454	36,700	284,099	142,317	25,011
Flax and Hemp	106,843	47,459	70,380	78,595	67,183
Oakum and Tow	18,736	22,820	13,523	36,214	25,687
Seeds	29,380	31,558	35,161	63,246	55,193
Timber	278,737	251,715	180,865	262,561	273,792
All other Articles	63,625	78,618	90,632	78,332	168,894
Total	837,731	1,005,708	1,202,647	1,057,004	1,111,846
<i>Exported from Victoria to New Zealand.</i>					
Fruits, all kinds	142,637	130,071	119,499	189,486	166,101
Grain and Pulse—					
Wheat	2	.. .. .	142,611	108,379	435,943
Flour .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	495	30,117	86,861
Barley .. .. .	.. .. .	920	4,091	4,854	2,634
Oats	3,142	1,995	32,592	26,429	6,141
Rice and Rice Meal	19,147	9,213	17,826	17,645	14,427
Tea	36,681	57,111	45,889	51,009	39,761
Spirituous and Alcoholic Liquors	15,752	17,760	14,667	18,980	22,559
Tobacco manufactured	344,850	525,954	281,799	284,727	151,757
Apparel	254,407	47,008	19,611	13,734	14,223
Piece Goods	91,943	97,971	30,771	34,508	24,233
Oils	24,789	11,839	49,707	114,750	79,733
Machines and Machinery	45,721	41,912	42,643	76,008	46,058
Metal manufactures	43,196	57,723	62,179	62,873	57,652
Rubber manufactures	133,614	101,007	121,550	92,150	84,601
Leather, &c.	54,130	40,392	37,840	30,046	16,456
Books	33,137	22,755	23,213	21,070	15,159
Drugs and Chemicals	65,832	69,856	45,067	40,935	26,006
Photographic goods and materials	23,823	28,760	36,456	41,780	49,117
All other Articles	340,872	234,991	273,132	330,496	238,828
Australian produce	1,130,190	1,142,893	1,120,998	1,230,261	1,336,532
Other produce	543,594	354,345	285,620	359,735	241,718
Total	1,673,784	1,497,238	1,406,618	1,589,996	1,578,250

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, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Articles.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
<i>Imported into Victoria (of Belgian origin).</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Piece Goods	23,281	24,275	25,552	30,991	30,601
Copper	8,556	6,554	6,110	3,377	2,873
Iron and Steel	153,961	3,817	13,735	18,707	14,001
Vehicles	9,695	14,462	38,274	29,875	19,198
Glass and Glassware	64,030	115,840	125,575	126,015	123,844
Paper	29,735	33,153	33,969	34,627	25,886
Cameos and Precious Stones	21,136	41,133	17,044	15,036	6,425
All other Articles	82,752	85,246	70,964	90,171	94,633
Total	393,146	324,480	331,223	348,799	317,461
<i>Exported from Victoria to Belgium.</i>					
Wheat	81,905	..	22,177	434,464	53,688
Hides and Skins	42,673	53,683	102,276	45,309	53,928
Wool	316,178	248,366	501,125	417,542	358,462
Ores	11,674	140	525	2,585	940
Tallow	10,657	18,536	4,990	19,755	17,838
Cameos and Precious Stones	114	463	957	2,198	1,189
All other Articles	127,151	36,914	60,183	48,939	8,347
Total	590,352	358,102	692,233	970,792	494,392

Trade with
Netherlands
East Indies.

The Netherlands East Indies accounted for 3·4 per cent. of Victoria's oversea trade in 1926. The chief articles interchanged during the last five years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES INTERCHANGED WITH
NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Articles.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925	1926.
<i>Imported into Victoria (of Netherlands East Indies origin).</i>					
	£	£	£	£	£
Coffee and Chicory	13,073	16,500	21,083	23,615	32,757
Sago and Tapioca	11,856	3,378	18,057	6,751	4,555
Spices	7,025	5,692	8,665	9,292	9,559
Sugar	8,969	23,391	22		
Tea	263,771	487,542	608,300	777,466	532,442
Tobacco—unmanufactured	36,454	50,395	50,330	13,851	27,780
Hides and Skins	5,892	3,959	1,037	2,191	2,852
Fibres	96,481	144,426	126,270	130,368	135,274
Seeds	3,276	16,569	8,038	19,600	16,567
Oils	427,892	614,414	678,669	718,147	846,966
Rubber, crude	20,159	21,403	18,178	33,920	99,053
All other Articles	32,393	38,918	38,715	34,292	40,317
Total	927,041	1,427,087	1,577,364	1,769,793	1,748,122
<i>Exported from Victoria to the Netherlands East Indies.</i>					
Butter	411,388	459,033	413,620	413,730	451,169
Meats	19,348	16,185	18,803	14,131	17,722
Milk and Cream	155,206	137,666	90,624	448,123	93,233
Biscuits	27,180	26,626	29,806	40,419	74,608
Fruits, and fruit juices	9,214	25,234	25,114	22,155	28,230
Grain and Pulse	335,458	343,103	248,496	308,051	360,590
Machines and Machinery	8,551	2,004	15,561	2,293	2,378
Leather, &c.	50,977	46,139	48,631	48,151	39,474
Ammonium Sulphate	7,178			9,733	4,640
All other Articles	92,509	71,109	23,653	41,241	45,251
Total	1,117,009	1,127,099	914,308	1,348,037	1,117,295

In 1926 the value of the trade with France was £5,455,567, or 6·5 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, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Articles.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
<i>Imported into Victoria (of French origin.)</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Brandy	41,515	42,287	47,169	40,038	32,701
Wine	9,671	15,375	27,753	33,593	28,716
Apparel—					
Trimmings and Ornaments	136,059	194,191	163,993	139,077	124,613
Gloves	25,554	23,152	27,525	28,571	31,249
Other	79,448	99,299	150,677	231,896	203,560
Piece Goods	462,112	466,907	781,405	722,235	611,104
Oils	6,933	9,739	14,181	11,529	14,594
Motor Cars and Parts	92,529	130,906	186,912	162,254	94,046
Rubber Manufactures	41,118	56,814	57,114	61,980	63,185
Pipes (smoking)	17,136	24,935	23,418	22,652	13,044
Cream of Tartar	39,851	39,816	24,029	22,385	23,797
Perfumery and Toilet Preparations	16,492	18,429	19,626	24,983	23,538
All other Articles	171,805	239,341	336,313	385,287	335,578
Total	1,140,223	1,396,191	1,830,115	1,886,480	1,599,725
<i>Exported from Victoria to France.</i>					
Butter	59,961	16,863	26,172	14,717	1,835
Wheat and Flour	433,992	125,747	179,041	2,175,197	6,274
Hides and Skins	186,788	372,094	408,672	532,139	536,182
Wool	1,252,317	1,809,489	2,148,671	2,453,911	3,279,225
Zinc Bars, &c. .. .. .	.. .. .	36,600	21,300	.. .. .	.. .. .
Tallow (unrefined)	8,027	3,188	999	11,393	3,032
All other Articles	23,924	10,440	16,224	18,400	29,294
Total	1,965,004	2,374,421	2,801,079	5,205,757	3,855,842

The trade with Germany, which amounted to 8·4 per cent. of the total with oversea countries in 1913, was discontinued early in the year 1914-15 owing to the outbreak of war and the passing of the *Trading with the Enemy Act* 1914. The embargo against exports to Germany was removed on 2nd

December, 1920. The importation of German goods, except by permits granted by the Minister for Trade and Customs, was not permitted until 1st August, 1922. For restrictions under Industries Preservation Act, see page 414 of *Victorian Year-Book*, 1923-24.

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

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES INTERCHANGED WITH GERMANY, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Articles.	Value in year ended 30th June—				
	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
<i>Imported into Victoria (of German origin).</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Apparel—					
Gloves .. .. .	..	7,437	48,907	143,177	120,339
Other	4	14,545	45,787	75,264	109,893
Piece Goods .. .. .	..	8,499	42,187	56,899	71,021
Machines and Machinery ..	59,227	89,948	88,680	98,254	133,545
Metals and Metal Manufactures—					
Vehicles	33	47,172	33,912	17,087	8,752
Platedware and Cutlery ..	..	3,427	6,095	19,298	24,305
Other	977	12,759	25,425	57,766	132,698
Toys .. .. .	..	11,398	20,213	48,891	47,114
Timepieces .. .. .	..	1,299	12,238	30,202	37,077
Optical, Surgical, and Scientific Instruments	116	11,385	24,645	21,549	26,565
Drugs, Chemicals, and Fertilizers	5,333	13,497	19,641	31,961	46,096
Musical Instruments	29	39,850	116,390	178,824	112,659
All other Articles	577	33,910	98,544	160,200	236,494
Total	66,296	295,126	582,664	939,372	1,106,558
<i>Exported from Victoria to Germany.</i>					
Sausage Casings	1,589	496	2,339	1,789	15,315
Fruits (all kinds)	2	..	3,692	20,351	35,483
Wheat and Flour	157,195	9	10,930	512,410	54,481
Wool	199,292	195,397	544,020	315,892	507,601
Hides and Skins	7,273	11,933	39,569	111,112	60,405
Silver Lead Concentrates ..	23,208	30,136	..	..	..
Tallow	3,870	12,436	5,739	26,279	..
Casein .. .. .	..	18,685	12,575	16,773	8,501
Eucalyptus Oil	2,110	1,241	5,791	7,719	10,314
All other Articles	5,096	24,946	28,132	31,582	33,405
Total	399,635	295,279	652,787	1,043,907	725,505

The value of Japanese goods received in 1925-26 represented only 2·7 per cent. of the total oversea imports, as compared with 8·8 per cent. in 1918-19. The exports to Japan during 1925-26 were £517,623 greater than in the previous year, and was accounted for by the larger shipment of wheat. The principal articles interchanged during the last five years were as follows :—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES INTERCHANGED WITH JAPAN, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Articles.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
<i>Imported into Victoria (of Japanese origin).</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Grass or Straw, &c.	310	15,765	15,497	11,016	6,302
Hosiery and Knitted Articles	25,976	27,021	19,029	21,405	6,643
Shirts, Collars, Pyjamas, &c.	943	1,818	2,039	2,933	180
Socks and Stockings	4,874	5,194	4,038	5,439	9,477
Buttons, Buckles, &c.	12,065	21,048	12,761	15,388	21,485
Cosies, Cushions, &c.	1,100	1,831	1,557	893	679
Piece Goods—Silk	622,213	605,809	663,628	782,184	762,429
" " Cotton and Linen	64,912	175,976	159,853	211,441	222,444
" " Other	3,053	7,057	14,065	6,347	24,171
Oils	13,685	14,344	6,261	5,914	5,197
Electrical Machinery and Appliances	3,847	6,951	6,798	3,787	410
Timber	7,409	18,658	13,159	35,736	34,768
China-ware	26,433	26,701	20,622	18,235	26,156
Glass and Glassware	28,733	26,949	21,895	15,822	19,590
Fancy Goods	20,879	46,328	29,668	22,153	25,809
Sulphur—Brimstone	1,333	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .
All other Articles	222,673	202,396	148,603	151,361	194,908
Total	1,061,238	1,203,346	1,145,473	1,310,104	1,360,648
<i>Exported from Victoria to Japan.</i>					
Butter	4,734	2,197	3,644	939	564
Milk and Cream	72,443	481,161	328,343	162,462	105,630
Grain and Pulse	1,522,437	511,919	958,554	323,666	1,054,784
Wool	636,404	1,050,369	1,416,989	1,259,470	1,094,858
Tallow (unrefined)	56,015	40,525	55,933	30,318	45,895
Casein	22,715	13,406	20,800	16,543	23,070
Fertilizers	20,034	26,495	5,412	1,130	8,115
All other Articles	164,652	19,889	31,517	31,064	10,299
Total	2,499,434	2,153,961	2,821,192	1,825,592	2,343,215

Trade with
United States
of America

The value of the trade with the United States in 1926 was £14,797,746, or 17·7 per cent. of the value of the Victorian oversea trade. As compared with the year 1925 the value of this trade was greater by £1,782,242, there having been an increase

in imports of £1,056,523, and also in exports of £725,719. 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, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Articles.	Value in Year ended 30th June—				
	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Imported into Victoria (of United States origin).</i>					
Sausage Casings	59,794	76,851	49,150	65,169	107,008
Tobacco, &c.	672,857	555,589	834,916	541,201	423,658
Gums and Resins	15,202	12,296	13,662	22,619	34,170
Apparel—					
Socks and Stockings	146,950	171,004	131,411	83,279	114,922
Gloves	61,559	65,336	48,754	17,532	10,215
Other	155,736	267,147	240,032	204,042	156,048
Textiles—					
Piece Goods	231,426	307,954	244,158	176,594	274,545
Other	56,659	82,667	88,811	75,560	74,212
Manufactured Fibres and Yarns	11,333	28,324	61,869	59,471	84,244
Oils	790,096	1,025,939	1,435,465	1,603,232	1,855,776
Machines and Machinery	1,186,239	1,338,136	1,525,756	1,276,774	1,583,024
Metals and metal manufactures—					
Vehicles and parts	474,371	1,095,199	2,550,731	2,602,346	2,564,476
Iron and Steel	188,598	266,554	177,819	179,838	175,252
Tools of Trade	96,095	127,021	213,312	166,647	138,403
Other	346,444	354,493	520,553	378,403	422,218
Rubber, &c.	70,584	158,889	344,156	268,563	338,134
Leather, &c.	121,825	222,271	118,581	90,329	64,668
Timber	264,011	698,791	1,169,650	633,514	929,071
Paper	108,081	95,971	99,828	79,734	76,374
Stationery	65,556	111,315	126,360	121,694	122,540
Jewellery, Timepieces, and Fancy Goods	75,553	87,610	117,102	72,649	84,380
Optical, Surgical, and Scientific Instruments	85,186	133,469	142,570	155,350	143,475
Arms, Ammunition, and Explosives	12,328	28,441	33,010	32,518	70,292
Instruments—Musical	95,431	116,850	256,625	198,859	192,191
All other Articles	743,641	578,844	676,316	700,695	817,922
Total	6,135,555	8,006,961	11,220,595	9,806,692	10,863,215
<i>Exported from Victoria to the United States.</i>					
Sausage Casings	95,105	78,672	16,537	45,049	159,187
Hides and Skins	76,485	351,732	90,259	281,777	427,036
Wool	1,969,796	2,151,892	1,906,917	2,808,723	3,193,089
Tallow		8,443			21,690
Platinum—Bars, Blocks, &c.	21,639	374	4,911	16,256	50,914
Eucalyptus Oil	9,051	11,773	15,889	16,489	13,713
All other Articles	170,552	72,468	52,113	40,518	68,902
Total	2,342,628	2,678,354	2,086,626	3,208,812	3,934,531

Destination of principal articles exported. Wool, wheat and flour, butter, skins, meats, and fruits (all kinds), were the six principal articles exported from Victoria in 1926—their value being equal to 87 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 1925-26.

Destination.	Wool.	Wheat and Flour.	Butter.	Skins.	Meats.	Fruits (all kinds.)
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	6,061,382	1,301,400	1,934,801	1,159,554	1,546,616	1,242,905
Canada ..	36,623	..	4,485	5,277	7,012	10,873
Hong Kong ..	..	123,696	2,585	150	1,787	1,584
India and Ceylon ..	14,790	130,199	12,463	..	9,026	4,924
Irish Free State ..	..	40,473	..	..	..	..
Malaya (British) ..	..	150,374	63,363	..	11,788	2,156
Mauritius ..	..	53,011	9,495	..	551	10
New Zealand ..	8,139	522,804	20	2,463	923	166,101
South African Union ..	1,178	223,004	600	..	1,262	3,309
Other British Countries	..	31,583	462	..	11,477	2,448
Africa, Portuguese East	..	53,721	431	..	..	25
Belgium ..	358,462	53,688	287	53,928	4,285	..
China ..	..	477	29,366	627	405	1,717
Egypt ..	..	626,271	16,686	..	12,926	2,125
Finland ..	71,459	..	..	1,714	..	..
France ..	3,279,225	6,274	1,835	536,182	..	..
Germany ..	507,601	54,481	7,806	60,405	15,315	35,483
Greece ..	..	..	1,056	..	10	38
Italy ..	725,313	213,434	..	11,618	3,023	78
Japan ..	1,094,858	1,054,393	564	886	1,129	106
Netherlands ..	13,796	2,184	..	10,544	..	631
Netherlands East Indies	..	358,988	451,169	..	17,722	10,328
Norway ..	5,427	74,351	..	..	..	..
Peru ..	..	180,354	..	..	..	..
Philippine Islands ..	2,351	11,005	460	..	186	..
Sweden ..	20,069	..	..	2,982	..	..
United States of America	3,193,089	..	..	427,036	159,355	2,450
Other Foreign Countries	9,038	34,753	4,692	597	27	2,369
Total ..	15,402,800	5,310,918	2,542,526	2,273,963	1,804,825	1,489,160

Customs and
Excise
Revenue.

The following statement shows the oversea trade and the gross revenue collected, at Victorian ports and inland stations, during the year 1925-26:—

OVERSEA TRADE AND GROSS REVENUE COLLECTED AT
VICTORIAN PORTS AND INLAND STATIONS, 1925-26.

Ports.	Oversea Trade.			Gross Revenue Collected.		
	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Customs.	Excise.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Melbourne ..	48,972,917	28,928,146	77,901,063	8,545,505	2,849,549	11,395,054
Geelong ..	1,218,449	2,560,718	3,779,167	251,748	16,001	267,749
Portland ..	104,830	588,865	693,695	2,692	..	2,692
Warrnambool	36,649	1,032,502	1,069,151	7,344	602	7,946
Inland stations	..	..	..	..	34,277	34,277
Total ..	50,332,845	33,110,231	83,443,076	8,807,289	2,900,429	11,707,718

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 429) and at the port of Melbourne (page 433) 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, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Heading.	Year ended 30th June—				
	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Vessels Entered—					
Number	2,442	2,634	2,666	2,577	2,470
Tons	5,506,127	6,611,352	6,782,495	6,807,357	6,485,561
Average tonnage	2,255	2,510	2,544	2,642	2,626
Crews	148,879	*	*	*	*
Vessels Cleared—					
Number	2,436	2,634	2,676	2,605	2,447
Tons	5,518,393	6,618,968	6,749,873	6,876,355	6,494,779
Average tonnage	2,265	2,513	2,522	2,640	2,654
Crews	148,644	*	*	*	*

* Not available.

The figures in the above table for the year 1926 show a decrease in the tonnage of vessels as compared with each of the preceding three years. For the twelve months ended 30th June, 1926, steamers numbered 2,443 of the vessels entered, and 2,418 of the vessels cleared, their tonnage aggregating 6,462,140 and 6,472,092 respectively.

The inward shipping of 1926 included 33 vessels in ballast, of an aggregate tonnage of 85,712, whilst the outward shipping included 320 vessels in ballast, having an aggregate tonnage of 602,357.

The more important of the countries having shipping communication with Victoria in 1925-26 are set out in the following statement:—

Shipping with principal countries.

SHIPPING WITH PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES, 1925-26.

Countries.	Entered.				Cleared.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	Num-ber.	Net Tonnage.	Num-ber.	Ton-nage.	Num-ber.	Net Tonnage.	Num-ber.	Ton-nage.
Australian States	1,728	3,392,842	15	1,281	1,848	3,984,944	17	5,094
Great Britain	187	1,265,938	1	1,340	167	1,177,240	2	4,125
New Zealand	62	114,415	2	295	64	121,523	4	495
India	19	71,963	..	..	10	37,412	..	..
Straits Settlements	32	99,547	..	..	33	101,757	..	..
Other British	69	206,481	1	1,885	64	187,835	1	1,106
Total British Countries	2,097	5,151,186	19	4,801	2,186	5,610,711	24	10,820
Japan	50	170,997	..	..	58	197,992	..	..
Dutch East Indies	27	86,910	..	..	30	96,019	1	3,319
United States	146	558,882	..	..	42	162,910	..	..
Other Foreign	123	494,165	8	18,620	102	404,460	4	8,548
Total Foreign Countries	346	1,310,954	8	18,620	232	861,381	5	11,867
Total	2,443	6,462,140	27	23,421	2,418	6,472,092	29	22,687

Nationality of vessels.

The nationality of vessels entered and cleared at Victorian ports for the year 1925-26 was as shown hereunder:—

NATIONALITY OF SHIPPING, 1925-26.

Nationality.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
British—				
Australian	1,531	2,176,890	1,503	2,155,687
Great Britain	555	3,057,541	567	3,124,195
Canadian	30	107,972	28	99,913
Hong Kong	11	27,719	11	27,719
New Zealand	57	106,250	59	108,034
South African	2	5,166	2	5,166
Other British	4	11,546	5	13,606
Total British	2,190	5,493,084	2,175	5,534,320
Foreign—				
Danish	14	45,978	13	43,343
Finnish	5	9,444	4	7,470
French	7	34,030	8	37,232
German	32	110,820	36	118,898
Netherlands	31	116,428	30	114,381
Italian	26	105,142	26	107,026
Japanese	54	187,339	54	185,248
Norwegian	41	135,041	38	128,368
Swedish	28	84,489	27	81,344
United States	38	154,742	33	131,662
Other Foreign	4	9,024	3	5,487
Total Foreign	280	992,477	272	960,459
Total	2,470	6,485,561	2,447	6,494,779

Shipping
entered at
Victorian
Ports.

Particulars of shipping—oversea, interstate, and coast-wise—which entered at each port of Victoria are given in the following statement for the year ended 30th June, 1926 :—

VESSELS ENTERED AT EACH OF THE VICTORIAN PORTS, 1925-26.

Direction.	Melbourne.		Cunning- hame (Lakes Entrance).		Geelong.		Portland.		Warnam- bool.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
Oversea—										
Steam ..	679	2,948,453	..	..	25	79,328	9	38,199	2	3,318
Sailing ..	12	22,140	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Inter-State—										
Steam ..	1,614	3,189,273	..	..	101	183,491	2	9,296	11	10,782
Sailing ..	15	1,281	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Oversea <i>via</i> Ports—										
Steam ..	17	54,557	..	..	34	127,702	4	18,227	..	..
Inter-State <i>via</i> Ports—										
Steam ..	31	77,802	..	..	7	12,437	..	..	7	27,618
Local (within the State)—										
Steam ..	1,238	352,189	40	3,920	469	184,892	77	31,682	138	34,429
Sailing ..	202	8,175	..	..	33	8,937	..	..	..	..
Total—										
Steam ..	3,579	6,622,274	40	3,920	636	587,850	92	97,404	158	76,147
Sailing ..	229	31,596	..	..	33	8,937	..	..	..	..
Grand Total	3,808	6,653,870	40	3,920	669	596,787	92	97,404	158	76,147

NOTE.—“Ports” mean Victorian ports.

Vessels on
Victorian
register.

The number of vessels on the Victorian register on 31st December, 1925, their net tonnage, and the ports of registration are given in the statement which follows :—

VESSELS ON THE VICTORIAN REGISTER, 1925.

Port of Registration.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	Number.	Net Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Net Tonnage.
Melbourne ..	214	138,379	133	30,975	347	169,354
Geelong ..	2	419	2	29	4	448
Port Fairy ..	3	621	..	..	3	621
Total ..	219	139,419	135	31,004	354	170,423

During 1925 there were added to the register 9 steamers with net tonnage of 5,588, and 6 sailing vessels with a tonnage of 115; whilst 5 steamers having net tonnage of 4,048, and 2 sailing vessels having tonnage of 233, were taken off the register.

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 1925-26 the approximate number of passengers carried was 198,000, whilst the total revenue and expenditure amounted to £5,657 and £8,829 respectively. There were 6 persons employed, and the total mileage was 21,300.

Cargo shipped and discharged. Statistics relating to the tonnage of cargo shipped and discharged in Victoria during the year ended 30th June, 1926, have now been tabulated, as 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 shipped and discharged in Victoria according to the nationality of the vessels carrying.

**TONNAGE OF INTERSTATE AND OVERSEA CARGO SHIPPED
AND DISCHARGED AT EACH PORT DURING
THE YEAR 1925-26.**

Port.	Discharged.		Shipped.	
	Interstate.	Oversea.	Interstate.	Oversea.
	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.
Melbourne	1,678,712	1,652,476	597,377	659,722
Geelong	150,018	56,038	11,665	87,939
Portland .. .. .	..	8,495	..	5,835
Warrnambool	16,951	930	1,241	3,540
Total	1,845,681	1,717,939	610,283	757,036

**TONNAGE OF OVERSEA CARGO SHIPPED AND DISCHARGED
IN VICTORIA DURING THE YEAR 1925-26, ACCORDING
TO THE NATIONALITY OF THE VESSELS
IN WHICH SUCH CARGO WAS CARRIED.**

Nationality of Vessels Carrying Cargo.	Tonnage.	
	Discharged.	Shipped.
Australian	107,702	46,310
Great Britain	996,866	377,245
Canadian	46,293	23,482
Hong Kong	3,884	4,537
New Zealand	48,962	90,348
South African	8,510	622
Other British	10,873	1,380
Total British	1,223,090	543,924
Danish	53,732	..
Finnish	18,451	1,500
French	8,756	792
German	55,877	18,920
Holland	29,701	38,138
Italian	23,616	20,237
Japanese	59,590	66,790
Norwegian	121,454	29,524
Swedish	69,506	22,307
United States of America	49,160	11,746
Other Foreign	5,006	3,158
Total Foreign	494,849	213,112
Grand Total	1,717,939	757,036

PORT OF MELBOURNE.

Port of Melbourne. The port of Melbourne is under the control of the Melbourne Harbor Trust, which has 10·8 miles of wharfs, piers, and jetties in the River Yarra, Victoria Dock, and Hobson's Bay. The area of these wharfs is 66 acres, of which 26 acres are under sheds. The constitution of the Trust and the revenue and expenditure are shown in part "Municipal Statistics."

Port Improvement. An additional railway pier at Port Melbourne (called Prince's Pier) was completed in 1915, its length being 1,902 feet, and its width 186 feet. The total cost of the pier and super-structures was £215,792. Dredging has been completed to 37 feet, to provide for four berths for vessels drawing 35 feet. Two shelter sheds are provided, which are connected with vessels by movable gangways bridging the railway lines. Passengers are thus enabled to board and disembark from vessels clear of the railway traffic.

Another modern pier is being constructed on the site of the old railway pier at Port Melbourne, to be called "Station Pier." This new structure will be similar in design to the Prince's Pier, and will have a length of 2,200 feet, and a width of 195 feet which will allow of the installation of electric travelling cranes on both sides of the pier when required. Two of these cranes have been already erected on the west side. The pier will ultimately provide four berths for oversea steamers with a depth of 37 feet below low water, at an estimated cost (including dredging) of £492,880. The construction of two inner berths, as a provision for bay excursion steamers, has been completed. The expenditure on this work to 31st December, 1925, amounted to £253,889.

The channel leading to the piers at Port Melbourne and Williamstown is 600 feet wide, and dredging is in progress to provide a depth of 37 feet at low water. The first stage of providing a depth of 34 feet has been completed, and a channel with this depth is now open for the full width of 600 feet.

The construction of the new Central Pier at the Victoria Dock was completed in 1916. A bed for the centre roadway on this pier was formed by the insertion of reinforced concrete plates on which wood blocks have been laid. The expenditure on the pier to 31st December, 1925, including the erection of six cargo sheds, was £201,209.

The widening of the swinging basin on the south side of the river, and the erection of a timber wharf around the basin, have been completed. This work makes the width of the river at the basin 700 feet for a length of 1,000 feet. The river below the swinging basin as far as the Coode Canal, viz., for 4,480 feet, is being widened by 100 feet; 3,490 feet has been completed, leaving 990 feet still to be put in hand. The works being carried out in this connexion are:—Construction of reinforced concrete sheet piling, erection of wharf in front of sheet piling, demolition of the old wharf and sheet piling, and dredging to a depth of 27 feet. The swinging basin has been dredged to 27 feet O.L.W. The cost of these works to 31st December, 1925, was £321,484; the estimated total cost was £375,000.

The material dredged and disposed of during 1925

Dredging. amounted to 3,437,917 barge yards, viz., 1,460,336 barge yards from the Bay within the Harbor Trust boundary, and 1,977,581 barge yards from the River Yarra and Victoria Dock. Since the establishment of the Trust the river dredgings have amounted to 44,604,222, and the Bay dredgings to 39,956,800 barge yards, making a total of 84,561,022 barge yards. Of the dredgings 64,955,066 barge yards were deposited in deep water and 19,605,956 barge yards were landed and deposited for reclamation work. The average cost of dredging, towing, and depositing in 1925 was 14·16d. per barge yard.

There is a berthing space of 50,453 feet, the whole of which has a good depth of water—7,610 feet at Williamstown, 7,444 feet at Port Melbourne, 20,524 feet in the River Yarra, 11,262 feet in the Victoria Dock, and 3,613 in the Maribyrnong River.

**Berthing
Accommo-
dation.**

In the year 1925 vessels to the number of 4,241, comprising 3,580 steamers, 5 ships, 4 barques, 257 ketches, 84 schooners, and 311 lighters, with registered gross tonnage aggregating 11,558,322, berthed within the port. The tonnage of imports in 1925 was 3,413,511, and that of exports, 1,481,078. These figures include New Zealand and Interstate tonnage, which amounted to 1,863,284 in the case of imports, and 558,082 in the case of exports. Coal forms a great part of the Interstate imports. Exclusive of transshipments, 1,241,202 tons of coal were imported in 1925.

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.

The ordinary rate for cabling to the United Kingdom is 2s. 6d. per word, and the deferred rate is 1s. 3d. 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 *viâ* 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.

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: 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Service.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
LETTERS AND POSTCARDS.					
Posted for Delivery—					
Within the Commonwealth..	149,921,631	157,552,117	169,736,677	177,065,374	182,858,200
Outside the Commonwealth	4,743,414	5,246,566	7,253,801	8,323,470	9,660,600
Total	154,665,045	162,798,683	176,990,478	185,388,844	192,518,800
Received from—					
Outside the Commonwealth	13,946,384	14,102,942	16,263,751	18,485,872	19,311,500

REGISTERED LETTERS AND ARTICLES.					
Posted for Delivery—					
Within the Commonwealth..	1,529,748	1,566,130	1,689,094	1,706,602	1,714,752
Outside the Commonwealth	77,182	81,966	91,757	112,499	111,905
Total	1,606,930	1,648,096	1,780,851	1,819,101	1,826,657
Received from—					
Outside the Commonwealth	119,567	132,574	131,560	125,321	162,796

NEWSPAPERS.					
Posted for Delivery—					
Within the Commonwealth..	27,631,937	33,120,157	35,042,439	37,936,920	38,865,700
Outside the Commonwealth	1,264,932	1,368,343	1,413,324	2,085,108	2,826,000
Total	28,896,869	34,488,500	36,455,763	40,022,028	41,691,700
Received from—					
Outside the Commonwealth	2,396,421	2,775,606	3,785,421	4,756,226	4,860,700

PACKETS.					
Posted for Delivery—					
Within the Commonwealth..	10,386,880	11,947,310	12,831,486	15,332,190	17,437,100
Outside the Commonwealth	344,987	310,219	333,601	413,053	423,100
Total	10,731,867	12,257,529	13,165,087	15,795,243	17,860,200
Received from—					
Outside the Commonwealth	642,793	588,805	796,493	1,068,803	1,206,400

PARCELS.					
Posted for delivery—					
Within the Commonwealth..	1,909,355	2,072,153	2,007,259	2,324,398	2,320,200
Outside the Commonwealth	48,211	53,504	69,783	44,595	46,600
Total	1,957,566	2,125,657	2,077,042	2,368,993	2,366,800
Received from—					
Outside the Commonwealth	90,154	122,929	122,566	128,506	135,000

The number of letters and other postal articles dealt with by the Dead Letter Office in Victoria during the year ended 30th June, 1926, was as follows:—

Dead Letters,
&c.

1. Returned direct to the sender or delivered—				
(a) Letters, lettercards and postcards addressed—				
(i) Within the Commonwealth	..	..	..	341,682
(ii) Beyond the Commonwealth	..	..	..	10,093
Total	..	..	..	351,775
(b) Packets and circulars addressed—				
(i) Within the Commonwealth	..	..	..	202,569
(ii) Beyond the Commonwealth	..	..	..	2,127
Total	..	..	..	204,687
2. Destroyed in accordance with the Act—				
(a) Letters, lettercards and postcards addressed—				
(i) Within the Commonwealth	..	..	..	82,967
(ii) Beyond the Commonwealth	..	..	..	3,771
Total	..	..	..	86,738
(b) Packets and circulars addressed—				
(i) Within the Commonwealth	..	..	..	13,998
(ii) Beyond the Commonwealth	..	..	..	78,791
Total	..	..	..	92,789
3. Returned as unclaimed to other States* and countries—				
(a) Letters, lettercards and postcards—				
(i) To other States	..	..	..	3,603
(ii) To other countries	..	..	..	35,367
Total	..	..	..	38,970
(b) Packets and circulars—				
(i) To other States	..	..	..	2,256
(ii) To other countries	..	..	..	28,469
Total	..	..	..	30,725

* Undelivered mail matter (Interstate) is now returned direct from the Dead Letter Office in the State which mail is addressed to, and not as hitherto returned to Dead Letter Office, in State of origin for return to sender.

Money and valuables to the amount of £48,327 were found in postal articles sent to the Dead Letter Office as undeliverable. Postal articles (16,824) were posted without address, and of that number 164 contained money and valuables to the extent of £1,960.

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, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Heading.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
Number of Money Order Offices open	573	582	616	640	661
Money Orders issued—					
Inland ..	{ Number .. 389,926 Amount £ 2,103,788	{ Number .. 422,505 Amount £ 2,119,437	{ Number .. 426,716 Amount £ 2,238,532	{ Number .. 441,152 Amount £ 2,338,892	{ Number .. 459,172 Amount £ 2,424,299
Inter-State	{ Number .. 65,461 Amount £ 370,498	{ Number .. 74,021 Amount £ 429,524	{ Number .. 78,676 Amount £ 464,133	{ Number .. 82,854 Amount £ 498,011	{ Number .. 84,568 Amount £ 511,899
International	{ Number .. 59,046 Amount £ 210,161	{ Number .. 65,560 Amount £ 222,570	{ Number .. 73,537 Amount £ 260,011	{ Number .. 73,966 Amount £ 250,643	{ Number .. 76,101 Amount £ 256,432
Total	{ Number .. 514,433 Amount £ 2,684,447	{ Number .. 562,086 Amount £ 2,771,531	{ Number .. 578,929 Amount £ 2,962,676	{ Number .. 597,972 Amount £ 3,087,546	{ Number .. 619,841 Amount £ 3,192,630
Money Orders Paid—					
Inland ..	{ Number .. 388,795 Amount £ 2,110,891	{ Number .. 400,109 Amount £ 2,118,513	{ Number .. 417,165 Amount £ 2,236,254	{ Number .. 444,721 Amount £ 2,346,425	{ Number .. 463,582 Amount £ 2,431,019
Inter-State	{ Number .. 124,343 Amount £ 663,754	{ Number .. 125,990 Amount £ 666,065	{ Number .. 132,281 Amount £ 673,527	{ Number .. 138,514 Amount £ 712,855	{ Number .. 139,044 Amount £ 736,803
International	{ Number .. 32,465 Amount £ 123,089	{ Number .. 32,322 Amount £ 124,938	{ Number .. 35,660 Amount £ 144,850	{ Number .. 37,100 Amount £ 149,429	{ Number .. 36,556 Amount £ 139,566
Total	{ Number .. 545,603 Amount £ 2,897,734	{ Number .. 558,421 Amount £ 2,909,516	{ Number .. 585,106 Amount £ 3,054,631	{ Number .. 620,335 Amount £ 3,208,709	{ Number .. 639,182 Amount £ 3,307,388
Postal Notes—					
Sold ..	{ Number .. 3,774,184 Amount £ 1,180,819	{ Number .. 4,013,977 Amount £ 1,240,935	{ Number .. 4,448,002 Amount £ 1,388,015	{ Number .. 4,346,270 Amount £ 1,447,297	{ Number .. 4,619,497 Amount £ 1,572,587
Inland, Issued and Paid	{ Number .. 2,340,742 Amount £ 834,474	{ Number .. 2,456,462 Amount £ 879,054	{ Number .. 2,618,976 Amount £ 930,079	{ Number .. 2,706,744 Amount £ 998,214	{ Number .. 2,935,129 Amount £ 1,049,904
Victorian—Paid in other States	{ Number .. 1,433,442 Amount £ 346,345	{ Number .. 1,531,548 Amount £ 357,147	{ Number .. 1,804,695 Amount £ 420,519	{ Number .. 1,532,740 Amount £ 444,328	{ Number .. 1,684,368 Amount £ 522,683
Of other States—Paid in Victoria	{ Number .. 346,345 Amount £ 129,707	{ Number .. 357,147 Amount £ 134,432	{ Number .. 420,519 Amount £ 135,889	{ Number .. 444,328 Amount £ 142,718	{ Number .. 522,683 Amount £ 151,553

Of the orders issued in 1925-26, 7,217 for £27,145 were payable in New Zealand, and 53,628 for £154,678 were payable in the United Kingdom. The orders paid included 20,196 for £66,080 issued in New Zealand, and 11,132 for £51,159 issued in the United Kingdom.

There are 2,300 telegraph offices in the State, 136 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 :—

**Telegraphs
and
Telegrams.**

TELEGRAMS DESPATCHED AND RECEIVED, 1921-22
TO 1925-26.

Heading.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
Telegrams despatched—					
Inland ..	2,593,954	2,687,030	2,813,300	2,910,978	4,244,806*
Inter-State ..	1,177,108	1,227,522	1,297,652	1,336,764	
International ..	169,105	180,311	197,290	214,048	230,408
Total ..	3,940,167	4,094,863	4,308,242	4,461,790	4,475,214
Telegrams received—					
Inter-State ..	1,215,826	1,228,851	1,302,006	1,302,067	4,198,437†
International ..	161,345	175,429	205,568	216,734	221,879
Total ..	1,377,171	1,404,280	1,507,574	1,518,801	4,420,316

* Signifies "Within the Commonwealth."

† Includes "Inland" which was not previously shown.

Telephones. Prior to 1st July, 1924, the connexion of one subscriber to a telephone office constituted an exchange, but the rule since followed is that at least two subscribers' lines (or a subscriber's line and one public telephone line) must be connected before an office becomes an exchange. There were 1,426 telephone exchanges on 30th June, 1926, as compared with 1,264 in the previous year. The actual number of subscribers' lines on the date mentioned was 93,215, with 127,000 instruments connected which represented 7.49 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, 1926, was 1,914.

Details of wireless licences issued in Victoria for the year ended 30th June, 1926, are shown hereunder. The wireless licences issued to broadcast listeners in Victoria represented 50 per cent. of the total for Australia.

WIRELESS LICENCES ISSUED IN VICTORIA, 1925-26.

Class of Licence.	Number.
Coast	1
Ship	59
Broadcasting A	2
Broadcasting B	1
Broadcast Listeners—	
Ordinary	63,494
Special	49
Temporary	25
Experimental—	
Transmitting and Receiving	114
Receiving only	133
Dealers' Listening	797

Post Office
revenue and
expenditure.

Particulars concerning the revenue and expenditure of the Post and Telegraph Department in Victoria for the years 1920-21 to 1924-25 are contained in the following

table:—

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT IN VICTORIA, 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

Particulars.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
<i>Revenue.</i>					
	£	£	£	£	£
Postage	1,190,299	1,362,344	1,417,267	1,256,509	1,230,787
Money Order Commission .. .	39,428	40,839	42,837	46,454	49,175
Foundaon on Postal Notes .. .					
Private Boxes and Bags	7,768	8,519	8,908	9,778	10,598
Miscellaneous	64,485	84,722	78,637	118,269	112,478
Total Postal	1,301,980	1,496,424	1,547,649	1,431,010	1,402,988
Telegraph	283,420	293,688	303,992	*311,621	335,640
Telephones	687,819	768,860	846,610	943,595	1,033,242
Grand Total†	2,272,719	2,558,972	2,698,251	2,686,226	2,771,870
<i>Expenditure.</i>					
Salaries and Contingencies—					
Salaries	1,033,176	1,086,733	1,198,594	1,270,996	1,438,088
Conveyance of Mails	166,259	239,094	205,687	220,780	239,415
Contingencies	412,034	459,275	369,157	427,111	501,435
Miscellaneous	13,392	23,568	21,697	17,607	21,844
Pensions and Retiring Allowances	38,320	42,398	45,309	46,840	49,476
Rents, Repairs, Maintenance, Fittings, &c.	18,794	23,318	25,279	32,928	31,001
Supervision of Public Works .. .	138	292	344	403	382
Proportion of Audit Expenses .. .	2,326	2,513	2,995	3,014	2,999
Unforeseen Expenditure	9	20	26	15	53
New Works—					
Telegraph and Telephone	212,599	530,903	559,128	918,824	1,030,482
New Buildings, &c.	7,973	19,329	26,219	98,197	109,951
Interest on Transferred Properties..	45,964	46,490	42,493	43,194	43,241
Total Expenditure‡	1,950,984	2,473,933	2,496,838	3,079,909	3,468,367

* Excluding Radio receipts.

† Actual collections.

‡ Actual payments, including loan expenditure, as follows.—£436 in 1920-21, £260,807 in 1921-22, £416,901 in 1922-23, £787,323 in 1923-24, and £1,140,433 in 1924-25.

RAILWAYS.

Victorian
Railways,
length and
cost.

All railways in Victoria available for general traffic are with the two exceptions referred to on page 448, 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 Geelong Road Motor Service, and the St. Kilda-Brighton and Sandringham-Black Rock 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 446. The usual motive power is steam, but electric traction is used on the suburban lines

(with the exception of a portion of the Outer Circle line), and on the $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles of tramways referred to above. The gauge of the lines is 5 ft. 3 in., with the exception of 121·9 miles of single lines, of which the gauge is 2 ft. 6 in., and 2·41 miles (2·21 miles double and ·20 mile single) of electric street tramway, of which the gauge is 4 ft. $8\frac{1}{2}$ 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,
1921-22 to 1925-26.**

Heading.	Year ended 30th June—				
	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Length of Lines opened to 30th June—					
Double Lines (miles)	332·04	336·25	338·35	338·38	338·38
Single Lines (miles)	4,040·85	4,052·46	4,151·63	4,200·60	4,344·25
Total	4,372·39	4,388·71	4,490·04	4,538·98	4,682·63
Cost of Construction	£ 40,408,014	£ 40,743,821	£ 41,409,905	£ 41,967,054	£ 43,102,954
Average Cost per mile	9,242	9,284	9,223	9,259	9,205

In addition to the lines embraced in this table the following were in course of construction on 30th June, 1926 :—

4 ft. $8\frac{1}{2}$ in. Gauge.	Miles.
Black Rock to Beaumaris (electric street tramway) ..	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
5 ft. 3 in. Gauge.	
*Gonn Crossing to Stony Crossing	38
Goroke to Morea	9
Marnoo to Wallaloo	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Total	55 $\frac{3}{4}$

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

5 ft. 3 in. Gauge.	Miles.
*Euston to Benanee and beyond	30
*Mildura to Gol Gol	24
*Yarrawonga to Oaklands	37
Bowser to Peechelba	11
La La Siding to Big Pat's Creek	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Total	104 $\frac{1}{2}$

*Under Border Railways Act No. 3194.

**Electrification
of suburban
lines.**

Parliament sanctioned the electrification of the Melbourne Suburban Railways in the year 1912, and the whole suburban system is now conducted under electric traction, with the exception of a small section of the Outer Circle line (between East Camberwell and Deepdene). During the year 1925-26 the lines from Ringwood to Ferntree Gully, and Croydon to Lilydale were completed. Although there was an increase in passenger journeys during 1925-26, a considerable amount of traffic has been lost as a result of the construction of new tramways and the conversion of certain of the cable tramways to electric traction, combined with the through routing of trams to the metropolis on services which previously necessitated a break of journey; whilst the business has been further adversely affected by the increase in the use of privately-owned motor cars. The suburban railway business would have suffered to a greater extent if the superior facilities now available did not exist, viz. :— quick transit, greater frequency of trains, together with the cleanliness and comfort which characterize electric traction.

The original project of establishing an electrification scheme has developed in another highly important direction, viz., the supply of power for industrial purposes. The revenue from this source in 1925-26 was £145,026.

The total expenditure debited to the Electrification Capital Account to 30th June, 1926, was £6,360,933.

**Cost of
railways and
equipment.** The capital cost of lines opened, works, rolling-stock and equipment at 30th June in each of the last five years was as follows :—

CAPITAL COST OF RAILWAYS AND EQUIPMENT, 1922 TO 1926.

30th June—				£
1922	..	..	..	63,186,759
1923	..	..	..	64,938,085
1924	..	..	..	66,212,984
1925	..	..	..	67,470,720
1926	..	..	..	69,181,724

The cost given is the actual cost of construction, exclusive of expenses of floating loans, &c. Of the capital expended to 30th June, 1926, £4,029,214 was derived from the general revenue, and the balance (£65,152,510) from loans. The latter liability is represented by debentures and stock outstanding to the nominal amount of £67,540,000, on which the annual interest payable is £3,175,000, or at the average rate of 4·702 per cent. The nominal amount of loans, however, was reduced by £2,208,505—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 on 30th June, 1926, was 4·702 per cent., the real interest on the net proceeds available for railway construction was 4·875 per cent.

The capital expenditure incurred to 30th June, 1926, in respect of lines now closed for traffic was approximately £353,407, and, for surveys of lines not constructed, £415,318. Both of these items are included in the totals shown above. The cost of lines in course of construction (£201,422) is, however, excluded.

**Railway
traffic.**

The mileage and the traffic of the railways since 30th June, 1921, are given in the following table:—

RAILWAYS—MILEAGE AND TRAFFIC, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Heading.	Year ended 30th June—				
	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Miles Constructed ..	4,372·39	4,388·71	4,490·04	4,538·98	4,682·63
„ Dismantled ..	36·13	36·14	36·14	36·14	36·14
„ Closed to Traffic	11·83	11·62	11·62	11·62	11·62
„ Open for Traffic	4,324·43	4,340·95	4,442·28	4,491·22	4,634·87
Train Mileage* ..	15,829,605	16,323,481	17,245,219	18,172,188	18,267,000
Passenger Journeys..	149,223,529	163,120,037	175,030,787	173,656,504	175,354,111†
Goods and Live Stock Carried (Tons) ..	7,491,031	7,517,216	8,309,543	8,959,556	8,728,496

* Excluding Departmental, Assistant, and Light Mileage for the years shown.

† Including 17,504 of the Geelong Road Motor Service.

The mileage given in preceding tables relates to lines of railway, irrespective of the number of tracks, the actual length of which open for traffic on 30th June, 1926, was 5,001·89 miles of main tracks and 999·08 miles of sidings.

The number of passengers carried in 1925-26 (175,354,111) was the highest on record. Compared with the previous year, there was an increase of 1,980,815 in metropolitan-suburban passenger journeys, whilst the country passengers showed a decrease of 300,712. The increase in the former was mainly due to the visit of the American Fleet, and the decline in the latter is attributed to the competition of privately-owned motor cars. The Geelong Road Motor Service commenced on 30th November, 1925, and was responsible up to 30th June, 1926, for 17,504 passenger journeys, and these have been omitted in the above comparisons. The tonnage of goods and live stock carried was 231,060 less than in 1924-25. The items of goods carried in 1925-26 showing greatest tonnage were stone, gravel, and sand, 1,895,851 tons; wheat, 796,242 tons; and firewood, 711,697 tons. Live stock carried in the same year had an aggregate weight of 599,591 tons, and comprised 33,234 horses, 537,101 cattle, 8,215,683 sheep, and 433,775 pigs.

Flinders-street Station Traffic. A barrier tally of passengers leaving and entering the three metropolitan stations was taken under normal conditions early in December, 1924. 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 282,851, while the highest daily figure recorded for both stations combined was 299,019. 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 1924 :—

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

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,
1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Heading.	Year ended 30th June—				
	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts—					
Passenger, &c., Business—					
Passenger Fares	4,880,595	5,160,256	5,396,088	5,450,444	5,497,109*
Parcels, &c. . .	458,914	473,007	486,397	501,109	513,842
Other	102,886	97,136	97,548	99,448	132,109
Goods, &c., Busi- ness—					
Goods	4,164,645	4,178,192	4,534,931	5,070,969	4,777,686
Live Stock . . .	528,836	653,229	523,406	550,060	636,326
Minerals	121,575	121,771	146,189	154,493	151,439
Miscellaneous—					
Dining Car and Refreshment Services	294,046	308,116	345,161	407,848	439,543
Sale of Electrical Power	92,540	179,033	225,452	218,797	145,026
Rentals	103,744	117,673	119,300	124,883	156,546
Other	110,072	125,369	151,515	252,232	293,940
Total	10,857,853	11,413,782	12,025,987	12,830,283	12,743,566
Working Expenses—					
Way and Works . .	1,718,955	1,770,997	1,873,563	1,976,968	1,941,699
Rolling-stock . . .	3,183,084	3,093,780	3,231,168	3,512,573	3,604,566
Transportation . .	2,664,486	2,685,068	2,880,700	3,121,115	2,731,452†
Electrical Engineer- ing Branch	264,825	406,870	538,547	564,264	466,770
Pensions and Gratuities	194,581	203,470	206,366	215,087	219,396
Payment to the Superannuation Fund . . . . .	..	..	..	..	18,712
Other	261,215	282,029	252,536	314,448	850,645
Total	8,287,146	8,442,214	8,982,880	9,704,455	9,833,240
Net Receipts	2,570,707	2,971,568	3,043,107	3,125,828	2,910,326
Percentage of Ex- penses to Receipts	76·32	73·97	74·70	75·64	77·2

* Including Geelong Road Motor Service, £3,911.
† Including Geelong Road Motor Service, £3,930.

The receipts for 1925-26 were £86,717 less than those received in 1924-25. Passenger business increased by £92,059, but there was a

decrease of £210,071 in goods, &c., business, which was the result of the unfavorable season and the consequent falling off in the wheat traffic.

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, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Year.		Interest, &c.	Net Revenue.	Surplus(+) or Deficit(-)
		£	£	£
1921-22	.. ..	2,589,816	2,570,707	- 19,109
1922-23	.. ..	2,951,385	2,971,568	+ 20,183
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

* 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, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Heading.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
Average Number of Miles Open for Traffic	4,287	4,304	4,377	4,455	4,536
	£	£	£	£	£
Gross Earnings per Mile	2,533	2,652	2,747	2,880	2,809
Expenses per Mile	1,933	1,961	2,052	2,178	2,168
Net Profits per Mile	600	691	695	702	641

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, 1926, are shown in the next statement :—

RAILWAY ROLLING-STOCK AT 30TH JUNE, 1926.

Vehicles.	Broad-Gauge.	Narrow-Gauge.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.
Locomotives—			
Steam	668	19	687
Electric	2	..	2
Steam Cranes	15	..	15
Rail Motors	45	..	45
Steam Coaching Stock	1,833	55	1,888
Electric Coaching Stock	844	..	844
Electric Tramway Stock	36	..	36
Goods Waggons	18,841	242	19,083
Service Stock	800	1	801

The capital cost of the broad-gauge stock was £12,763,635, of the narrow-gauge stock £117,457, and of the electric street tramway stock £101,822.

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.	
1921-22 ..	19,273	7,688	26,961	£ 6,388,508
1922-23 ..	19,450	7,295	26,745	6,293,720
1923-24 ..	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

St. Kilda-Brighton and Sandringham-Black Rock Electric Tramways. The results of operating the St. Kilda-Brighton and Sandringham-Black Rock Electric Tramways for 1925-26 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, 1925-26.
(Under the control of the Railways Commissioners.)

Heading.	St. Kilda-Brighton Electric Tramway.	Sandringham- Black Rock Electric Tramway.
Average Mileage of Tramway Worked ..	5.18	2.41
Car Mileage	564,085	127,368
Number of Passengers Carried	5,910,741	1,371,558
	£	£
Gross Revenue	56,533	12,061
Working Expenses	48,534	13,233
Interest Charges	9,277	5,514
Net Result	Loss 1,278	Loss 6,686
Capital Expenditure at 30th June, 1926—		
Construction of Line	124,059	70,103
Rolling-stock	72,248	29,574

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 1924-25 and 1925-26:—

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS, 1924-25 and 1925-26.

Nature of Accident.	1924-25.		1925-26.	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
Train Accidents—				
Passengers .. .. .	..	..	3	153
Employees .. .. .	..	1	..	..
Accidents on Line (other than Train Accidents)—				
Passengers	7	133	8	186
Employees	5	103	11	89
Other Persons .. .. .	..	..	1	2
Shunting Accidents—				
Employees	5	44	7	33
Other Persons .. .. .	..	5	..	1
Employees proceeding to and from Duty	3	2	2	1
Accidents to Persons at Crossings ..	12	3	28	25
Trespassers	15	3	18	8
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	4	..	..
Total	47	298	78	498
Compensation, Damages, etc., Paid	£27,100		£24,975	

The form of the above return is in accordance with a decision of the Interstate Conference of Railways Commissioners. For particulars relating to previous years, see *Victorian Year-Book*, 1923-24, page 435.

Freights on
Victorian
railways.

A statement of freights, operative on 1st October, 1926, 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.

VICTORIAN RAILWAY GOODS RATES.

Commodities.	50	100	150	200	250	300	350							
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.							
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.							
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.							
Rate per Ton.														
Agricultural Produce, in trucks loaded to full carrying capacity, less 5 per cent.*	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	36	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)	25	9	50	3	64	9	73	9	83	6	92	9	102	3
Binder Twine, in truck loads of 8 tons	21	9	42	0	61	3	75	9	90	6	97	6	104	6
Agricultural Machinery and Implements, Binder Twine	27	0	52	3	78	3	97	3	116	6	129	0	142	8
Fencing Wire, in trucks loaded to full carrying capacity, less 5 per cent.	12	5	22	5	29	5	36	3	41	4	46	7	51	8
Fencing Wire, in truck loads of 6 and 8 tons	17	5	33	7	49	0	60	7	72	5	78	0	83	7
Wire Netting, in truck loads of 9½ tons, 11 tons 8 cwt., and 14½ tons	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	8	105	1	123	1	161	9	201	10	240	6	280	1

* 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. The minimum loadings for Chaff, Hay and Straw, and Pig Feed are as follows:—

Commodities.	Per 10, 11, or 12-ton Truck.	Per 16-ton Truck.
	Tons.	Tons.
Hay and Straw	6	8
Chaff	7	10
Pig Feed	8	12

Fares on
Victorian
railways.

A summary of passenger fares, operative on 1st October, 1926, has been obtained from the Railway Department, and is given below.

VICTORIAN RAILWAY PASSENGER FARES.

Distance.	Single.		Return.*	
	1st Class.	2nd Class.	1st Class Holiday Excursion.	2nd Class Holiday Excursion.
Miles.	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
50	10 3	6 10	17 1	11 5
100	19 10	13 3	33 2	22 2
150	29 5	19 7	49 3	32 10
200	39 8	26 5	66 4	44 2
250	49 6	33 1	82 8	55 2
300	55 5	36 11	92 8	61 8
350	61 4	40 10	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 1925, cost £37,459 for construction and equipment. For the year 1925 the gross receipts were £8,933 and the working expenses including interest £7,559. The train mileage for the same year was 9,652, the number of passenger-journeys was 16,901, and the tonnage of goods and live stock carried was 25,445.

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, 1926, the cost of construction was £79,954, and for the year ended on the same date the receipts and working expenses (exclusive of depreciation and interest on capital) were £8,718 and £9,605 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 16,810, and the passenger-journeys numbered 23,657.

TRAMWAYS.

**Victorian
tramways
(excl.
Railways).**

The various tramway systems in the State comprise 38,583 miles of cable lines, double track, and 121,752 miles of electric lines, of which 82,133 miles are double, and 39,619 miles single track.

The electric street tramways, St. Kilda to Brighton and Sandringham to Black Rock, under the management of the Victorian Railways Commissioners, are not referred to in this connexion, being included under the heading "Railways," page 446, and "All Victorian Tramways," page 454.

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

VICTORIAN TRAMWAYS, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

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

Financial Year.	Miles of Track Open.		Tram Mileage.	Number of Passengers carried.	Traffic Receipts.	Working Expenses.	Number of Rolling-stock.	Number of Persons employed.
	Double.	Single.						
1921-22	100.016	44.148	22,369,483	226,738,318	£ 1,943,805	£ 1,472,296	1,470	4,586
1922-23	105.791	41.340	22,775,563	234,588,628	1,999,638	1,492,031	1,465	5,070
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	39.619	24,424,938	235,350,941	2,128,689	1,745,528	1,444	5,989

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 assumed control of the Melbourne Cable Tramways on 1st November, 1919.

On 2nd February, 1920, the Electric Tramway systems of the following Trusts were vested in the Board:—Prahnan and Malvern Tramways; Hawthorn Tramways; Melbourne, Brunswick and Coburg Tramways; Fitzroy, Northcote and Preston Tramways; and Footscray Tramways; also the Cable Tramway of the Northcote

Council. The Essendon Electric Tramways were taken over on 1st August, 1922.

The Board is empowered to borrow up to £4,000,000 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 £200,000. The Board has exercised its power to borrow to the extent of £2,950,000.

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, 1926, amounted to £104,393). 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, 1925-26.

Tramway.	Miles of Track Open—		Tram Mileage.	Passengers Journeys.	Traffic Receipts.*	Working Expenses.	Number of Rolling Stock.	Number of Persons Employed.
	Double.	Single.						
Cable—					£	£		
Melbourne	34·083	..	11,886,788	121,967,729	1,002,392	814,367	953	2,436
Northcote	4·500	..	507,123	5,914,386	39,061	32,735	32	84
Total Cable	38·583	..	12,393,911	127,882,115	1,041,453	847,102	985	2,520
Electric—								
Prahran and Malvern	45·016	2·204	5,475,601	55,468,726	538,732	433,015	208	1,676
Hawthorn	10·849	2·330	1,466,611	13,790,121	148,504	115,978	46	408
Coburg	5·795	1·786	1,207,201	11,060,239	109,125	85,269	40	322
Preston	2·782	4·043	923,403	5,919,669	66,241	65,223	19	269
Footscray	2·547	1·920	321,799	3,600,394	30,245	27,347	12	99
Essendon	9·764	2·946	1,263,113	9,178,789	110,714	89,346	55	468
Total Electric	76·753	15·229	10,657,728	99,017,938	1,003,561	816,178	380	3,242
Grand Total (Tramways)	115·336	15·229	23,051,639	226,900,053	2,045,014	1,663,280	1,365	5,762
Motor Omnibuses	Route Mileage.							
	19·659		1,449,719	7,164,095	97,220	112,289	56	239

* Gross revenue for tramways amounted to £2,055,623, and for motor omnibuses to £97,304.

Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways. The following table contains detailed particulars of the operations of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board for the year 1925-26:—

Interchange.

In addition to traffic receipts (£2,142,234), there was revenue from advertising, rents, &c., of £6,960 from cable tramways, £3,649 from electric tramways, and £84 from motor buses, making a gross revenue for the year of £2,152,928.

The gross surplus on the year's operations, including motor omnibuses, was £377,360. Out of this had to be paid interest on loans, rates, &c., leaving available for appropriation an amount of £128,439. As this sum was insufficient to meet the statutory payments to Consolidated Revenue and Tramway Reserves required by Acts of Parliament, the sum of £242,477 had to be transferred from the General Reserve Account to meet the deficit. After this had been done the following appropriations were made:—Consolidated Revenue, £104,393; General Reserve Account, £218,650; Fire Insurance Reserve Account, £1,500; and Loans Redemption and Sinking Fund Accounts, £46,373.

Up to 30th June, 1926, the capital cost of the tramways vested in the Tramways Board, including stores on hand, amounted to £6,553,137, of which £2,122,806 was expended on cable, £4,314,291 on electric tramways, and £116,040 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 1925-26:—

System.	Average Traffic Receipts.			Percentage of Working Expenses to Total Revenue.	Working Expenses per Tram Mile including Power Cost.	Average Distance per Penny.
	Per Tram Mile.	Per Mile of Single Track.	Per Passenger.			
	d.	£	d.		d.	Miles.
Cable ..	20·167	13,496	1·954	80·79	16·404	·940
Electric ..	22·599	5,948	2·431	81·03	18·380	·900
Bus	16·095	2,472	3·257	115·40	18·589	·835

Metropolitan
Tramways
Traffic, last
five years.

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, 1921-22
TO 1925-26.

Financial Year.	Miles of Track Open.		Tram Mileage.	Passenger Journeys.	Traffic Receipts.	Working Expenses.	Number of Rolling-stock.	Number of Persons employed.
	Double.	Single.						
					£	£		
1921-22	96·021	21·26	21,208,879	218,450,712	1,857,469	1,406,127	1,402	4,399
1922-23	100·396	17·642	21,584,652	226,631,546	1,911,278	1,427,955	1,397	4,875
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	228,752,078	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

The towns, other than the metropolis, having tramway systems are :—Ballarat, 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 7·13 miles of electric lines (2·17 double and 4·96 single track).

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

COUNTRY TRAMWAYS, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Financial Year.	Miles of Track.		Tram Mileage.	Passenger Journeys.	Traffic Receipts.	Working Expenses.	Number of Rolling-stock.	Number of Persons employed.
	Double.	Single.						
					£	£		
1921-22	3·995	22·888	1,160,604	8,287,606	86,336	66,169	68	187
1922-23	5·395	23·698	1,190,911	7,957,082	88,355	64,076	68	196
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	83,676	82,248	79	227

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, 1924-25 AND 1925-26.

Heading.	1924-25.	1925-26.
Route Mileage Open—Double .. miles	119·076	128·106
Single .. miles	40·762	39·819
Total .. miles	159·838	167·925
Cost of Construction and Equipment £	6,157,522	6,689,627
Interest Payable on Capital Cost of Construction and Equipment .. £	174,582	242,265
Gross Revenue—		
Traffic Receipts £	2,103,645	{ 2,196,083
Other £		{ 13,228
Total Revenue £	2,103,645	2,209,311
Working Expenses £	1,796,958	1,807,295
Net Earnings £	306,687	402,016
Net Profit or Loss after Paying Working Expenses and Interest .. £	Profit 132,105	Profit 159,751
Tram Miles Run miles	25,743,058	25,116,391
Passenger Journeys No.	244,112,158	242,633,240
Staff Employed—		
Salaried No.	671	717
Wages No.	5,449	5,409
Total Staff No.	6,120	6,126
Rolling Stock No.	1,607	1,480

LICENSED VEHICLES.

The licensing of vehicles plying, kept, or let out for hire within the city of Melbourne or for a distance of 8 miles beyond the city boundaries is controlled by the Melbourne City Council. The appended statement contains details of vehicles and drivers licensed annually during the last five years:—

Licensed
vehicles in
Melbourne.

LICENSED VEHICLES IN MELBOURNE, 1921 TO 1925.

Heading.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
<i>For Passenger Traffic.</i>					
Cabs, Drags (4 wheel)	470	423	391	410	286
„ (Hansoms)	157	135	114	95	61
Motor Cars	480	483	644	882	842
„ Omnibuses .. ..	..	3	19	72	170
„ Chars-a-bancs	37	60	109	331	85
Total	1,144	1,104	1,277	1,790	1,444
<i>For Conveyance of Goods.</i>					
Drivers licensed	3,253	3,322	3,257	3,182	3,226

Motor vehicles licensed.

The Melbourne City Council issues only one kind of licence for all motor vehicles plying for hire. In the above table motor cars embrace all motor vehicles registered with a seating capacity of under 10 seats. The particulars of all motor vehicles licensed for hire for the period 1st January to 31st December 1926, are as follows:—1,210 motor vehicles, of which 265 vehicles had a seating capacity of 10 seats and over, and 945 of under 10 seats. Information regarding passenger traffic of motor vehicles is not yet available. With a view to tabulation action has now been taken to obtain particulars relating to motor omnibuses licensed under Act No. 3378. Under the prescribed regulations owners are required to furnish the statistics at the close of the calendar year.

Motor vehicle Registrations.

The use of motor cars and motor vehicles in Victoria is regulated by the Motor Car Act No. 2702, the Highways and Vehicles Act No. 3379, and the Motor Omnibus Act No. 3378.

Under the provisions of these Acts, every motor car, motor omnibus, and motor cycle must be registered with the Chief Commissioner of Police, and the registration renewed annually. The annual registration fee is calculated on the power-weight unit—the charge ranging from 3s. per power-weight unit for ordinary motor cars to 3s. 9d. per power-weight unit for motor vehicles used for hire or for carrying goods in the course of trade if fitted with pneumatic tires, or to 5s. per unit if fitted with non-pneumatic tires. The minimum fee for any motor car other than a motor cycle is £3. Motor omnibuses are charged a flat rate of £5, plus additional fees ranging from £1 10s. to £4 10s. per passenger seat, if running on certain defined routes in the Melbourne district.

During the year 1925-26 there were registered 83,622 motor cars, 193 trailers, 148 traction engines, 19,929 motor cycles, 6,713 sidecars, and 142 omnibuses.

No person may drive a motor car or motor cycle upon any public highway without having been licensed. On 30th June, 1926, the number of drivers of motor cars and motor cycles licensed by the Chief Commissioner of Police was 126,369. There were also 215 dealers registered.

The total revenue received by the Police Department during 1925-26 from motor-vehicle registrations, &c., amounted to £643,333, as follows:—Cars, trailers, and traction engines, £579,459; omnibuses, £4,458; motor cycles and sidecars, £23,285; dealers, £1,075; drivers' and riders' licences, £31,592; and transfers, duplicates, &c., £3,464.

The Police Department tabulated a return of the Traffic Accidents known to the police which occurred in the public streets of Victoria for the calendar year 1925. Details are as follows:—

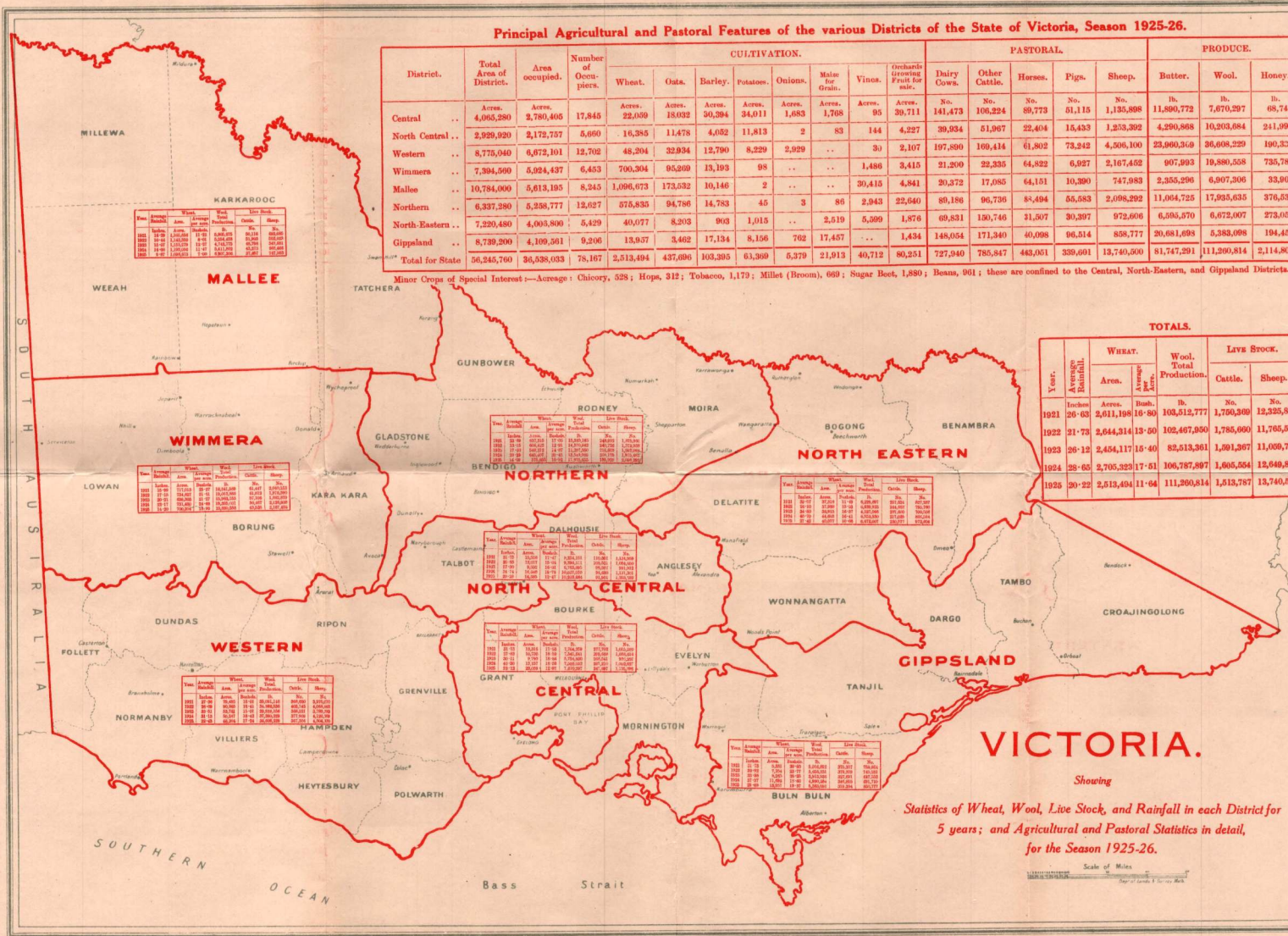
TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS IN VICTORIA, 1925.

Cause of Accident.	Killed.	Injured.
	No.	No.
Vehicles—		
Tram	30	253
Train	34	30
Motor	189	2,008
Bicycle	6	72
Other Vehicles (including improper riding, &c.)	36	260
Horses	6	65
Totals	301	2,688
Ages of persons killed or injured—		
Under 10 years	35	191
10 to 14 years	11	98
Over 14 years	255	2,399

Principal Agricultural and Pastoral Features of the various Districts of the State of Victoria, Season 1925-26.

District.	Total Area of District.	Area occupied.	Number of Occupiers.	CULTIVATION.								PASTORAL.					PRODUCE.			
				Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Onions.	Mais for Grain.	Vines.	Orchards growing Fruit for sale.	Dairy Cows.	Other Cattle.	Horses.	Pigs.	Sheep.	Butter.	Wool.	Honey.	
	Acres.	Acres.		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	lb.	lb.	lb.	
Central ..	4,095,280	2,780,405	17,845	22,059	18,032	50,284	34,011	1,683	1,768	95	20,711	141,473	106,224	89,773	51,115	1,135,898	11,890,772	7,670,297	68,743	
North Central ..	2,929,920	2,172,757	5,660	16,385	11,478	11,478	4,052	11,813	2	83	144	4,227	39,934	51,967	22,404	15,433	1,253,292	23,960,359	26,608,229	190,322
Western ..	8,775,940	6,672,101	12,702	48,204	32,934	12,790	8,229	2,929	..	30	30	2,107	197,890	169,414	61,802	73,243	4,506,100	23,960,359	26,608,229	190,322
Wimmera ..	7,394,500	5,924,437	6,453	700,304	95,029	13,193	98	..	..	1,486	3,415	21,209	22,335	64,832	6,927	2,167,452	907,993	19,880,508	735,788
Mallee ..	10,784,000	5,613,195	8,245	1,096,673	173,532	10,146	2	..	..	30,415	4,841	20,372	17,085	64,151	10,390	747,983	2,355,296	6,907,306	33,907
Northern ..	6,337,380	5,258,777	12,027	678,835	94,786	14,783	45	3	86	2,943	22,640	89,186	96,736	85,494	55,583	2,098,292	11,004,725	17,935,635	376,531	
North-Eastern ..	7,220,480	4,903,800	5,429	40,677	8,203	903	1,015	..	2,519	5,309	1,876	69,831	150,746	31,507	30,397	972,606	6,598,670	6,672,007	273,057	
Gippsland ..	8,739,200	4,109,361	9,206	15,937	3,462	17,134	8,156	762	17,467	..	1,434	148,054	171,340	40,098	96,514	858,777	20,681,693	5,383,098	194,459	
Total for State	56,245,760	36,638,033	78,167	2,513,494	437,686	103,395	63,369	5,379	21,913	40,712	80,251	727,940	785,847	482,061	336,601	13,740,500	81,747,291	111,280,814	2,114,807	

Minor Crops of Special Interest—Average: Chicory, 528; Hops, 312; Tobacco, 1,179; Millet (Broom), 669; Sugar Beet, 1,880; Beans, 961; these are confined to the Central, North-Eastern, and Gippsland Districts.



TOTALS.

Year.	Acres. Rainfall.	WHEAT.		Wool Total Production.	LIVE STOCK.	
		Acres.	Average Yield.		Cattle.	Sheep.
1921 20-05	10.68	2,611,199	16-90	103,512,777	1,799,309	12,325,818
1922 21-73	11.24	2,644,314	13-50	102,467,890	1,785,660	11,705,520
1923 20-12	11.24	2,454,117	16-40	82,513,361	1,691,367	11,000,761
1924 28-05	11.24	2,705,329	17-61	106,787,897	1,665,554	12,646,898
1925 30-22	11.24	2,613,494	11-64	111,260,814	1,513,757	13,740,500

VICTORIA.

Showing Statistics of Wheat, Wool, Live Stock, and Rainfall in each District for 5 years; and Agricultural and Pastoral Statistics in detail, for the Season 1925-26.

Scale of Miles
1:1,000,000

PRODUCTION.

LAND SETTLEMENT, ETC.

The total area of the State is 56,245,760 acres. This comprises—

	Acres.
Lands alienated in fee simple	25,463,719
Lands in process of alienation	9,239,991
Crown lands	21,542,050
Total	56,245,760

The Crown lands comprise—

Permanent forests (under Forests Act) .	3,569,233
Timber reserves (under Forests Act) ..	736,355
State forests and Timber reserves (under Land Act)	329,600
Water reserves	314,603
Reserves for Agricultural Colleges, &c. ..	85,879
Reserves in the Mallee	405,860
Other reserves	323,610
Roads	1,794,218
Water frontages, beds of rivers, lakes, &c.; } unsold land in cities, towns, and boroughs }	1,777,546
Land in occupation under—	
Perpetual leases	111,253
Other leases and licences	71,468
Temporary grazing licences	6,816,044
Unoccupied	5,206,381
Total	21,542,050

In the following table are shown the area of Crown lands sold absolutely and conditionally, and the area of lands alienated in fee simple in each year since 1915.

A portion of the area conditionally sold reverts to the Crown each year in consequence of the non-fulfilment of conditions by the selectors. The lands alienated each year include areas selected in previous years.

ALIENATION OF CROWN LANDS, 1916 TO 1925.

Year.	Area of Crown Lands Sold.		Crown Lands alienated in Fee Simple.	
	Absolutely, at Auction, &c.	Conditionally to Selectors.*	Area.	Purchase Money.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	£
1916	2,061	140,341	89,203	80,238
1917	2,075	89,164	82,042	79,992
1918	1,760	74,514	76,064	78,235
1919	1,166	70,729	102,294	114,654
1920	3,125	102,534	187,228	192,861
1921	1,800	99,519	110,056	100,890
1922	2,658	186,686	106,485	118,698
1923	3,015	200,517	142,940	167,669
1924	3,093	151,875	126,147	167,322
1925	2,920	92,996	185,038	129,187

* Exclusive of Mallee selectors.

From the period of the first settlement of the State to the end of 1925 the amount realized by the sale of Crown lands was £34,635,722, which represents an average of £0 19s. 11d. per acre for all lands alienated or in process of alienation. Payment of a considerable portion of this amount extended over a series of years without interest, upon very easy terms.

Amount realized by sale of Crown lands.

Lands remaining for disposal.

The next table shows the whole of the unalienated lands of the Crown remaining for disposal:—

CROWN LANDS REMAINING FOR DISPOSAL ON 31st DECEMBER, 1925.

Location.	Classification.						Total.
	Agricultural and Grazing.					Auri-ferous.	
	First.	Second.	Third.	Fourth.	Un-classed.		
County.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Buln Buln ..	5,115	30,174	76,868	..	..	..	112,157
Croajingolong ..	2,510	1,756	569,149	..	837,400	13,850	1,424,665
Dargo ..	..	..	102,568	..	431,900	72,000	606,468
Tambo ..	..	..	219,459	..	364,450	900	584,809
Tanjil ..	..	..	109,971	..	361,650	67,000	538,621
Wonnangatta ..	..	89	160,534	..	942,100	..	1,102,673
Bogong ..	1,326	12,846	209,008	..	158,724	104,955	486,859
Benambra ..	..	403	303,432	..	315,994	90,093	709,922
Delatite ..	390	18,082	200,189	..	230,050	61,333	510,044
Moirs ..	546	149	10,193	..	..	..	10,888
Anglesey ..	..	3,823	67,450	..	..	3,210	74,483
Bourke ..	..	162	..	..	..	..	162
Dalhousie ..	..	619	1,327	..	..	5,167	7,113
Evelyn ..	19	12,649	391	..	..	1,315	14,374
Mornington ..	..	994	7,102	..	..	..	8,096
Bendigo ..	80	735	3,026	..	..	4,018	7,859
Rodney ..	..	254	..	..	..	2,193	2,447
Borong ..	..	667	69,098	..	423	5,667	74,855
Gladstone ..	302	1,480	2,128	..	..	13,730	17,640
Lowan ..	..	604	148,499	29,259	10,610	..	188,972
Kara Kara ..	86	156	3,566	..	..	4,476	8,284
Talbot ..	94	646	641	..	..	41,939	43,320
Tatchera ..	..	70	..	..	..	..	70
Heytesbury ..	..	863	166,084	..	..	..	166,947
Polwarth ..	17,067	16,913	28,518	..	..	..	62,498
Grant ..	..	155	25,192	..	..	13,386	38,733
Grenville ..	20	311	..	..	..	10,624	10,955
Ripon ..	..	380	24,133	..	..	3,699	28,212
Normanby ..	..	267	120,806	5,765	8,810	..	137,648
Dundas ..	..	..	44,567	8,571	15,754	..	68,892
Villiers ..	..	..	1,713	..	..	..	1,713
Follett ..	..	1,252	165,788	..	39,809	..	206,849
Karkaroc ..	..	39	..	..	..	..	39
Total ..	27,555	103,488	2,840,400	43,595	3,717,674	519,555	7,255,267
Throughout the State	Swamp or reclaimed lands						1,688
" " "	Lands which may be sold by auction						7,605
The north-western portion of the State	Mallee lands (such as are suitable to be eventually classed 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th class for selection)						4,757,865
Total area remaining for disposal							12,022,425

Much of the land included in the above statement is temporarily leased under grazing licences.

Pastoral occupation of Crown lands. The particulars of Crown lands for which licences had been issued for pastoral occupation on 31st December, 1925, are as follows:—

Number of Licences	5,541
Area (acres)	6,816,044
Annual Rental	£25,745

Persons who may select land. Any person of the age of 18 years or upwards is eligible to apply to select under the Land Acts a prescribed area varying according to the classification of the land—less the area of previous selections.

Concessions to land seekers. The Lands Inquiry Branch gives information to intending applicants and issues concession warrants for half fares on Victorian Railways to persons travelling to make inspection or take possession of land.

Area that may be selected. An applicant may select in the Mallee, under Selection Purchase Lease, 610 acres of first class, 1,000 acres of second class, 1,280 acres of third class, or 1,600 acres of fourth class land, or 4,000 acres of land classed 4A; and, in addition, may acquire privately an area equivalent to that which he selects from the Crown.

Grazing licences Grazing licences are renewable annually, and are only granted for waste lands of the Crown until required under the principal sections of the Act.

Land Laws. A conspectus of the provisions of the Victorian Land Acts appears in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17 and previous issues.

Transfer of Land Act. The "Torrens System," whereby persons acquiring possession of land may receive a clear title, was introduced into Victoria in 1862. The system has been the means of simplifying procedure in connexion with the transferring of land. It gives a title to the transferee free of any latent defect and reduces the cost of dealing in real estate by reason of the simplicity of the procedure. All land parted with by the Crown since 1862 is under the operation of the Transfer of Land Act, and the Crown grant issues through the Titles Office; but, to bring under the Act land that was parted with prior to that year, application must be made accompanied by strict proofs of the applicant's interest in the property. During 1925 there were submitted 476 applications to have brought under the Act land amounting to 16,190 acres in extent, and to £1,005,185 in value; while the land actually brought under the Act during the year by application was 14,603 acres valued at £877,398. Up to the end of 1925 there had been brought under the Act 3,118,595 acres valued at £65,092,724.

**Assurance
Fund.**

When application is made to have land brought under the Transfer of Land Act, a contribution to the assurance fund of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in the £1 on the value of the land is levied on the applicant to assure and indemnify the Government in granting a clear title against all the world, as some other person may have a latent interest in the property, and it may be necessary for the Government to recompense such person out of the fund for the loss of his interest. Receipts during 1925-26 comprised contributions £3,216, interest on stock £4,465, and interest on £75,073—advanced under *The Protection of Public Buildings Act 1885*—£3,003. During the year £73 was paid out of the fund in settlement of claims, and £5,208 as interest on securities under the *Special Funds Act 1920*, No. 3067. The balance at the credit of the assurance fund on 30th June, 1926, was £163,052. The amount paid up to 30th June, 1926, as compensation and for judgments recovered, including costs, was £8,027.

CLOSER SETTLEMENT.

**Closer
Settlement.**

Under the provisions of the Closer Settlement Act the Closer Settlement Board is empowered to expend at the rate of £500,000 per annum in the purchase—either by voluntary or compulsory acquisition—of lands (whether privately owned or held under lease from the Crown) for subdivision into suitable allotments according to the class of the land, and for disposal by the Board to eligible applicants, as stated hereafter. Lands well adapted for settlement are thus made available in those portions of the State in which railways, water supply and markets are provided, and in which roads and other facilities are good. The areas purchased comprise ordinary farming lands in a more or less improved condition, and lands in irrigated districts with plentiful supplies of water for irrigation.

Every application for a Closer Settlement allotment must be accompanied by the registration fee of 5s., a lease fee of £1, and a deposit (equal to at least 3 per cent. of the capital value of the land) which is deducted from the purchase money. The applicant is required to give evidence of suitability and fitness, &c., to occupy the land. If successful, a permit giving immediate possession is issued (followed by a lease as soon as practicable), and no further payment is required for six months. If the application be refused, the amount forwarded as a deposit in respect of the purchase money and the lease fee are returned to the unsuccessful applicant, but the registration fee is retained. Only one allotment of the maximum value can be granted to any one person, and the principle of residence for eight months in each year is a condition of the lease.

In addition to the provisions for the purchase of large estates for subdivision, the Closer Settlement Act provides that any one or more persons, who are eligible to acquire a farm allotment under the Closer Settlement Act, may enter into a provisional agreement with the owner of a block of private land for the purchase thereof, and

acquire it through the Closer Settlement Board—*vide* section 20, Act 2629. The value of the land must not exceed the maximum allowed under the Act. An application on the proper form must be filled in, and the agreement with full details and the application must be lodged with the Board, together with a valuation fee of £4. Where the agreement is submitted on behalf of more than one applicant, an additional fee of £2 must be lodged in respect of each additional applicant. The fee may be returned if, after a preliminary inspection, the Board does not approve of the application. Should the Board decide to acquire the land, the purchaser is required to deposit an amount not exceeding four half-yearly instalments, and is otherwise subject to all the provisions of the Closer Settlement Act with regard to payments, residence, improvements, &c.

Repurchased lands are disposed of as farm allotments, agricultural labourers' allotments, and workmen's home allotments under conditional purchase lease. The principal terms of these leases, as regards farm allotments, are briefly stated herein. They are given in detail in each title as issued.

Conditional purchase leases are granted to successful applicants under the Closer Settlement Act, and are for such a term not exceeding $36\frac{1}{2}$ years as may be agreed upon between the lessee and the Board. The purchase money is payable by 73 or a less number of half-yearly instalments. In some cases the Board has granted applications for extension of payments under a lease to $46\frac{1}{2}$ years, the payments being by 93 half-yearly instalments. The deposit lodged with the application is credited as part of the principal, and the balance bears interest at 5 per cent. Each instalment includes interest upon the balance of purchase money remaining unpaid, and is 3 per cent. half-yearly (6 per cent. per annum) of the capital value of the allotment (less the amount of the deposit). Payments in advance may be made at any time, at the option of the lessee, and a proportionate reduction of interest secured thereby.

In special cases, when a lessee is unable to meet the instalments of purchase money as they fall due, the Board has power to suspend such payments up to an amount not exceeding 60 per cent. of the value of the improvements effected by him. Interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum is charged on the amount in arrear or on any instalments which may have been suspended.

The lessee must reside on the allotment for eight months during each year. Personal residence by the lessee's wife, or child over 18 years of age, or parent dependent for support, may, with the approval of the Board, be considered personal residence by the lessee. A farm lessee cannot transfer, assign, mortgage, or sublet the whole or any part of his allotment within the first three years of the lease. The Crown grant may be issued to the lessee at the end of any half-year after the first twelve years have expired, on payment of the balance of purchase money. The residence condition is not carried into the Crown grant.

Farm allotments. Lands for farm allotments are subdivided into suitable areas, of which none must exceed in value £2,500 except in the case of blocks mainly consisting of grazing land, when the value may be increased to £3,500; and no lease of any of these areas can be granted to a person who at the date of application is directly or indirectly the owner of any other land in Victoria (township land excepted) the value of which, together with that of the allotment applied for, exceeds the amount stated. The *Closer Settlement Act 1925*, No. 3422, empowers the Closer Settlement Board to increase the maximum value of a farm allotment to any amount not exceeding £3,000 in the case of any conditional purchase lease issued before the commencement of the said Act, where, in the opinion of the Minister after consulting the Board, the lessee has a reasonable chance of success if the area of his allotment is increased. Improvements of a permanent and substantial character must be effected by the lessee of a farm allotment to the value of at least two instalments of the purchase money before the end of the first year from the date of the lease, 10 per cent. of the purchase money before the end of the third year, and a further 10 per cent. before the end of the sixth year. Improvements must thus be made to the value of at least 20 per cent. of the total purchase money payable for the allotment. If an approved deputy is fulfilling the residential condition, the value of the improvements must be at least 30 per cent. of the total purchase money. If they are made in excess of requirements during the first three years, the excess is set off against the expenditure necessary by the end of the sixth year. Where special circumstances warrant action, the Minister, upon the recommendation of the Board, may modify the improvement conditions.

Advances to settlers. The Closer Settlement Act provides for advances by the Closer Settlement Board to settlers who are—

- (a) Lessees under the *Closer Settlement Act 1915*.
- (b) Licensees of an agricultural or grazing allotment under the *Land Act 1915*.
- (c) Licensees under section 86 of the *Land Act 1915* or corresponding sections of any repealed Act.
- (d) Conditional purchase lessees under the *Land Act 1915*; or
- (e) Conditional purchase lessees under the Murray Settlements Act, now Section 245, *Land Act 1915*.
- (f) Selection purchase lessees under Sections 46 and 50, *Land Act 1915*, during the first six years of the term of the leases.
- (g) Perpetual lessees under Section 54, *Land Act 1915*.

Advances of money to assist in effecting improvements may be granted by the Board up to 80 per cent. of the value of the permanent improvements effected, such advances to be repaid by half-yearly instalments extending over twenty years, bearing interest at 5 per cent. Advances to acquire stock and for the purchase of seed, manure, and implements can also be made. The total advances for all purposes must not exceed £625.

Advances not exceeding £250 may be made to persons holding approved share-farming or leasing agreements, for the purchase of stock and implements, and for such other purposes as the Board thinks fit, to enable them to carry out the share-farming or leasing agreement.

The period for repaying the advances on improvements is usually limited to twenty years, and for live stock, seed, manure, and implements, to five years, interest at 5 per cent. per annum being charged on the unpaid balance of the amount advanced.

Group Settlement in Mountainous Areas. Land may be acquired by the Board in mountainous areas for disposal to any group of settlers (not being less than five), and provision is made for freedom from payment of instalments for any period not exceeding ten years, subject to certain improvement conditions. Special provision is also made to enable the Board to provide road access to such areas. Interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum for the free period fixed by the Minister of Lands will be added to the capital value of the allotment, and will be repaid as part of the instalments of purchase money.

The Board may authorize an advance to be made for the purpose of clearing and improving the land, and may make progress payments to the lessee as the work for which the advance is intended progresses.

The Board will also assist in the erection of the dwelling-house and out-buildings required for the allotment. Advances made by the Board for this purpose are repayable on the same terms as those made to assist in effecting improvements which are referred to above.

Wire netting advances. Advances of wire netting may be made by the Board to Crown lessees and owners of land generally under the *Closer Settlement Act 1915*, the *Vermin Destruction Act 1915*, and the *Wire Netting Act 1924*.

The wire netting supplied is :—

- (a) Rabbit proof—No. 17 gauge, 1½-in. mesh, 42 inches wide, "A" grade.
- (b) Dog proof—No. 16 gauge, 4-in. mesh, 42 inches wide, "A" grade.

Netting is supplied for cash or on terms, advances being repayable over a period of thirteen years with interest at 4 per cent. per annum, and each advance is limited to a quantity sufficient for 6 miles of vermin-proof fencing. Where the netting is erected on a boundary immediately adjoining unoccupied Crown land, or separated only by a public road therefrom, a rebate of 50 per cent. of the cost thereof is allowed.

By arrangement with the Commonwealth Government, the Board also makes advances of wire netting to necessitous settlers, under the *Advances to Settlers Act 1923*. Such advances are free of interest and are repayable in twenty yearly instalments.

Estates purchased. A complete statement of all estates acquired by the Closer Settlement Board at 31st December, 1925, including those purchased by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission (i.e., estates in irrigable areas), will be found in the report of the Closer Settlement Board for the period from 1st July, 1924, to 31st December, 1925.

A summary of the lands acquired, exclusive of estates purchased for discharged soldiers' settlement (*vide* page 468), is given in the following statement :—

CLOSER SETTLEMENT LANDS ACQUIRED AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1925.

	Area.	Purchase Money, including Discount on Stock Debentures	Total Cost to Date.*	Number of Lessees.			Area Unallotted.
				Farm Allotments.†	Workmen's Homes.	Agricultural Labourers' Allotments.	
	acres.	£	£	Number.	Number.	Number.	acres.
Dry Areas.							
Lands purchased (Farms) ..	765,861	5,021,641	5,171,734	2,777	..	146	19,415
Crown lands taken over (Farms) ..	2,782	14,917	16,459	18	..	17	..
Repurchased lands (Workmen's Homes)	657	64,428	95,839	..	967	..	29
Crown lands taken over (Workmen's Homes) ..	356	6,371	8,470	..	79	..	13
Total Dry Areas ..	769,656	5,107,357	5,292,502	2,795	1,046	163	19,457
Irrigable Areas.							
Repurchased lands (Farms) ..	156,928	1,946,217	2,061,725	} 1,634	..	} 149	22,555
Crown lands taken over (Farms) ..	887	4,052	4,129				..	..	232
Total Irrigable areas	157,815	1,950,269	2,065,854	1,634	..	149	22,787
Total acquired at 31st Dec. 1925..	927,471	7,057,626	7,358,356	4,429	1,046	312	42,244
<i>Less area disposed of under Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Acts</i>	62,786	626,947	629,392	..	..	..	..
Total (net) ..	864,685	6,430,679	6,728,964	4,429	1,046	312	44,244

* Includes (a) Purchase money, £7,057,626; expenses prior to disposal, £74,954; public works, £194,349; and interest capitalized, £31,427.

† Not including 615 lessees of farm allotments disposed of under the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Acts.

Up to 31st December, 1925, the Board had acquired 233 properties, with a total area of 927,471 acres, of which 42,244 acres were then unallotted. Of the estates acquired, an area of 33,739 acres had been used at the date mentioned for settlement of migrants from overseas. Portions of estates, amounting in the aggregate to 48,824

acres, have been sold by public competition and for public reserves without any restrictions, and are not under conditional purchase lease.

Up to 31st December, 1925, 615 allotments, containing 62,786 acres, had been sold to discharged soldiers and transferred to the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Acts.

The extent of the settlement effected by the Board up to 31st December, 1925, is given in the next statement:—

SUMMARY OF CLOSER SETTLEMENT TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1925.

Classification of Holdings.	Number.	Average Capital Value.	Average Area.	Total Area.
Dry Areas.				
	No.	£	Acres.	Acres.
Areas settled—				
Farms	2,795	1,580	240	671,150
Agricultural Labourers' Allotments ..	163	160	17	2,792
Workmen's Homes Allotments ..	1,046	90	‡	784
Allotments disposed of under Discharged Soldiers Settlement Acts ..	184	1,278	182	33,442
Public Competition, Auction, &c. ..	..	..	..	39,915
Total area of land settled				748,083
Area of land available for—				
Farm Lands and Agricultural Labourers' Allotments ..				12,199
Workmen's Homes				15
Public Competition, Auction, &c. ..				653
Area of land acquired but not yet available ..				7,242
Loss of area on subdivision (roads, channels, reserves, &c.) ..				4,168
Total dry areas acquired				772,360
Irrigation Areas.				
	No.	£	Acres.	Acres.
Areas settled—				
Farms	1,634	777	55	91,206
Agricultural Labourers' Allotments ..	149	111	6	921
Allotments disposed of under Discharged Soldiers Settlement Acts ..	431	909	68	29,344
Public Competition, Auction, &c. ..	..	..	..	8,909
Total area of land settled				130,380
Area of land available for—				
Farm Lands and Agricultural Labourers' Allotments ..				4,611
Public Competition, Auction, &c. ..				401
Area of land acquired but not yet available ..				18,677
Loss of area on subdivision (roads, channels, reserves, &c.) ..				1,042
Total irrigation areas acquired				155,111
TOTAL AREAS acquired to 31st December, 1925				927,471

**Financial
statement of
Closer
Settlement.**

The liabilities and assets of Closer Settlement at 31st December, 1925, are shown hereunder :—

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF CLOSER SETTLEMENT AT
31ST DECEMBER, 1925.**

Liabilities—	£
For Loans, Advances, and Interest (accrued)	6,176,517
Crown Lands taken over	10,113
Sundry Creditors	953,561
Reserves, &c.	269,155
	7,409,346
Assets—	
Balance of purchase money not accrued due by lessees and others	4,658,055
Land on hand	452,958
Balance of advances on improvements not accrued due ..	926,628
Government Securities	132,121
Cash (including balance at credit of Closer Settlement Fund) ..	150,584
Sundry assets (including Interest accrued but not yet payable) ..	298,216
Arrears on land and advances—	
Principal—	£
Land	158,482
Advances	112,041
Interest—	
Land	450,397
Advances	71,748
	792,668
Less Bad Debts written off	1,884
	790,784
	7,409,346

At 31st December, 1925, payments by settlers on land and advances amounted to £4,811,465, of which amount £2,466,867 was paid on account of principal and £2,344,598 on account of interest.

Eighty per cent. of the value of the improvements can be accepted as security for arrears.

Arrears secured by improvements	£641,538
Arrears secured by principal repaid on land ..	55,383
Arrears secured by stock mortgage, lien on crop, or unsecured	95,746
	£792,667
Total	

The sum of £5,806,934 had been paid to the Closer Settlement Fund up to 31st December, 1925. Of that amount £2,751,741 had been transferred to revenue to meet interest due to stockholders. £100,000 had been invested to replace amounts written off estates re-valued, £100,000 had been placed in securities under the Discharged Soldier

Settlement Acts, and £2,706,525 had been utilized for redemption and cancellation of stock and for capital and working expenditure, the balance to the credit of the fund on 31st December, 1925, being £148,668. The balance of unredeemed securities is now £5,973,159, on which the interest payable amounts to £270,025 per annum. Up to 31st December, 1925, 9,222 persons had received advances aggregating £1,935,481, to effect improvements, or upon improvements already effected.

Discharged Soldiers Settlement. By Acts 2916 of 1917, 2988 of 1918, 3039 of 1919, 3061 of 1920, 3130 of 1921, 3253 of 1922, and 3370 of 1924, provision was made for the settlement of discharged soldiers on the land and for other matters. The operation of these acts is under the control of the Closer Settlement Board, with the limitation that the closer settlement areas under irrigation conditions, and situated within an Irrigation and Water Supply District within the meaning of the *Water Act* 1915, are managed by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission.

Up to 31st December, 1925, the Closer Settlement Board and the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission had acquired for the settlement of discharged soldiers 2,352,515 acres at a cost of £14,343,936, including 62,786 acres of Closer Settlement land taken over and disposed of under the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Acts. Of these lands 123,343 acres were granted to civilians under Closer Settlement Acts.

The following is a summary of the lands acquired :—

**LANDS ACQUIRED FOR DISCHARGED SOLDIERS
SETTLEMENT TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1925.**

	Area.	Cost.
	acres.	£
Land specially purchased (3,379 properties)	1,749,662	13,262,779
Crown Lands taken over	540,067	454,210
Closer Settlement Lands taken over	62,786	626,947
Total area and cost of purchase	2,352,515	14,343,936
Expenses prior to disposal .. .. .	..	100,561
Public Works effected .. .. .	..	635,798
Interest capitalized .. .. .	..	19,942
Total cost to 31st December, 1925 .. .. .	..	15,100,237
Less land granted to civilians under Closer Settlement Acts	123,343	1,129,713*
Total net area and cost	2,229,172	13,970,524

* Approximate (2½ per cent. loading has been deducted from the selling price, viz., £1,157,956 to obtain the cost price).

Extent of
Soldier
Settlement.

The extent of settlement at 31st December, 1925, is given in the table which follows :—

SUMMARY OF DISCHARGED SOLDIERS SETTLEMENT TO
31ST DECEMBER, 1925.

	Dry Areas.	Irrigation Areas.
	acres.	acres.
Area of land settled—Soldiers	1,970,613	65,254
Area of land settled—Civilians (Closer Settlement Acts)	112,580	10,763
Area of land available	14,120	2,154
Area of land acquired but not yet available	1,173	20,941
Sales by Auction, &c.	151,679	3,238
Total land acquired to 31st December, 1925	2,250,165	102,350
Farms, Number of—		
Soldier Settlers	6,614	1,078
Civilians	405	341
Total!	7,019	1,419
Average area—acres	297	53
Average capital value	£1,728	£854

The number of soldiers settled up to that date was as follows :—

On land specially purchased by the Closer Settlement Board	6,528
On land specially purchased by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission	1,428
On Closer Settlement old estates—Dry areas	36
On Closer Settlement old estates—Irrigable areas	570
On Crown Lands—Ordinary and Mallee Areas	1,343
On Crown Lands—Merbein and Nyah Irrigation Areas	186
Soldiers receiving assistance from the Closer Settlement Board, on share farming, leasing agreements and freehold land	838
Total	10,929

In addition to the above there were available or in process of being made available 18 allotments, of which 3 were on land specially purchased by the Closer Settlement Board, and 15 were on Crown land. There were also 971 blocks available under ordinary Closer Settlement conditions, for which returned soldiers could apply.

**Financial
statement
of Discharged
Soldiers
Settlement.**

The liabilities and assets of Discharged Soldiers Settlement are shown hereunder :—

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF DISCHARGED SOLDIERS
SETTLEMENT AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1925.**

Liabilities—		£
For Loans, Advances, and Interest	.. .. .	22,052,360
Crown Lands taken over	.. .. .	454,210
Sundry Creditors	.. .. .	106,861
Reserves, &c.	.. .. .	326,004
		<hr/> 22,939,435
Assets—		
Balance of purchase money not accrued due by lessees and others	.. .. .	13,806,077
Land on hand	.. .. .	234,232
Balance of advances on improvements not accrued due	.. .. .	3,553,481
Cash (including balance at credit of Discharged Soldiers Settlement Fund)	.. .. .	472,667
Concession of Interest and Administration expenses (State and Commonwealth)	.. .. .	413,440
Sundry assets (including Interest accrued but not yet payable)	.. .. .	266,954
Arrears on land and advances—		
Principal—		£
Land	.. .. .	298,585
Advances	.. .. .	1,687,949
Interest—		
Land	.. .. .	1,639,420
Advances	.. .. .	601,110
		<hr/> 4,227,064
Less Bad Debts written off	.. .. .	36,48C
		<hr/> 4,190,584
		<hr/> 22,939,435

At 31st December, 1925, payments by soldier settlers on land and advances amounted to £3,752,386, of which amount £2,821,605 was paid on account of principal and £930,781 on account of interest.

Against outstanding advances there was security in the nature of improvements, stock, and machinery owned by settlers. The value of these assets on all allotments in dry and irrigable areas was estimated at £7,570,806.

Concessions granted by the State Government (£1,380,301) and the Commonwealth Government (£1,870,828)—representing interest, administration charges, and losses—have relieved the settlers to the extent of £3,251,129.

Up to 31st December, 1925, the amount of assistance rendered by the Board by way of advances was £7,379,717 to 10,769 soldier settlers.

WATERWORKS.

All Victorian waterworks are controlled by official bodies, either State or local. The following table, particulars of which were obtained chiefly from the Twenty-first Annual Report of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, summarizes those waterworks on which the Government has expended or advanced moneys, and includes practically all waterworks in the State other than minor works constructed by municipalities out of municipal funds:—

**WATERWORKS—CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND ADVANCES
BY STATE TO 30TH JUNE, 1926.**

Controlling Bodies.	Purposes of Supply.	Storage Capacity of Reservoirs. *	Capital Expenditure and Advances by State.
		Acre feet.	£
State Rivers and Water Supply Commission—			
Cobiban System ..	Domestic and Mining	42,870	1,351,413
Broken River Works ..	Stock and Domestic	..	14,853
Goulburn-Waranga (including Goulburn main channels) ..	Irrigation, &c. ..	354,100	2,418,345
Sugarloaf Reservoir (under construction) ..	" " ..	306,000	1,268,980
Kow Swamp Works ..	" " ..	40,860	187,566
Loddon River Works ..	" " ..	14,000	167,636
North-west (Kerang) Lakes	" " ..	92,000	21,653
Long Lake Pumping Works ..	Stock and Domestic	3,820	27,346
Lake Lonsdale Reservoir	" " ..	45,480	49,054
Lower Wimmera Compensation Works ..	" " ..	2,870	8,558
Wimmera Storages ..	" " ..	159,200	326,219
Maffra-Sale Scheme (including Glenmaggie Reservoir and channels)	Irrigation, &c. ..	150,000	758,277
Bacchus Marsh and Werribee Scheme ..	" " ..	31,850	169,722
Red Cliffs Scheme ..	" " ..	..	701,836
Irrigation and Water Supply Districts (distributory works) ..	" " ..	..	2,873,551
Millewa Waterworks Scheme ..	Stock and Domestic	..	257,524
Waterworks Districts (distributory works) ..	" " ..	36,400†	2,503,835
Flood Protection Districts	" " ..	..	345,504
Surveys, &c. ..	" " ..	..	189,839
Other expenditure ..	" " ..	..	136,719
Carried forward ..	" " ..	1,279,450	13,778,430

**WATERWORKS—CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND ADVANCES BY STATE TO
30TH JUNE, 1926—continued.**

Controlling Bodies.	Purposes of Supply.	Storage Capacity of Reservoirs. *	Capital Expenditure and Advances by State.
Brought forward ..	.. .. .	Acre feet. 1,279,450	£ 13,778,430
River Murray Agreement Works (Commission the constructing authority) ..	Irrigation, &c. ..	1,000,000	1,201,722
Total State Rivers and Water Supply Commission First Mildura Irrigation and Water Supply Trust and Mildura Urban Trust ..	.. .. .	2,279,450	14,980,152
Abolished Irrigation and Water Supply Trusts (8)	Irrigation, &c. ..	..	119,782
Waterworks Trusts ..	Stock and Domestic ..	5,730	32,754
Municipal Corporations ..	" ..	11,420	1,671,950
Free Grants to Local Authorities ..	.. .. .	..	762,568
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works ..	Domestic ..	23,730	147,046
Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust ..	" ..	9,930	7,184,689
Total ..	.. .. .	2,330,260	25,610,598

* Total capacity of Storages, when works in hand are completed.

† Includes miscellaneous Storages, the expenditure on which has been debited to the districts concerned.

NOTE.—One acre foot of water equals 43,560 cubic feet, or 272,250 gallons.

Of the expenditure given in the case of the Melbourne waterworks, £3,189,934 represents money borrowed by the State, all of which had been redeemed at 30th June, 1924—£800,000 out of consolidated revenue, and £2,389,934 by payments from the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, to which body the waterworks were transferred in 1891. Further particulars relating to this Board will be found on page 232, Part V., of this volume.

The Geelong Waterworks were sold by the Government to the Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust in 1908 for £265,000. The expenditure shown in the above table includes, in addition to this amount, the outstanding State loan liability on account of the works, viz., £159,358, and the capital expenditure by the Trust since acquiring the works, viz., £287,299.

The next table summarizes the amounts disbursed on State works and those granted and lent to local bodies by the State on account of waterworks. In addition to their receiving free grants large sums have been written off the liabilities of the local bodies.

STATE EXPENDITURE ON WATERWORKS TO 30TH JUNE, 1926.

	Expenditure by State.	Capital Written Off.	Payments towards Redemption.	Free Headworks and Advances.	Amount standing at Debit, 30th June, 1926.
	£	£	£	£	£
State Rivers and Water Supply Commission—					
Free Headworks	1,214,910	..	420	1,214,490	..
Other Main Supply Works (including Coliban)	6,514,072	..	1,106	..	6,512,966
Irrigation and Water Supply Districts	2,873,551	575,152	30,937	..	2,267,462
Waterworks Districts	2,503,835	175,055	46,906	..	2,281,874
Flood Protection Districts	345,504	..	..	..	345,504
Surveys, &c.	189,839	..	..	..	189,839
Other expenditure	136,719	..	..	..	136,719
	13,778,430	750,207	79,369	1,214,490	11,734,364
River Murray Agreement Works ..	1,201,722	..	..	..	1,201,722
Total State Rivers and Water Supply Commission	14,980,152	750,207	79,369	1,214,490	12,936,086
First Mildura Irrigation and Water Supply Trust and Mildura Urban Trust	119,782	..	8,079	..	111,703
Abolished Irrigation and Water Supply Trusts (8)	32,754	32,724	30	..	..
Waterworks Trusts	1,671,950*	316,537	239,759	..	1,115,654
Municipal Corporations	762,568†	163,760	121,755	..	477,053
Free Grants to Local Authorities ..	147,046	..	..	147,946	..
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works	3,189,934	..	3,189,934	..	..
Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust	459,593	..	300,235	..	159,358
Total	21,363,779	1,263,228	3,939,161	1,361,536	14,799,854

* Amount includes £6,871 representing Interest Capitalized.

† " " £43,979 " " " "

In addition to the capital written off, as shown above, arrears of interest amounting to £579,786 have been written off certain liabilities to the State, viz., £342,773 from the liabilities of what were originally Irrigation and Water Supply Trusts, £85,556 from the liabilities of Waterworks Trusts, and £151,457 from the liabilities of Municipal Corporations. Thus the amount which has actually been written off the liabilities of the Trusts (Irrigation and Waterworks) and Corporations is £1,843,014. Interest outstanding at 30th June, 1926, amounted to £32,788, viz., £11,343 against the First Mildura Trust, £17,788 against Waterworks Trusts, and £3,657 against Municipal Corporations.

IRRIGATION.

Progress of Irrigation. Prior to 1905 the management of irrigation in Victoria was in the hands of various Irrigation Trusts, which were financed by the State. These Trusts drifted into financial difficulties and the State was compelled to assume control. In the year mentioned, by the authority of Parliament, the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission was constituted and intrusted with the management of all irrigation works, except those controlled by the First Mildura Trust. This authority is embodied in the *Water Act* 1915—which consolidates the *Water Acts* of 1905 and 1909, of which epitomes have been given in previous issues of this work—and the *Water Acts* 1916 and 1918. The chief difficulties under which the Irrigation Trusts laboured were sparse settlement, and the absence of powers to make compulsory charges on the properties commanded by the irrigation channels. Since the assumption of control by the Commission a policy of closer settlement on the lands served by the irrigation channels has been inaugurated and vigorously pushed on, and a system of compulsory rating enforced, along with which there has been the allotment of water as a right to properties in channelled areas.

An illustration of the influence of closer settlement and the allotment of water rights in extending irrigation is contained in the following table, which shows, for the districts having water rights, most of which

are directly affected by the Commission's Closer Settlement policy, the areas irrigated in 1909-10—the year in which these two factors were first put into operation—and the average areas for the last five years :—

PROGRESS OF IRRIGATION IN CLOSER SETTLEMENT AREAS.

District (having allotted Water Rights).	Area Irrigated.	
	1909-10.	Average for last Five Years.
	Acres.	Acres.
Supplied from the Goulburn—		
Shepparton .. ..	..	14,534
South Shepparton (two years)	..	3,055
Rodney	32,356	48,755
Stanhope	2,000	9,962
Tongala	3,006	13,567
Rochester	500	27,812
Echuca North (four years) ..	..	2,504
Dingee .. ..	..	3,452
Tragowel Plains	20,000	34,723
Supplied from the Murray—		
Leitchville (one year) ..	..	4,245
Cohuna	12,000	17,899
Gannawarra	7,825	18,712
Koondrook	5,029	13,390
Swan Hill	5,410	13,952
Nyah	569	2,689
Merbein	202	7,649
Tresco (four years) ..	..	1,420
Mystic Park (four years) ..	..	2,760
Supplied from the Werribee—		
Bacchus Marsh	31	2,474
Werribee .. ..	..	5,797
Total	88,922	249,351

The area under irrigated culture in the whole State, in 1925-26, for all kinds of crop, was 343,685 acres, being a decrease of 31,818 acres compared with the area irrigated in the previous year, the largest yet recorded, but 9,011 acres above the average of the previous four years.

Total area irrigated.

The subjoined table shows the total extent of irrigated land in the State in 1909-10 and each of the last five years, and the purposes for which the land was utilized:—

IRRIGATED AREAS: HOW UTILIZED.

Crop.	1909-10.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.
Cereals	23,715	25,039	60,304	32,240	45,215	57,987
Lucerne	24,124	82,226	92,679	94,479	103,200	116,753
Sorghum and other annual fodders ..	8,094	28,112	35,591	33,356	36,683	37,340
Pastures	50,541	88,195	88,787	91,912	119,563	51,345
Vineyards and orchards	17,524	55,601	61,061	64,647	66,780	69,108
Fallow	4,988	4,867	8,850	4,523	4,863	5,102
Miscellaneous ..	785	3,867	3,455	3,401	5,199	6,050
Total ..	129,771	287,907	350,727	324,558	375,503	343,685

NOTE.—In 1909-10, 8,000 acres, details of which are not available, were irrigated by private diversions, making a total area for that year of 137,771 acres.

Of the total area irrigated in 1925-26—343,685 acres—the percentages devoted to different purposes were as follows:—Pastures, 15; cereals, 17; lucerne, 34; vineyards, orchards, and gardens, 20; sorghum and other annual fodder crops, 11; fallow, 1; and miscellaneous, 2.

The Commission during 1925-26 provided 187 holdings under ordinary Closer Settlement conditions for 12 discharged soldiers, 119 local civilians, and 56 approved oversea settlers. In addition, extensions to storages and supply channels made available domestic and stock supplies in new districts providing for settlement on 217 holdings. The area of the estates

Closer Settlement in Irrigation Districts.

in the irrigated areas thrown open for settlement during the year totalled 4,764 acres, of which 806 acres were purchased during the year. In the districts supplied by the Goulburn Irrigation System, 2,246 acres were subdivided into 22 allotments. In the new Maffra-Sale District 41 holdings, with a total area of 2,272 acres, were provided. At Hallam, 15 small blocks, totalling 246 acres, were made available.

The Closer Settlement area at Narre Warren and Hallam marks a new development in Closer Settlement in the State. The properties acquired, totalling 3,300 acres of rich land eminently suited for intense culture, are being drained and subdivided into small holdings suitable for market gardening and poultry farming. The district is about 24 miles from Melbourne, and, as the areas adjacent to the metropolis hitherto used for market gardening purposes are being gradually absorbed by extensions of suburban residential areas, the settlement will eventually play an important part in the supply of market garden produce for the city. Of the area subdivided 31 blocks have been taken up, and other blocks are now being made available. Water will be delivered under pressure from a main supply pipe of the Mornington Peninsula System.

The Commission has practically completed the work of repatriating discharged soldiers; the chief responsibility now being to see to the welfare of the men already settled, and, by an adequate system of advances, help towards permanent improvements to their holdings. Since the commencement of the repatriation of Victoria's soldiers, the Commission has placed 2,193 discharged soldiers on irrigable blocks; of this number 343 obtained their farms under section 20 of the Closer Settlement Act.

An important development in irrigated Closer Settlement was the change over to irrigation conditions, at the request of the settlers, of the dry farming area adjacent to the Tragowel Plains Irrigation District.

The Commission has in hand about 30,000 acres of suitable land available for settlement awaiting the extension of the storage and irrigation schemes. Of this area, 11,660 acres are in the Katandra District, which will be served by the East Goulburn Channel (now enlarged and extended); and 3,300 acres are at Calivil, near the River Loddon; 600 acres at Rodney and Kyabram; 10,000 acres of the irrigable portion of Red Cliffs Soldier Settlement; about 1,500 acres at Maffra; and 2,800 acres at Hallam and Narre Warren. These will be made available for settlement as the occasion demands and as soon as the progress of the works permit.

The following statement shows the lands purchased for civilians and discharged soldiers by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission and the extent of settlement on each estate after subdivision. The subdivided portions are already supporting twenty times as many families as were living on them previously. The statement contains

also particulars of settlement effected under section 20 of the *Closer Settlement Act* 1915 outside the large estates subdivided by the Commission:—

Closer Settlement Estates.	Area of Lands purchased by the State in Acres.	Properties Subdivided.						
		Area in Acres.	Number.	Number of Families thereon when Purchased.	Subdivided into—		Number of Closer Settlement Blocks now occupied.	Present Increase in Number of Families.
					Number of Closer Settlement Blocks.	Average Area in Acres.		
Shepparton	14,170	14,170	33	29	389	34	376	347
East Goulburn	13,400	1,740	2	2	23	72	23	21
Rodney	3,230	2,800	6	4	49	56	44	40
Stanhope	21,500	21,500	7	13	290	63	256	243
Kyabram	4,600	4,420	9	12	69	62	65	53
Tongala	18,820	18,820	40	35	314	58	266	261
Koyuga	4,200	4,200	..	..	54	73	48	48
Cornelia Creek	2,500	2,500	}Pt. 1	..	19	161	17	17
Nanneella	9,040	9,040	18	8	125	70	118	110
Echuca	3,600	3,600	8	4	30	105	30	26
Bamawm	13,400	13,400	23	21	192	65	188	167
Dingee	500	500	3	1	20	23	14	13
Calivil	3,300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cohuna	12,000	12,000	29	10	142	80	116	106
Koondrook	9,060	9,060	14	10	132	63	120	110
Swan Hill	12,500	12,500	34	16	329	36	309	293
Nyah	3,800	3,800	8	1	237	15	237	236
Merbein (Crown)	8,300	8,300	..	..	423	20	420	420
Red Cliffs	33,000	13,000	1	3	706	17	686	683
Bacchus Marsh	70	70	1	1	2	36	2	2
Werribee	10,000	10,000	1	11	233	36	223	218
Hallam	3,300	520	3	2	31	17	31	29
Maffra	8,070	6,550	13	12	133	45	87	75
	212,360	177,490	259	194	3,942	44	3,712	3,518
Properties purchased under Section 20, <i>Closer Settlement Act</i> 1915, outside above Estates, <i>vide</i> page 462	19,540	..	..	..	..	..	200	..
	231,900							

Progress of Irrigated Closer Settled Districts. During the year ended 30th June, 1926, the development of the holdings in irrigated areas has been steadily continued, and a considerable increase in the value of stock, implements, and permanent improvements has been reported.

In the dried fruit areas there was a considerable increase in the yield as compared with the preceding year. As February was very dry a very fine grade of currants was processed, but heavy rains at the end of April delayed the harvesting of the sultanas and lexias crops and considerable quantities of the latter were subsequently distilled. Owing, however, to the vastly improved market for fortified wines the returns from the distilled fruit will probably be equal to the amount received for that placed on the export market. The development which

has taken place in this industry at Mildura may be exemplified by its effect on the railway revenue, which in 1909 was £25,000, while in 1925 it was £125,000.

The Co-operative Fruit Canneries at Shepparton, Kyabram, and Mooroopna had a most successful season, and processed 12,000,000 tins—the largest pack of canned fruit yet produced in Victoria. The bulk of this has already been sold. Extensions have been made to the canneries at Shepparton and Mooroopna in order to cope with the greater quantity of fruit now available for processing.

The suitability of the irrigation districts for dairying has been shown in the results of the State Herd Testing Competition (pure bred cows). In competition with herds all over the State second and third places were secured by herds on irrigated holdings at Tongala and Wyuna, while the two highest yielding cows in Victoria are in the Wyuna herd. With the objective of improving the quality of herds and their milk-producing capabilities, herd-testing associations are active in the Tongala, Nanneella, Cohuna, and Kerang irrigation districts.

The benefits of irrigation were marked on the beet crop on the Boisdale Flats in the Maffra-Sale district, where, despite low germination and low rainfall, a crop well over the average was produced. Market gardening areas are rapidly expanding at Werribee, Bacchus Marsh, and in the Narre Warren district.

The Irrigation Research Committee, comprising representatives of the Department of Agriculture and the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, the formation of which was mentioned in the 1923-24 issue of this publication, has carried out experiments at Swan Hill, Rochester, Stanhope, and Tongala. The results obtained are most gratifying, and indicate that, given the correct manurial treatment, crops yielding as much as 7 tons of lucerne hay per acre could be obtained. An investigation is also being made into the salt question at Tresco.

In addition to waterworks for purposes of irrigation, extensive schemes for the supply of water for domestic and stock purposes are under the control of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission. Altogether, the area within the State so supplied is approximately 22,500 square miles—slightly more than one-quarter of the total area of the State. The major portion so supplied is in the Mallee and Wimmera districts.

The number of towns supplied with water, exclusive of the City of Melbourne and its suburbs, is as follows:—73 towns of a total population of 108,940 supplied by the Commission, 108 towns with a total population of 177,240 supplied by Waterworks Trusts, and 18 towns with a total population of 73,620 supplied by Local Governing Bodies.

STORAGE AND SUPPLY SCHEMES.

Total Storages in State. In 1902 the total capacity of storages in the State was 172,000 acre-feet. The present capacity under the control of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission is about 948,500 acre-feet, and, when the Sugarloaf, Wimmera, and Maffra Storages have been completed, the total capacity will exceed 1,279,450 acre-feet. The Hume Reservoir, which is in course of construction, and is not included in the storages referred to, will contain between 1,100,000 and 2,000,000 acre-feet (*vide* page 485), half of which can, subject to the provisions of the River Murray Agreement, be credited to the State of Victoria. The construction of storage works by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission was continued during the year.

Goulburn Storages. At the Sugarloaf Reservoir, on the Upper Goulburn River, work is well advanced with the main retaining wall, which consists of a diaphragm of concrete, a wall of clayey material on the upstream side of the diaphragm, and supporting masses of rock. The concrete diaphragm has been completed to the full height required for the present undertaking (139·75 feet above river bed), the clay filling on the upstream side and the rock fill on both sides almost to full height, and the concrete spillway to a minimum height of 96 feet. A volume of 135,000 acre-feet of water can already be held in store, and this will be increased to 306,000 acre-feet—the full capacity—during the winter of 1927. It has been ascertained by surveys that the site would admit of a storage basin of a total capacity of 918,000 acre-feet. This result could be obtained by progressive stages. The cast iron gates and pipes for an emergency or power outlet have now been installed, and hydraulic lifters will be added during the coming year. In view of the possibility of the outlet being utilized in connexion with the Sugarloaf Hydro-electric Scheme (*vide* page 486), the State Electricity Commission was consulted prior to the final adoption of plans.

At the Waranga Reservoir, which has a storage capacity of 333,400 acre-feet, the construction of the reinforced concrete core wall—4½ miles in length—which was commenced in 1923, has been completed. In addition, a considerable amount of work has been done on the inlet and outlet channels.

Wimmera Storages. Progress was made with the works for supplementing the domestic and stock supplies to the districts served by the Wimmera-Mallee system. The great value of the new Taylor's Lake Storage, of 30,000 acre-feet capacity, was fully demonstrated in the recent dry period, during which this reservoir proved equal to the exceptionally heavy demands made upon it. The building of the embankment for the first stage of Pine Lake Reservoir and the construction of the valve tower and outlet structures have been completed. A commencement has now been made with the building

of the second stage of the embankment. This will increase the available capacity from 22,000 acre-feet—the volume now held—to 48,000 acre-feet. The ultimate holding capacity of this storage will be 62,000 acre-feet. The new main channel connecting the Wimmera River with Taylor's Lake and Pine Lake Storage is completed and in operation. Its capacity is 1,000 acre-feet per day.

The storage provision of the Wimmera-Mallee Supply Scheme now reaches 152,690 acre-feet as against 69,000 acre-feet a few years ago. Storage works now in course of construction will carry the capacity to no less than 212,690 acre-feet. The water is distributed throughout a total area of about 11,000 square miles by main and distributary channels aggregating 5,070 miles in length (exclusive of an approximately equal length of farmers' connecting branches). Full supplies are furnished to six urban Waterworks Trusts within the Wimmera-Mallee areas, in addition to the reticulated systems of 29 towns directly controlled by the Commission.

The benefits of this system have now been extended—by means of a new main channel 105 miles in length—to an area of 382 square miles, including the town of Charlton, which hitherto depended on a somewhat scanty supply pumped from the Avoca River. The new Charlton Town Storage of 260,000 cubic yards capacity, and that of 60,000 cubic yards at Marnoo township, built by the Commission, were filled last year by this gravitation connexion with the Wimmera-Mallee storages, and the new supplies, coming at an extremely dry period, were highly appreciated.

Northern Mallee Water Supply. In the Walpeup portion of the Northern Mallee, comprising an area of about 1,250,000 acres, which adjoins the Wimmera-Mallee districts, but is generally too high for inclusion in the gravitation channel system, the Commission has met the water supply needs of settlers by sinking bores, and excavating large public tanks. There are now 98 successful public bores in this area with an average depth of 460 feet, and 195 tanks with a total storage capacity of 1,040,000 cubic yards.

The Commission has further assisted settlers in this area by clearing and grubbing 4,565 miles of roads, in addition to which 161 sandhills have been made passable for heavy waggons by rubbing with local limestone.

Millewa Water Supply. The extensive domestic and stock supply scheme for the supply of water to an area of about 1,000,000 acres in the extreme north-western portion of the State (opened up by the 55 miles of railway from Red Cliffs that is being constructed for the service of that territory), is so well advanced that a new Waterworks District, known as "Lower Millewa," has been constituted. The scheme will comprise two main lifts, of about 125 feet and 150 feet, the first being from Lake Cullulleraine—a depression on the edge of the river flats about 5 miles from the River Murray. In the first lift

system 50 miles of main channels and 300 miles of distributaries have already been constructed; these will serve 638 agricultural and grazing blocks, with a total area of 640,000 acres, which have been allotted to settlers. The work will be carried out in successive stages to meet the requirements of the gradually extending settlement. Work has been commenced on the second lift system, which will raise the water an additional height of 135 feet, through a 30-in. diameter steel rising main, 1 mile 60 chains in length. This high-lift area is expected to be watered in the next watering season.

Carwarp Waterworks District. In the Carwarp Waterworks District, supplied from the Red Cliffs pumping station, the construction of a main channel to supply about 50 square miles of new country at Carwarp and Colignan has been completed, and water has been supplied to the settlers dependent thereon. The works to supply water to the high lands surrounding Carwarp Railway Station, including 12 miles of channels and a pump and rising main, have been effective, and a complete watering supplied to settlers during the year. These lands have been formed into a separate waterworks district called "Carwarp Central."

Mornington Peninsula Scheme. The important scheme of reticulated supply to the Naval Base, the inland towns of Berwick, Beaconsfield, Noble Park, Spring Vale, Dandenong, Somerville, Cranbourne, and Bittern, and the bayside towns of Mornington, Frankston, South Frankston, Seaford, Carrum, Chelsea, Edithvale, and Aspendale, is in full working order. Extensions of services in all directions are being applied for. The reservoirs at Beaconsfield, Dandenong (Heywood's Hill), Frankston, South Frankston, Mornington, and Bittern are kept fully supplied.

The main race has now been extended from Toomuc Creek, to tap the Cannibal Creek and River Bunyip, as outlined in the original scheme. The work of extending the main race from Toomuc Creek to tap the Cannibal Creek and River Bunyip, including the construction of 25 miles of open race and 8 miles of 2-foot diameter main, was successfully carried out, and water of excellent quality is now being run into the district storages. This will ensure adequate supplies to meet the increasing demands of reticulations already connected, and to provide for the new urban districts of Hastings and Pakenham, about to be proclaimed, and, when required, the townships of Garfield, Bunyip, Kooweerup, and the bayside towns of Dromana, Rosebud, Rye, Sorrento, and Portsea. A full supply of water is now available for the irrigation, by pressure pipes, of small blocks suitable for market gardening and intensive culture. In this connexion the estates in the Hallam Valley, comprising 3,300 acres, purchased by the Commission for Closer Settlement purposes, are being subdivided and allotted to settlers for intensive culture under irrigation. The first subdivision, comprising 31 blocks, averaging 18 acres each, with houses built by the

Commission, have been taken up. Extensive works for the systematic drainage and reclamation of the balance (2,700 acres) of the above estates have been carried out, and about 1,800 acres, between Berwick and Dandenong, will be ready for settlement in 1927.

Goulburn Irrigation Areas. With the completion of the Waranga Reservoir enlargement and improvement works, and the anticipated early completion of Sugarloaf Reservoir, active preparations have been made for enlarging and extending the works for the distribution of the increased supplies of water becoming available, and considerable expansion of the whole system is now taking place. The main Eastern Channel—from the Goulburn Weir to the River Broken—previously supplying Shepparton District only, is being enlarged, and extended north-easterly about 17 miles. The Shepparton District has been extended, and further areas, including 9,000 acres at Katandra purchased by the Commission for Closer Settlement purposes, will be supplied. New lands south of the River Broken, comprising 14,000 acres, are now receiving supplies, and have been constituted the "South Shepparton" Irrigation District. Further extensions are contemplated.

On the west of the River Goulburn, several main channels of the Rodney District have been enlarged and new main channels constructed to cope with the increasing demand for water. Further west, the works, of the Rochester Irrigation District have been extended, and already 35,000 acres have been added to the district. A new main channel—Tandarra-Calivil, from the Waranga-Western main channel, towards the River Loddon, is under construction, and is well advanced. This channel will supplement the supply to the Tragowel Plains Irrigation District, and some large areas of new irrigation lands *en route*. The Waranga-Western main channel has been extended to the River Loddon (98 miles from Waranga Reservoir), and a weir and regulator built on that river, enabling the Commission to augment the supply to the Boort District, hitherto dependent entirely on the uncertain quantities of water obtainable from the River Loddon.

Loddon-Murray Irrigation Areas. In the districts administered from the Cohuna and Kerang centres the completion of the Torrumbarry Weir has been responsible for a marked impetus in the development of irrigation, extensive areas now being provided for by gravitation entirely, where previously a combined gravitation and pumping system was necessary.

As well as the improvements in the conditions obtaining in established districts, large areas of dry farming lands are rapidly being brought under irrigation. First among these is an area of 8,000 acres between Gunbower Channel and Cohuna Irrigation District. A complete system of channels has been provided for these lands, which have now been constituted the "Leitchville" Irrigation District.

Another important development was the reticulation of 6,000 acres between the Rivers Murray and Loddon, and the inclusion of these lands within the Koondrook Irrigation District. This extension

includes a number of soldier settlers' holdings, previously supplied, at great cost, by private pumping plants.

The irrigable area benefited by Torrumbarry Weir was still further increased by the construction of main and distributary channels from Pyramid Creek, upstream from Kerang Weir. These works provide a supply for 8,400 acres of lands north-east of Kerang, and now added to the Gannawarra Irrigation District.

The continuous gravitation supplies rendered available by Torrumbarry Weir and distribution works enabled the Kerang North-West Lakes to be maintained at full supply level during the irrigation season, while the Swan Hill Irrigation District of 21,000 acres, which, until recently, was supplied partly by gravitation and partly by pumping, has now been brought wholly under the influence of gravitation, and extended by the inclusion of about 14,600 acres of lands between Lake Boga and Swan Hill.

The important irrigation works, to provide a gravitation supply to the country between Third Lake and Benjeroop, have been completed and are in full operation, and the lands so served—about 13,000 acres—have been constituted the "Third Lake" Irrigation District. An additional area of 5,500 acres, between Lake Tutchewop and the Little Murray River, similarly supplied, has been constituted the "Fish Point" Irrigation District.

**Maffra-Sale
District
Irrigation
Scheme.**

Good progress was made during the year with the construction of the cyclopean concrete dam on the Macallister River, which, when completed, will impound 150,000 acre-feet of water for the irrigation of 80,000 acres of land. The dam is already sufficiently high to store about 50,000 acre-feet of water, and the works are so nearly completed that, if required, the reservoir could be filled to full capacity during 1927. The northern main channel, commanding Newry and Boisdale Flats, and the whole of Maffra and Sale districts, has been completed, and the reticulation of Boisdale Flats, of 3,000 acres, with special concrete-lined channels, enabled water for this rich area to be delivered last season. It is expected that during the ensuing summer water will also be available for Airly, Cobain's, and other estates (totaling 6,000 acres, in the vicinity of Sale) purchased and subdivided by the Commission for Closer Settlement purposes. In the area served by the southern main channel, the distributary channels on the Mewburn Park Closer Settlement Estate have been completed, and a supply is now being given by means of a flume across the river, connected to the channel system on the northern side.

**Red Cliffs
Irrigation
District.**

At Red Cliffs, the scheme, which ranks first in importance among the pumping systems of the State, supplies water to an area totalling 18,000 acres, including the township and 700 occupied soldier settlement blocks. The plant is capable of delivering 500 acre-feet of water per day, lifted 105 feet. The total length of channels constructed to date is 124 miles. Channels having a total

length of 107 miles have been lined with concrete, with the result that 665 blocks—92 per cent. of the total in the settlement—are protected from seepage from channels. The area now planted to vines and citrus is 8,600 acres, the whole of which will be in bearing next year. The yield of dried fruit for 1926 was 5,444 tons. Following considerable progress in the township, which has been proclaimed an Urban Water-works District, a concrete standpipe, 70 feet high and 26 feet in diameter, has been erected, and reticulation extended to meet requirements.

Flood Protection Schemes. The Commission has under construction a comprehensive scheme of works for the reclamation of the extensive swamps in West Gippsland, known as Kooweerup and Cardinia, and for the protection from periodical flooding of the surrounding low-lying lands, aggregating in all 100,000 acres. These areas have been constituted Flood Protection Districts under the provisions of the Water Acts. The construction of the huge main drains, feeders and subsidiary works has reached the stage that provides the landholders affected with protection from all but abnormal floods, and flood protection charges have been levied accordingly.

Flood protection works have also been constructed at Loch Garry (below Shepparton) for the regulation of Goulburn flood waters. The area benefited—about 40,000 acres—has been constituted the “Loch Garry” Flood Protection District. Further down the Goulburn (at Kanyapella) works have been constructed for the relief from flooding of an area of about 13,500 acres. This area has been constituted the “Kanyapella” Flood Protection District.

River Murray Waters. The scheme of works provided in the River Murray Waters Acts passed by the Governments of the Commonwealth and of the States of New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia comprises storages on the Upper River Murray and at Lake Victoria, locks and weirs in the course of the River Murray from its mouth to Echuca, and also locks and weirs on the lower part of the River Darling or the River Murrumbidgee, as may be decided by the Government of New South Wales. The Acts provide that for purposes of construction the Minister for Public Works of New South Wales shall be the Constructing Authority for that State; that, for the State of South Australia, the Commissioner of Public Works shall be the Constructing Authority; and that the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission shall be the Constructing Authority for Victoria.

Under the River Murray Agreement of 1914 the estimated total cost of the whole of the works is set down at £4,663,000. It is now clear, from the experience gained in connexion with the works which have been put in hand to date, that the total cost of the works will be fully double that amount. The four contracting Governments have agreed to share equally in the total cost of the works. The total expenditure incurred up to 30th June, 1926, on the portion of the scheme completed and in course of construction was £4,225,000.

The site of the Hume Reservoir is a little below the junction of the rivers Murray and Mitta Mitta. Originally it was designed to provide for a capacity of 1,100,000 acre-feet, but, at a conference of Ministers representing the four interested Governments, held on the 8th and 9th days of August, 1924, the following proposals raised by the Government of Victoria were agreed to :—

- (a) That the work of construction of the Hume dam, of sufficient dimensions to provide for a reservoir of 2,000,000 acre-feet, proceed for a period not exceeding three years, and that the question of the ultimate capacity and completion of the reservoir be then the subject of a further conference. All waters to be used to meet the present allocation obligations and as a reserve for dry years.
- (b) That provision be made for outlet works at the Hume Reservoir suitable for hydro-electric generation purposes, provided, however, that the use of the reservoir for these purposes does not interfere with the volumes of water required for the purposes set out in the River Murray Agreement. The cost of such additional outlet works, estimated at £40,000, shall be borne in equal shares by the States of New South Wales and Victoria, which Governments should have the sole use of any power generated at the reservoir.

The work is being carried out by the Constructing Authorities for the States of New South Wales and Victoria. On the New South Wales section considerable progress has been made, and work is now being proceeded with on the concrete structure. On the Victorian side the construction of the main embankment is being steadily advanced.

The Torrumbarry Weir and Lock (near Echuca) has been in successful operation since December, 1923, and water has been diverted for the various irrigation districts benefited.

Weir and Lock No. 11—situated about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile downstream from Mildura—now nearing completion, will form a lock pool for about 40 miles upstream, providing a local reserve storage of great value and reducing the suction lift at the Mildura and Red Cliffs Pumping Stations. The lock and lock canal have been completed and half of the navigation pass in the river has been constructed. The Constructing Authority for New South Wales is proceeding with work inside the first coffer-dam—recently completed—in connexion with the construction of No. 10 Weir and Lock at Wentworth; while, in the South Australian section, Weir and Lock No. 1 at Blanchetown and No. 3 near Lake Bonney have been completed and brought into operation, No. 9 has been practically completed, Nos. 2 and 5 are approaching completion, and No. 4 has been commenced. Lake Victoria Storage Works have been completed with the exception of the improvement of the inlet and outlet channels.

Artesian Bores. The following particulars relating to artesian boring have been supplied by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission :—

ARTESIAN AND SUB-ARTESIAN BORING (MALLEE).

Number of Bores Sunk.*		Total Depth of Bores.*	
State.	Private.	State.	Private.
98	269	Feet. 45,560	Feet. 52,400

* At 31st December, 1925.

Mildura Irrigation Settlement. The Mildura Irrigation Settlement, on the River Murray, was established in 1887 under the management of the Chaffey Brothers Limited, and in 1895 the control of the water supply was vested in the First Mildura Irrigation Trust. Water is obtained by pumping from the river. The following particulars are an indication of the prosperity of the settlement :—

POPULATION OF MILDURA SHIRE, 1891 to 1925.*

1891	April (Census)	..	2,321	1922	December	..	..	13,760
1901	March (Census)	..	3,325	1923	..	..	..	13,950
1911	April (Census)	..	6,119	1924	..	..	..	14,250
1921	April (Census)	..	13,183	1925	..	..	..	14,450

* Including the population of the town of Mildura, which up to 1920 was part of the shire.

The capital value of property in the Shire of Mildura in 1913 was £1,294,160. In 1925 in the same area it had risen to £3,890,500. The receipts and payments of the Mildura Irrigation Trust during the year ended 30th June, 1926, were as follows :—

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS OF FIRST MILDURA IRRIGATION TRUST, 1925-26.

<i>Receipts.</i>		£	<i>Payments.</i>		£
Horticultural Rates	..	41,781	Wages and Salaries	..	18,192
Special Waterings, &c.	..	4,640	Firewood	..	16,545
Miscellaneous	..	4,683	Interest, Sinking Fund and Depreciation	..	4,360
			Miscellaneous	..	5,793
Total	..	51,104	Total	..	44,890

The extent of watering done represented 22,876 water acres in 1917-18, 39,895 acres in 1918-19, 41,808 acres in 1919-20, 35,632 acres in 1920-21, 44,150 acres in 1921-22, 42,807 acres in 1922-23, 42,854 acres in 1923-24, 39,212 acres in 1924-25, and 42,230 acres in 1925-26

METEOROLOGY.

Particulars in regard to climate and weather conditions have been furnished by the Commonwealth Meteorologist, and are given in the following tables. In the first are shown the rainfall for each of the years 1923, 1924, and 1925, and the average yearly amount of rainfall deduced from all available records to December, 1925, in each of the 26 river basins or districts constituting the State of Victoria:—

RAINFALL.—YEARLY RECORDS AND AVERAGES.

Basin or District.	Rainfall.			
	During the Year—			Yearly Average to December, 1925.
	1923.	1924.	1925.	
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
Glenelg and Wannon Rivers ..	29.75	28.72	23.04	26.32
Fitzroy, Eumeralla, and Merri Rivers	32.61	26.73	22.64	28.12
Hopkins River and Mt. Emu Creek ..	29.55	31.94	20.14	24.89
Mt. Elephant and Lake Corangamite	27.00	27.99	19.16	25.61
Cape Otway Forest ..	47.12	44.71	32.71	39.23
Moorabool and Barwon Rivers ..	24.47	32.28	17.34	24.35
Werribee and Saltwater Rivers ..	19.88	31.89	17.36	23.61
Yarra River and Dandenong Creek ..	34.19	49.40	26.34	34.06
Koo-wee-rup Swamp ..	37.19	47.57	29.29	36.12
South Gippsland ..	43.48	40.95	35.08	39.09
Latrobe and Thomson Rivers ..	39.12	47.21	34.35	38.42
Macallister and Avon Rivers ..	22.73	25.91	22.03	24.49
Mitchell River ..	24.37	25.85	26.59	26.20
Tambo and Nicholson Rivers ..	23.08	28.61	26.86	27.63
Snowy River ..	28.42	33.66	36.62	34.46
Murray River ..	17.17	23.56	14.14	16.84
Mitta Mitta and Kiewa Rivers ..	38.22	46.10	32.29	33.76
Ovens River ..	34.60	42.14	28.18	33.62
Goulburn River ..	27.36	32.38	21.11	26.48
Campaspe River ..	22.14	28.33	15.25	22.92
Loddon River ..	20.62	24.93	14.33	20.28
Avoca River ..	17.39	22.14	13.11	17.18
Avon and Richardson Rivers ..	17.34	20.08	11.91	15.43
Eastern Wimmera ..	23.70	26.32	16.58	21.40
Western Wimmera ..	23.82	22.05	15.44	19.97
Mallee ..	12.95	14.24	8.97	12.69
Weighted Averages ..	25.34	28.65	20.22	24.31

The wettest portion of the State is the Cape Otway Forest, which is closely followed by the South Gippsland district and the Latrobe and Thomson Basin. The lowest rainfall occurs in the Mallee district, where it averages 12.69 inches per annum, as compared with 24.31 inches for the whole State.

An estimate of the areas of the State, in square miles, subject to different degrees of rainfall was first made in 1910. More comprehensive data has since become available, and in 1925 the Commonwealth Meteorologist issued the following revised figures :—

DISTRIBUTION OF AVERAGE RAINFALL.

Rainfall.						Area.
Inches.						Square Miles.
Under 15 ..	..	..	..	..	..	19,270
15 to 20 ..	..	..	..	..	..	13,492
20 to 25 ..	..	..	..	..	..	14,170
25 to 30 ..	..	..	..	..	..	15,579
30 to 40 ..	..	..	..	..	..	14,450
40 to 50 ..	..	..	..	..	..	7,338
50 to 60 ..	..	..	..	..	..	2,980
Over 60 ..	..	..	..	..	..	605

The rainfall recorded for each quarter of 1925 and the quarterly averages up to 1925 deduced from all available records are as follows :—

RAINFALL—QUARTERLY RECORDS AND AVERAGES.

Basin or District.	First Quarter.		Second Quarter.		Third Quarter.		Fourth Quarter.	
	Amount.	Average.	Amount.	Average.	Amount.	Average.	Amount.	Average.
	points	points	points	points	points	points	points	points
Glenelg and Wannon Rivers ..	238	359	806	787	943	901	317	585
Fitzroy, Eumeralla, and Merri Rivers ..	255	432	717	823	883	944	409	613
Hopkins River and Mt. Emu Creek ..	331	422	605	705	727	784	351	578
Mt. Elephant and Lake Corangamite ..	282	454	567	675	707	821	360	611
Cape Otway Forest ..	444	599	1,044	1,163	1,270	1,324	513	837
Moorabool and Barwon Rivers ..	289	476	493	653	576	706	376	600
Werribee and Saltwater Rivers ..	423	516	485	593	497	648	331	604
Yarra River and Dandenong Creek ..	827	705	460	860	849	930	498	911
Koo-wee-rup Swamp ..	782	694	557	984	971	1,015	619	919
South Gippsland ..	970	791	1,115	1,084	986	1,138	437	896
Latrobe and Thomson Rivers ..	909	735	806	980	1,117	1,116	603	1,011
Macallister and Avon Rivers ..	726	629	519	553	553	608	405	659
Mitchell River ..	850	665	618	587	788	693	403	675
Tambo and Nicholson Rivers ..	698	704	695	651	868	679	425	729
Snowy River ..	639	809	1,260	887	1,252	910	511	840
Murray River ..	365	314	460	492	418	490	171	388
Mitta Mitta and Kiewa Rivers ..	1,123	607	509	917	1,224	1,055	373	797
Ovens River ..	943	547	580	978	1,098	1,105	197	732
Goulburn River ..	764	468	418	755	723	809	206	616
Campaspe River ..	368	411	435	678	565	723	157	480
Loddon River ..	315	354	476	604	494	626	148	444
Avon and Richardson Rivers ..	394	284	421	522	358	544	138	368
Avoca River ..	301	251	389	460	364	500	137	332
Eastern Wimmera ..	217	299	673	649	594	721	174	471
Western Wimmera ..	172	253	569	616	651	703	152	425
Mallee District ..	174	227	307	360	329	392	87	290
The whole State ..	468	441	581	679	705	744	268	567

The averages of the climatic elements for the seasons in Melbourne deduced from all available official records are given below :—

AVERAGES OF CLIMATIC ELEMENTS IN MELBOURNE.

Meteorological Elements.	Spring.	Summer.	Autumn.	Winter.
Mean pressure of air in inches	29·970	29·923	30·079	30·077
Monthly range of pressure of air—Inches	0·893	0·767	0·818	0·980
Mean temperature of air in shade—°Fahr.	57·7	66·6	59·3	50·0
Mean daily range of temperature of air in shade—°Fahr.	18·6	21·1	17·4	13·9
Mean relative humidity. Saturation=100	63	58	66	73
Mean rainfall in inches	7·35	5·94	6·55	5·79
Mean number of days of rain	38	24	33	42
Mean amount of spontaneous evaporation in inches	10·18	17·22	7·83	3·61
Mean daily amount of cloudiness—Scale 0 to 10	6·0	5·2	5·9	6·4
Mean number of days of fog	1	1	6	11

In the subjoined statement are shown the yearly averages of the climatic elements in Melbourne for 1925 and for the last 70 years, as well as the extremes between which the yearly average values of such elements have oscillated in the latter period.

YEARLY AVERAGES AND EXTREMES OF CLIMATIC ELEMENTS.

Meteorological Elements.	Yearly Averages and Extremes.			
	Year 1925.	Average for 70 Years.	Extremes between which the Yearly Average Values have oscillated in 70 years.	
			Highest.	Lowest.
Mean atmospheric pressure (inches) ..	30·033	30·012	30·106	29·945
Highest " " " ..	30·770	30·607	30·770	30·488
Lowest " " " ..	29·192	29·254	29·495	28·868
Range (inches)	1·578	1·353	1·719	1·104
Mean temperature of air in shade (°Fahr.)	58·3	58·3	59·9	57·3
Mean daily maximum .. (°Fahr.)	66·8	67·3	69·0	65·4
Mean daily minimum	49·7	49·5	51·2	47·2
Absolute maximum	101·0	105·1	111·2	96·6
Absolute minimum	30·9	30·8	34·2	27·0
Mean daily range	17·0	17·8	20·4	15·0
Absolute annual range	70·1	74·3	82·6	66·0
Solar Radiation (mean maxima) ..	115·3	117·8	127·6	106·0
Terrestrial Radiation (mean minima) (°Fahr.)	42·9	43·9	46·8	39·5
Rainfall (in inches)	17·57	25·65	38·04	15·61
Number of wet days	144	137	171	102
Year's amount of free evaporation (in inches)	38·40	44·78	45·66	31·59
Percentage of humidity (saturation =100)	64	68	76	62
Cloudiness (scale 10 = overcast, 0 = clear)	5·9	5·9	6·4	4·8
Number of days of fog	48	19	48	5

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION.

**Department of
Agriculture.**

This Department is controlled by a Minister of the Crown, under whom there is a large staff of experts with the Director of Agriculture as permanent head. These officers are actively engaged in supervising all matters relating to the Agricultural, Pastoral, Fruit and Dairying Industries of the State, and in giving instructions to those engaged therein. The Department publishes a monthly journal.

**Government
Experimental
Farms.**

The great expansion in our rural industries during recent years has been largely brought about by the general adoption of better methods of farming, and by the introduction of more prolific wheats, and it is claimed that these improvements have been adopted as the result of the experimental and demonstration work of the Department of Agriculture. In 1912 a Central Research Farm was established at Werribee, and it is there that the initiative with regard to practically all experimental and research work is now undertaken. The State farms at Rutherglen and Longerenong are used as district experimental stations for the North-East and the Wimmera respectively. In addition, there are a number of subsidized experimental and demonstration areas located on private farms throughout the State.

**Agricultural
Colleges.**

An Act for the establishment of Agricultural Colleges was passed in 1884, and 14,458 acres, comprising 5,955 acres at Dookie, 2,386 acres at Longerenong, 2,500 acres at Gunyah Gunyah, 2,800 acres at Olangolah, and 817 acres at Bullarto, were reserved as sites for colleges and experimental farms. The areas at Dookie and Longerenong are being used for the purpose for which they were reserved, but the other three are devoted to other uses.

In addition to the college and farm lands, provision was made by the Act of 1884 to permanently reserve from sale an area of not more than 150,000 acres of Crown lands, and to vest it in trustees to be appointed, who should hold it in trust for the benefit of and by way of an endowment for State agricultural colleges and experimental farms. The land so reserved now amounts to 71,412 acres, and is let for grazing and agricultural purposes.

The fee for students in residence at the agricultural colleges is £35 per annum for maintenance, including stationery and medical and other charges. No charge is made for instruction. Accommodation is provided at Dookie for 100 and at Longerenong for 50 students.

**School of
Primary
Agriculture
and
Horticulture.**

This institution is situated in the Burnley Gardens, close to the Hawthorn and Heyington railway stations. The classes are open to male and female students above fourteen years of age. The Course for the Certificate in Horticulture occupies two years, and is intended for those who propose to follow orchard or garden work as a profession. Part time classes are also held for those who are unable to devote full time to the subject. Another feature of the work at the school is the holding of regular classes of instruction in Agricultural Science for those desirous of taking the subject either in the Intermediate or the Leaving grade at the Annual Public Examinations conducted by the University. A practical training is obtained in the orchards, gardens, and nursery connected with the school; the course also includes lectures and demonstrations by various expert teachers. Excursions to up-to-date farms, orchards, and nurseries form part of the work of the school. In 1925 the students enrolled numbered 145.

**Experimental
Farms and
Agricultural
Colleges.**

Various particulars relating to the State Experimental Farms and Agricultural Colleges are embodied in the next statement.

GOVERNMENT EXPERIMENTAL FARMS AND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES, 1925.

Particulars.	Central Research Farm, Werribee.	Ruther- glen Farm, &c.	Dookie Agri- cultural College.	Longer- enong Agri- cultural College.	School of Primary Agriculture, &c.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Professional Staff	1	2	12	8	3
Hands employed	49	26	50	16	8
Students	8	8	85	50	145
	£	£	£	£	£
Value of plant and machinery	3,165	2,817	7,750	5,348	150
Value of produce for year	7,874	3,901	12,000	9,249	1,200
Receipts—					
Government Grant	12,920	6,534	11,746*	3,308*	2,313*
Fees .. .. .	..	..	3,283	1,850	67
Sale of produce, &c.	8,231	2,705	11,183	7,468	1,082
Other	294	8	..	..	2
Total receipts	21,445	9,247	26,212	12,626	3,464
Expenditure—					
Salaries—					
Professional Staff	372	765	5,228	2,635	1,949
General Staff	7,577	4,239	6,884	2,305	1,144
Buildings and maintenance	1,944	1,441	14,100	7,686	432
Other	3,047	1,533	..	..	539
Total expenditure	12,940	7,978	26,212	12,626	3,464

* Including grant received from the Council of Agricultural Education.

GOVERNMENT EXPERIMENTAL FARMS AND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES, 1925—continued.

Particulars.	Central Research Farm, Werribee.	Rutherglen Farm, &c.	Dookie Agricultural College.	Longerenong Agricultural College.	School of Primary Agriculture, &c.
	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.
Area under—					
Cereals for Grain	522	156	400	545	..
Hay	330	162	300	131	1
Fruit trees, &c. .. .. .	..	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	12	20	14
Vines .. .. .	..	101 $\frac{1}{2}$	15	5	..
Green fodder	118	5	25	74	..
Other crops .. .. .	..	59	..	16	..
Total area under crop	970	484 $\frac{1}{2}$	752	791	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
Area of land in fallow	750	232 $\frac{1}{2}$	400	476	..
Area under artificially sown grasses	360	112	20	32	9
Area resting .. .. .	..	279 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,128	470	..
New ground broken up	80	..	..	100	..
Total area of arable land	2,160	1,108 $\frac{1}{2}$	2,300	1,869	24 $\frac{1}{2}$
Balance of area	49	204 $\frac{1}{2}$	3,655	517	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Total area of farm	2,209	1,313	5,955	2,386	33
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Live Stock—					
Horses	145	49	100	46	1
Dairy cows	80	17	50	29	7
All other cattle	91	15	130	40	9
Sheep	1,600	580	2,800	915	..
Pigs .. .. .	..	25	200	61	..

The orchards, nurseries, and gardens of the State are systematically inspected by the officers of the Horticultural Nurseries, &c. Division of the Department of Agriculture. Nurseries are inspected periodically, and action is taken in accordance with the condition of the plants in relation to disease or freedom therefrom. Old, worn-out, and infected orchards are destroyed.

The Department has purchased fumigating outfits for the purpose of fumigating citrus trees for the control of scale insects, and is performing the work for citrus growers at cost price. Much satisfaction has been expressed by growers at this being done.

Special attention is being paid to the grading and packing of fruit; packing classes have been established and are successfully conducted by departmental officers in a number of fruit districts throughout the State. In addition to this, individual growers receive personal instruction.

Lectures and demonstrations are given on the various other phases of horticulture; experiments are carried out in the treatment of diseases; and sites are selected on the farms of intending fruit-growers, to whom advice is given as to the most suitable varieties to be planted and their subsequent treatment.

The fear of introducing the fruit-flies *Tephritis tryoni* and *Halterophora capitata* and diseases arising from other causes has necessitated a thorough examination of fruit from Queensland, New South Wales, and elsewhere. The fruit-fly question is a very grave one, and, should either of the above-named insects obtain a footing in Victoria, a great portion of the large and important fruit industry of our State will be practically ruined.

Plants and cuttings coming from foreign parts are fumigated if a certificate that they have been treated at the port of shipment does not accompany the consignment. Even when they have been thus certified the Senior Fruit Inspector has the right of examination, and, if necessary, of ordering a second fumigation.

Forestry. The State forests are controlled by a Commission of three, which was appointed in 1919. The State has a wooded area of about 8,000,000 acres, of which about 4,330,450 acres are set aside as permanent State forests and timber reserves. The wooded area consists of—

1. Three million acres of merchantable forest, mainly situated along the Dividing Range with its spurs and foothills and also including the red gum forests of the northern river basins and of the River Glenelg in the south-western district.

2. Three million acres of forest in the more rugged portions of the mountain region. These forests are not at present accessible for practical working, owing to difficulties of transport; their protection, however, is essential for the maintenance of streams and springs.

3. Two million acres in the north-west of the State, known as Mallee, bearing at intervals a thick growth of stunted eucalypts and interspersed with belts of cypress pine and belar.

The forests of Victoria may be divided into four main classes which are referred to hereunder:—

- (a) The coastal region, extending from the shore line some fifty miles northward, carries chiefly messmate and three species of stringybark. In Cape Otway district, however, bluegum, mountain ash, and spotted gum predominate; whilst, in the extreme south-east of the State, silvertop, small-fruited bluegum, bastard mahogany, bloodwood, and Gippsland grey box are found.
- (b) The mountain region. In the western half of the State the predominant species in the hill forests are messmate, bluegum, manna gum, brown and red stringybarks, and yellow box. In the eastern half of the State the prevailing species are mountain ash, spotted gum, messmate, peppermint, red ash or woollybutt, and bluegum, with stunted snow gums on the steep granitic slopes near the mountain summits.

- (c) The foothills, stretching from the Dividing Range northward down to the plains, bear three valuable species, red iron-bark, white ironbark or yellow gum, and grey box.
- (d) The river basins of the Murray and the streams flowing over the northern plain, and of the River Glenelg in the south-western district, bear broad belts of river redgum.

The timbers of commercial value in Victoria number about twenty, all species of the eucalyptus family. In addition, there are a number of woods of fine grain, many of them, however, being small trees confined to limited areas.

With careful conservation and management Victoria's forests are capable of yielding considerable amounts of timber for all time, despite the ravages made upon them in the past by bush fires, settlement, and mining.

The State is notably deficient in softwoods or conifers, though over extensive areas the conditions are suitable for their growth once they are introduced. To encourage their growth, both in State and in private plantations, three large nurseries have been established, at Creswick, Macedon and Broadford, and a number of plantations have been formed, the principal ones being situated at Creswick, Mount Macedon, Frankston, Anglesea, Port Campbell, Bright, Castlemaine, Harcourt, Scarsdale, Mount Disappointment, and Mt. Difficult. In addition to providing trees for the plantations, the nurseries supply considerable numbers of plants at low rates to State schools, public bodies and private applicants. This has proved of great benefit to the community by fostering an interest in tree planting generally, and especially by encouraging farmers to plant in order to afford protection to their homesteads and to provide shade and shelter for their flocks and herds.

A Forest School for training cadets is maintained at Creswick. The Commission also controls a State sawmill in the Warburton district, and Timber Seasoning Works at Newport, from which seasoned weatherboards, cabinet stock, floorings and linings are supplied, largely for use in the building of State schools and for other public works.

The Forestry Fund was established in 1918 by Act No. 2976, and made applicable only to expenditure on the improvements and reforestation of State forests and the development of forestry. In each year the Treasurer makes a grant of £40,000 out of the Consolidated Revenue to the Fund, and also half of the amount in excess of £80,000 received from royalties, leases, licences, and permits.

During the financial year 1924-25, authority was given by Act No. 3386 to raise the sum of £500,000 over a period of six years from 1st January, 1925, for the development of State forests.

The revenue derived from forest sources during the financial year 1925-26 was £161,608, and the expenditure was £274,699—£95,555 of which was paid out of the Consolidated Revenue, £87,527 under the Forests Loan Act No. 3386, and the balance—£91,617—from the Forestry Fund. The balance at the credit of the Fund at 30th June, 1926, was £33,723.

It is estimated that the quantity of timber produced in the rough in 1925-26 was 116,307,400 super feet. In addition, 793,055 tons measurement of fuel timber was produced.

**Agriculture—
expenditure
and revenue
connected
with.**

The State has rendered substantial assistance to the various branches of the agricultural and pastoral industries during past years. The appended table summarizes for the last five years the items of State expenditure from consolidated revenue in this direction, and shows the amount of revenue received by the Department of Agriculture, which consists chiefly of payments by exporters for packing produce for export, and from State Forests and Nurseries, consisting chiefly of Royalties:—

**EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE CONNECTED WITH
AGRICULTURE, ETC., 1921-22 to 1925-26.**

	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Expenditure.</i>					
Department of Agriculture ..	34,610	35,063	41,549	30,652	35,271
Horticultural Branch ..	..	..	..	27,938*	30,168*
Grants to Agricultural and Horticultural Societies, &c. ..	675	675	775	875	675
Development of Export Trade ..	61,151	60,316	53,372	50,679	48,362
Viticultural Education and Inspection of Vineyards ..	6,881	6,334	4,454	2,092	881
Maffra Beet Sugar Factory ..	59,791	75,291	74,497	105,680	85,825
Advances to Settlers for losses by bush fires, floods, &c. ..	91	7,300	659	1,190	18,587
Technical Agricultural Education, &c. ..	26,136	26,123	31,824	28,478	30,580
Publishing Agricultural Reports	227	329	250	213	234
Rabbit and Vermin Extermination ..	40,766	47,410	85,489	84,368	88,874
Stock and Dairy Branch	42,442	43,887	48,627	53,527	69,210
Labour Colonies ..	..	..	..	..	..
State Forests and Nurseries ..	154,023	157,347	168,880	179,278	95,555†
Miscellaneous ..	2,428	3,104	6,006	6,239	5,369
Total ..	429,221	463,179	516,382	571,209	509,591
<i>Revenue.</i>					
Department of Agriculture ..	72,505	78,017	73,282	81,687	77,547
Maffra Beet Sugar Factory ..	52,624	74,678	92,231	129,732	137,997
State Forests and Nurseries ..	154,611	163,038	166,446	162,786	161,608
Total ..	279,740	315,733	331,959	374,205	377,152

* Previously included in Department of Agriculture.

† Vide expenditure out of Forestry Fund and State Forests Loan Act.

Included in the expenditure on State Forests and Nurseries are net payments into the Forestry Fund; these amounts are as follows:—£17,020 in 1921-22, £16,205 in 1922-23, and £5,919 in 1923-24.

In 1924-25 and 1925-26, owing to increased expenditure, £21,968 and £91,619 respectively—not included in the above statement—were paid out of the Fund and, in 1925-26, an amount of £87,527 was expended out of the State Forests Loan Act 1924, No. 3386.

In addition to the expenditure shown, various sums have been advanced from loans and votes for the purpose of aiding closer settlement, for the resumption of mallee lands, for relief to farmers on account of bush fires and flood losses, and for purchase of seed wheat and fodder. These advances are gradually being repaid.

The expenditure from Loan Funds in 1925-26 was £1,408,123—£1,157,067 having been expended on discharged soldiers' land settlement, £150,753 on closer settlement, £42,628 on wire netting, £55,224 on Maffra Beet Sugar Factory, and £2,451 on Agricultural Colleges.

AGRICULTURE.

Progress of cultivation.

All divisions of the State are suitable for cultivation, but the Wimmera, Mallee, and Northern are the principal wheat-growing districts and furnish about 94 per cent. of the total area under this crop. In recent years the chief extensions of the wheat-growing areas have been in the Mallee. In this district, which has a rainfall at one time thought wholly inadequate, wheat growing was rendered practicable by the introduction of machinery specially suited to the conditions, the extension of railway lines, and storage of water for domestic and stock supplies; and, with more of these facilities being made available each year, further areas are gradually being brought under cultivation. An indication of the growing importance of the Mallee is afforded by recent figures, which show that, of the wheat produced in the State in the last five seasons, the proportion obtained from the Mallee was over 29 per cent., as against slightly less than 5 per cent. in 1891-92. The area under cultivation in the Mallee last season for all purposes was 2,446,585 acres.

The area cultivated in the State in 1925-26 was 6,890,628 acres, as against an annual average of 6,802,212 acres for the previous five seasons, 5,032,359 acres for the seasons 1905-15, and 3,547,111 acres for the seasons 1895-1905. Notwithstanding the great increase in the area cultivated, the dairying and pastoral industries show a considerable expansion. This is evidenced by a comparison of the exports of the principal products to oversea countries in the year 1900 with the annual average in the last five seasons. The values have risen as follows:—Butter and cheese from £1,252,277 to £3,147,257; milk and cream from £5,455 to £1,364,611; and meats from £502,285 to £1,535,340.

The increase in cultivation has been associated with new and improved farming methods. The chief of these are the practice of fallowing, the use of fertilizers, the selection of suitable seeds, and the

increasing attention given to crop rotation. The more general adoption of improved methods in recent years has contributed greatly to the production of the State. The following table shows the progress of cultivation from period to period during the last 71 years :—

ACREAGE CULTIVATED ANNUALLY, 1855 to 1926.

Period or Year (ending in March).	Annual Average.		
	Crop.	Fallow.	Total Cultivation.
	acres.	acres.	acres.
1855-65	325,676	12,146	337,822
1865-75	624,377	57,274	681,651
1875-85	1,306,920	137,536	1,444,456
1885-95	2,109,326	364,282	2,473,608
1895-1905	3,022,914	524,197	3,547,111
1905-15	3,756,211	1,276,148	5,032,359
1915-20	4,523,308	1,567,258	6,090,565
1920-21	4,489,503	1,935,747	6,425,250
1921-22	4,530,312	2,052,964	6,583,276
1922-23	4,862,548	2,186,881	7,049,429
1923-24	4,682,144	2,294,297	6,976,441
1924-25	4,761,394	2,215,270	6,976,664
1925-26	4,433,492	2,457,136	6,890,628

Areas under
Principal
Crops.

The principal crops grown in the State are wheat, oats, barley, potatoes and hay. The average annual acreage of these for periods from 1855 to 1920 and the acreage for each of the last six seasons are given in the next table :—

ANNUAL ACREAGE OF FIVE PRINCIPAL CROPS, 1855 to 1926.

Period or Year (ending in March).	Average Annual Area of—				
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.
1855-65	119,001	83,296	4,843	24,123	80,117
1865-75	278,077	129,384	19,262	36,744	117,393
1875-85	776,031	147,343	41,188	39,089	226,775
1885-95	1,236,501	210,901	64,310	48,009	437,087
1895-1905	1,898,280	340,957	52,829	45,243	540,472
1905-15	2,190,336	390,642	60,378	56,272	848,587
1915-20	2,725,728	398,232	84,973	60,606	1,015,585
1920-21	2,295,865	443,636	93,954	62,687	1,333,397
1921-22	2,611,198	318,681	100,127	63,895	1,159,135
1922-23	2,644,314	492,356	102,773	61,741	1,261,408
1923-24	2,454,117	520,654	56,564	59,306	1,277,606
1924-25	2,705,323	517,229	63,764	61,295	1,120,312
1925-26	2,513,494	437,696	103,395	63,369	1,013,613

Production of Principal Crops. The average annual production of the five principal crops for periods, from 1855 to 1920, and the production for each of the last six seasons were as follows:—

ANNUAL PRODUCTION OF PRINCIPAL CROPS, 1855 to 1926.

Period or Year (ending in March).	Average Annual Production of—				
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	tons.	tons.
1855-65 ..	2,198,874	2,068,648	103,575	62,723	111,806
1865-75 ..	4,385,814	2,636,747	390,337	111,800	153,852
1875-85 ..	8,593,308	3,297,468	799,938	135,614	276,771
1885-95 ..	12,268,905	4,649,393	1,187,007	170,905	547,092
1895-1905 ..	14,032,145	6,649,453	947,580	134,357	672,982
1905-15 ..	22,906,743	7,342,468	1,243,442	158,445	1,084,726
1915-20 ..	37,503,989	7,127,504	1,812,447	165,486	1,376,142
1920-21 ..	39,468,625	10,907,191	2,495,762	171,628	1,984,854
1921-22 ..	43,867,596	6,082,258	2,336,246	173,660	1,548,453
1922-23 ..	35,697,220	8,093,459	2,442,041	148,354	1,665,089
1923-24 ..	37,795,704	9,366,205	1,455,435	238,520	1,541,287
1924-25 ..	47,364,495	9,572,003	1,444,823	139,043	1,492,588
1925-26 ..	29,255,534	4,998,165	1,774,963	160,729	929,068

Principal crops in Districts. The percentage in each district of the total area under each principal crop during last season was as given below:—

PERCENTAGE IN EACH DISTRICT OF TOTAL AREA UNDER EACH PRINCIPAL CROP, 1925-26.

Districts.	Percentage in each District of Area under—					
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.	Other Crops.
Central	0·88	4·12	29·40	53·67	15·64	31·79
North-Central	0·65	2·62	3·92	18·64	5·28	2·67
Western	1·93	7·52	12·37	12·99	12·16	5·79
Wimmera	27·86	21·76	12·76	0·15	17·26	1·81
Mallee	43·63	39·65	9·81	0·00	22·76	13·53
Northern	22·91	21·66	14·30	0·07	17·58	16·87
North-Eastern	1·59	1·88	0·87	1·60	4·32	6·83
Gippsland	0·55	0·79	16·57	12·88	5·00	20·71

NOTE.—For counties contained in each District, see table on page 503.

The area under the principal crops in proportion to the total area under crop in each district during last season was as follows:—

RELATIVE AREAS DEVOTED TO DIFFERENT CROPS IN EACH DISTRICT, 1925-26.

Districts.	Percentage of Area under all Crops devoted to—					
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.	Other Crops.
Central	6·14	5·02	8·47	9·47	44·16	26·74
North-Central	15·55	10·90	3·85	11·21	50·84	7·65
Western	19·85	13·56	5·27	3·39	50·74	7·19
Wimmera	70·79	9·63	1·33	0·01	17·69	0·55
Mallee	70·67	11·18	0·65	0·00	14·87	2·63
Northern	62·96	10·36	1·62	0·61	19·48	5·57
North-Eastern	34·97	7·16	0·79	0·89	38·19	18·06
Gippsland	8·95	2·22	10·99	5·23	32·52	40·09
Total for Victoria	56·69	9·87	2·33	1·43	22·87	6·81

NOTE.—For counties contained in each District, see table on page 503.

The area and produce of the principal crops per head compared with of population are given in the next table for each of the population. last five years:—

AREA AND PRODUCTION OF FIVE PRINCIPAL CROPS PER HEAD OF POPULATION, 1921-22 to 1925-26.

Year ended March—	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Area per Head of Population.				
	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.
1922	1·70	·21	·07	·04	·75
1923	1·67	·31	·07	·04	·80
1924	1·51	·32	·03	·04	·79
1925	1·63	·31	·04	·04	·68
1926	1·49	·26	·06	·04	·60
	Produce per Head of Population.				
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	tons.	tons.
1922	23·54	3·96	1·52	·11	1·01
1923	22·61	5·13	1·55	·09	1·05
1924	23·25	5·76	·89	·15	·95
1925	28·58	5·77	·87	·08	·90
1926	17·37	2·97	1·05	·10	·55

Except in the three seasons 1895-6, 1902-3, and 1914-15, the wheat produced during each year since 1870 has been more than sufficient to supply home consumption.

The following table gives the annual value of each of the five principal crops, based upon prices realized upon farms, also the value of each crop per acre for each of the last five years :—

VALUES OF FIVE PRINCIPAL CROPS.

Year ended March.	Annual Value of—				
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	£	£	£	£	£
1921-22	10,509,945	931,346	401,600	555,111	4,413,091
1922-23	8,031,875	1,416,355	436,235	1,040,662	6,327,338
1923-24	8,189,069	1,455,331	262,210	701,229	5,229,162
1924-25	11,993,546	934,538	354,006	682,878	3,639,496
1925-26	6,665,150	684,320	290,166	1,309,470	3,497,253
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Value per acre 1921-22	4 0 6	2 18 5	4 0 3	8 13 9	3 16 2
„ „ 1922-23	3 0 9	2 17 6	4 4 11	16 17 1	5 0 4
„ „ 1923-24	3 6 9	2 15 11	4 12 9	11 16 6	4 1 10
„ „ 1924-25	4 8 8	1 16 2	5 11 0	11 2 10	3 5 0
„ „ 1925-26	2 13 0	1 11 3	2 16 1	20 13 3	3 9 0

The value of the five principal crops was £12,446,359 in 1925-26, as against £17,604,464 in 1924-25, £15,837,001 in 1923-24, £17,252,465 in 1922-23, and £16,811,093 in 1921-22.

Wheat production.

On the experience of the last five seasons the area under wheat for grain represented 55 per cent. of the total under all crops. The acreage, the total production, and the yield

per acre are given in the next table for decennial periods from 1860 to 1920, and for each of the last six seasons :—

WHEAT PRODUCTION, 1860 TO 1926.

Period or Season (ending in March).	Annual Average.		
	Area under Crop.	Production.	Yield per Acre.
	acres.	bushels.	bushels.
1860-70	194,714	3,480,765	17·87
1870-80	431,444	5,510,125	12·77
1880-90	1,077,575	10,793,936	10·02
1890-1900	1,563,403	12,610,595	8·07
1900-10	1,983,874	19,242,402	9·70
1910-20	2,570,540	30,632,514	11·92
1921	2,295,865	39,468,625	17·19
1922	2,611,198	43,867,596	16·80
1923	2,644,314	35,697,220	13·50
1924	2,454,117	37,795,704	15·40
1925	2,705,323	47,364,495	17·51
1926	2,513,494	29,255,534	11·64

Although a large area in districts of limited rainfall has been brought under cultivation for wheat growing during late years, the yield per acre for the State on the average of the last ten seasons was 14·41 bushels, which is better than the corresponding averages for decennial periods of earlier date back to 1870. This satisfactory result is largely due to the use of more prolific varieties of seed and to the more general practice of fallowing and fertilizing. In addition to the area shown for grain, 230,364 acres of wheat were cut for hay last season, so that the total area under wheat in 1925-26 was 2,743,858 acres.

The production of wheat in the other Australian States in 1925-26 was as follows :—New South Wales, 33,815,000 bushels; South Australia, 28,354,728 bushels; Western Australia, 20,468,805 bushels; Queensland, 1,159,237 bushels; and Tasmania, 390,000 bushels. The total production for the Commonwealth was 113,443,304 bushels.

Wheat growing in counties.

The principal wheat growing areas are the Wimmera, Mallee, and Northern districts. Although other districts provide only small proportions of the total area they are not to be regarded as unsuitable for wheat growing, as their average yield per acre is usually greater than in the areas mentioned. The production of wheat for grain in different counties for each of the last three seasons is shown in the following table :—

WHEAT YIELDS IN COUNTIES FOR THE LAST THREE SEASONS.

Districts and Counties.	Year ended March.								
	Area.			Produce.			Average per Acre.		
	1924.	1925.	1926.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1924.	1925.	1926.
acres.	acres.	acres.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bush.	bush.	bush.	
Central—									
Bourke ..	3,438	4,633	8,424	66,877	92,337	89,704	19.45	19.93	10.65
Grant ..	5,812	8,106	12,248	107,589	145,297	171,072	18.51	17.92	13.97
Mornington ..	433	319	1,032	7,828	5,302	22,041	18.08	16.62	20.37
Evelyn ..	107	99	305	2,155	1,699	3,293	20.14	17.16	10.80
North-Central—									
Anglesey ..	1,152	1,198	1,097	23,952	20,143	13,259	20.79	16.81	12.09
Dalhousie ..	2,051	2,622	2,168	32,917	45,135	32,026	16.05	17.21	14.77
Talbot ..	6,389	12,820	13,120	99,560	263,480	159,047	15.58	20.55	12.12
Western—									
Grenville ..	3,889	4,562	5,943	53,507	72,130	88,315	13.76	15.81	14.86
Polwarth ..	18	49	85	371	532	1,166	20.61	10.86	13.72
Hcytesbury ..	..	4	1	..	49	37	..	12.26	37.00
Hampden ..	9,037	9,821	11,027	133,450	173,857	205,562	14.77	17.70	18.64
Ripon ..	37,736	31,852	27,227	578,469	616,983	467,825	15.33	19.37	17.18
Villiers ..	397	861	926	6,278	15,449	18,923	15.81	17.94	20.44
Normanby ..	642	752	961	11,610	11,965	17,714	18.08	15.91	18.43
Dundas ..	1,965	2,302	1,849	22,353	33,726	29,722	11.38	14.65	16.07
Follett ..	77	44	185	976	809	1,787	12.68	18.16	9.66
Wimmera—									
Lowan ..	136,167	173,652	163,996	2,380,800	3,972,195	2,904,283	17.48	22.87	17.71
Borong ..	379,007	408,387	403,638	8,062,260	10,713,127	8,347,435	23.65	26.23	20.68
Kara Kara ..	121,129	149,441	132,670	2,191,925	3,377,400	2,046,978	18.10	22.60	15.43
Mallee—									
Millicawa ..	1,491	6,378	18,399	16,735	11,826	68,672	11.22	18.54	3.73
Weeah ..	138,137	175,260	168,166	1,973,614	1,968,002	1,311,433	10.43	11.23	7.80
Karkaroo ..	589,959	628,200	568,041	7,293,987	6,984,439	3,930,625	12.36	11.12	6.92
Tatehara ..	371,662	382,258	342,067	4,836,528	4,712,863	2,364,893	13.01	12.33	6.91
Northern—									
Gunbower ..	30,425	37,240	35,798	382,809	622,473	379,415	12.58	16.72	10.60
Gladstone ..	85,075	120,587	108,644	1,111,661	2,614,400	1,063,114	13.07	21.68	9.79
Bendigo ..	94,627	125,790	116,543	1,307,436	2,359,618	1,137,194	13.82	18.76	9.76
Rodney ..	70,261	85,052	76,810	1,031,530	1,725,647	867,143	14.65	20.29	11.92
Moir ..	267,824	276,738	238,040	4,320,837	5,854,344	2,838,578	16.13	21.15	11.92
North-Eastern—									
Delatite ..	6,726	8,005	8,138	124,759	119,831	105,772	18.55	14.97	13.00
Bogong ..	23,857	36,305	31,706	471,051	606,390	294,455	15.78	16.72	9.29
Benambra ..	332	293	233	8,290	5,022	3,703	25.00	17.14	15.89
Wonnangatta ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gippsland—									
Croajlongong ..	39	..	21	754	..	257	19.33	..	12.24
Tambo ..	37	53	60	806	1,186	370	21.78	22.38	6.17
Dargo ..	238	332	380	7,515	5,794	8,565	31.58	17.45	22.54
Tanjil ..	7,279	10,523	12,463	212,718	196,734	244,617	29.22	18.70	19.63
Bula Bula ..	672	785	1,033	11,707	13,771	16,539	17.42	17.54	16.01
Total ..	2,454,117	2,705,323	2,513,494	37,795,704	47,364,495	29,255,534	15.40	17.51	11.64

The table which follows gives the average yield of wheat per acre in the principal wheat growing counties for each of the last ten years :—

AVERAGE YIELD OF WHEAT PER ACRE IN WHEAT GROWING COUNTIES, 1916-17 to 1925-26.

Districts and Counties.	Average Yield of Wheat per Acre (in Bushels) during Year ended March—									
	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Western District—										
Ripon	13·33	13·27	10·06	16·26	21·74	19·63	19·62	15·33	19·37	17·18
Wimmera District—										
Lowan	17·93	16·52	15·78	13·47	20·94	21·53	21·17	17·48	22·87	17·71
Borong	22·49	22·62	20·01	15·76	23·79	28·05	22·72	23·65	26·23	20·68
Kara Kara ..	19·66	17·68	14·39	14·10	21·25	22·05	19·12	18·10	22·60	15·43
Mallee District—										
Weeah	14·56	10·21	6·38	3·43	14·28	8·89	8·75	10·49	11·23	7·80
Karkaroc ..	14·78	10·94	7·15	3·29	13·42	10·88	8·14	12·36	11·12	6·92
Tatchera ..	15·80	12·30	9·44	4·60	13·65	13·13	7·41	13·01	12·33	6·91
Northern District—										
Gunbower ..	15·89	14·23	8·74	8·96	15·27	15·76	10·71	12·58	16·72	10·60
Gladstone ..	19·10	14·17	11·52	12·08	18·72	18·65	14·66	13·07	21·68	9·79
Bendigo	17·11	13·85	11·33	9·30	14·56	17·25	12·59	13·82	18·76	9·76
Rodney	14·69	12·67	10·80	6·85	15·79	15·77	13·65	14·68	20·29	11·29
Moirs	14·44	11·38	10·70	4·79	17·46	16·83	12·34	16·13	21·15	11·92
Total State ..	16·37	14·03	11·40	7·75	17·19	16·80	13·50	15·40	17·51	11·64

Varieties of Wheat.

Australian wheat is noted for its hard, white, and dry qualities, and, on account of the whiteness of the flour made therefrom, it is much sought after by oversea millers for the purpose of mixing with other wheats.

Enquiries in regard to the area sown under each variety of wheat for the 1926-27 season were made with the view of ascertaining the varieties most in favour among Victorian growers, and of enabling the Agricultural Department to advise growers as to the most suitable varieties to grow in a particular district.

An analysis of the replies of the growers who supplied the information is given in the appended table :—

VARIETIES OF WHEAT SOWN IN THE STATE, 1926-27.

Varieties.	Percentage (according to acreage) of total area in the State.	Varieties.	Percentage (according to acreage) of total area in the State.
	per cent.		per cent.
Federation ..	44·76	Ranee	1·39
Currawa ..	9·89	Gallipoli (Free) ..	1·33
Major	6·49	Wannon	1·18
Penny	5·42	Minister	0·87
Bald Early ..	3·51	Dollar	0·87
Gluyas	3·16	Dart's Imperial ..	0·63
Rajah	3·06	Yanward	0·51
Yandilla King ..	2·76	Warden	0·48
Mac's White ..	2·57	Graham	0·45
Huf's Imperial ..	2·45	Other varieties ..	4·15
Joffre	2·37		
Turvey	1·70	Total	100·00

The percentage of the estimated area under wheat in each district to that of the total for the State was as follows:—Central, 1·53 per cent.; North-Central, 0·93 per cent.; Western, 2·07 per cent.; Wimmera, 26·33 per cent.; Mallee, 43·15 per cent.; Northern, 23·73 per cent.; North-Eastern, 1·63 per cent.; and Gippsland, 0·63 per cent.

In all, over 140 varieties of wheat were sown. The number of these which were tried in the Mallee greatly exceeded the number experimented with in any other district. A more detailed list showing the ten principal varieties grown in each district can be obtained on application to the Government Statist.

The weight of an imperial bushel of wheat is 60 lbs., but the actual weight of a bushel of Victorian wheat of the fair average quality standard annually fixed by the Chamber of Commerce was 61.15 lbs. on the average of the last ten years. The following statement shows the variation in the f.a.q. standard weight of a bushel of Victorian wheat for each season since 1915-16 :—

F.A.Q. WHEAT STANDARD, 1917 TO 1926.

Season ended March—		Weight of Bushel (f.a.q.).	Season ended March—		Weight of Bushel (f.a.q.).
		lbs.			lbs.
1917	.. ..	60½	1922	.. ..	60
1918	.. ..	60	1923	.. ..	61½
1919	.. ..	62½	1924	.. ..	61
1920	.. ..	62	1925	.. ..	62½
1921	.. ..	60½	1926	.. ..	61½

It is estimated that about 11,000,000 bushels of wheat are required locally for food and seed. The stocks of wheat and flour in the State on 31st October, 1925 and 1926, and on 30th June, 1922, and at the same date in each of the previous eight years, were as follows :—

WHEAT AND FLOUR ON HAND, 1914 TO 1926.

Year.	Quantity in Bushels.		
	Wheat.	Flour (equivalent in Wheat).	Total.
1914	8,002,311	940,138	8,942,449
1915	582,448	510,300	1,092,748
1916	42,578,379	519,162	43,097,541
1917	63,852,078	1,078,875	64,930,953
1918	70,031,000	1,658,000	71,689,000
1919	53,023,000	3,284,000	56,307,000
1920	11,780,159	4,861,000	16,641,159
1921	14,883,400	800,000	15,683,400
1922	5,065,600	883,150	5,948,750
1923 } Not collected ..	..	..	..
1924 } ..	..	..	..
1925	1,446,240	2,955,640	4,401,880
1926	1,629,124	472,750	2,101,874

Oats. In 1925-26 the area harvested for oats in Victoria was 437,696 acres, from which a yield of 4,998,165 bushels was obtained, giving an average of 11.42 bushels to the acre. The appended statement shows the harvest results for this crop for each of the last six seasons, and for periods prior thereto back to 1865 :—

OATS GROWN, 1865 TO 1926.

Period or Year (ending in March).	Annual Average.		
	Area under Crop.	Produce.	Average per Acre.
	acres.	bushels.	bushels.
1865-75	129,384	2,636,747	20.38
1875-85	147,343	3,297,468	22.38
1885-95	210,901	4,649,393	22.05
1895-1905	340,957	6,649,453	19.50
1905-15	390,643	7,342,468	18.79
1915-20	398,232	7,127,504	17.90
1921	443,636	10,907,191	24.59
1922	318,681	6,082,258	19.09
1923	492,356	8,093,459	16.44
1924	520,654	9,366,205	17.99
1925	517,229	9,572,003	18.51
1926	437,696	4,998,165	11.42

In addition to the area for grain shown for last season there were 759,209 acres of oats cut for hay, so that the total area sown with oats in 1925-26 was 1,196,905 acres. During 1925-26 there were exported from Victoria to oversea countries 50,170 bushels of oats and 10,584 lbs. of oatmeal.

Varieties of Oats. Enquiries in regard to the different kinds of oats sown for the 1926-27 season showed that, of those growers who supplied the information, 93 per cent. planted principally Algerian, and 5 per cent. Mortgage Lifter oats.

Barley. The area under barley in 1925-26 was 103,395 acres, of which 72,244 were under malting, and 31,151 under other barley. The figures in the subjoined table show the acreage, production, and yield per acre, for each of the last five years :—

CULTIVATION OF BARLEY, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Year ended March—	Area under Crop.		Produce.		Average per Acre.		
	Malting.	Other.	Malting.	Other.	Malting.	Other.	Total.
	acres.	acres.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.
1922 ..	47,686	52,441	1,103,039	1,233,207	23·13	23·52	23·33
1923 ..	64,648	38,125	1,525,744	916,297	23·60	24·03	23·76
1924 ..	39,588	16,976	1,037,144	418,291	26·20	24·64	25·73
1925 ..	42,217	21,547	971,532	473,291	23·01	21·97	22·66
1926 ..	72,244	31,151	1,189,081	585,882	16·46	18·81	17·17

During 1925-26, 1,679,966 bushels of barley were used locally in the production of 1,653,889 bushels of malt.

Potatoes. The area planted with potatoes in 1925-26 was 63,369 acres, and the production was 160,729 tons, which represented a yield of 2·54 tons per acre, as compared with 2·27 tons in the previous season and 4·02 tons in 1923-24. The following table shows the potato returns for the last thirty-six years :—

POTATO PRODUCTION, 1890 TO 1926.

Period or Year (ending in June).	Annual Average.		
	Area under Crop.	Produce.	Average per Acre.
	acres.	tons.	tons.
1890-1900	47,738	155,432	3·26
1900-10	48,857	142,307	2·91
1910-20	60,127	166,677	2·77
1921	62,687	171,628	2·74
1922	63,895	173,660	2·72
1923	61,741	148,354	2·40
1924	59,306	238,520	4·02
1925	61,295	139,043	2·27
1926	63,369	160,729	2·54

The estimated value of the potatoes produced last season was £1,309,470 as against £682,878 in 1924-25, £701,229 in 1923-24, £1,040,662 in 1922-23, and £555,111 in 1921-22.

Hay. In 1926 the production of hay amounted to 929,068 tons, as against 1,492,588 tons in 1925, 1,541,287 tons in 1924, 1,665,089 tons in 1923, and 1,548,453 tons in 1922. The quantity of straw returned for the season 1925-26 was 31,994 tons as against 44,614 tons for the previous year. The hay returns for decennial

periods from 1890 to 1920, and each of the last six seasons, are shown in the table which follows :—

HAY PRODUCTION, 1890 TO 1926.

Period or Year (ending in March).	Annual Average.		
	Area cut for Hay.	Produce.	Average per Acre.
	acres.	tons.	tons.
1890-1900	467,668	576,618	1·23
1900-10	664,387	894,108	1·35
1910-20	984,797	1,269,767	1·29
1921	1,333,397	1,984,854	1·49
1922	1,159,135	1,548,453	1·34
1923	1,261,408	1,665,089	1·32
1924	1,277,606	1,541,287	1·21
1925	1,120,312	1,492,588	1·33
1926	1,013,613	929,068	0·92

The estimated value of the hay crop was £3,497,253 for 1926, as compared with £3,639,496 for 1925, £5,229,162 for 1924, £6,327,338 for 1923, and £4,413,091 for 1922. Of the total hay produced in 1926, 679,053 tons were oats, 212,035 tons were wheat, and 37,980 tons were made from lucerne and other crops; the yields per acre of these varieties of hay were 0·89, 0·92, and 1·58 tons respectively.

Information is obtained direct from growers, in February or March of each year, in regard to the prices of the leading agricultural products other than the main crop of potatoes, the price of which is ascertained in June or July. The following table gives the average price of each product for each of the last ten years :—

PRICES OF PRODUCE, 1917 TO 1926.

Year.	Average Price in February and March.						
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Hay.	Potatoes.	
			Malting.	Other.		Early Crop.	Main Crop (after March).
1917 ..	4 0	2 0	3 11½	2 10	33 0	114 0	53 0
1918 ..	4 0	3 1½	4 2½	3 4½	59 0	79 0	55 0
1919 ..	4 9	4 5½	5 0½	3 11½	83 0	210 0	149 0
1920 ..	7 8½	5 7¼	6 7¾	5 8	134 0	219 0	178 0
1921 ..	7 3	2 4½	4 0½	3 1	53 0	101 0	64 0
1922 ..	4 9½	3 0½	4 0¼	2 11	57 0	94 0	60 0
1923 ..	4 6	3 6	3 11	3 0	76 0	170 0	136 0
1924 ..	4 3	3 1½	3 9¼	3 2¼	72 0	111 0	53 0
1925 ..	5 0¾	1 11½	5 3¾	4 0½	48 9	121 0	94 0
1926 ..	4 6¾	2 9	3 4¾	3 0	75 3	194 0	158 0

NOTE.—Prior to 1925, only freight and handling charges were deducted; but, for 1925 and 1926, the cost for bags and seed were also deducted from the F.O.B. charges.

Other Crops. The area under other than principal crops and th
production since March, 1923, are shown in the subjoined
table:—

OTHER THAN PRINCIPAL CROPS, 1923-24 to 1925-26.

Crop.	1923-24.		1924-25.		1925-26.	
	Area. acres.	Production. bushels.	Area. acres.	Production. bushels.	Area. acres.	Production. bushels.
Maize	29,104	1,464,731	23,126	891,987	21,913	768,761
Rye	899	11,151	1,029	13,000	978	10,788
Peas	11,216	233,047	11,759	256,160	14,094	166,543
Mangel-wurzel ..	854	13,569	736	10,022	1,046	10,333
Beet, Carrots, Parsnips and Turnips	538	4,222	238	1,847	624	2,758
Onions	4,714	31,683	4,504	26,555	5,379	21,728
Green Forage ..	107,371	..	99,531	..	107,873	..
Grass and Clover Seeds ..	1,306	bushels. 6,466	1,424	bushels. 8,597	1,290	bushels. 7,330
Hops	224	cwt. 2,481	269	cwt. 4,240	312	cwt. 3,934
Tobacco	1,047	1,165	1,228	3,199	1,179	†
Vines—Grapes	42,599	2,707,729	42,467	2,142,349	40,712	2,253,884
Flax	Nil	..	130	800 seed. 17 fibre 3 tow 2,600 straw	154	1,200 seed 660 fibre 80 tow ..
Gardens and Orchards ..	85,570	..	85,358	..	82,665	..
Minor Crops ..	12,237*	..	7,052*	..	7,097*	..
Land in Fallow	2,294,297	..	2,215,270	..	2,457,136	..
Artificial Grasses	938,547	..	843,095	..	820,337	..

* For details see page 519.

† Not available.

Maize. The area under maize for grain in 1925-26 was 21,913 acres, and the production was 768,761 bushels, which represented a yield of 35·08 bushels per acre, as compared with 38·57 bushels in 1924-25, 50·33 bushels in 1923-24, 34·04 bushels in 1922-23, and 40·99 bushels in 1921-22. Of the total production for last season 92 per cent. was obtained from the Gippsland district. The area, total production, and produce per acre are given in the next

table for each of the last six seasons and for periods prior thereto back to 1890 :—

MAIZE PRODUCTION, 1890 TO 1926.

Period or Year (ending in June).	Annual Average.		
	Area under Maize for Grain.	Production.	Produce per Acre.
1890-1900	acres. 8,688	bushels. 452,907	bushels. 52·13
1900-10	12,082	716,158	59·27
1910-20	20,811	922,461	44·33
1921	24,149	1,065,880	44·14
1922	23,227	951,960	40·99
1923	25,846	879,915	34·04
1924	29,104	1,464,731	50·33
1925	23,126	891,987	38·57
1926	21,913	768,761	35·08

On the average of the last five seasons the yield per acre was 40·2 bushels, as against 45·0 in 1910-15, and 65·4 in 1900-05. The relatively light yield per acre for the latest five-year period was probably due to the cultivation of new areas, which are less fertile than the rich river flats upon which this cereal was grown exclusively in earlier periods.

Rye. The area under rye in 1925-26 was 978 acres, from which 10,788 bushels of grain were obtained. The production was 13,000 bushels in 1924-25, 11,151 bushels in 1923-24, 15,718 bushels in 1922-23, and 14,442 bushels in 1921-22. Rye was grown principally in the counties of Dalhousie, Delatite, Hampden, and Talbot last season. The area under this crop in the four counties mentioned was about 59 per cent. of the total for the whole State.

Peas. The area under peas in 1925-26 was 14,094 acres, and the return, 166,543 bushels, as compared with 11,759 acres and 256,160 bushels for the previous year. Last season peas were grown to some extent in all districts with the exception of the Mallee. The counties from which the largest returns were obtained and the yields of these counties were as follows:—Grant, 45,756 bushels; Buln Buln, 28,901 bushels; Mornington, 14,591 bushels; Bourke, 14,433 bushels; and Tanjil, 14,367 bushels. The production of peas in the five counties mentioned was equal to 71 per cent. of the total for the whole State.

Mangel-wurzel. In 1925-26 there were 1,046 acres under mangel-wurzel, as against 736 in 1924-25, 854 in 1923-24, 684 in 1922-23, and 560 in 1921-22. The production last year was 10,333 tons, as compared with an annual average of 9,244 tons for the preceding five-year period. Mangolds are grown principally in the Gippsland, Western, and Central districts.

Beet, carrots, parsnips, and turnips. The cultivation of beet, carrots, parsnips, and turnips, exclusive of those grown in market gardens, showed a considerable increase in area as compared with the previous season. In 1925-26 the extent of land sown was 624

acres, as against 238 in 1924-25, 538 in 1923-24, 433 in 1922-23, and 401 in 1921-22. The produce for last year was 2,758 tons, as compared with 1,847 in 1924-25, 4,222 in 1923-24, 1,878 in 1922-23, and 2,134 in 1921-22.

Onions. Onions are grown in nearly every county south of the Dividing Range. The returns for last season show that in Grenville the yield was 5,158 tons from 1,255 acres; in Villiers, 4,300 tons from 945 acres; in Bourke, 4,002 tons from 676 acres; in Polwarth, 2,964 tons from 643 acres; in Buln Buln, 2,094 tons from 756 acres; in Grant, 1,863 tons from 675 acres; and in Mornington, 868 tons from 330 acres. The following statement shows the area and yield for each of the last five years :—

ONION CULTIVATION, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Year ended March—				Area.	Produce.
1921-22	..	..	..	acres. 6,158	tons. 31,586
1922-23	..	..	..	6,954	44,409
1923-24	..	..	..	4,714	31,683
1924-25	..	..	..	4,504	26,555
1925-26	..	..	..	5,379	21,728

The value of onions grown was £267,793 in 1925-26, as compared with £209,803 in 1924-25, £215,444 in 1923-24, £139,888 in 1922-23, and £150,033 in 1921-22.

Green forage. The area devoted to green forage in 1925-26 was 107,873 acres, 99,531 in 1924-25, 107,371 in 1923-24, 102,451 in 1922-23, and 89,410 in 1921-22.

Ensilage. The practice of preserving forage in a green state has existed in Victoria for many years, but only a small number of farmers have adopted it. The returns for the last five seasons are given in the next table :—

ENSILAGE RETURNS, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Year ended March—				Number of Farms on which made.	Number of Silos (Pits and Stacks).	Materials used.
1922	..	..	..	107	141	tons. 5,873
1923	..	..	..	103	138	5,674
1924	..	..	..	61	88	3,649
1925	..	..	..	106	149	6,667
1926	..	..	..	113	150	6,092

Grass and clover seed. The area harvested for grass and clover seed last season was 1,290 acres, as compared with 1,424 in 1924-25, 1,306 in 1923-24, 1,468 in 1922-23, and 1,800 in 1921-22. The production in 1925-26 was 7,330 bushels, as against 8,597 in 1924-25, 6,466 in 1923-24, 7,859 in 1922-23, and 12,226 in 1921-22.

Hops. The hop-growing industry attained its maximum development in 1883-84, when 1,758 acres yielded 15,717 cwt. In 1925-26 the return from 312 acres was 3,943 cwt. Delatite, Bogong, Bourke, Polwarth, Dargo, and Buln Buln were the only counties in which hops were grown last season.

Flax. No flax was sown during the year 1923-24, but the Commonwealth Flax Committee, now wound up, supplied to Drysdale farmers seed for sowing in the 1924-25 season. An area of 130 acres was then sown, followed by an area of 154 acres in 1925-26. The harvests are treated by a private company. Particulars of the crop for each of the last five years are given in the following statement:—

FLAX, 1921 to 1925.

Year ended December—	Area under Crop.	Seed Produced.	Fibre Produced.	Tow Produced.	Straw awaiting Treatment.
	acres.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	tons.
1921	1,640	4,187	440	20	960
1922	590	1,725	435	25	..
1923	Nil	..	..	..	..
1924	130	800	17	3	130
1925	154	1,200	660	80	..

NOTE.—For particulars of New Zealand flax, not included in above statement, *vide* page 519.

In 1925-26 imports into Victoria from countries outside Australia included linseed to the value of £69,002, linseed oil worth £61,177, and fibre worth £225,784.

Tobacco. Tobacco production reached its maximum in 1880-81, when 17,333 cwt. of dry leaf was produced. Subsequent years were marked by great variations in area and produce, but since 1920-21 increasing areas have been devoted to the industry. The area devoted to this product last year was 1,179 acres, of which 484 were in Delatite, and 547 in Bogong. Particulars relating to the cultivation of tobacco for each of the last five years are as follows:—

CULTIVATION OF TOBACCO, 1921-22 to 1925-26.

Year ended June—	Area.	Produce.
	acres.	cwt. (dry).
1921-22	604	3,735
1922-23	890	4,151
1923-24	1,047	1,165
1924-25	1,228	3,199
1925-26	1,179	*

* Not available.

Vine Production. During the period 1904-15 the area under vines decreased by 6,712 acres, or by nearly 24 per cent., and the number of growers decreased by 521, or by 23 per cent. Since 1915 there has been a fairly large increase in the area and the number of growers. Vineyards are distributed fairly well over the State, and there are certain districts where the principal industries are connected with vine-growing. The Shire of Mildura produced last season 1,747,302 cwt. of grapes; Swan Hill, 321,356 cwt.; Rutherglen, 71,227 cwt.; Rodney, 18,195 cwt.; and Stawell, 13,937 cwt. At Mildura the crop is principally dried for raisins and currants. The results of five years' operations are given below :—

VINE PRODUCTION. 1922 TO 1926.

Year ended June—	Number of Growers.	Area.	Produce.				
			Grapes gathered.	Wine made.	Raisins made.		Currants made.
					Lexias.	Sultanas.	
		acres.	cwt.	gallons.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
1922 ..	2,422	33,175	1,314,839	1,335,066	49,080	141,371	75,042
1923 ..	2,775	38,892	1,879,964	1,717,490	67,850	217,670	98,081
1924 ..	3,047	42,599	2,707,729	2,177,127	71,993	366,834	150,867
1925 ..	2,999	42,467	2,142,349	1,368,765	70,695	296,304	104,948
1926 ..	2,876	40,712	2,253,884	1,637,274	54,021	297,485	123,733

Of the total quantity of grapes gathered in 1926, it is estimated that 280,626 cwt. were used for making wine and spirits, 1,900,947 cwt. for raisins and currants, and 72,311 cwt. for table consumption and export. Of the 297,485 cwt. of sultanas made, 246,387 cwt. were from Mildura, and 49,292 cwt. from Swan Hill.

Raisins are produced in Victoria upon a scale far in excess of the State's requirements. It is estimated that a year's consumption of raisins is about 88,000 cwt.; consequently, about 263,000 cwt. of the production in 1926 were available for interstate or oversea export. A year's consumption of currants is about 30,000 cwt., which would enable approximately 94,000 cwt. of last season's production to be exported to other States or oversea.

Orchards. The total number of persons in the State growing fruit for sale was 7,673 in 1925-26, as against 7,414 in 1924-25, 7,387 in 1923-24, 7,758 in 1922-23, and 8,286 in 1921-22. The area under orchards in each of those years was 80,251, 83,369, 83,469, 83,880, and 86,959 acres respectively. The orchards are distributed over the whole State. The counties having the largest areas last season were as follows :—Morrington, 13,598 acres; Bourke, 12,286 acres; Evelyn, 12,110 acres; Rodney, 10,107 acres; Moira, 7,517 acres; Talbot, 3,954 acres; and Bendigo, 3,517 acres.

The following is a statement of the number of bearing and not-bearing fruit trees and plants for the seasons 1922-23 and 1925-26 :—

RETURN SHOWING THE NUMBER OF FRUIT TREES, PLANTS,
ETC., IN ORCHARDS AND GARDENS WHERE FRUIT WAS
GROWN FOR SALE, 1922-23 AND 1925-26.

Fruit.	Number of Trees, Plants, &c.					
	1922-23.			1925-26.		
	Bearing.	Not Bearing.	Total.	Bearing.	Not Bearing.	Total.
Apples ..	2,302,089	854,643	3,156,732	2,281,817	751,046	3,032,863
Pears ..	729,775	360,403	1,090,178	803,344	247,341	1,050,685
Quinces ..	72,316	33,041	105,357	77,950	15,733	93,683
Plums ..	368,355	153,020	521,375	305,348	64,826	370,174
Prunes ..	*	*	*	74,118	46,019	120,137
Cherries ..	182,093	33,802	215,895	112,324	29,228	141,552
Peaches ..	778,650	341,485	1,120,135	876,635	222,333	1,098,968
Apricots ..	349,242	130,114	479,356	397,402	67,532	464,934
Nectarines ..	15,295	1,645	16,940	13,539	3,570	17,109
Oranges ..	279,146	224,117	503,263	338,290	259,710	598,000
Lemons ..	100,544	96,207	196,751	130,634	64,881	195,515
Limes ..	..	..	†	360	58	418
Grapefruit ..	..	..	†	1,597	5,959	7,556
Pomelo - Shad- dock ..	..	..	†	350	114	464
Loquats ..	3,337	1,138	4,475	3,346	1,092	4,438
Medlars ..	55	27	82	71	15	86
Figs ..	29,149	7,069	36,218	31,967	6,050	38,017
Guavas ..	182	92	274	68	67	135
Pomegranates ..	107	243	350	69	59	128
Persimmons ..	384	427	811	535	205	740
Total Large Fruits ..	5,210,719	2,237,473	7,448,192	5,449,764	1,785,838	7,235,602
Raspberries ..	308,647	..	308,647	..	351,201	351,201
Loganberries ..	139,084	..	139,084	..	147,901	147,901
Strawberries ..	2,432,038	..	2,432,038	..	3,662,153	3,662,153
Gooseberries ..	185,922	29,418	215,340	196,494	20,114	216,608
Mulberries ..	901	355	1,256	858	259	1,117
Olives ..	1,577	208	1,785	1,576	300	1,876
Currants (Red, White, and Black) ..	29,779	6,939	36,718	36,369	7,444	43,813
Passion-fruit ..	41,148	27,133	68,281	54,245	35,019	89,264
Almonds ..	21,987	9,792	31,779	23,272	16,287	39,559
Walnuts ..	5,223	7,019	12,242	7,382	4,481	11,863
Filberts ..	628	246	874	259	502	761
Chestnuts ..	692	262	954	462	254	716
Total Nuts ..	28,530	17,319	45,849	31,375	21,524	52,899

* Included in Plums.

† Not collected.

In 1926, a special census was taken to ascertain the number of trees of each variety of each kind of fruit planted in Victoria, in order to facilitate consideration of the problems of marketing. The Department of Agriculture, Victoria, is

Census of
Fruit Trees.

publishing a detailed statement of each variety in each county in the State, and copies may be had on application thereto.

The results are briefly summarized in the following table:—

CENSUS OF FRUIT TREES, 1926.

Kind and Variety.	Trees of Bearing Age.	Young Trees not Bearing.	Kind and Variety.	Trees of Bearing Age.	Young Trees not Bearing.
	No.	No.		No.	No.
Apples—			Apricots—		
Jonathan	910,146	247,572	Moorpark	195,679	29,486
Rome Beauty .. .	253,012	98,555	Oullin's Early ..	46,412	4,979
London Pippin (Five Crown)	183,438	36,636	Mansfield	41,338	6,136
Yates	135,140	57,251	Others	113,973	26,931
Delicious	46,112	75,146	All Varieties ..	397,402	67,532
Dunn's (Munro's Favorite)	91,761	18,893	Cherries—		
Stewart's	56,303	35,452	Bedford Prolific ..	21,695	6,804
Gravenstein .. .	58,011	18,569	Early Purple Guigne	15,355	2,647
Cleopatra (N.Y. Pippin)	46,290	12,412	Burgsdorf's Seedling	11,216	3,568
Granny Smith .. .	21,936	29,672	Biggareau Twyford	13,623	1,089
Reinette de Canada	42,801	6,935	Others	50,435	15,120
Statesman	35,240	12,748	All Varieties ..	112,324	29,228
Rokewood	38,668	6,348	Nectarines—		
King David	35,648	6,304	Goldmine	9,436	1,580
Others	327,311	88,553	Others	4,103	1,990
All Varieties ..	2,281,817	751,046	All Varieties ..	13,539	3,570
Pears—			Peaches—		
Williams (Bartlett)	376,609	85,222	Pullar's Cling ..	237,914	31,081
Beurre Bosc	80,168	32,500	Elberta	65,595	2,771
Packham's Triumph	55,112	46,608	Brigg's Red May ..	55,778	11,587
Kieffer	51,324	9,104	Hales' Early	56,856	10,188
Josephine de Malines	38,891	17,740	Nicholls' Orange	61,246	2,402
Others	201,240	56,167	Cling	44,955	12,590
All Varieties ..	803,344	247,341	Goodman's Choice ..	354,291	151,714
Oranges—			Others	876,635	222,333
Washington Navel ..	198,363	130,728	Plums and Prunes—		
Valencia Late .. .	67,902	70,995	Grand Duke	45,431	13,824
Others	54,243	36,120	Diamond	40,985	6,820
All Varieties ..	320,508	237,843	Prune d'Agen .. .	23,019	23,071
Mandarins—			Angelina Burdett ..	28,823	7,261
Emperor	12,029	13,534	Others	175,441	42,996
Others	5,753	8,333	All Varieties ..	313,699	93,972
All Varieties ..	17,782	21,867	Plums (Japanese)—		
Lemons—			Burbank	22,886	4,153
Lisbon	89,629	37,775	Santa Rosa	11,503	2,918
Eureka	34,153	24,781	Satsuma (Blood) ..	10,865	3,177
Others	6,852	2,325	Others	20,513	6,825
All Varieties ..	130,634	64,881	All Varieties ..	65,767	16,873
Grape Fruit—			Figs—		
Marsh's Seedless ..	1,017	5,306	White Genoa	15,750	1,458
Triumph	239	415	White Adriatic .. .	5,610	585
Others	341	238	Brown Turkey .. .	3,641	1,657
All Varieties ..	1,597	5,959	Others	6,966	2,350
			All Varieties ..	31,967	6,050

The area of orchards growing fruit for sale in 1925-26—80,251 acres—showed a reduction of 3,118 acres as compared with the area for the previous year. Details of the produce from such orchards in the last five years are given in the subjoined statement :—

ORCHARDS GROWING FRUIT FOR SALE, 1921-22
TO 1925-26.

Year ended March—	Number of Fruit-growers.	Area of Gardens and Orchards.	LARGE FRUITS GATHERED.					
			Apples.	Pears.	Quinces.	Plums.	Prunes.	Cherries.
		acres.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.
1922	8,286	86,959	1,768,800	681,024	76,946	207,432	*	66,969
1923	7,758	83,880	2,089,017	666,631	63,837	258,117	*	92,407
1924	7,387	83,469	1,663,308	858,611	76,167	241,818	*	63,662
1925	7,414	83,369	2,233,230	910,915	81,160	308,638	*	51,299
1926	7,673	80,251	2,063,214	840,113	81,365	203,334	50,408	69,639

Large Fruits Gathered—continued.								
	Peaches.	Apricots.	Oranges.	Lemons.	Figs.	Nectarines.	Passion.	Other.
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.
1922	905,477	208,215	237,949	103,127	22,359	20,047	16,759	7,091
1923	966,952	290,876	259,330	109,347	15,313	14,749	16,066	1,431
1924	938,908	352,604	210,595	95,443	27,772	14,649	15,986	3,942
1925	990,683	350,778	310,890	128,889	25,658	16,545	30,866	1,211
1926	1,221,582	247,600	†	†	22,568	15,289	10,495	860

	SMALL FRUITS GATHERED.					NUTS GATHERED.			
	Rasp-berries.	Straw-berries.	Goose-berries.	Currants, Black, Red, & White.	Other.	Almonds.	Walnuts.	Filberts.	Chest-nuts.
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
1922	3,112	2,784	5,543	378	4,940	72,006	33,452	1,504	13,104
1923	2,682	3,321	5,243	401	5,236	74,588	43,064	1,031	10,713
1924	2,160	3,831	3,657	283	3,046	76,905	29,665	964	6,190
1925	3,665	5,856	4,281	355	6,980	70,217	23,199	615	14,469
1926	3,548	4,022	4,675	329	5,881 †	71,480	61,845	201	16,793

* Included in Plums. † As the season for citrus fruits ends later than that for other fruits details are not yet available. ‡ Including 3,653 cwt. of loganberries, and 2,056 cwt. of blackberries.

In addition to the fruits shown, large quantities of melons, rhubarb, and tomatoes were produced in the orchards, the following being the

quantities returned for 1925-26 :—Melons, 3,622 cwt. ; rhubarb, 11,091 dozen bundles ; and tomatoes, 260,402 bushels. There were also 2,414 acres laid down in gardens growing fruit for private use ; the value of the produce from these was estimated at about £12,000.

According to prices received by growers the value of fruit which reaches market was estimated to be £1,184,100 in 1921-22, £1,172,300 in 1922-23, £1,193,689 in 1923-24, £1,091,508 in 1924-25, and £1,247,700 in 1925-26. This, of course, does not represent the actual value of all the fruit grown, as large quantities are privately consumed in various ways. No very reliable estimate of the value of such fruit can be prepared, but it may be set down at about £40,000.

The area under market gardens in the year 1925-26 was 16,609 acres. As these gardens are generally situated near large centres of population, the producers are able to dispose of the bulk of their goods with a minimum loss from waste, &c. An average return of £50 per acre is regarded as a fair estimate of their value, and on this basis the total value of the produce may be given as £830,000. This does not include crops of one acre and over of potatoes, onions, mangel-wurzel, beet, carrots, parsnips, and turnips grown in market gardens, such crops being tabulated under their respective heads in the returns relating to agriculture.

The quantity of dried fruit (weight after drying) was first collected in 1895-96, when 179,460 lbs. were returned. During 1925-26 the quantity produced was 884,369 lbs., which was 30 per cent. less than the quantity for the previous year. The production of the various kinds of dried fruit, with the exception of raisins and currants, the particulars of which appear on page 514, is shown in the following statement for each of the last five seasons :—

DRIED FRUIT, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Year ended June—	Apples.	Prunes.	Peaches.	Apricots.	Figs.	Pears.	Nectarines.	Total.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
1922 ..	10,689	298,068	232,003	221,297	32,578	149,600	4,414	948,649
1923 ..	5,354	376,491	454,899	518,196	29,632	36,915	14,041	1,435,528
1924 ..	3,104	395,090	168,948	217,624	6,226	132,217	2,953	926,162
1925 ..	8,037	638,302	153,235	328,643	16,945	102,792	10,354	1,258,358
1926 ..	4,569	307,377	232,170	213,764	29,301	89,025	8,163	884,369

A striking feature of the returns for the last nine seasons is the regularity with which seasons of comparatively small production alternate with much more bountiful ones.

The following is a return of the minor crops for the last two seasons. The items do not in all cases represent the whole of the respective crops grown, but refer only to such as were taken cognisance of by the collectors. The return, therefore, indicates the nature of the crops rather than the full extent of their cultivation:—

MINOR CROPS, 1924-25 AND 1925-26.

Crop.	1924-25.		1925-26.	
	Area.	Produce.	Area.	Produce.
	acres.		acres.	
Beans	1,028	18,231 bushels	961	19,008 bushels
Chicory	309	314 tons (dry)	528	430 tons (dry)
Flowers	439	..	327	..
Garlic	12	29 tons	30	35 tons
Herbs	9	..	..	..
Flax—New Zealand ..	90	*	90	†58 tons fibre
Millet—Broom	531	{ 2,999 cwt. fibre 2,046 cwt. seed }	669	{ 1,797 cwt. fibre 1,151 cwt. seed }
„ Japanese	220	1,130 „ „	95	550 „ „
Nurseries	742	..	721	..
Pumpkins	1,691	7,100 tons	1,179	5,472 tons
Seeds—Agricultural and Garden	34	..	14	..
Sugar Beet	1,897	{ 24,468 tons clean beet, producing 3,017 tons market- able sugar 478 cwt. }	1,880	{ 21,194 tons clean beet, producing 2,315 tons market- able sugar 400 cwt. }
Sunflowers	46	..	63	..
Others	4	..	..	..
Total	7,052	..	7,097	..

* Only cut every third year. † Partial failure.

Land in fallow. The practice of fallowing has become very popular in recent years. This is no doubt due to the more enlightened methods adopted, especially in wheat farming, where results have justified the introduction of extensive fallowing in conjunction with heavy manuring. The acreage in fallow in the years 1901, 1906, 1911, 1916, and each of the last six years was as follows:—

LAND IN FALLOW.

Year ended March—	Acres.	Year ended March—	Acres.
1901	602,870	1922	2,052,964
1906	1,049,915	1923	2,186,881
1911	1,434,177	1924	2,294,297
1916	1,358,343	1925	2,215,270
1921	1,935,747	1926	2,457,136

Nearly all of the fallowed area is devoted to wheat production. Of the 2,457,136 acres in fallow last season, 742,789 were in the Wimmera, 894,731 in the Mallee, and 602,449 in the Northern District. The total for these three districts represented, therefore, 90 per cent. of the land fallowed in the State.

The increase in the proportion of farmers using manure indicates the popularity and the value of this method of treating the soil. Last year the number of farmers who used manure was 40,460, as compared with 26,159 in 1911, 11,439 in 1901, and 7,318 in 1898. The following table shows the number of farmers using manure, and the quantity used, in 1901, 1906, 1911, and 1916, and each of the last five years:—

MANURE USED FOR FERTILIZATION, 1901 TO 1925.

Year ended March—	Farmers using.	Area used on.	Manure used—	
			Natural.	Artificial.
		acres.	tons.	tons.
1901	11,439	556,777	153,611	23,535
1906	23,072	1,985,148	205,906	60,871
1911	26,159	2,676,408	205,739	82,581
1916	33,165	3,870,742	181,268	117,812
1921	37,835	3,848,184	161,683	150,012
1922	40,037	4,148,780	173,343	172,897
1923	39,749	4,113,640	163,843	178,621
1924	39,393	4,301,558	151,611	184,140
1925	40,460	4,244,191	144,537	195,542

The area on which manure was used represented only 7 per cent. of that under crop in 1898, but since then the proportion manured has rapidly increased. In 1901, it was 19 per cent.; in 1903, 36 per cent.; in 1905, 56 per cent.; in 1909, 66 per cent.; in 1913, 77 per cent.; and in 1925, 96 per cent. During 1925-26 the quantity of fertilizers imported into Victoria from oversea countries was 132,336 tons valued at £344,550. This included 125,053 tons of rock phosphates valued at £269,342, most of which came from the Pacific Islands.

Characteristics
of Victorian
soils.

This subject is fully dealt with in the *Year-Book* for 1915-16, page 740.

Persons employed on Farming, Dairying, and Pastoral Holdings.

Information is obtained by the collectors of agricultural statistics each year as to the number of persons ordinarily employed upon the land occupied. For the last five years the numbers were as follows :—

NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED UPON FARMING, DAIRYING, AND PASTORAL HOLDINGS, 1921 to 1925.

Year ended March—		Males.	Females.	Total.
1921	.. ..	106,369	53,059	159,428
1922	.. ..	107,872	48,978	156,850
1923	.. ..	105,933	46,218	152,151
1924	.. ..	103,013	33,954	136,967
1925	.. ..	98,059	19,124	117,183

Persons absent from their farms for the greater portion of the year following other occupations, as well as temporary hands engaged in harvesting, &c., are not included in the above tabulation, neither are domestic servants nor cooks. Prior to 1925, females who were only partly engaged in work on the holdings were included in the figures given, whereas, in that year, only those wholly employed in outdoor duties are included. It is estimated that the temporary labour employed on farms and pastoral holdings is equivalent to about 30,000 men employed continuously throughout the year.

Wages—agricultural and pastoral.

In the next return will be found particulars of the rates of wages paid (with rations) upon farms and pastoral holdings during 1925-26. The information has been furnished by the occupiers of holdings.

WAGES, AGRICULTURAL AND PASTORAL, 1925-26. .

Occupations.	Range.	Prevailing Rate.
Ploughmen	25s. to 80s. per week ..	45s. per week
Farm labourers	20s. to 80s. per week ..	42s. per week
Threshing machine hands	12d. to 18d. per hour ..	15d. per hour
Harvest hands	10s. to 15s. per day ..	12s. per day
Milkers	22s. 6d. to 60s. per week	36s. per week
Maize pickers (without rations)	6d. to 12d. per bag ..	8d. per bag
Married couples	50s. to 90s. per week ..	60s. per week
Female servants	12s. 6d. to 40s. per week	25s. per week
Shearers, hand (without rations)	35s. to 45s. per 100 sheep	40s. per 100 sheep
" machine (without rations)	35s. to 50s. per 100 sheep	40s. per 100 sheep
Gardeners, market	30s. to 60s. per week ..	40s. per week
" orchard	25s. to 70s. per week ..	42s. per week
Vineyard hands	25s. to 70s. per week ..	40s. per week

PASTORAL AND DAIRYING INDUSTRIES.

Live Stock. The pastoral and dairying industries have always been important sources of wealth to the State, and their increasing value in recent years, despite the larger areas devoted to cultivation, indicates that both pastures and stock are, on the whole, steadily improving. The progress of stock breeding is shown in the next table, which gives the numbers of horses, dairy cows, other cattle, sheep and pigs, and their numbers per head of population and per square mile, in each of the last seven census years, also in the year 1926.

LIVE STOCK IN VICTORIA, 1861 to 1926.

Year ended March—	Horses (including Foals).	Cattle—		Sheep.	Pigs.
		Dairy Cows.	Other.		
	number.	number.	number.	number.	number.
1861	76,536	197,332	525,000	5,780,896	61,259
1871	209,025	212,193	564,534	10,477,976	180,109
1881	275,516	329,198	957,069	10,360,285	241,936
1891	436,469	395,192	1,387,689	12,692,843	282,457
1901	392,237	521,612	1,080,772	10,841,790	350,370
1911	472,080	668,777	878,792	12,882,665	333,281
1921	487,503	620,005	955,154	12,171,084	175,275
1926	463,051	727,940	785,847	13,740,500	339,601
<i>Per Head of Population.</i>					
1861	·14	·37	·97	10·70	·11
1871	·29	·29	·77	14·32	·25
1881	·32	·38	1·11	12·01	·28
1891	·38	·35	1·22	11·13	·25
1901	·33	·43	·90	9·03	·29
1911	·36	·51	·67	9·79	·25
1921	·32	·41	·63	7·99	·12
1926	·27	·43	·47	8·16	·20
<i>Per Square Mile.</i>					
1861	·87	2·25	5·97	65·78	·70
1871	2·38	2·41	6·42	119·22	2·05
1881	3·14	3·75	10·89	117·88	2·75
1891	4·97	4·50	15·79	144·43	3·21
1901	4·46	5·94	12·30	123·36	4·00
1911	5·37	7·61	10·00	146·59	3·79
1921	5·55	7·05	10·87	138·49	1·99
1926	5·27	8·28	8·94	156·35	3·86

By reducing horses and cattle to an equivalent in sheep on the assumption that one of the former will eat as much as ten, and one of the latter as much as six sheep, interesting comparisons of the stock carried on the land at different periods may be instituted. Calculations made on this basis show that each square mile carried an equivalent of 312 sheep in 1926, as compared with 302 in 1921, 306 in 1911, and 237 in 1881.

Size of holdings, showing areas cultivated and grazed.

Information relating to land occupied and cultivation and live stock thereon was collected in March, 1925. The land privately owned was summarized according to different sized holdings, and in the instances where Crown lands were held in conjunction therewith, these were, regardless of size, scheduled with the holdings to which they were attached. The details, as well as the particulars of the total holdings in which only Crown land was held, are given in the two succeeding tables:—

SIZE OF HOLDINGS SHOWING AREAS UNDER CULTIVATION AND PASTURE, MARCH, 1925.

Privately-owned Land.			Crown Land held in conjunction with that privately owned.	Total Area Occupied.	Area under—		
Size of Holdings. (In Acres.)	Number of Holdings.	Area Occupied.			Cultivation.	Pasture, &c.	
		acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	
1 and under	5	3,407	8,859	22,667	31,526	1,525	30,001
5 "	15	6,604	59,434	13,990	73,424	17,944	55,480
15 "	30	6,989	142,216	21,301	163,517	53,443	110,074
30 "	50	5,083	195,146	121,019	316,165	56,820	259,345
50 "	100	9,206	658,278	191,047	849,325	161,488	687,837
100 "	200	12,058	1,712,358	307,996	2,020,354	339,035	1,681,319
200 "	300	6,653	1,612,231	294,178	1,906,409	347,823	1,558,586
300 "	321	3,007	943,427	96,038	1,039,465	245,672	793,793
321 "	400	3,232	1,165,355	132,311	1,297,666	271,169	1,026,497
400 "	500	3,482	1,544,119	323,060	1,867,179	409,689	1,457,490
500 "	600	2,805	1,526,266	154,728	1,680,994	429,172	1,251,822
600 "	641	2,828	1,778,202	261,906	2,040,108	732,768	1,307,340
641 "	700	1,427	953,551	68,086	1,021,637	341,350	680,287
700 "	800	2,445	1,823,713	205,736	2,029,449	555,956	1,473,493
800 "	900	1,607	1,349,410	154,845	1,504,255	363,031	1,141,224
900 "	1,000	1,422	1,343,790	187,944	1,531,734	383,689	1,148,045
1,000 "	1,500	3,578	4,322,043	657,909	4,979,952	1,162,223	3,817,729
1,500 "	2,000	1,299	2,214,679	378,548	2,593,227	463,142	2,130,085
2,000 "	2,500	644	1,421,844	309,124	1,730,968	211,563	1,519,405
2,500 "	3,000	336	907,618	431,378	1,338,996	120,061	1,218,935
3,000 "	4,000	412	1,399,073	184,274	1,583,347	122,132	1,461,215
4,000 "	5,000	151	668,062	125,642	793,704	42,302	751,402
5,000 "	7,500	187	1,124,538	183,574	1,308,112	64,538	1,243,574
7,500 "	10,000	86	744,170	15,395	759,565	25,736	733,829
10,000 "	15,000	66	803,944	28,887	832,831	12,697	820,134
15,000 "	20,000	25	436,207	4,565	440,772	3,913	436,859
20,000 "	30,000	12	290,933	1,417	292,350	1,031	291,319
30,000 "	40,000	..	..	..	..	..	..
40,000 "	50,000	1	45,858	..	45,858	2	45,856
Total Privately-owned Land ..	79,102	31,195,324	4,877,565	36,072,889	6,939,914	29,132,975	
Crown Land not held in conjunction with that privately owned ..	935	..	733,335	733,335	36,800	696,535	
Grand Total ..	80,037	31,195,324	5,610,900	36,806,224	6,976,714	29,829,510	

Size of holdings and live stock thereon.

The last table shows the areas devoted to cultivation and grazing on different-sized holdings in March, 1925, whilst the next table gives the numbers of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs on these holdings, and the total numbers on Crown lands that are not held conjointly with privately-owned land, at the same date.

SIZE OF HOLDINGS AND LIVE STOCK THEREON, MARCH, 1925.

Size of Holdings. (In Acres).			Live Stock on Land Occupied.				
			Horses.	Cattle.		Sheep.	Pigs.
				Dairy Cows.	Other Cattle.		
1 and under	5	..	3,034	4,333	2,413	690	1,474
5	15	..	8,507	12,606	6,834	3,067	5,267
15	30	..	11,629	16,988	9,658	9,498	5,889
30	50	..	11,359	25,131	14,527	20,166	9,790
50	100	..	27,238	85,676	44,804	83,340	37,172
100	200	..	47,200	169,969	103,312	257,526	71,757
200	300	..	34,323	101,276	76,959	374,404	38,515
300	321	..	18,075	38,226	33,612	225,976	15,231
321	400	..	21,317	45,664	44,647	352,775	17,002
400	500	..	25,800	44,802	51,043	506,082	16,060
500	600	..	22,463	32,919	41,356	510,358	11,593
600	641	..	26,103	19,115	27,529	430,832	7,332
641	700	..	12,896	10,900	15,204	256,479	4,037
700	800	..	21,344	19,526	28,080	522,848	6,630
800	900	..	15,375	15,238	24,634	451,078	6,497
900	1,000	..	15,063	12,317	23,460	511,869	3,523
1,000	1,500	..	44,641	33,773	79,512	1,806,788	10,647
1,500	2,000	..	18,074	14,572	39,010	1,100,332	3,792
2,000	2,500	..	9,434	7,442	28,225	763,924	2,475
2,500	3,000	..	5,063	4,394	13,551	535,664	928
3,000	4,000	..	6,539	4,997	28,056	901,377	1,073
4,000	5,000	..	2,755	1,855	13,529	446,130	572
5,000	7,500	..	4,636	2,385	23,334	737,711	508
7,500	10,000	..	2,257	1,103	13,491	580,040	99
10,000	15,000	..	2,520	1,075	17,635	628,316	76
15,000	20,000	..	824	519	5,171	295,932	82
20,000	30,000	..	689	301	4,345	226,412	19
30,000	40,000	..	..	..	..	..	..
40,000	50,000	..	126	30	433	32,000	30
Total on Privately-owned land ..			419,284	727,132	814,364	12,571,614	278,070
On Crown Land not held in conjunction with privately-owned land ..			2,762	3,783	5,508	51,401	2,031
In towns and travelling ..			..	..	..	26,833	..
Grand Total ..			422,046	730,915	819,872	12,649,898	280,101

The position disclosed was that 72,305 persons holding up to 1,000 acres each of private land occupied in the aggregate 16,816,355 acres of such land, as well as 2,556,852 acres of Crown land—a total of 19,373,207 acres, or 54 per cent. of the total area in occupation. Of the privately-owned land and Crown land held in conjunction therewith, these occupiers controlled 68 per cent. of the total cultivation and 50 per cent. of the pasture, and possessed 77 per cent. of the horses, 90 per cent. of the dairy cows, 67 per cent. of the other cattle, 93 per cent. of the pigs, and 36 per cent. of the sheep.

Size of holdings in 1913, 1919, and 1925.

Particulars of the size of holdings and cultivation thereon, together with the particulars of the total holdings in which only Crown land was held, are given in the following table for the years 1913, 1919, and 1925 :—

SIZE OF HOLDINGS AND CULTIVATION THEREON,
1913, 1919, AND 1925.

Privately-owned Land.				Crown Land held in conjunction with that privately owned.	Total Area Occupied.	Area under—		
Size of Holdings. (In acres.)	Year.	Number of Holdings.	Area Occupied.			Cultivation.	Pasture, &c.	
			acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	
1 and under 100	1913	26,113	915,493	374,511	1,290,004	245,498	1,044,506	
		1919	28,902	942,775	347,377	1,290,152	241,794	1,048,358
		1925	31,289	1,063,933	370,024	1,433,957	291,220	1,142,737
100 „ 321	1913	18,483	3,819,680	1,216,829	5,036,509	875,525	4,160,984	
		1919	19,930	3,967,377	840,116	4,807,493	807,434	4,000,059
		1925	21,718	4,268,016	698,212	4,966,228	932,530	4,033,698
321 „ 641	1913	11,212	5,475,942	1,191,890	6,667,832	1,424,020	5,243,812	
		1919	11,831	5,790,225	1,480,407	7,270,632	1,490,476	5,780,156
		1925	12,397	6,013,942	872,005	6,885,947	1,842,798	5,043,149
641 „ 1,000	1913	5,221	4,187,010	1,241,667	5,428,677	1,075,000	4,353,677	
		1919	5,709	4,523,331	1,071,162	5,594,493	1,105,867	4,488,626
		1925	6,901	5,470,464	616,611	6,087,075	1,644,026	4,443,049
1,000 „ 2,500	1913	4,544	6,748,985	1,852,529	8,601,514	1,546,611	7,054,903	
		1919	5,010	7,291,675	2,300,465	9,592,140	1,379,247	8,212,893
		1925	5,521	7,958,566	1,345,581	9,304,147	1,836,923	7,467,219
2,500 „ 5,000	1913	820	2,803,419	1,085,769	3,889,188	352,258	3,536,930	
		1919	855	2,825,855	716,245	3,542,100	270,426	3,271,674
		1925	899	2,974,753	741,294	3,716,047	284,495	3,431,552
5,000 „ 10,000	1913	267	1,825,862	342,848	2,168,710	111,910	2,056,800	
		1919	290	1,996,606	378,877	2,375,483	83,014	2,292,469
		1925	273	1,868,708	198,969	2,067,677	90,274	1,977,403
10,000 and upwards	1913	151	2,652,966	404,710	3,057,676	39,606	3,018,070	
		1919	152	2,638,307	124,045	2,762,352	35,979	2,726,373
		1925	104	1,576,942	34,869	1,611,811	17,643	1,594,168
Total of privately-owned land	1913	66,811	28,429,357	7,710,753	36,140,110	5,670,428	30,469,682	
		1919	72,679	29,976,151	7,258,694	37,234,845	5,414,237	31,820,608
		1925	79,102	31,195,324	4,877,565	36,072,889	6,939,914	29,132,975
Crown Land not held in conjunction with that privately owned	1913	1,892	..	1,078,688	1,078,688	36,151	1,042,537	
		1919	1,651	..	899,289	899,289	76,783	822,506
		1925	935	..	733,335	733,335	36,800	696,535
Grand Total	1913	68,703	28,429,357	8,789,441	37,218,798	5,706,579	31,512,219	
		1919	74,330	29,976,151	8,157,983	38,134,134	5,491,020	32,643,114
		1925	80,037	31,195,324	5,610,900	36,806,224	6,976,714	29,829,510

The number of holdings of privately-owned land of over 10,000 acres was 104 in 1925, as compared with 152 in 1919, 151 in 1913, 175 in 1910, and 195 in 1906, and the aggregate areas comprised therein in the corresponding years were 1,576,942 acres, 2,638,307 acres, 2,652,966 acres, 3,298,227 acres and 4,134,067 acres. The reduction in the period of nineteen years between March, 1906, and March, 1925, was equivalent to 47 per cent. in the number and 62 per cent. in the acreage of such estates. Subdivision of estates of over 10,000 acres was practically at a stand-still during the period between March, 1913, and March, 1919, but, since the latter date, such estates have declined by 32 per cent. in the number and 40 per cent. in the acreage. In all

other holdings of the sizes mentioned in the above table, excepting those between 5,000 and 10,000 acres, which declined in both numbers and acreage, between March, 1919, and March, 1925, there were increases in both numbers and acreage in the nineteen years referred to.

To illustrate the uses to which the land was applied in 1913, 1919, and 1925, various percentages relating to holdings of different sizes, of privately-owned land and Crown land held in conjunction therewith, are given for those years in the succeeding table, which also shows the live stock carried by the holdings, reduced to their equivalent in sheep:—

SIZE OF HOLDINGS AND HOW UTILIZED, 1913, 1919, AND 1925.

Size of Holdings of Privately-owned Land. (In Acres.)	Year.	Percentage in each Division to Total of—					Live Stock Grazed reduced to equivalent in Sheep.		
		Holdings.	Area Occupied.	Area under Cultivation.	Area used for Pasture, &c.	Equivalent in Sheep Grazed.	Total.	Per 100 Acres used for Grazing, &c.	
1 and under	100 ..	1913	39·08	3·57	4·33	3·43	7·08	1,766,873	169
		1919	39·77	3·46	4·47	3·29	6·50	1,909,552	182
		1925	39·56	3·97	4·20	3·92	7·97	2,072,251	181
100 ..	321 ..	1913	27·66	13·94	15·44	13·66	17·67	4,410,283	106
		1919	27·42	12·91	14·91	12·57	17·40	5,107,256	128
		1925	27·46	13·77	13·44	13·85	19·20	4,994,010	124
321 ..	641 ..	1913	16·78	18·45	25·12	17·21	17·14	4,278,079	82
		1919	16·28	19·53	27·53	18·17	17·48	5,132,920	89
		1925	15·67	19·09	26·55	17·31	17·68	4,599,327	91
641 ..	1,000 ..	1913	7·82	15·02	18·95	14·29	12·15	3,031,015	70
		1919	7·85	15·03	20·43	14·11	12·37	3,630,165	81
		1925	8·72	16·88	23·69	15·25	12·63	3,285,208	74
1,000 ..	2,500 ..	1913	6·80	23·80	27·27	23·15	20·34	5,076,868	72
		1919	6·89	25·76	25·47	25·81	22·28	6,539,378	80
		1925	6·98	25·79	26·47	25·63	21·55	5,607,738	75
2,500 ..	5,000 ..	1913	1·23	10·76	6·22	11·61	9·22	2,300,276	65
		1919	1·18	9·51	5·00	10·28	8·84	2,594,808	79
		1925	1·14	10·30	4·10	11·78	9·32	2,425,033	71
5,000 ..	10,000 ..	1913	·40	6·00	1·98	6·75	6·95	1,735,240	84
		1919	·40	6·38	1·53	7·20	6·85	2,011,066	88
		1925	·34	5·73	1·30	6·79	6·26	1,628,559	82
10,000 and upwards	..	1913	·23	8·46	·69	9·90	9·45	2,358,478	78
		1919	·21	7·42	·66	8·57	8·28	2,431,720	89
		1925	·13	4·47	·25	5·47	5·39	1,401,304	88
Total ..	..	1913	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	24,957,112	82
		1919	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	29,356,865	92
		1925	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	26,013,430	89

In the above table horses and cattle have been reduced to an equivalent in sheep on the assumption that one head of the former will eat as much as ten, and one of the latter as much as six sheep. On this basis every 100 acres under pasture was carrying the equivalent of 89 sheep in 1925, as compared with 92 in 1919, 82 in 1913, and 78 in 1910. Dairying is carried on principally on the small holdings, and pigs are most numerous where dairying prevails. In 1925, 69

It will be seen from these tables that the largest areas under cultivation and the largest proportions of cultivation to land occupied are found in the Northern, Wimmera, and Mallee districts. Of the occupied land, 29 per cent. in the Northern, 44 per cent. in the Mallee, and 29 per cent. in the Wimmera district are devoted to agriculture, and these divisions supply nearly 83 per cent. of the cultivation in Victoria. In the North-Central, Western, and North-Eastern districts the land occupied is largely devoted to grazing; in Gippsland considerable attention is given to the cultivation of grasses, 44 per cent. of all the sown grasses in the State being found in that district.

Areas occupied and stock thereon, in districts. The next table contains particulars of the distribution of horses, cattle, and sheep on agricultural and pastoral lands in March, 1926:—

AREA OCCUPIED AND STOCK THEREON, 1926.

Districts.	Area Occupied for—		Number of—		
	Agriculture.	Pasture.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.
	acres.	acres.			
Central	439,431	2,110,232	89,773	247,697	1,135,898
North-Central	124,551	2,004,836	22,404	91,901	1,253,392
Western	315,692	6,006,262	61,802	367,304	4,506,100
Wimmera	1,732,057	3,965,644	64,822	43,535	2,167,452
Mallee	2,446,585	2,534,818	64,151	37,457	747,983
Northern	1,517,006	3,695,342	88,494	185,922	2,098,292
North-Eastern	150,246	3,496,302	31,507	220,577	972,606
Gippsland	165,060	3,054,500	40,098	319,394	858,777
Total	6,890,628	26,867,936	463,051	1,513,787	13,740,500

The area occupied does not include 2,779,469 acres which are mostly in an unproductive state. Compared with 1925, sheep increased by 8·6 per cent., while horses decreased by 2·2 per cent., and cattle by 5·7 per cent.

The following return shows the live stock in Victoria in each of the last five years. Tables showing the stock classified in conjunction with holdings and sheep classified in different-sized flocks in March, 1925, are given on pages 536-538 of this volume:—

LIVE STOCK IN VICTORIA, 1922 TO 1926.

Live Stock.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Horses (including foals)	496,124	494,947	486,075	473,236	463,051
Cattle—					
Dairy Cows	719,473	794,898	738,149	760,207	727,940
Other (including calves)	1,030,896	990,762	853,218	845,347	785,847
Sheep	12,325,818	11,765,520	11,059,761	12,649,898	13,740,500
Pigs	230,770	294,962	259,795	288,509	339,601

In the subjoined table will be found a statement of the average and the range of prices ruling in Melbourne during the years 1924-25 and 1925-26 for live stock. The information has been extracted from the Melbourne *Stock and Station Journal* :—

PRICES IN MELBOURNE OF LIVE STOCK, 1924-25 AND 1925-26.

Stock.	Prices in 1924-25.			Prices in 1925-26.		
	Average.	Range.		Average.	Range.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
<i>Horses.</i>						
Extra heavy draught	38 19 0	37 0 0 to 40 0 0	0 0	39 2 6	38 0 0 to 40 10 0	0 0
Medium draught ..	27 1 0	26 0 0 to 28 10 0	0 0	28 2 6	27 10 0 to 29 0 0	0 0
Delivery cart ..	14 8 0	13 0 0 to 16 0 0	0 0	13 15 0	13 0 0 to 14 10 0	0 0
Indian Remounts ..	22 8 0	22 0 0 to 23 10 0	0 0	22 8 0	22 0 0 to 23 0 0	0 0
Saddle and harness	4 8 0	4 0 0 to 5 0 0	0 0	4 0 0	3 15 0 to 4 15 0	0 0
Ponies ..	7 3 0	6 10 0 to 7 15 0	0 0	7 0 0	6 10 0 to 7 10 0	0 0
Order cart ..	8 5 0	8 0 0 to 9 0 0	0 0	8 0 0	7 10 0 to 8 10 0	0 0
<i>Fat Cattle.</i>						
<i>Bullocks—</i>						
Extra prime ..	15 16 0	14 12 0 to 17 8 0	0 0	21 5 0	17 10 0 to 25 2 0	0 0
Prime ..	14 2 0	13 2 6 to 15 8 0	0 0	19 3 0	16 1 0 to 23 0 0	0 0
Good ..	12 5 0	11 7 0 to 13 12 0	0 0	17 2 0	14 18 0 to 20 10 0	0 0
Good light and handy weights	10 13 0	9 4 0 to 11 17 6	0 0	14 19 0	12 19 0 to 17 19 0	0 0
<i>Cows—</i>						
Best ..	10 0 0	9 1 0 to 11 3 9	0 0	12 2 0	9 19 0 to 14 9 6	0 0
Others ..	7 16 0	6 15 0 to 8 16 0	0 0	9 4 0	7 3 0 to 10 18 0	0 0
<i>Dairy Cattle.</i>						
Best milkers ..	13 18 0	11 7 0 to 16 1 0	0 0	15 16 0	12 17 0 to 18 9 0	0 0
Springers, best ..	10 2 0	8 13 0 to 12 15 0	0 0	9 14 0	7 4 0 to 11 15 0	0 0
<i>Fat Sheep.</i>						
<i>Wethers (cross)—</i>						
Extra prime ..	2 3 4	1 16 0 to 2 13 2	0 0	1 14 0	1 8 3 to 2 5 0	0 0
Prime ..	2 0 5	1 13 8 to 2 10 0	0 0	1 11 4	1 5 5 to 2 1 11	0 0
Good ..	1 16 7	1 9 5 to 2 5 6	0 0	1 8 0	1 2 5 to 1 18 1	0 0
<i>Ewes (cross)—</i>						
Extra prime ..	1 18 1	1 12 7 to 2 6 0	0 0	1 8 8	1 0 3 to 2 1 5	0 0
Prime ..	1 15 4	1 9 10 to 2 2 9	0 0	1 6 0	0 18 0 to 1 19 0	0 0
Good ..	1 12 5	1 6 7 to 1 18 4	0 0	1 3 1	0 15 5 to 1 16 3	0 0
<i>Wethers (merino)—</i>						
Extra prime ..	2 3 1	1 15 4 to 2 11 9	0 0	1 13 5	1 6 5 to 2 6 3	0 0
Prime ..	2 0 1	1 13 0 to 2 8 9	0 0	1 10 8	1 4 5 to 2 3 3	0 0
Good ..	1 16 5	1 9 1 to 2 5 8	0 0	1 7 3	1 1 2 to 1 18 8	0 0
Ewes (merino) best	1 13 6	1 7 11 to 2 1 9	0 0	1 5 11	0 18 10 to 1 18 10	0 0
<i>Fat Lambs.</i>						
Extra prime ..	1 14 11	1 13 2 to 1 17 7	0 0	1 9 10	1 2 9 to 1 18 3	0 0
Prime ..	1 12 2	1 9 5 to 1 14 5	0 0	1 7 3	1 0 4 to 1 15 6	0 0
Good ..	1 8 7	1 5 6 to 1 10 11	0 0	1 4 2	0 17 4 to 1 13 6	0 0
<i>Pigs.</i>						
<i>Back Fatters—</i>						
Extra heavy prime	11 5 0	8 16 0 to 14 2 0	0 0	10 17 6	8 12 0 to 12 15 0	0 0
Extra prime and weighty ..	7 14 0	5 13 0 to 9 13 0	0 0	7 8 0	5 12 6 to 8 13 0	0 0
<i>Baconers—</i>						
Extra prime ..	5 8 0	4 15 0 to 6 0 0	0 0	5 11 0	5 0 0 to 6 11 0	0 0
Prime ..	4 13 0	4 2 0 to 5 7 0	0 0	4 10 0	3 19 0 to 5 5 0	0 0
Porkers ..	2 16 0	2 10 0 to 3 4 6	0 0	2 7 0	2 0 0 to 2 19 0	0 0

The following is a statement of the stock slaughtered on farms and stations, as well as in municipal abattoirs, during each of the last five years :—

STOCK SLAUGHTERED, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended March—	Number Slaughtered.		
	Sheep and Lambs.	Cattle.	Pigs.
1921	4,005,587	331,707	239,638
1922	5,863,195	424,199	308,172
1923	4,078,273	461,958	373,609
1924	3,591,219	499,840	368,918
1925	4,194,572	523,920	391,129

The purposes for which the slaughtered animals were used were as follows :—

PURPOSES FOR WHICH STOCK WERE SLAUGHTERED, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended March—	For Butcher and Private Use.*			For Export.		
	Sheep.	Cattle.	Pigs.	Sheep.	Cattle.	Pigs.
1921	2,794,790	310,428	55,521	1,186,704	16,694	7,335
1922	3,184,411	413,650	107,022	2,657,515	4,251	..
1923	3,372,722	449,101	139,405	691,630	4,011	..
1924	2,548,327	484,244	139,808	1,035,799	7,391	..
1925	2,697,822	486,739	158,187	1,480,824	25,608	..

Year ended March—	For Preserving and Salting.			For Boiling Down.		
	Sheep.	Cattle.	Pigs.	Sheep.	Cattle.	Pigs.
1921	20,622	2,740	176,451	3,471	1,845	331
1922	9,763	2,955	200,901	11,506	3,343	249
1923	2,632	2,519	232,914	11,289	6,327	290
1924	4,452	4,323	228,869	2,641	3,882	241
1925	9,725	7,218	232,755	6,201	4,355	187

* Including carcasses held in Cool Stores at end of year.

Of the 4,194,572 sheep and lambs slaughtered in Victoria in 1925, 1,480,824, or 35 per cent., were frozen, as compared with 1,035,799, or 29 per cent., in 1924, 691,630, or 17 per cent., in 1923, and 2,657,515, or 45 per cent., in 1922. In 1925-26 the oversea exports included 51,161,794 lbs. of mutton and lamb, valued at £1,408,772.

Mutton and Lamb frozen for Export.

The soil and climate of Victoria are well suited to the economical production of both mutton and lamb, and, as there is practically no limit to the demand for these products in Europe, the possibilities for those engaged in raising sheep for export are very great, especially as the number of sheep in the world is not keeping pace with the increase in population. The importance of this export trade to Victorian sheep owners is evidenced by the figures in the appended statement showing the numbers of carcasses exported in each of the last twelve years. In the four years 1915-16 to 1918-19 the quantity exported was small in comparison with earlier years. The chief reasons for this were, in 1915-16, a drought in the preceding year, and, in the three following years, the lack of shipping space. In the year 1919-20 the exports were much greater than in any previous year, due mainly to the accumulations of the previous three years. The quantities exported in 1920-21 were below the average, owing to the dry condition which had prevailed in the previous year. After a world-wide fall in values, the season 1922-23 was marked by exceptionally heavy exports of both mutton and lamb at improved prices. In the 1923-24 season the export of mutton practically ceased, while the number of lambs exported was only about 40 per cent. of that for the previous year. The abnormal activity in 1922-23 was, to some extent, responsible for the great reduction in exports in 1923-24. Other reasons were a tendency among owners to retain their flocks in expectation of high prices for wool, and the demand for breeding ewes from New South Wales, where a drought had depleted the flocks. Compared with 1923-24 the slight improvement manifested in 1924-25 was maintained in 1925-26.

FROZEN MUTTON AND LAMB EXPORTED.

Year (ended June).	Number of Carcasses Exported.		
	Mutton.	Lamb.	Total.
1914-15	653,329	1,056,823	1,710,152
1915-16 .. ..	..	47,546	47,546
1916-17	52,724	365,694	418,418
1917-18	48,743	147,524	196,267
1918-19	649,082	19,889	668,971
1919-20	2,468,091	1,533,411	4,001,502
1920-21	372,916	413,170	786,086
1921-22	314,564	872,140	1,186,704
1922-23	989,456	1,668,059	2,657,515
1923-24	12,945	678,685	691,630
1924-25	87,767	948,032	1,035,799
1925-26	171,803	1,309,021	1,480,824

Dairying.

The dairying industry is one of the principal sources of the wealth of the community. The value of dairy produce in 1926 was £10,364,790, as compared with £10,381,175 in 1925, £10,561,940 in 1924, £10,381,310 in 1923, and £9,512,980 in 1922.

The following table shows the numbers of cowkeepers and cows at the end of, and the total production of butter and cheese, in each of the last five years :—

DAIRYING, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Year ended March—			Number of Cow-keepers.	Number of Dairy Cows.	Butter made.*	Cheese made.*
					lbs.	lbs.
1922	..	..	60,882	719,473	82,981,570	5,675,909
1923	..	..	62,424	794,898	84,355,939	3,754,958
1924	..	..	61,685	738,149	86,888,723	7,216,938
1925	..	..	61,549	760,207	100,849,382	6,193,135
1926	..	..	58,933	727,940	81,747,291	5,279,009

* Year ended 30th June.

Butter and cheese made on farms.

The next table shows the quantities of butter and cheese made on farms in the last five years :—

BUTTER AND CHEESE MADE ON FARMS, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Year ended June—				Butter.	Cheese.
				lbs.	lbs.
1922	..	..	..	5,480,421	316,249
1923	..	..	..	5,582,469	418,873
1924	..	..	..	5,597,128	420,552
1925	..	..	..	5,395,087	228,779
1926	..	..	..	4,734,669	389,893

Butter and cheese made in factories.

The quantities of butter, cheese, and concentrated, condensed, powdered milk, casein, and milk sugar made, and of cream sold, in factories during the last five years were as follows :—

BUTTER, CHEESE, ETC., MADE IN FACTORIES, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Year ended June—	Butter made.	Cream sold.	Cheese made.	Concentrated, Condensed, and Powdered Milk made	Casein made.	Milk Sugar made.
	lbs.	gallons.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
1922	77,501,149	160,490	5,359,660	48,354,210	2,022,192	276,786
1923	78,773,470	213,170	3,336,085	38,314,261	2,639,240	410,155
1924	81,291,595	373,236	6,796,386	49,099,632	2,946,346	445,430
1925	95,454,295	495,458	5,964,356	45,693,120	2,716,042	415,753
1926	77,012,622	388,235	4,889,116	43,646,852	1,503,369	152,783

The quantities of milk, in gallons, received at factories and creameries were 193,507,110 in 1921-22, 196,171,380 in 1922-23, 206,915,177 in 1923-24, 294,764,870 in 1924-25, and 251,962,730 in 1925-26.

Exports of
butter and
cheese.

In 1925-26 there were exported from Victoria to countries outside Australia 32,874,047 lbs. of butter, valued at £2,542,626, all of which was Australian produce. The quantity sent to the United Kingdom was 25,756,477 lbs., valued at £1,934,801. The quantity of cheese exported to oversea countries was 292,987 lbs., and the value thereof, £14,406.

Wool
production.

Information relating to the wool clip is obtained direct from the growers, and an allowance is made for the wool on Victorian skins, both stripped and exported. On this basis the production of wool in 1925-26 and earlier seasons was as follows:—

VICTORIAN WOOL CLIP AND ESTIMATED TOTAL PRODUCTION.

Districts.	Wool Clip, 1925-26.			
	Sheep.	Lambs.	Total.	
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	
Central	5,788,108	458,818	6,246,926	
North-Central	7,670,392	639,800	8,310,192	
Western	27,798,504	2,016,302	29,814,806	
Wimmera	15,122,342	1,069,041	16,191,383	
Mallee	5,314,867	310,703	5,625,570	
Northern	13,350,489	1,256,878	14,607,367	
North-Eastern	4,979,189	454,646	5,433,835	
Gippsland	4,077,479	306,741	4,384,220	
Total Clip	1925-26	84,101,370	6,512,929	90,614,299
	1924-25	83,932,699	6,819,164	90,751,863
	1923-24	63,803,820	3,519,735	67,326,555
	1922-23	71,088,919	5,105,031	76,193,950
	1921-22	72,829,509	5,365,837	78,195,346
	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Wool clip	76,193,950	67,326,555	90,751,863	90,614,299
Wool stripped from Victorian skins and on Victorian skins exported (estimated) ..	26,274,000	15,186,806	16,036,034	20,646,515
Total production ..	102,467,950	82,513,361	106,787,897	111,260,814
Total value ..	£6,380,600	£7,695,000	£11,444,240	£7,082,820

In 1925-26 there were 10,990,842 sheep and 2,899,787 lambs shorn, as compared with 9,803,371 sheep and 2,790,054 lambs in 1924-25, 9,463,675 sheep and 1,614,147 lambs in 1923-24, 9,920,239 sheep and 2,278,303 lambs in 1922-23. and 10,072,358 sheep and 2,471,431 lambs in 1921-22.

Weight of
a fleece.

The next table shows the production of wool per sheep and per lamb shorn in each of the last five years :—

WEIGHT OF A FLEECE, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Year.	Weight of a Fleece.		
	Sheep.	Lambs.	Sheep and Lambs combined.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
1921-22	7·23	2·17	6·23
1922-23	7·17	2·25	6·25
1923-24	6·74	2·18	6·08
1924-25	8·56	2·44	7·21
1925-26	7·65	2·25	6·52

The production of wool in Victoria, the quantity and value of that used locally for manufacturing purposes, and the balance available for export, in each of the last five years, were as follows :—

WOOL PRODUCTION : HOME CONSUMPTION AND EXPORTABLE BALANCE, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Year.	Production.		Used in Manufactures.		Available for Export.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
1921-22	103,512,777	4,662,750	13,293,010	553,875	90,219,767	4,108,875
1922-23	102,467,950	6,380,600	15,926,225	995,389	86,541,725	5,385,211
1923-24	82,513,361	7,695,000	13,068,648	1,218,500	69,444,713	6,476,500
1924-25	106,787,897	11,444,240	14,420,497	1,644,500	92,367,400	9,799,740
1925-26	111,260,814	7,082,820	17,642,326	1,212,910	93,618,488	5,869,910

Prices of wool.

The following information as to the average prices of wool per lb. which have prevailed during the last three seasons has been obtained from Melbourne wool brokers :—

PRICES OF WOOL, 1923-24 TO 1925-26.

Class of Wool.	Average Price per lb. in—		
	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
GREASY MERINO.			
Extra Super (Western District)	43d. to 44d.	38d. to 41d.	35d. to 39d.
Super	34d. to 38d.	31d. to 34d.	28d. to 30d.
Good	27d. to 28d.	25d. to 27d.	23d. to 25d.
Average	24d. to 26d.	22d. to 24d.	19d. to 21d.
Wasty and Inferior	19d. to 21d.	16d. to 18d.	15d. to 17d.
Extra Super Lambs	32d. to 34d.	28d. to 30d.	32d. to 34d.
Super Lambs	24d. to 27d.	21d. to 23d.	24d. to 27d.
Good Lambs	18d. to 20d.	16d. to 18d.	18d. to 20d.
Average Lambs	15d. to 18d.	13d. to 15d.	14d. to 17d.
Inferior Lambs	10d. to 12d.	7d. to 10d.	8d. to 11d.
GREASY CROSSBRED.			
Extra Super Comebacks	37d. to 40d.	32d. to 34d.	30d. to 32d.
Super Comebacks	30d. to 34d.	27d. to 30d.	26d. to 29d.
Fine Crossbred	24d. to 26d.	21d. to 23d.	20d. to 22d.
Medium Crossbred	18d. to 19d.	17d. to 18d.	16d. to 18d.
Coarse Crossbred and Lincoln	11d. to 13d.	12d. to 14d.	11d. to 12d.
Super Fine Crossbred Lambs	22d. to 24d.	20d. to 22d.	22d. to 24d.
Good Crossbred Lambs	16d. to 18d.	15d. to 17d.	18d. to 19d.
Coarse and Lincoln Lambs	10d. to 12d.	11d. to 13d.	13d. to 15d.
SCOURED.			
Extra Super Fleece	58d. to 62d.	50d. to 54d.	45d. to 48d.
Super Fleece	54d. to 56d.	45d. to 47d.	33d. to 42d.
Good Fleece	46d. to 50d.	38d. to 40d.	34d. to 36d.
Average Fleece	36d. to 44d.	29d. to 34d.	25d. to 27d.
RECORD PRICES FOR THE SEASON.			
Greasy Merino Fleece	46½d.	53½d.	42½d.
„ Comeback Fleece	42½d.	50½d.	34½d.
„ Merino Lambs	43½d.	48½d.	33½d.
„ Comeback Lambs	37d.	41½d.	26½d.
Scoured Fleece	64d.	61d.	48½d.

Flocks of
sheep in
districts.

Returns which were collected in March, 1925, give full information in regard to the flocks of sheep in Victoria. The numbers of flocks and of sheep at that time in the different districts were as follows :—

NUMBERS OF FLOCKS AND OF SHEEP IN DISTRICTS, 1925.

District.	Number of—		Average Number of Sheep to a Flock.	Percentage of—	
	Flocks.	Sheep.		Flocks.	Sheep.
Central	2,291	990,194	432	9·66	7·84
North-Central	2,098	1,190,606	567	8·84	9·43
Western	5,003	4,122,779	824	21·08	32·66
Wimmera	4,220	2,125,327	504	17·78	16·84
Mallee	1,849	665,674	360	7·79	5·27
Northern	4,647	1,971,660	424	19·58	15·62
North-Eastern	2,073	865,435	417	8·74	6·86
Gippsland	1,550	691,340	446	6·53	5·48
Total	23,731	12,623,015	532	100·00	100·00

The figures do not include 26,883 sheep which were travelling on roads or were located in cities and towns. Flocks were fewer in number in all districts, except the Mallee, in 1925 than in 1919. In the six years referred to the number of flocks decreased by 93 in the Central, 336 in the North-Central, 1,077 in the Western, 62 in the Wimmera, 639 in the Northern, 376 in the North-Eastern, and 1,359 in the Gippsland district, and increased by 335 in the Mallee, the total decrease for the State being 4,607, or 16 per cent. The average number of sheep to a flock showed a very marked decrease in the Mallee, and decreases less pronounced in the Wimmera, Northern, North-Eastern, and Gippsland districts, while in the Central, North-Central, and Western districts there were slight increases. The average number of sheep in a flock was 532 in 1925, as compared with 555 in 1919, 477 in 1917,

478 in 1913, 531 in 1910, 642 in 1903, and 706 in 1906. The number of sheep in the State decreased from 15,773,902 in 1919 to 12,649,898 in 1925. All divisions of the State showed substantial decreases during the six years under review.

Sizes of
flocks.

Excluding sheep travelling and those in cities and towns, the following table contains a classification for the whole State of sheep according to sizes of flocks :—

SHEEP ACCORDING TO SIZES OF FLOCKS, 1925.

Size of Flocks.	Number of—		Percentage of—	
	Flocks.	Sheep.	Flocks.	Sheep.
Under 500	17,187	2,939,575	72·42	23·29
500 and under 1,000 ..	3,692	2,519,857	15·56	19·96
1,000 .. 2,000 ..	1,725	2,317,968	7·27	18·36
2,000 .. 5,000 ..	851	2,428,522	3·59	19·24
5,000 .. 10,000 ..	207	1,399,428	·87	11·09
10,000 .. 20,000 ..	62	824,643	·26	6·53
20,000 and upwards ..	7	193,022	·03	1·53
Total	23,731	12,623,015	100·00	100·00

A comparison of the above figures with those for 1919 shows that flocks of less than 500 sheep had decreased by 3,243, those of 500 to 1,000 by 647, 1,000 to 2,000 by 508, 2,000 to 5,000 by 104, 5,000 to 10,000 by 40, 10,000 to 20,000 by 49, and those of over 20,000 by 16. The decrease in the number of sheep in the whole State in the same period was 20 per cent. Six of the 7 largest, 42 of the 62 second largest flocks, and 130 of the 207 flocks of between 5,000 to 10,000 sheep in 1925 were in the Western District.

Areas of holdings and numbers and sizes of flocks of sheep.

The numbers and sizes of flocks of sheep on holdings of various areas, including those on Crown land not held conjointly with that privately owned, in March, 1925, are given in the next table. Although only 6,969 flocks, or 29 per cent. of the total number, were depastured on holdings of 900 acres and over, these accounted for 8,607,471 sheep, or 68 per cent. of the total.

AREAS OF HOLDINGS AND NUMBERS AND SIZES OF FLOCKS THEREON, 1925.

Area of Holdings. (Acres).	Number and Size of Flocks.																
	Under 500.		500 and under 1,000.		1,000 and under 2,000.		2,000 and under 5,000.		5,000 and under 10,000.		10,000 and under 20,000.		20,000 and upwards.		Total.		
	Number of Flocks.	Number of Sheep.	Number of Flocks.	Number of Sheep.	Number of Flocks.	Number of Sheep.	Number of Flocks.	Number of Sheep.	Number of Flocks.	Number of Sheep.	Number of Flocks.	Number of Sheep.	Number of Flocks.	Number of Sheep.	Number of Flocks.	Number of Sheep.	
1 and under 200	3,663	298,499	69	43,539	14	17,657	3	7,781	1	7,800	..	..	..	..	3,750	375,276
200 " 321	3,162	457,305	161	101,294	25	30,769	5	13,022	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,353	602,390
321 " 500	3,111	574,331	326	209,522	38	45,313	4	9,820	1	7,160	1	13,102	..	..	3,481	859,248
500 " 641	2,526	496,909	507	330,298	70	86,091	12	32,507	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,115	945,805
641 " 900	2,108	466,885	787	530,157	152	188,145	14	36,168	19	11,470	..	..	..	..	3,063	1,232,825
900 " 1,500	2,049	494,290	1,242	867,638	578	746,369	82	201,935	3	18,061	..	..	..	..	3,954	2,328,293
1,500 " 2,500	479	125,962	487	356,025	584	809,394	214	547,658	6	38,791	..	..	..	..	1,770	1,877,830
2,500 " 5,000	79	22,459	106	76,677	236	352,652	405	1,204,758	33	192,386	1	10,063	1	29,000	861	1,887,995	
5,000 " 10,000	10	2,935	6	4,207	26	39,508	106	354,864	120	802,244	11	125,435	279	1,329,193
10,000 and upwards	..	..	1	500	2	2,070	6	20,009	41	321,516	49	676,043	6	164,022	105	1,184,160
Total ..	17,187	2,939,575	3,692	2,519,857	1,725	2,317,968	851	2,428,522	207	1,309,428	62	824,643	7	193,022	23,731	12,623,015	

NOTE.—Where Crown land is held in conjunction with privately-owned land, the holding is classified according to the area privately owned.

Live Stock
in Australia
and
New Zealand.

In the following statement are given the numbers of horses, cattle, sheep and pigs in the various Australian States and New Zealand, according to the latest available figures:—

LIVE STOCK IN AUSTRALASIA.

State, &c.	Horses.	Cattle.		Sheep.	Pigs.
		Dairy Cows.	Other.		
Victoria	463,051	727,940	785,847	13,740,500	339,601
New South Wales ..	649,534	840,930	2,090,888	53,687,749	382,331
Federal Capital Territory	1,501	646	4,666	172,251	343
Queensland	637,436	611,426	5,825,219	20,663,323	199,598
South Australia ..	244,111	136,273	237,324	6,810,495	90,794
Northern Territory ..	46,380	970,342		8,030	382
Western Australia ..	170,563	63,008	772,903	6,861,795	74,316
Tasmania	37,785	70,382	141,991	1,619,075	41,009
New Zealand	314,867	1,303,856	2,148,630	24,904,993	472,534

The returns for 1925-26 show that there were in that year 3,799 bee-keepers, who owned 58,251 frame and 7,941 box hives, producing 2,037,355 lbs. and 77,452 lbs. of honey respectively, and 28,812 lbs. of beeswax. The number of bee-keepers owning 20 hives and upwards was 690, as compared with 785 in the previous season. In 1925-26, the quantity of honey produced in the Wimmera district was 735,788 lbs., in the North-Eastern district, 273,057 lbs., and in the Northern district, 376,531 lbs. The more important particulars of the industry for the last five years are given below:—

BEE-KEEPING, 1921-22 to 1925-26.

Season ended May—	Number of Bee-keepers.	Number of Hives.	Honey produced.	Beeswax produced.
			lbs.	lbs.
1922	4,046	50,147	2,712,675	32,737
1923	3,756	52,060	2,285,000	27,182
1924	3,535	60,760	2,110,713	25,371
1925	3,483	71,918	4,054,975	47,117
1926	3,799	66,192	2,114,807	28,812

State
expenditure
on rabbit
destruction.

Active operations for the destruction of rabbits, &c., on Crown lands were first undertaken by the Government in 1880, and from that date to 30th June, 1926, sums amounting to £1,225,081 had been expended in connexion therewith, including subsidies to Shire Councils for the destruction

of wild animals. The following are the amounts spent since 1879 :—

EXPENDITURE ON DESTRUCTION OF RABBITS, ETC.

	£		£
1879-80 to 1888-9 ..	142,963	1921-22	40,766
1889-90 to 1898-9 ..	208,638	1922-23	47,410
1899-1900 to 1908-9 ..	170,050	1923-24	85,489
1909-10 to 1918-19 ..	283,693	1924-25	84,368
1919-20	36,672	1925-26	88,874
1920-21	36,158		

In addition to the expenditure of £1,225,081 referred to above, sums have frequently been advanced from Loan Funds for the purchase of wire netting for supply to municipalities and land owners. The amounts of these advances in the last five years were as follows :—£15,447 in 1921-22, £23,731 in 1922-23, £26,275 in 1923-24, £32,399 in 1924-25, and £42,628 in 1925-26. A complete system, administered by an officer called the Chief Inspector under the Vermin Destruction Act, exists for effectually keeping the rabbits under control.

The quantity of rabbits, hares, and wild-fowl sold at the Melbourne Fish Market in each of the last five years was as shown in the following statement :—

RABBITS, HARES, AND WILD-FOWL SOLD AT THE MELBOURNE FISH MARKET, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Year ended June.	Rabbits.	Hares.	Wild-fowl.
	pairs.	brace.	brace.
1921-22	429,372	8	21,708
1922-23	431,196	21	16,428
1923-24	448,656	42	8,148
1924-25	937,704	74	11,640
1925-26	1,916,460	783	14,784

Large quantities of frozen rabbits and hares and of rabbit and hare skins have been exported to overseas countries, the numbers and values for each of the last five years being as follows :—

RABBITS AND HARES AND RABBIT AND HARE SKINS EXPORTED OVERSEA, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Year ended June.	Frozen Rabbits and Hares.		Rabbit and Hare Skins.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	pairs.	£	lbs.	£
1921-22	454,052	35,385	2,623,228	201,021
1922-23	141,312	10,176	2,140,915	237,853
1923-24	80,499	8,477	2,073,613	282,266
1924-25	54,174	5,196	2,020,070	349,956
1925-26	456,849	53,423	3,513,046	579,000

FISHERIES.

The numbers of men and boats engaged in the fishing industry at the different fishing stations throughout the State are given in the following table for the year 1925-26 :—

Numbers of men and boats engaged in fishing.

VICTORIAN FISHERIES—MEN AND BOATS EMPLOYED,
1925-26.

Fishing Stations.	Number of Men.	Boats.		Value of Nets and other Plant.
		Number.	Value.	
Anderson's Inlet	10	7	£ 450	£ 186
Anglesea River	1	1	20	15
Barwon Heads and Ocean Grove	7	4	650	65
Brighton	8	7	175	76
Corner Inlet, Welshpool, Toora, and Port Franklin	87	71	9,057	3,779
Dromana	31	25	1,597	263
Frankston	8	4	152	160
Geelong	52	29	2,818	865
Gippsland Lakes	213	153	11,737	5,896
Kerang	6	5	43	77
Lake Boga	2	2	27	23
Lorne	3	2	70	20
Lindsay R.	7	6	59	163
Mallacoota	12	8	1,508	162
Mentone	17	12	314	226
Mordialloc, Chelsea, and Carrum	57	37	2,593	535
Mornington	33	21	1,974	587
Portarlington and St. Leonards	60	34	2,184	831
Portland	46	31	4,959	615
Port Albert	69	40	3,520	1,323
Port Campbell	2	2	120	17
Port Fairy	44	34	5,650	342
Port Melbourne	40	28	1,943	638
Queenscliff	133	72	13,470	979
Rainbow	7	5	92	34
Sandringham	47	31	3,139	482
Sorrento, Portsea, and Rye	71	41	3,830	806
St. Kilda	26	15	1,173	343
Torquay	4	2	35	50
Warrnambool	11	11	620	90
Werribee	8	4	437	63
Waranga Basin	10	9	105	68
Western Port (Cowes, Hastings, Grantville, Flinders, San Remo, and Tooradin)	128	97	10,678	1,388
Williamstown	50	32	2,736	718
Wonthaggi	11	9	531	194
Total	1,321	891	88,466	22,079

Melbourne Fish Market. The quantities and values of fish sold in the Melbourne Fish Market during each of the years 1924-25 and 1925-26 were as shown in the next table:—

**FISH SOLD IN THE MELBOURNE FISH MARKET,
1924-25 AND 1925-26.**

		1924-25.		1925-26.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Fresh Fish (Victorian)	lbs.	9,326,775	£ 133,295	8,720,225	£ 148,970
Crayfish	doz.	46,414	41,773	41,745	45,920
Imported Fish (fresh or frozen) *	.. lbs.	3,080,818	77,020	3,662,898	91,572
Oysters	bags	12,022	43,886	13,084	50,745
Total			295,974		337,207

In addition to the above, 10,104 cwt. of smoked fish, and 1,572 baskets of prawns were sold in this market in 1925-26.

Victorian fish sold. The quantity and value of fish caught in Victorian waters and sold in the Melbourne and Ballarat markets and elsewhere in 1925-26 were as follows:—

VICTORIAN FISH SOLD IN 1925-26.

Markets.	Quantity.		Value.	
	Fish.	Crayfish.	Fish.	Crayfish.
	lbs.	doz.	£	£
Melbourne	8,720,225	21,465	148,970	23,611
Ballarat	500,177	651	8,853	515
Other	279,988	629	4,703	690
Total	9,500,390	22,745	162,606	24,816

Fish imported. In connexion with this subject, the quantities and values of the different classes of fish imported are of interest. Particulars of imports from oversea countries in each of the last two years are given in the following statement:—

FISH IMPORTED, 1924-25 AND 1925-26.

		1924-25.		1925-26.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Fish—			£		£
Fresh or Frozen .. ..	.. lbs.	2,619,729	74,091	2,867,725	71,243
Smoked .. ..	.. ..	32,000	2,873	18,783	2,360
Fresh Oysters .. ..	.. cwt.	1,646	1,222	2,823	2,165
Potted or Concentrated, &c. ..	.. ..	..	17,914	..	21,869
Preserved in tins, &c. ..	.. lbs.	7,614,873	332,298	7,648,551	335,419
N.E.I. .. ..	.. cwt.	3,043	9,043	2,815	8,695
Total			437,441		441,751

The most important item in this table is fish preserved in tins and other air-tight vessels, of which 3,969,107 lbs. came from Canada, 835,156 lbs. from Norway, 1,322,120 lbs. from the United Kingdom, and 1,217,398 lbs. from the United States of America, in 1925-26.

The figures relating to agriculture and live stock in Victoria and Great Britain in 1925 are, for comparative purposes, placed side by side in the table which follows :—

AGRICULTURE AND LIVE STOCK IN VICTORIA AND GREAT BRITAIN, 1925.

	Victoria.	Great Britain.
Area acres	56,245,760	56,208,959
Wheat bushels	29,255,534	52,789,000
Oats "	4,998,165	117,320,000
Barley "	1,774,963	51,654,400
Peas "	166,543	2,389,000
Potatoes tons	160,729	4,209,000
Turnips and swedes "	2,758*	16,013,000
Mangolds "	10,333	7,150,900
Hay "	929,068	7,992,000
Horses No.	463,051	1,130,962
Cattle "	1,513,787	7,368,121
Sheep "	13,740,500	23,093,614
Pigs "	339,601	2,798,576

* Includes beet, carrots, and parsnips.

MINING.

The supervision of mining and the inspection of mines are regulated by Act of Parliament. Authority for all mining operations, whether on Crown or private lands, must be obtained in the prescribed manner, and mining leases giving the right to enter on private land for mining purposes may be issued to another than the owner.

The taking out of a "miner's right" entitles the holder to prospect for gold on Crown lands. The right may be had on payment of a sum of 2s. 6d. per annum and remains in force for any number of years not exceeding fifteen. The holder is entitled to take possession for mining purposes of a defined parcel of Crown lands, which is called a "claim." The revenue in 1925-26 from miners' rights was £1,999.

Leases for the purpose of mining for gold are granted for a term not exceeding fifteen years at a yearly rental of 2s. 6d. per acre. For mining leases of land to be worked by means of dredging or hydraulic sluicing the yearly rent is 5s. per acre. Other mineral and coal mining leases are also issued at varying rates. The revenue from these sources in 1925-26 was £3,676.

The area of Crown and private lands under occupation for mining purposes on 31st December, 1925, was 41,762 acres. The subjoined table shows the area being worked for different minerals :—

AREA UNDER OCCUPATION FOR MINING PURPOSES,
31ST DECEMBER, 1925 (CROWN LAND AND PRIVATE
LAND).

Nature of Mineral, &c.	Area.
	acres.
Gold	26,795
Coal (ordinary)	5,042
Coal (brown)	589
Aluminium	6
Bauxite	92
Bluestone	42
Clay	65
Clay and Chalk	6
Clay and Slum	30
Copper	100
Copper and Silver	100
Dolomite and Clay	1
Decomposed Slates and Sandstone	2
Granite	20
Gypsum	1,035
Hematite and Iron Ores .. .. .	.8
Infusorial Earth	9
Iron	315
Kaolin	43
Lead	80
Limestone	183
Limestone and Clay	27
Magnesite	126
Manganese	2,056
Manganese and Cobalt	19
Marble	6
Molybdenite	336
Molybdenite and Gold	40
Molybdenite, Copper, and Silver	29
Oil	916
Pigments	69
Pigments and Clay	9
Quicksilver	55
Sand	19
Sand and Gravel	5
Silicate of Alumina	51
Silver and Gold	79
Silver and Lead	196
Slate	117
Sulphates and Oil	223
Tin	1,810
Wolfram and Tin	454
Water-right Licences	557
Total	41,762

The mining industry has been well fostered by the Government, not only in the way of financial assistance but also by means of geological surveys and boring. Apart from the annual expenditure of the Mines Department from consolidated revenue, of which a statement is appended, loan moneys amounting to £520,421 (including £249,399 expended on the State Coal Mine), and portions of surplus revenues of past years amounting to £85,000, had been expended or advanced for developmental purposes from 1st July, 1899, to 30th June, 1926.

STATE EXPENDITURE ON MINING, 1921-22 to 1925-26.

Item.	Expenditure from Consolidated Revenue.				
	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
	£	£	£	£	£
Mines Department	26,785	27,085	26,176	24,567	23,569
State Coal Mine	499,076	436,753	519,536	458,380	471,530
Brown Coal Mine	44,426	48,886	45,830	*	*
Coal Mines Regulation—Sinking Fund and Depreciation Fund	82,786	22,342	39,628	37,002	41,807
Diamond drills for prospecting ..	9,809	9,411	10,597	12,476	12,242
Testing plants	3,212	3,148	3,499	3,571	3,120
Geological and underground surveys of mines	2,506	3,071	3,436	3,591	3,595
Mining Development—					
Advances to companies, &c., boring for gold, coal, &c. ..	8,161	6,963	6,711	8,739	12,368
Miscellaneous	2,024	1,806	2,107	2,431	2,143
Total	678,785	559,465	657,520	550,757	570,374

* The control of the Brown Coal Mine was transferred to the Electricity Commissioners on 1st April, 1924.

Yearly grants are also made to Schools of Mines, particulars of which will be found on page 337 of this work. Since 1st July, 1899, £520,421 has been apportioned from loan receipts and expended on mining development; details of this expenditure appear in the next statement:—

LOAN MONEY EXPENDED ON MINING DEVELOPMENT.

	£
Advances to companies—Development of mining ..	62,740
” ” Boring for gold and coal, &c. ..	62,532
Construction of roads and tracks for mining purposes ..	57,579
Plant for testing metalliferous material	12,357
Construction of races and dams	8,260
Advances to miners for prospecting	27,839
Purchase of cyanide process patent rights	20,000
Equipping Schools of Mines with mining appliances ..	9,975
State Coal Mine	249,399
Miscellaneous	9,740
Total	520,421

The advances from loan moneys and revenue to mining companies to 30th June, 1926, for the development of mining, totalled £270,046, of which sum £40,630 had up to that date been repaid, £51,383 realized, and £151,065 written off, leaving £26,968 outstanding. Interest received during 1925-26 amounted to £233, and interest outstanding on 30th June, 1926, to £2,839.

The mineral production of the State (excluding salt) is summarized in the subjoined statement, which contains particulars of the recorded production of all metals and minerals up to the end of the year 1925:—

TOTAL MINERAL PRODUCTION TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1925.

Metals and Minerals.	Recorded prior to 1925.		Recorded during 1925.		Total Recorded to end of 1925.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Fine ozs.	£	Fine ozs.	£	Fine ozs.	£
Gold	71,129,701	302,138,996	47,296	200,958	71,176,997	302,339,954
Silver	1,459,353	221,994	2,082	291	1,461,435*	222,285
Platinum	30,577	7,880	..	..	30,577	7,880
	311	1,671	..	..	311	1,671
Coal, black	10,725,057	7,374,153	534,246	596,117	11,259,303	7,970,270
" brown	878,321	297,288	876,468	166,404	1,754,789	463,692
Ore—copper	18,730	218,590	..	..	18,730	218,590
" tin	16,826	932,021	69	11,592	16,895	949,613
" antimony	105,581	606,655	269	5,380	105,850	612,035
" silver-lead	793	5,760	..	..	793	5,760
" iron	5,434	12,540	..	..	5,434	12,540
" manganese	407	1,949	..	..	407	1,949
Wolfram	118	11,785	..	..	118	11,785
Diamonds .. .. .	..	128	..	..	..	128
Sapphires, &c. .. .. .	..	630	..	..	..	630
Gypsum	76,738	57,751	14,518	11,291	91,256	69,042
Magnesite	1,632	4,944	91	273	1,723	5,217
Kaolin	26,606	34,300	1,594	2,262	28,200	36,562
Diatomaceous earth	8,057	33,137	..	..	8,057	33,137
Pigment clays	1,846	3,208	307	650	2,153	3,858
Phosphate rock	15,661	16,644	..	..	15,661	16,644
Molybdenite	792	18,016	34½	5,545	826½†	23,561
Fluorspar	623	1,888	..	..	623	1,888
Bluestone, freestone, granite, &c. ‡ .. .. .	..	7,966,481	..	587,910	..	8,554,391
Limestone, &c.§ .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total .. .. .	..	319,971,409	..	1,588,673	..	321,557,082

* Extracted from gold at the Melbourne Mint. † Concentrates. ‡ From 1866 only.
§ Record from 1900.

NOTE.—The value of gold as shown above is based on the average value of Victorian gold received at the Melbourne Mint.

Gold was first found in Victoria in 1849 in the Pyrenees Ranges, but it was not until 1851 that the first discovery of any importance took place. In the latter part of that year the Clunes, Anderson's Creek, Ballarat, and Bendigo fields were successively discovered, and over 200,000 ounces of gold were produced. Next year the gold rush took place, and it is estimated that, in 1852, 40,000 men were camped at Ballarat, 25,000 at Castlemaine, and 40,000 at

Bendigo. The production of gold in 1852 amounted to 2,286,535 ounces, and in the ten years 1852-1861 it totalled over 25,000,000 ounces. The largest quantity produced in any one year was 3,053,744 ounces in 1856. The annual value of the output for the ten years 1852-1861 averaged over £10,000,000 sterling. The estimated value of the gold produced from 1851 to 1925 was £302,339,954, as shown in the preceding statement.

The quantities of gold raised in Victoria in different periods are shown in the next table:—

GOLD RAISED IN VICTORIA, 1851 TO 1925.

Period.	Quantity (Fine ozs.).	Period.	Quantity (Fine ozs.).
1851-60	23,334,263*	1916-20	905,561
1861-70	16,276,566*	1921	104,512
1871-80	10,156,297*	1922	106,872
1881-90	7,103,448*	1923	95,403
1891-1900	7,476,038*	1924	67,167
1901-10	7,095,061	1925	47,296
1911-15	2,161,349		

* Gross ozs.

The yield has been on the down grade since 1906, the return for the State for 1925 having been the lowest since 1851. The quantities raised in the other principal gold-producing States in 1925 were 441,252 ounces in Western Australia, 46,406 ounces in Queensland, and 19,422 ounces in New South Wales. The total production of gold in the world in 1924, as shown in the United States Mint Report, was 18,826,086 ounces.

The yield of gold for the last two years in each mining district of the State, as estimated by the mining registrars, is shown in the following table. The quantities represented by the aggregate figures, which are given in gross ounces, exceed the total output of 1924 by 480 ounces, and are 141 ounces less than that of 1925:—

**DISTRICT YIELDS OF GOLD, ALLUVIAL AND QUARTZ,
1924 AND 1925.**

Mining District.	1924.			1925.		
	Alluvial.	Quartz.	Total.	Alluvial.	Quartz.	Total.
	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.
Ararat and Stawell	2,839	32	2,871	3,703	60	3,763
Ballarat	1,216	904	2,120	910	1,068	1,978
Beechworth	4,762	20,716	25,478	6,631	10,844	17,475
Bendigo	440	28,097	28,537	337	17,347	17,684
Castlemaine	1,544	12,007	13,551	1,529	7,194	8,723
Gippsland	654	724	1,378	145	121	266
Maryborough	351	832	1,183	193	1,634	1,827
Total	11,806	63,312	75,118	13,448	38,268	51,716

The amount of the dividends declared in each of the last five years by gold-mining companies operating in each mining district of the State was as follows:—

DIVIDENDS PAID BY GOLD MINING COMPANIES IN EACH MINING DISTRICT, 1921 TO 1925.

Mining District.	Amount Distributed.				
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
	£	£	£	£	£
Ararat and Stawell .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
Ballarat	13	..	1,635	475	..
Beechworth	13,455	18,450	9,000	..	..
Bendigo	6,750	20,250	37,872	13,500	6,000
Castlemaine	5,830	17,883	12,459	..	..
Gippsland	1,096	..	..	..	..
Maryborough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
Total	27,144	56,583	60,966	13,975	6,000

The average number of men employed in gold mining is estimated annually by the Mines Department. The figures for the last five years are given below:—

NUMBER OF MEN EMPLOYED IN GOLD MINING, 1921 TO 1925.

Year.	Alluvial Miners.	Quartz Miners.	Total.
1921	1,073	1,977	3,050
1922	1,048	2,262	3,310
1923	770	2,212	2,982
1924	816	1,835	2,651
1925	725	1,628	2,353

The number of men employed in each mining district in 1925 was as follows:—Ararat and Stawell, 158; Ballarat, 62; Bendigo, 910; Beechworth, 580; Castlemaine, 353; Gippsland, 140; and Maryborough, 145.

The value of the mining plants employed in alluvial and quartz mining during each of the last five years was as shown hereunder:—

VALUE OF MACHINERY ON GOLD-FIELDS, 1921 TO 1925.

Year.	Approximate Value of Machinery Employed in—		
	Alluvial Mining.	Quartz Mining.	Total.
	£	£	£
1921	156,642	508,643	665,285
1922	135,295	508,630	643,925
1923	133,200	486,300	619,500
1924	95,777	381,050	476,827
1925	99,179	331,550	430,729

Dredging and sluicing. A feature of alluvial mining in Victoria for the last twenty-four years has been the treatment in bulk of low-grade auriferous alluvial deposits and their overburden by bucket dredges and pump hydraulic sluicing plants on barges. In 1925, the number of pump hydraulic sluices at work was 4, in addition to which 12 jet elevators, 2 gravitation plants, and 1 bucket dredge were operating. Particulars relating to these dredging and sluicing plants for the last five years are as follows:—

DREDGING AND SLUICING, 1921 to 1925.

Year.			Number of Plants.	Area Worked.	Quantity of Material Treated.	Gold Obtained.	Tin Obtained.
				acres.	cub. yds.	ozs.	tons.
1921	..	..	42	99	3,554,674	15,734	78
1922	..	..	32	41	1,736,735	11,939	115
1923	..	..	24	27	1,294,300	9,017	77
1924	..	..	17	13	1,193,900	5,260	38
1925	..	..	19	22	1,332,600	7,184	69

These plants employed 153 men in 1925. The yield of gold in that year per cubic yard of material was 2·6 grains. Since the inception of dredge mining 1,887,541 ounces of gold and 1,648 tons of tin have been won by this system.

Cyanidation. The quantity of tailings treated at old lode and alluvial mines by the cyanide process and the yield of gold therefrom are shown in the subjoined table for the last five years:—

CYANIDATION, 1921 to 1925.

Year.				Number of Plants.	Quantity of Tailings Treated.	Yield of Gold.	Value of Yield.
					tons.	ozs.	£
1921	..	..	..	20	39,937	5,326	17,212
1922	..	..	..	12	41,163	5,847	22,654
1923	..	..	..	14	18,644	3,415	13,445
1924	..	..	..	14	12,108	2,052	7,637
1925	..	..	..	14	8,344	971	3,281

Records show that the total amount of tailings which have been treated by the cyanide and other processes is 16,002,883 tons, and that the gold which has been won thereby amounts to 1,281,729 ounces, which is equal to an average yield of 1 dwt. 14 grs. per ton.

A Sludge Abatement Board, appointed by the Government, is entrusted with the duty of regulating the disposal of mining sludge, and preventing the silting of streams and injury to lands by battery sand and infertile debris.

Government batteries. Batteries for testing small quantities of ore for prospectors have been erected by the Government in various mining districts. The number of these plants and their operations in the last five years were as follows:—

GOVERNMENT BATTERIES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year.					Number of Batteries.	Quantity of Ore Treated.	Yield of Gold.
1921	..	..	..	..	34	tons. 1,748	ozs. 1,367
1922	..	..	..	..	34	1,286	1,424
1923	..	..	..	..	34	1,000	649
1924	..	..	..	..	33	1,006	668
1925	..	..	..	..	31	895	776

Since 1897, the year in which the first battery was erected, 75,091 tons of ore have been crushed for 52,243 ounces of gold.

Coal mining. Bituminous coal is found in three main areas in the southern portion of the State, viz., the Wannon, the Otway, and South Gippsland. The Wannon area is comparatively unprospected, owing to almost the whole of the land having been sold. In the Otway area bores have been sunk without disclosing seams of payable thickness. The South Gippsland area occupies about 2,000 square miles, and coal mining is being carried on at Wonthaggi, Kilcunda, Outtrim, Jumbunna, and Korumburra.

Brown coal. The brown coal beds of Victoria have an approximate area of 1,200 square miles, and are reputed to be the thickest known. At Morwell, 780 feet of coal were passed through in a bore 1,010 feet deep. It is estimated that the average thickness of the coal in the deposits at Morwell, Alberton, and Altona is 50 feet, and that the total deposits in the State amount to 11,000,000,000 tons. These deposits are practically untouched, as the total output of brown coal for all years has been only 1,754,789 tons (valued at £463,692), of which 876,468 tons were obtained in 1925. Of the total output for that year 168,201 tons valued at £58,870 were obtained from the State Brown Coal Mine at Morwell, and 701,761 tons valued at £105,264 from the State Mine at Yallourn.

A comprehensive statement of the activities controlled by the State Electricity Commission of Victoria will be found on page 578.

The State
coal-field.

The State coal mine at Wonthaggi, on the Powlett River, was opened in November, 1909. In June, 1911, the control of the mine was transferred to the Railways Commissioners. The area reserved for mining is about 17 square miles. Boring has proved that about 28,000,000 tons of coal existed in the central area of 5 square miles. The output of coal for the year ended 31st December, 1925, was 468,146 tons, valued at £514,961. The total output up to the end of 1925 was 6,919,581 tons, valued at £5,210,922. The average number of men employed at the mine throughout the year ended 31st December, 1925, was 1,688.

Victorian
coal
production
and value.

The quantity of coal, exclusive of brown coal, raised in Victoria up to the end of 1925 was 11,259,303 tons, valued at £7,970,270. The total quantity raised prior to 1892, the average annual production for different periods from 1892 to 1920, and the production for each of the years 1921 to 1925, together with the value per ton at the pit's mouth, are given in the following table :—

COAL PRODUCTION AND VALUE PER TON.

Period.			Average Annual Production.	Average Annual Value per ton at pit's mouth.
			tons.	s. d.
Prior to 1892	..	..	*77,914	18 8
1892-1900	..	..	184,517	9 11
1901-10	..	..	163,548	11 8
1911-15	..	..	608,512	9 2
1916-20	..	..	437,833	15 11
1921	..	..	514,859	23 5
1922	..	..	559,284	23 9
1923	..	..	476,823	22 0
1924	..	..	518,315	22 0
1925	..	..	534,246	22 4

* Total production up to date mentioned.

The quantities of coal produced in the other States in 1925 were as follows :—New South Wales, 11,396,199 tons; Queensland, 1,177,173 tons; Western Australia, 437,461 tons; and Tasmania, 81,698 tons.

Mining accidents.

The numbers of fatal and non-fatal accidents in gold and coal mines during the last five years are shown below. Only those non-fatal accidents have been recorded which rendered the injured unfit for work for a period of at least fourteen days.

MINING ACCIDENTS, 1921 TO 1925.

Year.	Gold Mines.			Coal Mines.		
	Miners Employed.	Persons Killed.	Persons Injured.	Miners Employed.	Persons Killed.	Persons Injured.
1921	3,050	5	2	1,994	5	11
1922	3,310	..	4	1,953	..	11
1923	2,982	1	6	2,131	1	11
1924	2,651	..	2	2,289	3	17
1925	2,353*	1	6	2,593	5	20

As a result of gold mining accidents during the last five years 7 persons were killed and 20 were injured and rendered unfit for work for a period of at least fourteen days. These numbers were equivalent to annual rates of 0·49 and 1·39 respectively per 1,000 employed. Coal mining accidents during the same period accounted for 14 deaths and 70 injuries resulting in disablement for at least fourteen days, these being equal to yearly rates of 1·28 and 6·39 respectively per 1,000 employees.

Boring for gold and coal.

The record of boring operations conducted by the Mines Department during the last five years is as follows:—

GOVERNMENT BORING OPERATIONS, 1921 TO 1925.

Year.	Drills worked by—		Bores put down for—			Total Depth Bored.
	Steam.	Other Power.	Gold.	Coal.	Total.	
1921	1	14	20	400	420	feet. 40,000
1922	1	14	6	182	188	25,200
1923 .. ..	..	12	4	67	71	19,270
1924	1	12	16	74	90	34,000
1925 .. ..	..	11	10	38	48	27,000

Antimony. Up to the end of 1925 the quantity of antimony ore produced in Victoria was 105,850 tons valued at £612,035. The whole of it was obtained at Costerfield. The production for 1925 yielded 120½ tons of concentrates valued at £5,380. For the previous year the yield was 276 tons of concentrates valued at £14,522.

Tin. The production of tin ore in the State up to the end of 1925 was 16,895 tons, valued at £943,613. In the year 1925 the quantity produced was 69 tons, as against 38 tons in 1924, 78 tons in 1923, and 115 tons in 1922. Of the tin won during the last five years nearly the whole was obtained in the Beechworth district.

Gypsum. The quantity of gypsum produced in the State in 1925 was 14,518 tons, most of which was obtained at Waitchie, Lake Boga, Bolton, Boort, and Chillingollah. The output for the previous year was 13,268 tons. Up to the end of 1925 the quantity raised in Victoria was 91,256 tons, valued at £69,042.

Kaolin. The quantity of kaolin produced in 1925 was 1,594 tons, and in the previous year, 1,741 tons. Up to the end of 1925 the total output was 28,200 tons, valued at £36,562.

Molybdenite. The total value of molybdenite produced in the State up to the end of 1925 was £23,561. In the year 1925 the output was valued at £5,545, as against £4,850 in 1924. The whole of the output was obtained at Everton, near Beechworth.

Quarries. The quantity and value of stone raised from Victorian quarries during the last five years were as set forth in the following table:—

QUARRIES, 1921-22 to 1925-26.

Year ended June—	Number of Quarries.	Quantity of Stone Operated on—				Approximate Value of Stone Raised.
		Bluestone.	Free-stone.	Granite.	Limestone.	
		c. yds.	c. yds.	c. yds.	c. yds.	£
1922 ..	112	1,212,637	4,437	1,515	*	369,030
1923 ..	106	1,244,262	10,776	1,775	*	384,510
1924 ..	105	1,429,719	2,536	2,242	*	436,175
1925 ..	117	1,504,093	1,926	2,387	221,171	497,270
1926 ..	127	1,650,461	6,000	2,444	300,708	587,910

* Information not available.

In 1925-26 the number of persons employed in quarries was 2,469, and the wages paid amounted to £572,465. These figures include the employees and wages connected with stone-breaking and tar-paving works, most of which are carried on in conjunction with quarries and cannot be separated therefrom.

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

Industrial progress.

The earliest year for which there are statistical records of the factories of the State is 1850, at which date the number of manufacturing establishments is shown to have been 68. Subsequently fair and regular progress was made in the industry until in 1900, the year before Federation, there were 3,097 factories working. The years immediately following Federation were marked by increased industrial activity, which was well maintained in later years. During the last ten years nearly all existing lines of manufacture have shown a notable expansion, and many industries new to the State have been firmly established. Since 1916-17 the number of factories has increased by 37 per cent., the number of persons employed by 31 per cent., the amount of salaries and wages paid by 148 per cent., the value of output by 100 per cent., the value of machinery and plant and premises by 154 per cent., and the engine power of factories by 168 per cent. The difference between the cost of materials used and the value of the output was equivalent to an added value of £345 6s. 8d. per person employed in 1925-26, as compared with £196 3s. 0d. in 1916-17. This favorable economic result coincides with a larger proportion of establishments using mechanical power in 1925-26, when 85 per cent. were so equipped, as against 78 per cent. in 1916-17, and with the increased aggregate engine power of factories previously referred to. The increase in the added value relatively to employees, the larger proportion of factories using power, and the higher aggregate power of establishments as a whole are indications of increasing industrial efficiency. The proportion of children employed in factories to total employees was 4·81 per cent. in 1916-17 and 5·13 per cent. in 1925-26.

Since 1916-17 the number of factories employing over 100 hands has increased by 29·3 per cent., and the number of hands employed by such factories has increased by 28·2 per cent. While factories of this size formed only 3·3 per cent. of the total number in the State in 1925-26, they employed 42·5 per cent. of the total number of hands.

The steady improvement noted up to 1924-25 was apparently not maintained in 1925-26, the number of persons employed and the value of plant, machinery, and buildings being slightly less, and the wages paid and the value of the output showing very little increase on that of the previous year. This is largely accounted for by a change in the method of compilation. Prior to 1925-26, all electric supply undertakings and gas companies included figures relating to distribution as well as manufacture. Now only those relating to the latter are given, with the result that the number of persons employed in these two industries is approximately 2,400 less than in the previous year.

The appended table summarizes the position of the industries at various stages since 1871, but, except for the period 1911 to 1925-26,

the information for different years is not strictly comparable, for the reason that it has not been compiled upon the same basis throughout.

GROWTH IN THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

Year.	Number of Factories.	Number of Persons employed.	Amount of Salaries and Wages paid.	Value of Plant, Machinery, Land, and Buildings.	Value of Output.
1871 ..	1,740	19,468	£ *	£ 4,725,125	£ *
1881 ..	2,488	43,209	*	8,044,296	†13,370,836
1891 ..	3,141	52,225	*	16,472,859	‡22,390,251
1901 ..	3,249	66,529	*	12,298,500	\$19,478,780
1911 ..	5,126	111,948	8,911,019	18,257,889	41,747,863
1912 ..	5,263	116,108	10,102,244	19,457,795	45,410,773
1913 ..	5,613	118,744	10,714,336	20,775,738	47,936,647
1914 ..	5,650	118,399	11,099,940	21,975,646	49,439,985
1915 ..	5,413	113,834	11,036,345	22,529,072	51,466,093
1916-17 ..	5,445	116,970	11,833,517	23,784,289	60,047,284
1917-18 ..	5,627	118,241	12,502,601	25,460,282	67,066,715
1918-19 ..	5,720	122,349	14,080,403	27,318,735	80,195,677
1919-20 ..	6,038	136,522	17,702,173	30,804,520	101,475,363
1920-21 ..	6,532	140,743	21,377,216	35,492,735	106,008,294
1921-22 ..	6,753	144,876	23,846,495	40,992,280	106,243,181
1922-23 ..	7,096	152,625	25,547,192	46,423,240	111,286,343
1923-24 ..	7,289	156,162	27,472,084	53,196,475	113,921,927
1924-25 ..	7,425	154,158	29,057,052	61,031,975	118,177,398
1925-26 ..	7,461	152,959	29,329,400	60,396,500	119,986,439

* Particulars not available. † 1880. ‡ 1890. § 1900.

NOTE.—Up to the year 1915 inclusive the statistics relate to the calendar year ; for subsequent years they relate to the year ending 30th June.

The first Factories Act in Victoria was passed in 1873, and since that year many other Acts dealing with the subject have been placed upon the statute-book. The *Factories and Shops Act 1915* (No. 2650) consolidated all Acts passed prior to that date. The general provisions of factory legislation, including "Wages Boards," are fully dealt with in Part "Social Condition" of this work.

In the year 1902 the classification of industries for statistical purposes, as shown in the next table, was adopted by the Statisticians of Australia. A factory was defined as an establishment employing on the average four persons or more, or an establishment employing less than four persons where machinery is worked by other than manual power, whether the business carried on is that of making or repairing for the trade (wholesale or retail) or for export. The table shows for the year 1925-26 the number of factories in each industry, the power used, the number of persons employed, the wages paid, the values of materials and fuel and light used, and the value of articles produced or work done:—

Factories and
Wages Board
Legislation.

Production of
different
industries,
1925-26.

FACTORIES—POWER, WORKERS, WAGES, ETC., AND PRODUCTION, 1925-26.

Nature of Industry.	Number of Factories.	Actual Horse-power of Engines used.	Average Number of Persons Employed.				Value of—			
			Males.		Females.		Wages paid.	Fuel and Light used.	Materials used, including Containers.	Articles Produced or Work Done.
			Working Proprietors.	Employees.	Working Proprietors.	Employees.				
<i>Class I.—Treating Raw Material the product of Pastoral Pursuits, or Vegetable Products, not otherwise classed.</i>						£	£	£	£	
Boiling down	10	231	9	168	..	48,379	11,616	227,472	306,605	
Bone milling	15	777	13	108	..	31,580	16,994	60,176	125,797	
Tanning	46	4,591	67	2,348	..	573,928	48,496	1,842,507	2,786,278	
Fellmongering	30	1,384	29	472	..	113,547	27,646	1,440,505	1,704,799	
Chaffcutting and grain crushing ..	158	2,355	143	601	..	84,936	12,913	845,688	1,053,096	
Other	8	63	5	210	..	59,705	824	162,836	273,599	
Total	267	9,401	266	3,907	..	912,075	118,489	4,579,184	6,250,174	
<i>Class II.—Oils and Fats, Animal and Vegetable.</i>										
Oil, grease, glue	13	285	11	170	..	49,730	13,143	252,233	372,223	
Soap and candle	17	761	14	519	..	147,161	37,423	717,526	1,185,722	
Total	30	1,046	25	689	..	196,891	50,566	969,759	1,557,945	

Class III.—Processes relating to Stone, Clay, Glass, &c.

Brick, pottery, &c.	98	7,880	73	2,695	1	133	621,631	226,788	70,197	1,300,732
Cement, including cement pipes	30	2,932	8	898	..	3	224,509	108,389	263,395	871,215
Glass, including bottles	4	1,560	8	609	..	9	164,280	57,191	85,560	482,929
Glass bevelling	28	118	25	251	..	4	61,777	1,511	90,050	189,779
Marble and stone dressing	45	578	61	357	..	9	109,275	3,791	70,555	217,465
Modelling	41	623	51	511	1	13	133,806	6,190	165,361	389,671
Other	18	398	10	243	..	2	55,713	26,650	21,063	125,665
Total	264	14,089	236	5,564	2	173	1,370,991	430,510	766,181	3,577,456

Class IV.—Working in Wood.

Cooperage	9	356	5	296	..	1	92,618	2,586	54,323	177,041
Saw-milling (forest)	215	4,509	283	2,661	..	11	579,795	8,677	16,137	1,019,260
Saw-milling, moulding, &c.	433	13,550	390	5,321	2	113	1,339,628	47,572	2,190,085	4,095,099
Mantelpiece	9	93	9	160	..	3	36,095	551	34,354	79,949
Wood carving, turning	19	409	27	230	1	6	62,646	2,537	59,564	154,507
Other	9	167	9	123	..	34	32,717	1,090	55,061	113,107
Total	694	19,084	723	8,791	3	168	2,143,499	63,013	2,409,524	5,638,963

Class V.—Metal Works, Machinery, &c.

Agricultural implement	60	3,312	63	3,030	..	117	746,135	44,300	716,630	1,770,362
Engineering, iron foundry, &c.	539	13,044	603	10,462	3	227	2,605,161	188,761	2,645,309	6,638,381
Railway workshop	18	5,179	..	6,163	..	7	1,483,407	57,195	1,720,982	3,768,500
Nail	8	368	3	175	..	3	38,279	2,260	172,925	231,713
Sheet-iron, tin, &c.	117	1,194	109	1,832	..	251	406,884	17,172	679,710	1,316,811
Brass, copper smithing	103	905	119	1,098	..	55	279,762	15,739	246,038	673,687
Wireworking	24	595	29	348	..	15	91,444	3,187	212,295	389,114
Metallurgical, &c., cyanide	8	65	8	53	..	..	16,193	2,349	124,697	157,168
Oven, range	21	127	23	177	..	..	51,536	1,278	34,552	111,338
Other	52	1,107	49	627	1	13	155,638	14,205	223,508	511,966
Total	950	25,896	1,006	23,965	4	688	5,874,459	346,446	6,776,646	15,569,040

Production.

FACTORIES—POWER, WORKERS, WAGES, ETC., AND PRODUCTION, 1925-26—*continued.*

558

Nature of Industry.	Number of Factories.	Actual Horse-power of Engines used.	Average Number of Persons Employed.				Value of—				
			Males.		Females.		Wages paid.	Fuel and Light used.	Materials used, including Containers.	Articles Produced or Work Done.	
			Working Proprietors.	Employees.	Working Proprietors.	Employees.					
						£	£	£	£		
<i>Class VI.—Connected with Food and Drink, &c.</i>											
Bacon curing	21	1,546	26	500	..	20	142,515	21,498	1,209,777	1,520,272	
Butter, cheese, butterine	189	6,198	30	1,982	..	1	542,211	147,608	6,483,970	7,815,969	
Meat freezing, preserving	14	5,468	2	1,024	..	32	238,074	43,367	2,170,503	2,711,454	
Biscuit	9	534	4	716	..	576	207,732	23,433	713,417	1,189,677	
Flourmilling	45	5,752	32	981	..	26	258,112	54,424	5,174,663	5,995,735	
Jam, sauce, &c.	57	1,651	27	1,525	..	3	1,073	446,765	31,199	1,292,172	2,177,677
Oatmeal, starch, &c.	39	3,125	25	380	..	365	133,888	21,556	868,321	1,242,770	
Sugar, confectionery, &c.	117	9,780	99	2,241	..	19	1,853	774,861	138,458	4,821,610	6,653,832
Aerated water, cordial, &c.	109	558	115	699	..	10	99	188,866	9,171	345,134	709,713
Malt	20	503	10	254	..	1	4	74,612	17,301	509,182	717,608
Brewing	11	5,118	4	1,108	..	1	342,651	81,108	1,122,288	2,594,835	
Distilling	10	406	2	150	..	4	35,182	8,201	105,419	212,816	
Condiments, coffee, cocoa, &c.	13	817	3	216	..	89	64,910	7,638	401,713	550,027	
Tobacco, &c.	14	733	20	1,121	..	621	349,674	6,681	1,228,604	2,045,188	
Other	48	4,104	44	386	..	33	107,335	41,569	71,035	327,188	
Total	716	46,293	443	13,283	..	37	5,050	3,907,388	653,212	26,517,808	36,464,761

Victorian Year-Book, 1925-26.

*Class VII.—Clothing and Textile
Fabrics, and Fibrous Material.*

Woollen mill	27	12,078	21	2,270	..	2,992	795,292	127,846	2,243,014	3,976,224
Clothing, tailoring, &c. ..	536	560	501	1,601	46	7,348	1,311,141	23,754	2,148,607	4,063,913
Dressmaking and millinery ..	490	546	146	274	324	7,612	950,885	13,462	1,805,663	3,267,544
Underclothing, shirt	165	924	91	391	78	5,138	674,126	13,998	1,541,620	2,569,130
Hat, cap	52	720	43	625	2	989	261,642	11,527	433,500	872,670
Hosiery	174	1,806	103	689	85	3,961	621,200	23,472	1,508,012	2,675,509
Oilskin, waterproof clothing ..	9	48	7	72	1	233	50,841	900	102,253	191,011
Boot, shoe	431	3,520	490	6,462	14	5,296	2,088,244	44,200	2,995,490	6,045,226
Fur	43	110	38	124	11	279	76,761	1,411	241,886	383,976
Rope, twine, &c.	7	1,558	10	495	..	375	138,174	13,237	337,031	619,446
Sail, tent, &c.	19	38	19	103	..	97	40,317	590	166,176	250,053
Other	40	329	38	232	6	456	109,648	6,740	212,151	397,967
Total	1,993	22,237	1,507	13,338	567	34,776	7,118,271	281,137	13,735,403	25,312,669

*Class VIII.—Books, Paper, Printing,
Engraving, &c.*

Printing	433	5,922	510	5,629	14	1,535	1,773,308	49,980	1,672,746	4,451,427
Account-book, stationery, &c. ..	35	621	33	649	1	593	218,612	5,828	270,722	629,122
Fancy box	39	911	29	318	6	898	177,106	4,322	331,416	635,865
Die sinking, engraving, &c. ..	21	118	27	207	..	6	50,805	1,296	23,934	102,959
Other	36	2,484	41	720	3	155	204,066	63,077	285,838	775,879
Total	564	10,056	640	7,523	24	3,187	2,423,897	124,503	2,584,656	6,595,252

Class IX.—Musical Instruments

..	19	569	7	491	..	31	110,619	2,640	129,161	300,636
----	----	-----	---	-----	----	----	---------	-------	---------	---------

Class X.—Arms and Explosives

..	8	693	2	295	..	174	97,573	16,474	203,968	407,441
----	---	-----	---	-----	----	-----	--------	--------	---------	---------

FACTORIES—POWER, WORKERS, WAGES, ETC., AND PRODUCTION, 1925-26—continued.

560

Nature of Industry.	Number of Factories.	Actual Horse-power of Engines used.	Average Number of Persons Employed.				Value of—			
			Males.		Females.		Wages paid.	Fuel and Light used.	Materials used, including Containers.	Articles Produced or Work Done.
			Working Proprietors.	Employees.	Working Proprietors.	Employees.				
						£	£	£	£	
<i>Class XI.—Vehicles and Fittings, Saddlery, Harness, &c.</i>										
Coachbuilding	261	1,332	309	1,888	..	22	432,540	14,954	408,934	1,028,009
Motor, Cycle, &c.	565	2,453	428	4,186	..	82	906,080	31,225	454,090	1,647,138
Saddle, harness	28	24	29	186	..	40	50,859	359	60,406	132,670
Other	18	73	27	178	..	11	41,259	873	52,641	116,904
Total	872	3,882	793	6,438	..	155	1,430,738	47,411	976,071	2,924,721
<i>Class XII.—Shipbuilding, Fitting, &c.</i>										
	11	1,375	9	377	..	2	95,360	4,306	42,104	165,352
<i>Class XIII.—Furniture, Bedding, &c.</i>										
Upholstery, bedding, &c. ..	73	928	47	590	5	367	186,229	6,294	479,552	770,204
Cabinet, including billiard table ..	330	3,118	417	2,725	1	97	647,379	19,774	683,689	1,626,250
Picture frame	17	43	18	64	..	6	17,447	419	21,711	49,016
Other	9	132	4	159	1	26	37,409	2,315	68,636	131,004
Total	429	4,221	486	3,538	7	496	888,464	28,802	1,253,588	2,576,474

Victorian Year-Book, 1925-26.

Class XIV.—Drugs, Chemicals, and By-products.

Blacking, blue, &c.	20	159	17	126	..	142	51,412	2,191	205,558	327,533
Chemicals, drugs, &c.	51	1,952	22	644	1	630	238,873	22,649	462,420	959,262
Fertilizers	7	1,698	..	877	..	9	227,852	37,383	827,592	1,441,632
Other	39	468	30	191	1	23	44,222	3,069	121,931	215,541
Total	117	4,277	69	1,838	2	804	562,359	65,292	1,617,501	2,943,968

Class XV.—Surgical and Scientific Appliances

.. ..	39	112	32	185	1	12	44,488	1,590	35,121	105,978
-------	----	-----	----	-----	---	----	--------	-------	--------	---------

Class XVI.—Timepieces, Jewellery, and Plated-ware

.. ..	114	587	123	843	2	129	224,241	7,902	236,498	575,368
-------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---	-----	---------	-------	---------	---------

Class XVII.—Heat, Light, and Energy.

Electric apparatus	89	605	74	1,040	..	54	232,676	6,974	186,364	553,241
Electric light	83	188,342	2	1,143	..	4	338,807	650,222	..	1,648,113
Gas, coke	35	2,811	..	930	..	3	258,764	105,421	832,913	1,433,090
Other	9	3,527	3	500	..	433	187,450	28,638	688,823	1,136,186
Total	216	195,285	79	3,613	..	494	1,017,697	791,255	1,708,100	4,770,630

Class XVIII.—Leatherware (except Saddlery and Harness)

.. ..	58	281	61	444	1	413	145,032	3,265	277,447	508,926
-------	----	-----	----	-----	---	-----	---------	-------	---------	---------

Production.

FACTORIES—POWER, WORKERS, WAGES, ETC., AND PRODUCTION, 1925-26—*continued.*

562

Nature of Industry.	Number of Factories.	Actual Horse-power of Engines used.	Average Number of Persons Employed.				Value of—			
			Males.		Females.		Wages paid.	Fuel and Light used.	Materials used, including Containers.	Articles Produced or Work Done.
			Working Proprietors.	Employees.	Working Proprietors.	Employees.				
<i>Class XIX.—Wares, not elsewhere included.</i>							£	£	£	£
Umbrella	5	11	4	61	..	158	28,828	284	70,585	124,332
Rubber goods	51	7,713	45	2,304	..	605	640,605	117,408	2,150,964	3,336,350
Brush, broom	16	164	16	203	1	67	55,326	1,377	87,673	185,572
Basket, wickerware	28	46	31	219	..	1	40,599	500	36,503	94,431
Total	100	7,934	96	2,787	1	831	765,358	119,569	2,345,725	3,740,685
Grand Total	7,461	367,318	6,603	97,909	651	47,796	29,329,400	3,156,382	67,164,445	119,986,439

Victorian Year-Book, 1925-26.

Most of the more important manufacturing industries in the State have shown a substantial increase in the value of output in the last five years. The output for the years 1920-21 and 1925-26 of a number of leading industries is shown in the following table, the industries being arranged in order of increase in value:—

OUTPUT OF INDUSTRIES, 1920-21 AND 1925-26.

Industry.	Value of Output.		Increase in Five Years.	
	1920-21.	1925-26.	Value.	Per cent.
	£	£	£	
Woollen mills	2,397,610	3,976,224	1,578,614	65·8
Meat freezing	1,236,410	2,711,454	1,475,044	119·3
Rubber goods	2,075,264	3,336,350	1,261,086	60·8
Sugar, confectionery, &c. ..	5,446,643	6,653,832	1,207,189	22·2
Railway workshops	2,566,571	3,768,500	1,201,929	46·8
Boot, shoe, &c.	4,964,462	6,045,226	1,080,764	21·8
Motor, cycle, &c.	974,505	1,647,138	672,633	69·0
Hosiery	2,088,282	2,675,509	587,227	28·1
Sawmills, moulding, &c. ..	3,519,498	4,095,099	575,601	16·4
Electric light and power ..	1,131,331	1,648,113	516,782	45·7
Cement and cement goods ..	371,470	871,215	499,745	134·5
Breweries	2,098,720	2,594,835	496,115	23·6
Fellmongeries	1,256,904	1,704,799	447,895	35·6
Engineering, iron foundries, &c.	6,206,289	6,638,381	432,092	7·0
Dressmaking and millinery ..	2,900,217	3,267,544	367,327	12·7
Cabinet, including billiard table	1,296,548	1,626,250	329,702	25·4
Bedding, upholstery, &c. ..	443,596	770,204	326,608	73·6
Oatmeal, starch, &c.	960,184	1,242,770	282,586	29·4
Brick, pottery, &c.	1,025,105	1,300,732	275,627	26·9
Modelling in plaster, cement, &c.	119,161	389,671	270,510	227·0
Electric apparatus	285,655	553,241	267,586	93·7
Flour mills	5,745,507	5,995,735	250,228	4·4
Agricultural implements ..	1,550,704	1,770,362	219,658	14·2
Fertilizers	1,246,539	1,441,632	195,073	15·6
Fur	190,230	383,976	193,746	101·8
Bacon curing	1,335,186	1,520,272	185,086	13·9
Wireworking	218,276	389,114	170,838	78·3
Boiling down	142,373	306,605	164,232	115·4
Sausage skins, &c.	102,706	261,848	159,142	154·9
Paper	386,198	536,020	149,822	38·8
Jam, pickles, sauces	2,031,226	2,177,677	146,451	7·2
Musical instruments	155,070	300,636	145,566	93·9
Fancy boxes, &c.	491,729	635,865	144,136	29·3
Ice, refrigerating	80,021	189,058	109,037	136·3
Drugs, chemicals	851,950	959,262	107,312	12·6
Clothing	3,960,514	4,063,913	103,399	2·6

INDIVIDUAL INDUSTRIES.

The salient features in connexion with the chief industries are set forth in the succeeding pages.

The development of the tanning and fellmongering industry during the past ten years is shown by the particulars contained in the next two tables :—

TANNERIES, ETC., 1916-17 to 1925-26.

Year.	Number of Establishments.	Horse-power of Engines.	Value of Machinery and Plant in Use.	Persons Employed.	Number of Working Proprietors	Amount of Wages Paid.
			£			£
1916-17	74	3,187	214,896	2,362	82	300,796
1917-18	76	3,476	271,120	2,485	69	347,753
1918-19	81	4,085	370,765	2,984	74	455,548
1919-20	83	4,631	400,110	3,384	85	631,920
1920-21	80	4,707	436,395	2,851	87	575,132
1921-22	78	5,341	564,315	2,995	93	625,443
1922-23	79	5,530	518,815	3,052	105	658,026
1923-24	80	5,850	557,930	2,929	108	646,015
1924-25	76	5,920	567,315	2,815	99	*661,635
1925-26	76	5,975	579,445	2,938	96	*687,475

* Including amounts drawn by working proprietors.

The quantity of bark used in connexion with tanning operations in 1925-26 was 11,772 tons. The output of tanneries for each of the last ten years was as follows :—

OUTPUT OF TANNERIES, ETC., 1916-17 to 1925-26.

Year.	Number Tanned—			Sheep Skins Stripped.	Wool Washed (weight after washing).	Value of Articles produced or Work done.
	Hides.	Calf Skins.	Sheep and other Skins.			
				number	lbs.	£
1916-17	722,649	230,380	1,027,847	1,538,178	13,843,439	3,962,202
1917-18	601,950	217,605	1,418,595	1,641,000	24,560,590	5,061,236
1918-19	670,956	234,543	1,742,368	2,354,467	34,483,316	6,918,270
1919-20	738,907	251,973	2,780,017	5,010,438	33,191,912	8,896,091
1920-21	694,322	308,542	1,406,472	2,604,413	14,619,943	4,200,077
1921-22	792,974	512,515	2,042,817	2,214,980	17,453,847	3,953,049
1922-23	780,221	663,813	2,403,940	2,407,830	19,939,785	4,577,664
1923-24	788,942	526,818	2,387,235	971,559	12,888,685	4,675,911
1924-25	783,115	557,354	1,849,575	1,225,616	13,469,200	4,694,042
1925-26	775,972	546,166	1,896,652	1,523,506	15,875,925	4,491,077

The value of the leather, &c., imported into Victoria from oversea countries during the year ended 30th June, 1926, was £142,517.

Particulars in regard to the soap and candle works in the State for the past ten years are given below :—

SOAP AND CANDLE WORKS, 1916-17 to 1925-26.

Year.	Number of Establishments.	Value of Machinery and Plant in Use.	Persons Employed.	Amount of Wages Paid.	Products.		Value of Output.
					Soap.*	Candles.	
		£		£	cwt.	cwt.	£
1916-17	18	128,100	685	84,036	214,526	38,746	802,179
1917-18	17	130,795	769	91,604	228,310	37,290	951,114
1918-19	15	140,600	681	92,663	206,429	39,680	957,295
1919-20	16	143,310	738	103,333	243,156	40,908	1,321,112
1920-21	16	164,110	696	115,749	225,748	32,662	1,134,820
1921-22	17	174,460	742	139,519	267,858	31,613	1,096,955
1922-23	19	196,355	769	142,685	296,888	39,519	1,152,270
1923-24	17	210,270	741	147,124	289,364	34,424	937,148
1924-25	17	201,400	714	143,779†	295,672	29,415	1,176,919
1925-26	17	214,125	700	147,161†	295,930	28,048	1,185,722

* Not including soap made in small soap works not classified as factories, viz., 927 cwt. in 1916-17, 1,134 cwt. in 1917-18, 1,054 cwt. in 1918-19, 907 cwt. in 1919-20, 946 cwt. in 1920-21, 859 cwt. in 1921-22, 1,346 cwt. in 1922-23, 1,258 cwt. in 1923-24, 736 cwt. in 1924-25, and 920 cwt. in 1925-26.

† Including amounts drawn by working proprietors.

The quantity of tallow used in 1925-26 in the manufacture of soap and candles was 185,584 cwt. in factories, and 509 cwt. in minor works.

The imports from oversea countries in 1925-26 included 359,142 lbs. of soap valued at £28,195, and 41,554 lbs. of candles valued at £2,878.

Particulars relating to brickyards and potteries for the ten years 1916-17 to 1925-26 are shown in the following statement. The value of the land, plant, buildings, &c., used in connexion with such works in 1925-26 was £1,027,870 :—

BRICKS, POTTERY, PIPES, AND TILES, 1916-17 TO 1925-26.

Year.	Number of Establishments.	Persons Employed.	Amount of Wages Paid	Number of Bricks Made.*	Value of—	
					Pipes and Tiles.	Pottery.
			£		£	£
1916-17 ..	79	1,693	200,781	108,444,000	147,840	57,266
1917-18 ..	78	1,907	231,090	107,139,000	171,836	73,398
1918-19 ..	84	2,361	314,452	133,176,000	246,763	121,286
1919-20 ..	93	2,569	336,295	119,142,000	255,562	97,844
1920-21 ..	92	2,794	481,352	203,425,000	362,495	177,410
1921-22 ..	93	2,655	495,288	169,715,000	355,784	185,293
1922-23 ..	92	3,201	631,454	227,183,000	439,159	203,828
1923-24 ..	104	3,540	735,719	247,598,000	541,796	241,821
1924-25 ..	102	3,069	655,034†	201,440,000	427,522	296,551
1925-26 ..	98	2,902	621,631†	190,505,000	423,113	205,874

* In addition, there are bricks made in small brickyards not tabulated as factories.

† Including amounts drawn by working proprietors.

The estimated value of bricks made in 1925-26 was £671,745, being an increase of £58,193 on the value of those made in the preceding year.

Detailed information in regard to the forest saw-mills of the State for the ten years 1916-17 to 1925-26 is given in the table which follows :—

Forest Saw-mills.

FOREST SAW-MILLS, 1916-17 TO 1925-26.

Year.	Number of Mills.	Value of Machinery and Plant in Use.	Persons Employed.	Amount of Wages Paid.	Victorian Timber Sawn.	
					Quantity.	Value.
		£		£	super ft.	£
1916-17 ..	151	235,140	1,851	206,709	70,038,000	297,663
1917-18 ..	162	260,280	2,106	248,940	78,984,000	355,430
1918-19 ..	187	315,670	2,506	319,547	91,540,000	503,470
1919-20 ..	203	366,355	2,884	405,335	99,142,000	693,995
1920-21 ..	246	473,275	3,509	563,627	113,215,000	905,720
1921-22 ..	239	517,725	3,356	627,432	112,008,000	896,070
1922-23 ..	227	516,800	3,230	616,680	118,366,000	946,930
1923-24 ..	241	624,590	3,587	686,419	134,639,000	942,476
1924-25 ..	234	559,450	3,318	667,684*	114,705,000	745,582
1925-26 ..	215	642,140	2,955	579,795*	109,534,000	711,971

* Including amounts drawn by working proprietors.

In addition to the forest saw-mills there were 479 other factories working in wood. Particulars relating to these for the year 1925-26 are given on page 557.

Firewood, &c. It is estimated that the approximate value of the production of firewood for consumption in the year 1925-26 was £1,071,000. In addition, there were supplies of railway sleepers, piles, posts and rails, shingles, and timber for mines obtained from the forests, but it has been found impossible to procure reliable information as to their value.

Engineering, iron foundry, &c. During the past decade there has been a very marked expansion in engineering works and iron foundries. Since 1916-17 the number of factories has increased by 48 per cent., the number of persons employed therein by 46 per cent., the amount of wages paid by 158 per cent., the value of machinery and plant by 107 per cent., the value of materials used by 94 per cent., and the value of the output by 126 per cent. The chief particulars of the industry for the years 1916-17 to 1925-26 are given in the next table:—

ENGINEERING, IRON FOUNDRY, ETC., 1916-17 TO 1925-26.

Year.	Number of Factories.	Horse-power of Engines.	Value of Machinery and Plant.	Persons Employed.	Amount of Wages Paid.	Value of—		
						Materials Used.	Fuel and Light Used.	Output.
			£		£	£	£	£
1916-17	364	7,964	809,940	7,726	1,008,627	1,365,280	104,334	2,936,342
1917-18	388	8,045	844,350	7,351	1,011,930	1,414,060	110,900	3,096,090
1918-19	402	8,694	903,110	7,537	1,077,720	1,578,990	134,440	3,359,580
1919-20	441	10,795	1,023,395	9,042	1,395,379	1,917,877	128,435	4,220,094
1920-21	510	11,567	1,207,630	10,869	1,984,834	2,882,847	206,806	6,206,289
1921-22	517	11,872	1,325,500	10,234	2,067,009	2,511,800	196,239	5,897,158
1922-23	531	12,934	1,389,075	10,342	2,055,596	2,482,822	179,372	5,809,039
1923-24	516	12,917	1,445,840	10,902	2,288,499	2,501,025	183,953	6,087,049
1924-25	530	12,335	1,584,565	10,594	2,389,329*	2,393,110	164,768	6,051,309
1925-26	539	13,044	1,675,315	11,295	2,605,161*	2,645,309	188,761	6,638,381

* Including amounts drawn by working proprietors.

The above figures are exclusive of railway workshops, which in 1925-26 numbered 18, and gave employment to 6,170 hands who were paid £1,483,407; the value of the materials dealt with by such workshops in that year was £1,720,982, and the value of the output was £3,768,500, of which 71 per cent. was from the Newport Workshops.

**Agricultural
implement
works.**

The subjoined statement contains the leading particulars relating to agricultural implement works for the last ten years:—

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKS, 1916-17 TO 1925-26.

Year.	No. of Factories.	Persons Employed.	Wages Paid.	Value of—		
				Fuel, &c., Used.	Materials Used.	Output.
			£	£	£	£
1916-17 ..	63	1,900	250,450	18,666	359,342	743,196
1917-18 ..	62	1,967	261,045	20,911	435,665	830,876
1918-19 ..	60	1,689	249,360	18,100	337,730	702,870
1919-20 ..	61	1,771	272,262	20,001	349,555	757,062
1920-21 ..	60	2,711	512,363	42,193	756,204	1,750,704
1921-22 ..	58	2,916	643,874	43,794	806,066	1,567,843
1922-23 ..	61	2,654	555,394	36,935	626,561	1,511,724
1923-24 ..	61	3,211	688,229	44,171	713,637	1,690,645
1924-25 ..	61	3,160	730,219*	46,501	785,247	1,822,006
1925-26 ..	60	3,210	746,135*	44,300	716,630	1,770,362

* Including amounts drawn by working proprietors.

The wages averaged £136 14s. 2d. for each employee in 1916-17, and £233 11s. 7d. in 1925-26. The stripper-harvester, which is a Victorian invention, is one of the principal implements manufactured.

In the following table particulars of bacon and ham curing establishments are given for the ten years 1916-17 to 1925-26. The value of the machinery, plant, land and buildings in connexion with these establishments was £154,215 in 1916-17 and £275,840 in 1925-26.

BACON CURING, 1916-17 TO 1925-26.

Year.	Number of Establishments.	Persons Employed.	Amount of Wages Paid.	Pigs Slaughtered for Curing.	Weight of Bacon and Hams Cured.	Value of Output.
			£	number	lbs.	£
1916-17 ..	23	433	58,191	167,003	15,376,600	972,477
1917-18 ..	21	455	65,870	197,880	17,908,100	1,084,440
1918-19 ..	21	593	76,308	201,770	18,343,400	1,107,910
1919-20 ..	21	549	99,736	182,320	16,675,090	1,384,351
1920-21 ..	22	442	90,394	139,881	13,369,107	1,335,186
1921-22 ..	22	477	103,783	163,917	15,583,960	1,366,832
1922-23 ..	24	494	104,841	186,524	17,293,395	1,289,267
1923-24 ..	24	534	118,751	217,847	20,458,243	1,602,615
1924-25 ..	21	531	129,474*	218,158	20,431,914	1,571,357
1925-26 ..	21	546	142,515*	222,487	19,739,326	1,520,272

* Including amounts drawn by working proprietors.

This table does not include particulars relating to pigs slaughtered for curing, or to bacon and hams cured in small curing works; the pigs so slaughtered numbered 379 in 1916-17, 140 in 1917-18, 130 in 1918-19, 145 in 1919-20, 150 in 1920-21, 164 in 1921-22, 116 in 1922-23, 95 in 1923-24, and none in 1924-25 and 1925-26; the quantity (in pounds) of bacon and hams cured in these works was 31,300 in 1916-17, 12,970 in 1917-18, 9,790 in 1918-19, 11,500 in 1919-20, 14,000 in 1920-21, 12,010 in 1921-22, 9,600 in 1922-23, and 9,025 in 1923-24.

In addition, the following quantities of bacon and hams were returned as having been cured on farms:—2,738,428 lbs. in 1916-17, 3,403,776 lbs. in 1917-18, 3,859,205 lbs. in 1918-19, 2,698,919 lbs. in 1919-20, 1,755,993 lbs. in 1920-21, 1,812,838 lbs. in 1921-22, 1,975,729 lbs. in 1922-23, 2,082,731 lbs. in 1923-24, 1,561,955 lbs. in 1924-25, and 1,474,599 lbs. in 1925-26. The total quantity of bacon and hams cured in 1925-26 was thus 21,213,925 lbs.—a decrease of 779,944 lbs. as compared with 1924-25.

The number of butter, cheese, and kindred factories in 1925-26 was 183. Of these 152 were making butter, 27 cheese, 5 concentrated milk, 7 condensed milk, 16 powdered milk, 6 casein, and 1 milk sugar. There were also 27 creameries attached to the factories. The number of factories and the value of machinery, plant, land and buildings, the number of employees and the amount of their wages, and the total value of the output for the ten years 1916-17 to 1925-26 were as follows:—

BUTTER AND CHEESE FACTORIES, 1916-17 TO 1925-26.

Year.	Number of Factories.	Value of Machinery, Plant, Land, and Buildings.	Persons Employed.	Amount of Wages Paid.	Value of Output.
		£		£	£
1916-17	182	647,128	1,445	185,024	4,815,833
1917-18	181	683,140	1,677	226,050	5,086,238
1918-19	180	786,275	1,918	273,335	6,056,342
1919-20	181	1,025,325	2,054	338,507	6,365,927
1920-21	184	1,238,745	2,127	414,420	9,194,654
1921-22	188	1,395,425	2,351	492,446	7,115,642
1922-23	182	1,509,545	2,278	497,816	7,899,377
1923-24	184	1,685,530	2,280	511,001	7,974,676
1924-25	186	1,812,525	2,427	565,422*	8,212,788
1925-26	183	1,889,475	2,213	528,310*	7,631,400

* Including amounts drawn by working proprietors.

Further particulars relating to butter and cheese factories will be found under the heading of Dairying on page 532.

Meat freezing and preserving works numbered fourteen in 1925-26, and gave employment to 1,056 hands and 2 working proprietors, the wages amounting to £238,074.

The approximate value of machinery, plant, land and buildings in that year was £1,371,575. The output for each of the last ten years is given in the following table:—

MEAT FREEZING AND PRESERVING, 1916-17 TO 1925-26.

Year.	Frozen.			
	Cattle.	Sheep.	Rabbits and Hares.	Poultry.
	qrs.	number.	number.	number.
1916-17	28,492	418,418	2,853,776	4,900
1917-18	3,832	196,267	7,403,324	4,620
1918-19	8,640	668,971	2,352,212	2,706
1919-20	177,230	4,001,510	5,451,384	2,736
1920-21	49,372	786,086	2,189,378	9,468
1921-22	55,355	1,186,704	908,104	8,856
1922-23	17,006	2,657,515	282,624	5,284
1923-24	16,044	691,630	160,998	6,776
1924-25	25,690	1,035,799	108,338	6,386
1925-26	102,432	1,480,824	913,698	6,906

Year.	Preserved.			
	Beef.	Mutton.	Rabbits and Hares.	Other Meats, &c.
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
1916-17	15,591	4,484	5,245	2,693.
1917-18	17,810	28,530	9,530	15,110
1918-19	75,790	118,520	9,625	9,850
1919-20	104,725	60,850	7,580	1,860
1920-21	3,641	443	1	764
1921-22	8,808	4,419	29	30
1922-23	9,500	2,092	16	3,925
1923-24	8,098	664	32	1,411
1924-25	13,895	954	4	1,467
1925-26	23,202	2,084	..	4,327

NOTE.—In addition to the above, there were treated at freezing works 1,120 calves, 156 pigs, and 6,872 hares in 1916-17; 166 calves, 971 pigs, and 9,180 hares in 1917-18; 1,360 calves, 615 pigs, and 16,220 hares in 1918-19; 130 calves, 1,000 pigs, and 65,530 hares in 1919-20; 2,569 calves and 5,465 pigs in 1920-21; 2,855 calves and 7,335 pigs in 1921-22; 98 calves and 121 pigs in 1923-24; 969 calves and 272 pigs in 1924-25; and 2,722 calves and 180 pigs in 1925-26.

Imports and exports of meats.

The following statement shows the imports from and exports to oversea countries of frozen and preserved meats, other than bacon and ham, during the year ended 30th

June, 1926 :—

MEATS IMPORTED AND EXPORTED OVERSEA, 1925-26.

Meats.	Imports.		Exports..	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
Frozen—				
Mutton .. ..	..	..	8,144,383 lbs.	145,261
Lamb .. ..	..	..	43,032,612 „	1,263,511
Beef .. ..	..	..	4,278,842 „	59,465
Pork	14,983 lbs.	738	14,455 „	550
Rabbits and Hares .. ..	..	..	456,849 prs.	53,423
Poultry	290 lbs.	24	3,453 „	1,942
Game	4,341 lbs.	280	9,754 lbs.	140
Potted and Concentrated .. ..	..	42,054	..	5,803
Preserved in tins	202,199 lbs.	12,595	2,054,035 lbs.	65,639
Sausage Casings.. ..	5,556 cwt.	116,558	7,365 cwt.	186,213
Not elsewhere included .. ..	..	101	..	4,672
Total value .. ..	..	172,350	..	1,786,619

The value of the machinery, plant, land and buildings used in connexion with flour mills was estimated at £498,470 in 1916-17 and at £874,510 in 1925-26. Particulars of the industry for the ten years 1916-17 to 1925-26 are as follows :—

FLOUR MILLS, 1916-17 to 1925-26.

Year.	Number of Mills.	Persons Employed.	Amount of Wages Paid.	Wheat Ground into Flour.	Flour Made.	Value of Total Output.
			£	hushels.	tons.	£
1916-17 ..	54	897	126,280	12,483,990	263,095	3,458,633
1917-18 ..	55	1,021	155,330	15,034,990	311,450	3,989,510
1918-19 ..	53	1,063	169,233	16,621,290	347,840	4,656,403
1919-20 ..	51	1,064	189,224	16,920,890	353,683	6,082,741
1920-21 ..	51	947	191,688	12,387,960	260,032	5,745,507
1921-22 ..	45	997	228,195	14,697,290	308,532	5,759,281
1922-23 ..	47	1,089	244,436	16,601,530	352,002	5,415,067
1923-24 ..	47	1,114	266,540	18,552,540	382,204	5,495,110
1924-25 ..	46	1,064	267,034*	17,165,253	359,597	6,218,248
1925-26 ..	45	1,039	258,112*	15,909,787	336,704	5,995,735

* Including amounts drawn by working proprietors.

In addition to the flour made, the wheat ground in 1925-26 produced 7,047,013 bushels of bran and 6,807,435 bushels of pollard. Other grain operated on amounted to 44,150 bushels in 1916-17, 31,960 bushels in 1917-18, 40,113 bushels in 1918-19, 39,235 bushels in 1919-20, 40,094 bushels in 1920-21, 65,788 bushels in 1921-22, 44,363 bushels in 1922-23, 34,283 bushels in 1923-24, 59,825 bushels in 1924-25, and 47,659 bushels in 1925-26.

Exports of bread stuffs. During the year 1925-26, 3,376,934 lbs. of biscuits valued at £100,761, and 162,081 tons of flour valued at £2,177,935, were exported from Victoria to countries beyond Australia.

Jam, pickle, and sauce works. In 1925-26 there were 57 establishments in which the manufacture of jams, pickles, and sauces was carried on, and the number of persons employed therein was 2,628, of whom 30 were working proprietors. The wages paid amounted to £446,765, and the value of machinery, plant, land and buildings was £676,250. The quantities of fruit and sugar used and the output for each of the last ten years were as shown below:—

JAM, PICKLE, AND SAUCE WORKS, 1916-17 to 1925-26.

Year.	Fruit Used.	Sugar Used.	Jams and Jellies Made.	Fruit Preserved.	Fruit Pulped.	Sauce Made.	Pickles Made.
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	pints.	pints.
1916-17..	372,424	257,481	347,152	60,419	132,182	6,433,032	1,803,408
1917-18..	497,650	286,860	398,500	115,589	94,810	7,964,520	1,972,320
1918-19..	496,690	314,645	495,575	133,230	91,550	4,913,050	2,137,730
1919-20..	628,721	262,585	323,452	181,562	225,522	6,546,610	1,874,240
1920-21..	465,349	171,706	231,297	61,542	178,786	6,601,330	1,239,250
1921-22..	384,214	148,886	157,712	239,656	100,317	6,600,530	1,056,430
1922-23..	450,199	177,334	206,966	221,157	114,615	8,439,440	2,106,950
1923-24..	552,262	191,216	197,850	239,077	208,688	10,696,190	2,361,250
1924-25..	537,246	190,675	220,174	282,360	151,416	7,893,760	2,057,480
1925-26..	674,793	209,648	236,345	350,363	168,906	9,305,590	2,686,500

Some of these establishments also candied fruit peel, the quantities being 3,360 cwt. in 1916-17, 9,330 cwt. in 1917-18, 8,449 cwt. in 1918-19, 10,466 cwt. in 1919-20, 13,306 cwt. in 1920-21, 10,743 cwt. in 1921-22, 6,831 cwt. in 1922-23, 3,820 cwt. in 1923-24, 7,263 cwt. in 1924-25, and 4,973 cwt. in 1925-26. The value of the output in 1925-26 of the whole of the establishments whose produce is shown in the above table was £2,177,677.

Beet Sugar industry. In 1896 Parliament made available £62,000 to assist in the establishment of the beet sugar industry at Maffra, in Gippsland. On receiving a guarantee that 1,500 acres of beet would be sown by local land-holders, a company erected a

large building and plant, and operated for two seasons. Although a good quality of sugar was produced, various climatic, financial, and other difficulties compelled the company to close down the works, and the Government, as chief creditor, took control.

In 1910 a definite campaign to revive the industry was commenced, and the mill was re-opened; since that time it has operated from year to year. Estates were purchased by the Government at Boisdale and Kilmany, and land was allotted to settlers, subject to the proviso that each would grow a certain quantity of beet. The compulsory system of securing acreage was not found satisfactory, and all crops are now grown voluntarily. Recently the financial results have been sufficiently favorable to more than compensate for all losses; the by-products have been found to be of great value to the dairying industry, and the sugar has become a most important item of Gippsland's food supply.

The State Rivers and Water Supply Commission have advanced their irrigation scheme on the Macalister River, which will provide water for part of the district this season and subsequently for the whole district. Under irrigation it is anticipated that the beet supply will double itself, and that the industry will expand on more favorable lines than in the past.

The following particulars summarize the results of the industry for the last ten seasons:—

Season.				Area Harvested.	Sugar Beet Harvested.	Sugar Produced.
				acres.	tons.	tons.
1916-17	..	..	..	1,320	15,159	1,948
1917-18	..	..	..	1,200	14,487	1,650
1918-19	..	..	..	1,009	12,289	1,263
1919-20	..	..	..	1,080	13,084	1,551
1920-21	..	..	..	1,180	7,147	833
1921-22	..	..	..	1,602	16,578	1,872
1922-23	..	..	..	2,045	20,444	2,784
1923-24	..	..	..	1,937	29,512	3,499
1924-25	..	..	..	1,897	24,468	3,017
1925-26	..	..	..	1,880	21,194	2,315

The last season was only fair as regards sugar production. Growers were paid 40s. a ton for their beets, and a net profit of £3,529 was realized.

Breweries. Particulars regarding breweries for the ten years 1916-17 to 1925-26 are set forth in the next table. Machinery and plant were valued at £452,988 in 1916-17 and at £755,105 in 1925-26, whilst land and buildings were valued at £471,170 and £591,690

respectively in those years. The wages paid in 1925-26 amounted to £342,651.

BREWERIES, 1916-17 to 1925-26.

Year.	Number of Breweries.	Persons Employed.	Materials Used—			Beer Made.	Value of Output.
			Sugar.	Malt.	Hops.		
			cwt.	bushels.	lbs.	gallons.	£
1916-17	19	866	105,238	616,630	710,470	20,112,000	1,118,288
1917-18	18	875	109,640	650,500	748,840	21,021,000	1,334,344
1918-19	17	940	112,080	625,770	722,590	20,963,000	1,476,335
1919-20	17	1,016	110,020	720,515	769,765	22,610,000	1,830,548
1920-21	16	1,054	104,140	753,260	736,580	22,257,000	2,098,720
1921-22	15	1,053	107,160	688,090	717,950	22,388,000	2,200,882
1922-23	14	1,091	110,051	723,511	768,870	23,212,000	2,322,814
1923-24	14	1,186	112,840	743,131	796,769	23,907,000	2,412,387
1924-25	14	1,263	113,729	744,048	784,080	23,286,000	2,479,619
1925-26	11	1,113	118,310	777,041	811,063	24,347,000	2,594,835

Distilleries. The number of distilleries working in 1925-26 was 10, and the persons employed numbered 156, of whom two were working proprietors. The estimated value of the machinery, plant, land and buildings was £279,745. The quantities of materials used in manufacture and of spirits distilled in each of the last ten years were as follows:—

DISTILLERIES, 1916-17 to 1925-26.

Year.	Materials Used.				Spirits Distilled.
	Wine.	Malt.	Other Grain.	Molasses.	
	gallons.	bushels.	bushels.	lbs.	proof gal.
1916-17	1,452,048	176,472	170	1,093,120	658,357
1917-18	1,137,640	376,830	..	3,962,560	1,150,091
1918-19	1,206,530	385,690	397	5,604,480	1,185,629
1919-20	1,524,860	180,306	..	3,230,080	702,586
1920-21	1,041,890	125,414	1,422	2,682,960	572,671
1921-22	671,162	58,848	..	1,167,600	390,840
1922-23	1,100,568	77,717	..	85,120	473,152
1923-24	1,114,590	121,691	..	2,350,880	730,158
1924-25	1,117,370	92,124	..	2,727,650	561,153
1925-26	1,849,920	94,784	..	2,994,880	785,595

Spirits made by vine-growers for fortifying wine are not included in the foregoing table. The following quantities were distilled in vineyards for that purpose during the last ten years:—9,937 gallons in 1916-17, 5,134 gallons in 1917-18, 2,232 gallons in 1918-19, 5,141 gallons in 1919-20, 15,486 gallons in 1920-21, 23,020 gallons in 1921-22, 14,930 gallons in 1922-23, 13,792 gallons in 1923-24, 19,245 gallons in 1924-25, and 14,850 gallons in 1925-26.

The number of tobacco, cigar, and cigarette factories licensed in 1924-25 was twenty-six, of which twelve were too small to be classified as ordinary factories and were consequently not included in the statistical tabulation on page 558. In the year mentioned the remaining fourteen gave employment to 1,762 persons who were paid £349,674 in wages, and used machinery, plant, land and buildings valued at £433,995. The subjoined table shows the quantity of tobacco leaf used by and the output of the full number of licensed establishments for the last ten years:—

TOBACCO FACTORIES, 1916-17 to 1925-26.

Year.	Unmanufactured Leaf Operated on.		Quantity Manufactured.			
	Australian.	Imported.	Tobacco.	Snuff.	Cigars.	Cigarettes.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	number.	number.
1916-17 ..	656,320	5,254,110	6,089,929	446	26,268,733	123,480,200
1917-18 ..	558,278	4,598,364	5,479,191	313	27,920,180	126,883,970
1918-19 ..	405,625	5,096,176	5,842,142	1,049	27,973,908	125,372,900
1919-20 ..	573,932	5,189,098	6,164,126	426	35,232,399	143,374,400
1920-21 ..	751,137	5,290,854	6,443,480	228	35,549,722	100,686,950
1921-22 ..	535,590	5,250,641	6,345,508	232	33,893,695	152,908,600
1922-23 ..	540,322	5,628,555	6,709,060	231	32,699,019	99,771,650
1923-24 ..	471,862	4,993,680	5,833,903	99	29,244,981	87,896,350
1924-25 ..	427,152	5,222,496	5,998,437	50	30,794,864	77,840,200
1925-26 ..	449,575	5,055,260	5,879,683	100	29,595,805	70,135,500

There were twenty-seven woollen mills working in 1925-26, and the number of persons employed therein was 5,283, of whom twenty-one were working proprietors. The wages paid amounted to £795,292, and the approximate value of the machinery, plant, land and buildings was £3,090,905. The value of the raw materials used during the year was £2,243,014, and that of the goods manufactured in the same period, £3,976,224. The quantities of wool and cotton used and of goods manufactured in each of the last ten years were as follows:—

WOOLLEN MILLS, 1916-17 to 1925-26.

Year.	Quantity of Scoured Wool Used.	Quantity of Cotton Used.	Goods Manufactured—				Value of Output.
			Tweed and Cloth.	Flannel.	Blankets.	Shawls and Rugs.	
	lbs.	lbs.	yards.	yards.	pairs.	number	£
1916-17	5,114,320	599,288	1,238,363	5,250,093	259,080	3,661	1,006,635
1917-18	4,332,420	832,400	1,429,050	5,411,990	214,410	8,560	1,036,081
1918-19	4,614,585	513,800	1,429,200	5,047,490	191,130	19,430	1,126,119
1919-20	7,285,570	578,542	2,212,202	3,667,816	165,794	51,637	1,976,428
1920-21	7,702,055	553,282	2,509,198	4,035,298	224,745	47,179	2,397,610
1921-22	8,015,650	586,836	1,872,512	5,759,987	297,700	51,598	2,482,761
1922-23	9,640,760	621,490	1,714,460	6,622,350	314,803	71,073	3,264,025
1923-24	7,936,456	848,812	1,927,298	6,095,442	377,354	115,443	3,561,480
1924-25	8,782,203	544,364	1,898,647	3,594,427	319,026	130,094	3,433,231
1925-26	10,679,901	285,482	3,438,142	3,618,260	250,943	93,766	3,976,224

During the period 1916-17 to 1925-26 the value of the output of woollen mills increased by 295 per cent. The articles manufactured showed an increase in quantity in the case of tweed and cloth and shawls and rugs, and a decrease in flannel and blankets in the ten-year period.

The development which has taken place in the boot industry in recent years is exhibited in the following tables:—

BOOT FACTORIES, 1916-17 TO 1925-26.

Year.	Number of Factories.	Persons Employed.	Value of Machinery, Plant, Land, and Buildings.	Wages Paid.
			£	£
1916-17	201	8,494	529,950	843,772
1917-18	231	8,565	577,125	858,874
1918-19	238	8,961	627,770	987,203
1919-20	264	10,357	716,305	1,252,004
1920-21	304	9,212	927,310	1,208,760
1921-22	334	11,714	1,130,425	1,760,589
1922-23	371	12,434	1,338,555	1,922,345
1923-24	400	12,434	1,529,615	1,941,075
1924-25	430	12,099	1,748,815	2,054,563*
1925-26	431	12,262	1,764,685	2,088,244*

* Including amounts drawn by working proprietors.

OUTPUT OF BOOT FACTORIES, 1916-17 TO 1925-26.

Year.	Goods Manufactured—		Value of Materials Used.	Value of Output.
	Boots and Shoes.	Slippers.*		
	pairs.	pairs.	£	£
1916-17	6,210,866	212,582	2,171,812	3,460,404
1917-18	6,049,510	205,614	2,093,803	3,442,302
1918-19	6,073,117	243,383	2,563,423	4,040,550
1919-20	6,774,267	552,652	3,909,570	5,996,639
1920-21	5,447,504	559,213	2,911,852	4,964,462
1921-22	7,571,231	903,992	3,109,863	6,043,172
1922-23	7,591,946	851,289	3,059,769	6,157,132
1923-24	7,063,385	1,107,257	2,879,194	5,888,699
1924-25	7,496,004	1,167,581	2,913,105	5,832,625
1925-26	7,660,638	1,724,418	2,995,490	6,045,226

* Includes canvas shoes and house-boots.

The value of the output of establishments connected with the manufacture of dress, i.e., clothing, tailoring, dressmaking, millinery, underclothing, hats and caps, &c., but exclusive of boots and shoes, was £14,199,570 in 1925-26, as compared with £6,765,326 in 1916-17. During the period 1916-17 to 1925-26 the persons employed increased by 6 per cent., the wages paid by 130 per cent., the value of materials used by 100 per cent., and the value of the output by 110 per cent. Particulars of the industry for each of the last ten years are as follows :—

DRESS (EXCLUSIVE OF BOOT) FACTORIES, 1916-17 to 1925-26.

Year.	Number of Factories.	Number of Persons Employed.			Amount of Wages Paid.	Value of Materials Used.	Value of Output.
		Males.	Females.	Total.			
					£	£	£
1916-17	1,196	3,744	25,739	29,483	1,747,478	3,919,333	6,765,326
1917-18	1,209	3,730	24,630	28,360	1,788,136	4,512,648	7,674,705
1918-19	1,210	3,776	23,505	27,281	1,915,096	5,205,460	8,599,603
1919-20	1,252	4,123	25,490	29,613	2,490,549	6,628,276	11,407,324
1920-21	1,346	4,383	25,980	30,363	2,872,171	7,804,264	12,994,011
1921-22	1,424	4,674	27,370	32,044	3,328,326	7,689,101	13,429,230
1922-23	1,526	4,951	28,595	33,546	3,554,303	7,456,539	13,354,238
1923-24	1,501	4,751	26,772	31,523	3,574,059	7,181,020	13,118,477
1924-25	1,500	4,823	26,295	31,118	3,837,919*	7,388,950	13,584,190
1925-26	1,491	4,862	26,458	31,320	4,022,168*	7,833,863	14,199,570

* Including amounts drawn by working proprietors.

Particulars relating to the electric light and power works of the State are given in the next table :—

ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER WORKS, 1916-17 to 1925-26.

Year.	Number of Stations.	Horse-power of Machinery.	Value of Machinery and Plant.	Persons Employed.	Wages Paid.	Electricity Supplied.	Value of Output.
			£		£	British units.	£
1916-17	74	42,144	1,787,477	1,144	178,430	71,622,000	673,769
1917-18	75	48,526	1,889,550	1,167	183,948	79,486,000	760,117
1918-19	77	48,777	2,135,310	1,149	190,280	83,778,000	835,190
1919-20	78	49,241	2,632,665	1,215	217,995	100,838,000	953,039
1920-21	79	54,189	2,660,945	1,242	283,309	115,105,000	1,131,331
1921-22	84	57,481	3,166,750	1,350	334,805	136,021,000	1,407,268
1922-23	88	72,106	4,042,910	1,451	377,048	157,728,000	1,614,139
1923-24	90	154,622	5,864,065	1,752	462,172	405,108,000	2,176,551
1924-25	84	205,777	7,900,455	2,011	549,849	413,556,000	2,382,582
1925-26	83	188,342	5,035,460	1,149	338,807	460,710,000	1,648,113

The decrease in the number of persons and the value of machinery and plant and output in electric supply undertakings is due to a change in the method of compilation. In previous years, the figures related to both generation and distribution, but for the year 1925-26 only those relating to the former are given.

The electricity supplied in 1925-26 represented an increase of 543 per cent. on that supplied in 1916-17.

The particulars relating to the power houses at Newport under the control of the Victorian Railways Commissioners and the State Electricity Commission are included for the last three years in the figures which appear in the above table. This largely accounts for the seeming discrepancy between the quantity and value of the output for the years mentioned. The quantity of electricity generated in these power houses in 1925-26 was 272,697,000 units; the value of this has been estimated at bulk rates by the respective departments.

STATE ELECTRICITY COMMISSION ACTS 1918 AND 1920.

When it was first appointed in 1919, the operations of the State Electricity Commission of Victoria were carried on under the provisions of the *Electricity Commissioners' Act* 1918, which provided for the appointment by the Governor in Council of three Commissioners to administer the Act. By an amending Act of the 24th December, 1920, the name of the Act was changed to the *State Electricity Commission Act* 1918, and provision was made, *inter alia*, for the appointment of four Commissioners for a period of seven years, one of whom would devote the whole of his time to the Commission's works as permanent chairman. In addition to the Acts mentioned above, the Commission administers the *Electric Light and Power Act* 1915, the provisions of which give it control over all electrical undertakings in the State.

The duties of the Commission include the following:—

- (1) To inquire into and report to the Government as to the steps which should be taken to co-ordinate and concentrate all electrical undertakings in Victoria, and to secure the efficient inter-connexion of such undertakings by the adoption of the necessary standards of plant, pressure, &c.
- (2) To encourage and promote the use of electricity for industrial and manufacturing purposes, and to report to the Government on the prospects of establishing new industries in Victoria requiring large quantities of electrical energy.
- (3) To carry out investigations of coal deposits or of water power in connexion with the generation of electricity.

The Commission is vested with the following powers in relation to electrical undertakings:—

- (1) To erect and operate electrical undertakings.
- (2) To supply electricity in bulk to any corporation.

- (3) To supply electricity to any person outside any area in which there is an existing undertaking.
- (4) To carry on any business associated with an electric undertaking.
- (5) To make regulations as to precautions to be adopted in the use of electricity, and to arrange for the licensing of electric wiremen.

Authority is also given to the Commission to establish and operate State Coal Mines.

The Commission has complete control over all officers and employees required for the carrying out of the provisions of the Act.

In accordance with the instructions contained in the Act, the Commission has constructed a coal winning plant and an electric generating station in the neighbourhood of Morwell, for the purpose of utilizing the practically unlimited supplies of brown coal in that area. The scheme provides for the winning of coal on the open cut system by means of mechanical appliances, for the erection of a power station close to the site of the open cut, having an initial capacity of 50,000 kilowatts, with provision for triplication, and for the erection at Yarraville of a receiving station with the necessary switch and transforming gear. Both stations are now complete and in operation, as is also the initial installation of briquetting plant at Yallourn, which produces, approximately, 100,000 tons of brown coal briquettes annually.

The Commission has also installed at Newport a station with an initial capacity of 14,000 kilowatts. This station, which was built mainly to meet the urgent need for electricity pending the completion of the Yallourn plant, is now regarded as a peak load station.

Supply of electricity from the Commission's generating station at Yallourn is already being given to the following towns in the Gippsland district (in addition to the Commission's township of Yallourn):—Morwell, Traralgon, Moe, Trafalgar, Yarragon, Maffra, Sale, Tyers, Heyfield, Mirboo North, Drouin, Korumburra, Leongatha, Cowwarr, Boolarra, and Darnum. Ultimately, supply will be given to other towns throughout Gippsland and on the route of the main transmission line, an extension to Bairnsdale having been commenced.

A transmission line has been built from Geelong, stretching through the south-western district of Victoria to the town of Warrnambool (a distance of 117 miles), giving supply to the latter town and to the following towns *en route*:—Colac, Camperdown, Terang, Mortlake, Warrion, Beeac, Cobden, Ncorat, Alvie, Allansford, Winchelsea Cororooke, Pomborneit, Kolora, and Birregurra. This transmission line (operating at 44,000 volts) is believed to be among the longest in the British Empire.

Supply has also been given to the towns of Point Lonsdale, Queenscliff, Portarlington, Drysdale, Ocean Grove, and Barwon Heads, by another transmission line from Geelong.

The energy is generated at the Melbourne Electric Supply Company's Power House at Geelong under an agreement between that

body and the Electricity Commission until such time as energy is available from the Commission's main power station at Yallourn.

The Commission is supplying energy in bulk to the Melbourne City Council, the Melbourne Electric Supply Company, the Melbourne Harbor Trust, the municipalities of Box Hill, Brunswick, Coburg, Williamstown, Footscray, Northcote, Port Melbourne, Preston, Braybrook, and Lilydale, and has built a subsidiary line, operating at 22,000 volts, from Brunswick sub-station, which encircles the eastern half of the outer metropolitan area, passing through and giving service to Ringwood, Dandenong, Frankston, and the Mornington Peninsula. It has also taken over the supply and retail distribution of energy to Dandenong, Werribee, Altona, Sunbury, Glenroy, Pascoe Vale, and Essendon—Flemington. At the 30th June, 1926, the Commission was supplying, either in retail or in bulk, 97 towns or centres throughout Victoria.

The Commission is empowered to develop hydro-electric resources, and with this object to maintain survey parties constantly in the field for the purpose of obtaining data relative to stream flow, volume, &c.

Operations have begun on the building of hydro-power stations at Royston, Rubicon, Rubicon Lower, Snobbs Creek and Sugarloaf—all to feed into a common sub-station about eight miles from Sugarloaf. The total capacity of hydraulic turbines to be installed in these stations is 25,800 brake horse-power. The construction of the transmission line from Sugarloaf to Thomastown, and from Sugarloaf to Albury and Corowa (New South Wales), via Benalla and Wangaratta, is complete, and, pending completion of the hydro-electric plant, supply is given to the north-eastern portions of the State over the transmission line from Yallourn, via Yarraville and Thomastown terminal stations. This line also serves Echuca, Shepparton, Wahgunyah, Yarrawonga, Springhurst, Mooropna, Tatura, Merrigum, and Kyabram.

Particulars in regard to gasworks are given below for each of the last ten years, but the figures for the year 1925-26 are not comparable with those of preceding years owing to the exclusion in that year of all particulars relating to distribution. Prior to that year the published figures included both manufacture and distribution.

GASWORKS, 1916-17 to 1925-26.

Year.	Number of Works.*	Persons Employed.	Wages Paid.	Coal Used.	Gas Made.	Coke Produced.	Value of Output.
			£	tons.	cubic feet.	tons.	£
1916-17 ..	47	2,093	365,777	317,450	4,449,230,000	200,673	1,181,096
1917-18 ..	47	2,089	375,181	318,560	4,505,847,000	200,660	1,263,030
1918-19 ..	46	2,270	420,597	353,584	4,904,351,000	220,287	1,373,603
19 9-20 ..	45	2,267	472,855	351,149	4,592,305,000	203,245	1,395,320
1920-21 ..	45	2,213	576,515	339,250	4,499,088,000	216,771	1,608,999
1921-22 ..	45	2,309	609,600	383,092	5,151,380,000	239,755	1,953,936
1922-23 ..	45	2,444	639,954	402,537	5,443,993,000	230,526	1,941,808
1923-24 ..	45	2,561	699,173	410,517	5,407,962,000	259,080	2,098,571
1924-25 ..	45	2,464	668,006	408,868	5,608,313,000	226,436	2,087,358
1925-26 ..	35	933	258,764	422,783	5,801,335,000	273,773	1,433,090

* Including one establishment manufacturing coke only, which has not worked since 1919-20.

Oil was used as well as coal in the manufacture of gas, the number of gallons consumed each year being 345,272 in 1916-17, 396,717 in 1917-18, 355,933 in 1918-19, 343,764 in 1919-20, 360,876 in 1920-21, 300,188 in 1921-22, 248,481 in 1922-23, 223,986 in 1923-24, 175,127 in 1924-25, and 114,947 in 1925-26.

The facilities afforded in the metropolitan area have had the effect of bringing within that area the more important of the manufacturing industries. The distribution of factories by classes between the metropolis and the remainder of the State, for 1916-17 and each of the last three years, is exhibited in the following statement:—

NUMBER AND LOCATION OF FACTORIES.

Class of Industry.	Number of Factories.							
	Metropolis.				Remainder of State.			
	1916-17	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1916-17	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
Treating raw material, product of pastoral pursuits, &c. . . .	81	84	83	80	223	204	191	187
Treating oils and fats, animal, vegetable, &c. . . .	16	19	18	20	11	9	9	10
Processes in stone, clay, glass, &c. . . .	89	149	151	152	81	103	110	112
Working in wood . . .	194	336	356	364	230	355	349	330
Metal works, machinery, &c. . . .	497	696	707	721	203	212	216	229
Connected with food and drink, &c. . . .	217	277	267	268	418	443	454	448
Clothing and textile fabrics, &c. . . .	1,139	1,594	1,627	1,629	302	373	373	364
Books, paper, printing, &c. . . .	290	367	380	393	155	170	176	171
Musical instruments, &c. . . .	9	19	19	19	..	1	1	..
Arms and explosives	8	9	8	7	4	1	1	1
Vehicles, saddlery, harness, &c. . . .	251	413	427	449	282	417	419	423
Ship and boat building and repairing . . .	10	11	10	10	1	1	1	1
Furniture, upholstery and bedding . . .	239	370	387	390	29	36	38	39
Drugs, chemicals, and by-products . . .	61	90	93	89	33	31	38	28
Surgical and other scientific appliances	27	34	35	36	1	2	2	3
Jewellery, time-pieces and plated-ware . .	87	104	106	109	4	7	5	5
Heat, light, and power	52	95	102	109	106	124	120	107
Leatherware, n.e.i. . .	38	59	56	56	..	3	3	2
Minor wares, n.e.i. . .	55	62	75	84	2	9	12	16
Total	3,360	4,788	4,907	4,985	2,085	2,501	2,518	2,476

Since 1916-17 the number of factories in the State has increased by 2,016, the greatest numerical increase in the classes being that

of the clothing and textile factories, of which there were 552 more in 1925-26 than in 1916-17.

The employment afforded in each class of industry is set forth in the next statement:—

**AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN
FACTORIES.**

Class of Industry.	1916-17.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
Treating raw materials, product of pastoral pursuits, &c. . .	3,535	4,488	4,276	4,077	4,209
Treating oils and fats, animal, vegetable, &c. . .	796	915	920	950	891
Processes in stone, clay, glass, &c. . .	3,519	6,059	6,661	6,181	5,975
Working in wood . . .	6,336	9,939	10,825	10,198	9,685
Metal works, machinery, &c. . .	17,180	23,406	24,978	24,464	25,663
Connected with food and drink, &c. . .	15,334	19,037	19,199	19,344	18,813
Clothing and textile fabrics, &c. . .	41,233	51,898	50,248	49,633	50,188
Books, paper, printing, &c. . .	8,830	11,307	12,098	11,703	11,374
Musical instruments, &c. . .	198	444	498	467	529
Arms and explosives . . .	1,597	406	423	428	471
Vehicles, saddlery, harness, &c. . .	4,575	6,407	7,028	6,984	7,386
Ship and boat building and repairing . . .	464	618	392	432	388
Furniture, bedding, and upholstery . . .	2,766	4,392	4,629	4,782	4,527
Drugs, chemicals, and by-products . . .	2,086	2,511	2,699	2,774	2,713
Surgical and other scientific appliances . . .	135	203	195	236	230
Jewellery, time-pieces, and plated-ware . . .	948	1,151	1,110	1,069	1,097
Heat, light, and power . . .	4,164	5,364	5,879	6,311	4,186
Leatherware, n.e.i. . .	711	1,123	1,071	940	919
Minor wares, n.e.i. . .	2,563	2,957	3,033	3,185	3,715
Total . . .	116,970	152,625	156,162	154,158	152,959

The total increase in the number of hands employed during the period covered by the above table was 35,989, which represented an advance of about 31 per cent. The greatest development had taken place in clothing factories, industries connected with food, drink, &c., and metal works, which showed increases of 8,955, 3,479, and 8,483 respectively in the number of persons employed in 1925-26 as compared with the number in 1916-17.

An examination of the figures relating to the number of factories in 1916-17 and in 1925-26 shows that percentage increases were more pronounced in the smallest sized factories and in those employing from 21 to 50 hands and 4 hands. In the case of persons employed, the largest percentage increases were in the groups under 4 hands, 21 to 50 hands, and 4 hands respectively. Particulars of factories of different sizes in 1916-17 and 1925-26 are given in the next two tables:—

FACTORIES ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF HANDS EMPLOYED.

Size of Factory.	Number of Factories.			Average Number of Persons Employed.		
	1916-17.	1925-26.	Increase.	1916-17.	1925-26.	Increase.
			%			%
Under 4 hands..	1,165	1,879	61·29	2,632	4,011	52·39
4 " ..	595	797	33·95	2,380	3,188	33·95
5 to 10 " ..	1,744	2,210	26·72	12,033	15,304	27·18
11 to 20 " ..	867	1,142	31·72	12,616	16,615	31·70
21 to 50 " ..	647	883	36·48	20,427	28,066	37·40
51 to 100 " ..	236	303	28·39	16,219	20,838	28·48
Over 100 " ..	191	247	29·32	50,663	64,937	28·17
Total ..	5,445	7,461	37·02	116,970	152,959	30·77

PROPORTION OF FACTORIES OF DIFFERENT SIZES.

Size of Factory.	Percentage to Total.			
	Factories.		Persons Employed.	
	1916-17.	1925-26.	1916-17.	1925-26.
Under 4 hands	21·40	25·18	2·25	2·62
4 "	10·93	10·68	2·03	2·08
5 to 10 "	32·03	29·62	10·29	10·01
11 to 20 "	15·92	15·31	10·79	10·86
21 to 50 "	11·88	11·84	17·46	18·35
51 to 100 "	4·33	4·06	13·87	13·63
Over 100 "	3·51	3·31	43·31	42·45
Total	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

**Occupations
in factories.**

In the following table the persons employed in factories are grouped according to their occupational status:—

OCCUPATIONS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN FACTORIES.

Occupations.	1916-17.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25	1925-26.
Working proprietors ..	5,201	6,904	7,296	7,500	7,255	7,254
Managers, overseers ..	3,619	4,454	4,673	4,929	5,043	5,213
Accountants, clerks ..	4,345	6,307	6,582	6,966	6,827	6,034
Engine-drivers, firemen	1,758	2,156	2,106	2,197	2,142	2,065
Workers in factory or works ..	96,706	119,598	126,791	129,617	128,706	128,948
Outworkers ..	1,814	1,476	1,228	870	728	736
Carters, messengers ..	2,725	3,115	3,316	3,378	2,766	2,394
Others ..	802	866	633	705	691	315
Total ..	116,970	144,876	152,625	156,162	154,158	152,959

Outworkers. The term "outworker" used in the above table relates to factory workers working in their own homes, but does not include individuals working for themselves. The employment of outworkers is regulated by a special provision of the Factories and Shops Act. They are required to register their names and addresses with the Chief Inspector of Factories, and factory proprietors are forbidden to give work to those who are not registered.

**sex distribu-
tion in
factories.** The average numbers of males and females employed in factories and their proportions to the male and female populations, for the years 1916-17 to 1925-26, were as follows:—

EMPLOYMENT OF MALES AND FEMALES IN FACTORIES.

Year.	Males.		Females.		Total.	
	Number.	Average per 10,000 of Male Population.	Number.	Average per 10,000 of Female Population.	Number.	Average per 10,000 of Total Population.
1916-17 ..	74,924	1,123	42,046	574	116,970	836
1917-18 ..	76,654	1,142	41,587	562	118,241	838
1918-19 ..	81,357	1,188	40,992	550	122,349	855
1919-20 ..	92,101	1,243	44,421	588	136,522	913
1920-21 ..	96,379	1,277	44,364	580	140,743	926
1921-22 ..	97,789	1,279	47,087	599	144,876	934
1922-23 ..	103,092	1,307	49,533	618	152,625	960
1923-24 ..	107,578	1,334	48,584	593	156,162	961
1924-25 ..	105,984	1,286	48,174	578	154,158	930
1925-26 ..	104,512	1,246	48,447	573	152,959	908

Males formed 64·1 per cent. in 1916-17 and 68·3 per cent. in 1925-26 of the total persons employed. The increase during the period 1916-17 to 1925-26 in the number of males employed was 29,588, or 39·5 per cent., and in the number of females employed, 6,401, or 15·2 per cent.

Of the total females in factories 72·9 per cent. are engaged in the textile and clothing industries, and 10·5 per cent. in the preparation of food and drink. The extent of female employment in certain industries is shown in the next table :—

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT IN FACTORIES, 1925-26.

Industry.	Number Employed.		Females per 100 Males.
	Males.	Females.	
Oatmeal, &c.	405	365	90·1
Biscuit	720	576	80·0
Jam, pickle, and sauce	1,552	1,076	69·3
Confectionery	1,831	1,819	99·3
Tobacco, &c.	1,141	621	54·4
Woollen mills	2,291	2,992	130·6
Clothing, tailoring, &c.	2,102	7,394	351·8
Dressmaking, millinery	420	7,936	1,889·5
Underclothing	482	5,216	1,082·2
Hats, caps, &c.	668	991	148·3
Hosiery	792	4,046	510·9
Waterproof clothing	79	234	296·2
Fur	162	290	179·0
Boots and shoes	6,952	5,310	76·4
Printing, &c.	6,139	1,549	25·2
Bookbinding, stationery, &c.	682	594	87·1
Fancybox, &c.	347	904	260·5
Rope, twine	505	375	74·3
Sail, tent	122	97	79·5
Chemicals	666	631	94·7
Ammunition	83	74	89·2
Match	185	432	233·5
Fancy leather	409	398	97·3
Rubber goods	2,349	605	25·8
All other factories	73,428	3,922	5·3
Total	104,512	48,447	46·4

Child labour in factories.

A favorable feature of factory statistics has been the small proportion of children engaged in factories. Of the male and female employees, boys and girls under 16 constituted 4·05 and 7·30 per cent. respectively in 1925-26, as against 4·37 and 5·55 per cent. in 1916-17. The number of children

employed in factories and their proportions to the total employees are given in the subjoined table for the years 1916-17 to 1925-26 :—

CHILDREN EMPLOYED IN FACTORIES.

Year.	Boys under 16.	Girls under 16.	Total Children.	Proportion per cent. of—		
				Boys to Male Employees.	Girls to Female Employees.	Children to Total Employees.
1916-17 ..	3,072	2,301	5,373	4·37	5·55	4·81
1917-18 ..	3,195	2,447	5,642	4·45	5·97	5·00
1918-19 ..	3,137	2,389	5,526	4·15	5·90	4·73
1919-20 ..	3,721	2,872	6,593	4·04	6·47	4·83
1920-21 ..	3,715	2,798	6,513	4·11	6·39	4·86
1921-22 ..	3,780	3,120	6,900	4·13	6·71	5·00
1922-23 ..	4,031	3,163	7,194	4·18	6·48	4·95
1923-24 ..	4,057	3,422	7,479	4·03	7·15	5·03
1924-25 ..	4,027	3,223	7,250	4·05	6·78	4·94
1925-26 ..	3,980	3,489	7,469	4·06	7·30	5·13

In the following table are shown the number of factories **Machinery in factories.** using mechanical power, the total horse-power of the engines used, and the value of the machinery and plant for the ten years 1916-17 to 1925-26 :—

MACHINERY IN FACTORIES.

Year.	Number of Factories equipped with Machinery.	Value of Machinery and Plant.	Horse-power of Engines.
		£	
1916-17	4,226	11,732,062	136,985
1917-18	4,371	12,612,797	149,095
1918-19	4,470	13,645,220	153,408
1919-20	4,737	15,846,935	166,803
1920-21	5,161	18,179,385	182,143
1921-22	5,473	21,182,110	191,881
1922-23	5,762	23,994,715	216,427
1923-24	6,030	28,223,915	314,561
1924-25	6,168	32,563,815	374,064
1925-26	6,321	30,549,130	367,318

The nature of the power used and the capacity of the machinery in the factories of the State are set out in the next table. Establishments using more than one kind of mechanical power are included once only in the first portion, usually under the power which is principally used. The second portion shows the total horse-power of engines used.

POWER USED IN FACTORIES, 1916-17 to 1925-26.

Year.	Number of Factories using—					
	Steam.	Gas.	Electricity.	Oil.	Water, Wind, or Horses.	Manual Labour.
1916-17 ..	931	800	2,142	311	42	1,219
1917-18 ..	896	784	2,365	285	41	1,256
1918-19 ..	875	782	2,481	297	35	1,250
1919-20 ..	910	761	2,712	315	39	1,301
1920-21 ..	941	705	3,128	360	27	1,371
1921-22 ..	935	666	3,474	364	34	1,280
1922-23 ..	910	655	3,795	372	30	1,334
1923-24 ..	885	540	4,174	402	29	1,259
1924-25 ..	812	476	4,448	403	29	1,257
1925-26 ..	736	413	4,709	432	31	1,140

Year.	Actual Horse-power of Engines.				
	Steam.	Gas.	Electricity.	Oil.	Total.
1916-17	81,611	18,651	34,348	2,375	136,985
1917-18	89,561	19,045	38,246	2,243	149,095
1918-19	91,245	18,929	40,791	2,443	153,408
1919-20	95,747	19,183	48,814	3,059	166,803
1920-21	103,048	19,331	56,602	3,162	182,143
1921-22	106,882	19,327	62,663	3,009	191,881
1922-23	112,547	18,968	81,679	3,233	216,427
1923-24	195,744	18,394	95,340	5,083	314,561
1924-25	233,290	17,869	117,525	5,380	374,064
1925-26	235,872	15,422	107,812	8,212	367,318

Although steam is the principal motive power, and was used to supply 64 per cent. of the total mechanical power employed in factories in 1925-26, a remarkable development is shown in the use of electricity, which in 1916-17 was used by 2,142, and in 1925-26 by 4,709 factories, the actual horse-power increasing from 34,348 to 107,812 in the same period.

Wages in
Factories.

The total amount and the average amount of salaries and wages paid to persons employed in factories are given in the following table for each of the last ten years:—

SALARIES AND WAGES PAID IN FACTORIES.

Year.	Drawings by Working Proprietors (excluding Profits).		Salaries paid to Managers and Clerks.		Wages paid to Factory Workers.		Total Salaries and Wages paid.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1916-17	..	..	1,364,269	171,675	8,226,582	2,070,991	11,833,517
1917-18	..	..	1,462,220	190,707	8,679,530	2,170,144	12,502,601
1918-19	..	..	1,625,584	208,524	9,906,082	2,340,213	14,080,403
1919-20	..	..	1,967,959	270,875	12,515,207	2,948,132	17,702,173
1920-21	..	..	2,384,372	310,024	15,284,545	3,398,275	21,377,216
1921-22	..	..	2,563,467	357,691	16,933,984	3,991,353	23,846,495
1922-23	..	..	2,761,045	394,366	18,038,101	4,353,680	25,547,192
1923-24	..	..	3,003,855	436,425	19,577,822	4,453,982	27,472,084
1924-25	1,538,868	74,043	3,055,257	443,676	19,460,304	4,484,904	29,057,052
1925-26	1,590,771	80,876	2,996,929	448,387	19,547,974	4,664,463	29,329,400
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1916-17	..	..	220 3 0	97 3 1	128 7 8	52 2 7	105 17 6
1917-18	..	..	231 4 4	99 15 11	132 8 6	55 10 1	110 15 4
1918-19	..	..	244 5 4	101 7 5	141 19 8	60 19 0	120 9 5
1919-20	..	..	264 8 1	118 6 9	157 16 8	70 17 5	135 10 5
1920-21	..	..	298 19 7	124 15 2	185 12 4	82 5 11	159 8 4
1921-22	..	..	316 18 11	133 16 4	202 19 11	91 2 11	172 16 9
1922-23	..	..	331 10 9	134 14 8	204 12 2	94 16 5	175 15 9
1923-24	..	..	339 19 1	142 13 5	212 19 0	99 7 1	184 15 11
1924-25	233 8 11	111 13 7	347 18 0	143 13 7	214 15 5	100 19 4	186 16 4*
1925-26	240 18 4	124 4 8	363 7 11	149 9 3	218 0 4	104 2 6	189 16 5*

* These figures are based on numbers of and wages, etc., paid to all persons employed, excluding working proprietors.

The particulars appearing in the above table reveal continued increases from year to year in the average earnings of all groups. In the average wage of all employees, the largest increase was from the year 1919-20 to 1920-21. During the last three years the rate of increase has declined, the average wage for 1925-26 having been only £5 Os. 6d. more than that for 1923-24.

The above average wage for 1925-26 (£189 16s. 5d.) was probably below the average according to the determinations of Wages Boards. This is mainly accounted for by the fact that the former sum is based on the actual payments to workers, while the latter represents the average of the sums to which they would have been entitled if they had worked throughout the whole year. There is, of necessity, a difference between the two averages, as all hands are not continuously employed, nor are all factories working throughout the whole year.

The cost of production and the value of the output in each class of manufacturing industry during the year 1925-26 are given in the subjoined statement:—

FACTORY COSTS AND OUTPUT, 1925-26.

Class of Industry.	Cost of—			Value of Output.
	Raw Materials Used.	Fuel, Light, and Power Used.	Salaries and Wages Paid.	
	£	£	£	£
Treating raw material, product of pastoral pursuits, &c. ..	4,579,184	118,489	912,075	6,250,174
Treating oils and fats, animal, vegetable, &c. ..	969,759	50,566	196,891	1,557,945
Processes in stone, clay, glass, &c. ..	766,181	430,510	1,370,991	3,577,456
Working in wood ..	2,409,524	63,013	2,143,499	5,638,963
Metal works, machinery, &c. Connected with food and drink, &c. ..	6,776,646	346,446	5,874,459	15,569,040
26,517,808	653,212	3,907,388	36,464,761	
Clothing and textile fabrics, &c. ..	13,735,403	281,137	7,118,271	25,312,669
Books, paper, printing, &c. ..	2,584,656	124,503	2,423,897	6,595,252
Musical instruments, &c. ..	123,161	2,640	110,619	300,636
Arms and explosives ..	203,968	16,474	97,573	407,441
Vehicles, saddlery, harness, &c. ..	976,071	47,411	1,430,738	2,924,721
Ship and boat building and repairing ..	42,104	4,306	95,360	165,352
Furniture, upholstery, and bedding ..	1,253,588	28,802	888,464	2,576,474
Drugs, chemicals, and by-products ..	1,617,501	65,292	562,359	2,943,968
Surgical and other scientific instruments ..	35,121	1,590	44,488	105,978
Jewellery, time-pieces, and plated-ware ..	236,498	7,902	224,241	575,368
Heat, light, and power ..	1,708,100	791,255	1,017,697	4,770,630
Leatherware, n.e.i. ..	277,447	3,265	145,032	508,926
Minor wares, n.e.i. ..	2,345,725	119,569	765,358	3,740,685
Total ..	67,164,445	3,156,382	29,329,400	119,986,439

The difference between the sum of the first three columns and the last column represents the amount available for miscellaneous expenses, interest, and profit. The proportions which this margin and the chief items of the cost of production bear to the total value

of production in each class of industry are shown in the following table :—

PROPORTIONATE VALUE OF COSTS, ETC., TO PRODUCTION
IN FACTORIES, 1925-26.

Class of Industry.	Percentage of Costs, &c., to Total Value of Production.			
	Materials.	Fuel, Light, &c.	Wages.	All other Expenditure, Interest, and Profit.
	%	%	%	%
Treating raw material, product of pastoral pursuits, &c.	73·3	1·9	14·6	10·2
Treating oils and fats, animal, vegetable, &c.	62·3	3·2	12·6	21·9
Processes in stone, clay, glass, &c. ..	21·5	12·0	38·3	28·2
Working in wood	42·8	1·1	38·0	18·1
Metal works, machinery, &c.	43·5	2·2	37·8	16·5
Connected with food and drink, &c. ..	72·7	1·8	10·7	14·8
Clothing and textile fabrics, &c.	54·3	1·1	28·1	16·5
Books, paper, printing, &c.	39·2	1·9	36·7	22·2
Musical instruments, &c.	43·0	0·9	36·8	19·3
Arms and explosives	50·1	4·0	23·9	22·0
Vehicles, saddlery, harness, &c.	33·4	1·6	48·9	16·1
Ship and boat building and repairing	25·5	2·6	57·7	14·2
Furniture, upholstery, and bedding ..	48·7	1·1	34·5	15·7
Drugs, chemicals, and by-products ..	54·9	2·2	19·1	23·8
Surgical and other scientific instruments	33·1	1·5	42·0	23·4
Jewellery, time-pieces, and plated-ware	41·1	1·4	39·0	18·5
Heat, light, and power	35·8	16·6	21·3	26·3
Leatherware, n.e.i.	54·5	0·6	28·5	16·4
Minor wares, n.e.i.	62·7	3·2	20·5	13·6
Total	56·0	2·6	24·4	17·0

There are considerable variations in the proportions which the cost of materials and the expenditure on wages bear to the value of the output in the different classes of industries. These are, of course, due to the difference in the treatment required to present the raw material in its manufactured form. Thus in brickworks, &c., the sum paid in wages represents 38 per cent. and the cost of raw materials 21 per cent. of the value of the finished article, whilst in the industries connected with food and drink the expenditure on wages amounts to 11 per cent. and that on raw materials to 73 per cent. of the value of the output.

Cost of production, 1916-17 to 1925-26.

In the next table the cost of production, the value of the output of factories, and the balance available for profit and miscellaneous expenses are compared for the years 1916-17 to 1925-26 :—

COST OF PRODUCTION AND VALUE OF OUTPUT OF FACTORIES, 1916-17 TO 1925-26.

Year.	Cost of Production.				Total Value of Output.
	Materials.	Fuel, Light, and Power.	Salaries and Wages.	All other Expenditure, Interest, and Profit.	
	£	£	£	£	£
1916-17 ..	37,103,750	1,024,156	11,833,517	10,085,861	60,047,284
1917-18 ..	42,133,636	1,248,186	12,502,601	11,182,292	67,066,715
1918-19 ..	52,098,737	1,457,124	14,080,403	12,559,413	80,195,677
1919-20 ..	65,563,104	1,723,220	17,702,173	16,486,866	101,475,363
1920-21 ..	65,401,425	2,184,096	21,377,216	17,045,557	106,008,294
1921-22 ..	60,352,561	2,329,760	23,846,495	19,714,365	106,243,181
1922-23 ..	62,658,163	2,443,681	25,547,192	20,637,307	111,286,343
1923-24 ..	62,217,874	2,803,239	27,472,084	21,428,730	113,921,927
1924-25 ..	65,205,233	2,964,635	29,057,052	20,950,478	118,177,398
1925-26 ..	67,164,445	3,156,382	29,329,400	20,336,212	119,986,439

These figures are reduced in the appended statement to their proportionate value of the total output.

PROPORTION OF OUTLAY TO OUTPUT OF FACTORIES, 1916-17 TO 1925-26.

Year.	Proportion of Outlay to Output.				Total.
	Materials.	Fuel, Light, and Power.	Salaries and Wages.	Other Expenditure, Interest, and Profit.	
	%	%	%	%	%
1916-17 ..	61·8	1·7	19·7	16·8	100·0
1917-18 ..	62·8	1·9	18·6	16·7	100·0
1918-19 ..	65·0	1·8	17·5	15·7	100·0
1919-20 ..	64·6	1·7	17·4	16·3	100·0
1920-21 ..	61·7	2·0	20·2	16·1	100·0
1921-22 ..	56·8	2·2	22·4	18·6	100·0
1922-23 ..	56·3	2·2	23·0	18·5	100·0
1923-24 ..	54·6	2·5	24·1	18·8	100·0
1924-25 ..	55·2	2·5	24·6	17·7	100·0
1925-26 ..	56·0	2·6	24·4	17·0	100·0

The apparent decrease for 1924-25 and 1925-26 in the balance available for profit and miscellaneous expenses, as shown in the two preceding tables, is due to the fact that the amount of salaries and wages includes for those years the sums drawn regularly by working

proprietors amounting to £1,612,911 in the former and £1,671,647 in the latter year.

The ratio of salaries and wages to the value of the output of factories was 23·7 per cent. on the average of the last five years, as against 18·7 per cent. in the period 1916-17 to 1920-21. The cost of materials was 55·8 per cent. of the value of output in the period 1921-22 to 1925-26, as compared with 63·2 per cent. in the years 1916-17 to 1920-21. The proportionate outlay on fuel, light, and power was 1·8 per cent. in the former and 2·4 in the latter period. The balance available for miscellaneous expenses, rent, interest, and manufacturers' profit was £18 ls. 11d. in every £100 of the total output value in the period 1921-22 to 1925-26, as compared with £16 4s. 9d. in the preceding five-year period.

In the following statement the amount of capital invested in machinery and plant and land and buildings used in connexion with the various classes of manufacturing industries is shown for the year 1925-26 :—

Capital
invested in
manufacturing
plant and
premises.

MACHINERY, PLANT, LAND AND BUILDINGS USED IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, 1925-26.

Class of Industry.	Value of Machinery and Plant.	Value of Land and Buildings.
	£	£
Treating raw material, product of pastoral pursuits, &c.	743,165	881,170
Treating oils and fats, animal, vegetable, &c.	290,920	229,495
Processes in stone, clay, glass, &c.	1,283,765	1,192,440
Working in wood	1,303,175	1,124,845
Metal works, machinery, &c.	3,398,185	3,647,635
Connected with food and drink, &c.	5,774,800	5,567,770
Clothing and textile fabrics, &c.	3,996,050	6,450,635
Books, paper, printing, &c.	2,771,865	2,527,990
Musical instruments, &c.	50,550	166,065
Arms and explosives	283,780	413,515
Vehicles, saddlery, harness, &c.	588,815	2,031,990
Ship and boat building and repairing	101,090	266,240
Furniture, upholstery, and bedding	246,905	967,105
Drugs, chemicals, and by-products	781,735	670,265
Surgical and other scientific instruments	16,845	67,675
Jewellery, time-pieces, and plated-ware	75,700	275,285
Heat, light, and power	7,938,050	2,725,335
Leatherware, n.e.i.	40,245	161,925
Minor wares, n.e.i.	863,490	479,990
Total	30,549,130	29,847,370

The capital invested in plant, buildings, &c., used in connexion with three classes of industries—food and drink; clothing and textile fabrics; and heat, light and power—amounted, in the year under review, to £32,452,640, or more than one-half of the total for all manufacturing industries.

The values of machinery and plant and of land and buildings used in connexion with manufacturing industries are shown in the next table for the years 1916-17 to 1925-26 :—

MACHINERY, PLANT, LAND AND BUILDINGS USED IN
MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, 1916-17 to 1925-26.

Year.						Value of Machinery and Plant.	Value of Land and Buildings.
						£	£
1916-17	..	..	..	..	..	11,732,062	12,052,227
1917-18	..	..	..	..	..	12,612,797	12,847,485
1918-19	..	..	..	..	..	13,645,220	13,673,515
1919-20	..	..	..	..	..	15,846,935	14,957,585
1920-21	..	..	..	..	..	18,179,385	17,313,350
1921-22	..	..	..	..	..	21,182,110	19,810,170
1922-23	..	..	..	..	..	23,994,715	22,428,525
1923-24	..	..	..	..	..	28,223,915	24,972,560
1924-25	..	..	..	..	..	32,563,815	28,468,160
1925-26	..	..	..	..	..	30,549,130	29,847,370

It will be seen from these figures that the values of machinery and plant and land and buildings increased by 154 per cent. between 1916-17 and 1925-26.

In the appended table the number of accidents in factories is given for the last ten years. The particulars in the table relate to establishments which came within the scope of the Factories Acts in force in the years specified, and not to those classified for statistical purposes in the preceding tables.

The large increase shown in the number of accidents since 1919 is mainly attributable to an amendment of the law, which made compulsory the reporting of accidents. Previously, only those of a serious nature were reported.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES, 1916 to 1925.

Year.			Number of Employees.	Number of Accidents.	Percentage of Accidents to Number of Employees.
1916	..	..	92,320	503	·544
1917	..	..	97,561	442	·453
1918	..	..	104,242	459	·440
1919	..	..	116,369	362	·311
1920	..	..	116,846	862	·737
1921	..	..	117,633	830	·705
1922	..	..	126,630	787	·621
1923	..	..	128,915	1,034	·802
1924	..	..	129,147	1,052	·814
1925	..	..	128,013	996	·778

**Manufactures—
Penal
Department
and Blind
Institute.**

The foregoing tables do not include particulars relating to work of various kinds done by the Penal Department at Pentridge and the Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind. At the former establishment the manufacture of wire netting, clothing, brushware, boots, mats, blankets, flannel, underclothing, bread, and printing are carried on. The estimated value of the output for 1925-26 was £56,162, and of the materials used, £43,530. The articles produced are used principally by Government Departments. The work carried on by the latter is the manufacture of brooms, brushware, wickerware, and coir mats and matting, and gives employment to 138 persons (118 males and 20 females). The value of the work turned out for the period under review was £28,522.

**Value of
Victorian
production.**

The value of all articles produced or manufactured in Victoria has been compiled from actual returns or estimates in the office of the Government Statist, and the results are set forth in the following table:—

VALUE OF VICTORIAN PRODUCTION, 1921-22 to 1925-26.

Produce.	Value in—				
	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
<i>Cultivation.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Wheat	10,509,945	8,031,875	8,189,069	11,993,546	6,665,150
Oats	931,346	1,416,355	1,455,231	934,538	684,320
Barley, malting ..	221,757	298,792	195,545	253,263	202,206
" other	179,843	137,445	66,665	95,743	87,060
Maize	194,358	205,314	263,276	137,948	172,825
Other Cereals ..	66,537	75,553	71,173	53,227	58,525
Grass and Clover Seed	6,113	3,537	3,880	3,886	2,749
Potatoes	555,111	1,040,662	701,229	682,873	1,309,470
Onions	157,930	139,888	215,444	209,803	267,793
Other Root Crops ..	11,259	11,800	15,032	12,340	18,297
Hay	4,413,091	6,327,338	5,229,162	3,639,496	3,497,253
Straw	66,164	76,644	66,677	66,920	63,688
Green Forage* ..	447,050	512,255	536,855	497,653	539,365
Tobacco	24,160	35,600	41,880	49,120	47,160
Grapes, not made into wine, raisins, &c.	39,978	71,793	45,589	45,372	77,333
Raisins, ordinary ..	125,154	132,308	27,420	57,867	73,432
" sultanas	445,319	555,059	122,775	733,919	676,965
Currants	187,605	171,642	57,027	110,099	93,972
Wine	166,883	171,749	217,713	153,986	177,371
Hops	22,650	23,195	29,772	53,000	54,193
Other Crops	68,536	81,447	104,066	78,848	125,788
Fruit grown for sale in orchards and gardens	1,184,069	1,172,325	1,193,689	1,091,508	1,247,723
Fruit in private orchards and gar- dens	12,660	10,670	10,505	9,945	12,070
Market Gardens ..	500,640	493,780	810,600	731,000	830,450
Less Deductions ..	..	..	..	-3,535,135	-3,283,560
Total	20,538,158	21,197,026	19,660,374	18,165,772	13,702,818

* Exclusive of area under sown grasses.

VALUE OF VICTORIAN PRODUCTION, 1921-22 TO 1925-26—continued.

Produce.	Value in—				
	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Dairying and Pastoral.</i>					
Milk consumed in natural state ..	2,027,040	1,995,280	2,130,345	1,784,590	2,333,000
Butter made ..	5,127,570	6,660,600	6,491,310	6,618,240	6,182,120
Cheese made ..	203,620	163,180	253,795	204,890	227,660
Cream made (not for butter) ..	80,130	127,530	177,090	190,540	184,350
Condensed, Concentrated, and Powdered Milk ..	2,074,620	1,434,720	1,509,400	1,582,915	1,437,660
Horses ..	71,800	..	..	..	..
Cattle ..	3,099,300	3,384,270	1,413,310	3,538,240	3,707,000
Pigs ..	1,277,730	1,280,040	1,507,600	1,588,620	1,720,740
Sheep (without wool) ..	1,991,600	3,752,260	2,600,450	4,390,880	3,316,660
Wool ..	4,662,750	6,380,600	7,695,000	11,440,240	7,082,820
Less Deductions ..	..	..	..	-1,723,178	-1,771,800
Total ..	20,616,160	25,178,480	23,778,300	29,615,977	24,420,210
<i>Mining.</i>					
Gold ..	443,938	453,962	405,245	285,316	200,958
Coal ..	634,397	695,430	563,289	610,671	762,521
Stone from Quarries (including limestone) ..	434,520	468,468	518,064	530,820	666,765
Other Metals and Minerals ..	30,299	48,021	45,829	41,848	37,284
Total ..	1,543,154	1,665,881	1,532,427	1,468,655	1,667,528
<i>Forest Produce.</i>					
Timber (Forest Saw-mills only) ..	896,070	946,930	942,480	745,580	711,970
Firewood (estimated) ..	918,550	927,860	1,033,700	1,053,870	1,071,000
Bark for Tanning ..	138,520	136,830	130,660	132,935	129,490
Total ..	1,953,140	2,011,620	2,106,840	1,932,385	1,912,460
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>					
Honey and Beeswax ..	48,075	40,122	45,559	78,981	41,694
Poultry production (estimated) ..	4,408,750	4,315,810	4,587,560	4,443,200	4,515,400
Rabbits and Hares ..	238,632	266,478	310,930	403,680	697,665
Fish ..	149,400	160,151	161,905	164,296	187,851
Total ..	4,842,857	4,782,561	5,105,954	5,090,157	5,442,610
Total Value of Primary Products ..	49,493,469	54,835,568	52,183,895	56,272,946	47,145,626
Manufacturing— Added Value* ..	43,592,856	46,355,804	49,141,526	45,271,348	46,006,461
Grand Total ..	93,086,325	101,191,372	101,325,421	101,544,294	93,152,087

* Exclusive of value of output of butter and cheese factories, and forest saw-mills (as regards Victorian timber), which is included above under the headings "Dairying and Pastoral" and "Forest Produce," respectively.

The figures for the last two years in the above table under the headings "Cultivation" and "Dairying and Pastoral" are not strictly comparable with those of previous years owing to certain deductions

(in addition to freight and handling charges) having been made consisting chiefly of cost of bags, cases, seed, manure, spraying material, and produce used in the production of crops in the former, and of hay, bran and pollard, green fodder, and root crops used as fodder in the case of the latter.

Similarly the value added to material during the process of manufacture has been estimated on a somewhat different basis to that adopted in previous years, the cost of fuel and light, tools replaced, and repairs to plant, &c., having been taken into account for the last two years only. This explains the apparent decrease in value under that head.

The values of different kinds of production per head of the total population in each of the last five years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRODUCTION PER HEAD OF POPULATION,
1921-22 to 1925-26.

Produce.	Value of Produce per head in—				
	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cultivation ..	13 4 10	13 6 7	12 1 11	10 19 3	8 2 9
Dairying and Pastoral	13 5 10	15 16 8	14 12 7	17 17 5	14 10 0
Mining	0 19 11	1 0 11	0 18 10	0 17 9	0 19 10
Forest	1 5 2	1 5 4	1 5 11	1 3 4	1 2 8
Miscellaneous ..	3 2 5	3 0 2	3 2 10	3 1 5	3 4 8
Total Primary Production	31 18 2	34 9 8	32 2 1	33 19 2	27 19 11
Manufactures ..	28 2 2	29 3 0	30 4 8	27 6 5	27 6 5
Grand Total	60 0 4	63 12 8	62 6 9	61 5 7	55 6 4

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR VICTORIA, 1836 to 1926.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

Year.	Population on 31st December.			Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.	Immi- grants (by Sea).	Emi- grants (by Sea).
	Persons.	Males.	Females.					
1836	224	186	38	1	3	..	..	..
1840	10,291	7,254	3,037	358	198	177	4,080	..
1850	76,162	45,495	30,667	2,673	780	969	10,760	3,304
1860	537,847	328,251	209,596	22,863	12,061	4,351	29,037	21,689
1870	726,599	398,755	327,844	27,151	10,420	4,732	32,554	21,087
1880	860,067	451,456	408,611	26,148	11,652	5,286	56,955	45,294
1890	1,133,266	596,064	537,202	37,578	18,012	9,187	79,777	63,820
1900	1,197,206	602,487	594,719	30,779	15,215	8,308	82,157	83,684
1910	1,301,408	646,482	654,926	31,437	14,736	10,240	82,594	77,951
1911	1,339,893	668,818	671,075	33,044	15,217	11,088	106,349	93,246
1912	1,382,553	690,056	692,497	35,817	16,595	11,338	124,527	99,933
1913	1,415,416	707,444	707,972	35,978	15,475	11,324	114,586	101,718
1914	1,435,188	713,307	721,881	36,225	16,503	11,830	109,149	*99,043
1915	1,424,445	694,210	730,235	35,010	15,823	12,832	*85,977	*82,189
1916	1,404,663	666,245	738,418	34,239	16,489	11,341	*80,458	*76,687
1917	1,417,060	671,075	745,985	33,035	14,555	9,506	*58,976	*58,774
1918	1,437,245	684,243	753,002	31,601	15,177	9,156	*48,566	*51,631
1919	1,503,035	739,956	763,079	31,621	19,370	11,706	*33,621	*37,099
1920	1,527,909	753,803	774,106	36,214	16,832	14,898	*65,595	59,956
1921	1,550,686	764,905	785,781	35,593	16,165	13,676	66,537	63,944
1922	1,590,225	788,626	801,599	36,288	15,156	12,996	81,903	66,355
1923	1,625,380	806,546	818,834	35,876	17,219	13,126	87,248	69,986
1924	1,657,095	824,182	832,913	36,139	16,503	13,296	88,467	72,548
1925	1,684,017	838,693	845,324	35,922	15,836	13,370	77,487	64,276
1926	1,711,827	852,399	859,428	35,362	16,335	13,405	88,026	73,799

* Exclusive of members of the Australian Expeditionary Forces.

STATE FINANCE.

Year ended June—	General Revenue.	General Expenditure.	Expenditure by Government from Loan Funds.	Loan Expenditure on—		
				Railways.	Country Water Supply.	Closer Settlement (including Soldier Settlement).
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1836*	..	2,165	..	..	..	..
1840*	255,984	70,129	..	..	..	..
1850*	259,433	196,440	..	..	..	..
1860*	3,082,461	3,315,307	†	†	†	..
1870*	3,261,883	3,428,382	†	†	†	..
1880	4,621,282	4,875,029	1,435,376	1,209,892†	37,982	..
1890	8,519,159	9,645,737	4,188,934	3,260,244	427,186	..
1900	7,453,355	7,285,636	1,033,588	594,484	144,149	63,985
1910	8,760,305	8,742,293	1,209,505	657,666	286,823	198,945
1911	9,372,637	9,362,291	2,657,271	1,230,381	311,709	956,900
1912	10,181,840	10,171,386	2,974,149	1,703,453	259,281	889,000
1913	10,508,945	10,479,741	2,202,697	1,231,113	256,724	569,473
1914	10,958,037	10,944,718	3,282,386	2,468,338	239,963	273,189
1915	10,529,017	11,706,968	4,912,585	3,172,444	304,766	211,636
1916	11,470,875	11,683,363	4,047,651	2,440,317	347,135	81,490
1917	11,813,879	11,795,295	2,306,627	1,266,352	287,561	92,700
1918	12,672,787	12,631,169	1,901,747	761,705	284,020	282,970
1919	13,044,088	12,979,407	2,627,716	577,356	414,459	1,105,541
1920	15,866,184	15,752,459	7,502,756	1,146,593	484,325	5,221,221
1921	19,054,475	18,941,698	11,099,694	1,413,434	810,437	6,936,252
1922	20,357,733	20,297,279	11,880,927	3,886,534	968,047	4,287,132
1923	21,634,677	21,611,309	8,764,306	1,674,643	1,210,485	2,420,764
1924	23,075,968	23,050,968	8,407,526	1,395,282	1,415,109	2,433,330
1925	24,384,887	24,250,483	7,940,589	1,379,182	1,405,623	1,725,960
1926	25,269,756	25,559,583	8,001,375	1,489,285	1,587,477	1,307,819
Total to date	—	—	150,922,750	67,634,835	17,510,557	30,743,206

NOTE.—For expenditure by the Country Roads Board, see page 600.

* Year ended 31st December.

† Details of Loan Expenditure for each year prior to 1872-3 are not available. The total loan expenditure up to 30th June, 1872, was £12,484,568, of which £9,790,526 had been expended on Railways, and £276,062 on Country Water Supply.

‡ Including purchase money of the late Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Company's lines.

STATE AND MUNICIPAL FINANCE.

Year.	Public Debt at end of Financial Year. *	Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.			Shires and Road Districts.		
		No.	Total Value of Rateable Property.	Revenue.	No.	Total Value of Rateable Property.	Revenue.
	£		£	£		£	£
1857	1,458,700	19	16,520,160	219,960	16	2,890,550	58,113
1860	5,643,100	41	19,512,925	324,728	42	8,242,199	122,470
1870	12,099,800	65	22,607,630	386,676	108	25,322,054	528,881
1880	20,567,700	57	31,199,483	416,765	117	52,647,936	405,187
1890	41,377,693	59	86,226,966	925,638	133	108,086,680	925,673
1900	49,325,885	58	67,302,423	657,775	150	106,839,331	531,102
1910	55,576,725	60	114,113,507	1,015,028	146	150,970,220	754,586
1911	57,983,764	61	119,400,893	1,056,575	146	155,677,624	761,853
1912	60,737,216	61	127,743,501	1,149,044	147	160,128,933	796,472
1913	62,776,724	61	137,649,219	1,259,569	147	164,268,467	840,080
1914	66,130,726	61	147,205,224	1,320,545	147	167,405,523	854,483
1915	73,083,927	52	149,235,137	1,378,006	141	169,724,979	827,466
1916	76,775,032	51	154,105,571	1,407,021	139	172,309,539	847,206
1917	78,125,395	52	158,777,843	1,487,526	139	172,558,872	875,940
1918	79,595,646	52	164,306,704	1,598,643	139	176,297,529	927,901
1919	82,031,929	52	172,838,636	1,857,884	139	184,599,186	1,022,241
1920	87,647,739	55	193,947,624	2,053,584	138	205,555,121	1,171,379
1921	97,317,831	53	210,501,055	2,314,017	139	215,984,328	1,279,099
1922	109,099,199	53	233,586,201	2,648,855	139	221,623,773	1,382,922
1923	118,562,029	53	264,693,364	2,992,159	139	235,274,597	1,496,764
1924	124,108,326	53	288,230,793	3,354,343	139	250,480,405	1,646,410
1925	131,169,565	55	314,333,446	3,763,373	139	257,350,043	1,815,707

* Including corporations guarantee loans.

EXPENDITURE BY THE COUNTRY ROADS BOARD.

Year.	Expenditure on Maintenance of Roads.*	Loan Expenditure on—		Total Expenditure on Construction and Maintenance of Roads.
		Construction Works.†	Developmental Roads.‡	
	£	£	£	£
1913-14	9,490	24,440	..	33,930
1914-15	49,888	342,681	..	392,569
1915-16	98,879	464,787	..	563,666
1916-17	130,537	226,603	..	357,140
1917-18	173,785	226,395	1,703	401,883
1918-19	179,133	284,734	47,561	511,428
1919-20	192,303	335,755	315,701	843,759
1920-21	221,395	271,850	693,245	1,186,490
1921-22	267,969	288,864	626,998	1,183,831
1922-23	288,129	266,046	364,112	918,287
1923-24	343,233	200,755	467,329	1,011,317
1924-25	468,182	228,872	602,519	1,299,573
Total	2,422,923	3,161,782	3,119,168	8,703,873

* One-half of this expenditure incurred prior to 1st January, 1925, and one-third of expenditure incurred subsequent to that date, is repaid by the municipalities affected annually.

† One-half of this expenditure is repaid by the municipalities over a period of 3½ years.

‡ The municipalities pay a proportion of the interest on the expenditure incurred in making these roads, and they maintain the roads after they have been constructed.

BANKING.

Year.	Ordinary Banks.					Savings Banks.*		
	No. of Banks.	Paid-up Capital.	Assets.	Liabilities.	Deposits.	No. of Savings Banks.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Balances.
		£	£	£	£			£
1854	6	3,367,560	10,536,528	7,494,909	5,068,792	4	2,761	180,020
1860	9	6,134,657	12,693,727	9,238,731	7,225,728	9	10,135	484,501
1870	10	8,305,224	16,866,405	12,357,571	10,899,026	123	41,738	1,047,147
1880	11	9,126,250	23,284,822	19,488,512	17,972,703	202	92,115	1,661,409
1890	16	13,281,790	60,937,955	42,224,084	40,292,065	360	281,509	5,262,105
1900	11	13,746,458	41,755,928	31,895,571	30,638,285	371	375,070	9,110,793
1910	11	13,933,729	47,341,431	44,746,441	43,188,975	416	560,515	15,417,887
1911	12	14,529,658	49,343,205	48,158,503	47,485,600	423	595,424	17,274,423
1912	12	14,529,735	49,543,884	47,836,052	47,258,048	422	641,736	19,662,465
1913	16	23,677,252	50,335,420	49,255,216	48,686,121	433	674,542	21,508,125
1914	16	25,074,076	51,996,067	51,819,656	50,896,536	445	705,029	23,258,775
1915	16	25,112,160	59,449,407	55,813,235	54,040,102	451	721,936	24,874,811
1916	17	26,519,044	63,435,125	60,195,632	59,202,831	461	746,597	26,143,908
1917	17	27,006,166	59,737,528	65,329,672	64,042,657	459	780,139	28,344,042
1918	16	27,013,981	75,489,092	78,296,932	76,390,503	464	813,031	30,756,929
1919	16	28,155,048	70,903,238	80,028,961	78,518,187	468	850,486	34,104,110
1920	17	35,915,745	88,536,893	88,049,750	86,085,423	473	886,344	37,232,543
1921	16	36,001,087	84,033,765	83,741,022	82,249,429	484	928,009	42,956,461
1921-2	15	36,872,469	74,659,508	78,100,614	76,546,572	499	970,431	45,968,222
1922-3	15	38,914,827	83,170,293	86,657,683	85,135,739	518	1,015,346	49,540,039
1923-4	15	41,627,576	84,248,711	85,937,244	84,301,488	540	1,059,008	51,497,200
1924-5	15	45,581,952	86,530,137	87,377,627	85,674,995	560	1,095,462	53,145,015
1925-6	15	45,928,051	92,845,850	91,953,493	90,067,719	567	1,130,121	56,461,927

* Post Office Savings Banks were first opened in 1865. Particulars relating to Post Office Savings Banks are for the years ended 31st December; those relating to Trustee Savings Banks are for the years ended 30th June. They were merged into one institution on 1st October, 1897.

CROWN LANDS ; COMMERCE.

Year.	Crown Land Sales.		Imports.	Exports.	Total Exports of Victorian Produce.	Exports Oversea of—	
	Area Sold.	Amount Realized.	Total Value.	Total Value.		Butter.	
						Quantity.	Value.
	acres.	£	£	£	£	lbs.	£
1857	500,383	1,067,450	17,256,209	15,079,512	..	572,770	16,240
1860	492,248	663,238	15,093,730	12,962,704	11,061,076	705,040	27,974
1870	337,507	463,821	12,455,758	12,470,014	9,103,323	137,475	4,704
1880	409,738	471,824	14,556,894	15,954,559	11,220,467	1,096,401	29,996
1890	249,373	322,946	22,954,015	13,266,222	10,291,821	1,297,777	47,972
1900	494,694	526,650	18,301,811	17,422,552	13,918,556	32,087,739	1,243,260
1910	127,890	171,904	*	*	*	39,698,122	1,780,044
1911	121,062	136,277	*	*	*	51,304,010	2,361,587
1912	128,069	165,854	*	*	*	31,451,378	1,545,771
1913	152,989	164,065	*	*	*	34,542,925	1,681,987
1914	129,235	145,003	*	*	*	† 9,373,252	†475,898
1915	117,161	113,167	*	*	*	†16,630,637	†800,385
1916	89,177	80,238	*	*	*	†11,417,311	†719,653
1917	81,991	79,992	*	*	*	†30,706,719	†2,189,052
1918	76,039	78,235	*	*	*	†24,323,648	†1,664,299
1919	100,945	114,654	*	*	*	†23,969,104	†1,860,415
1920	187,228	192,861	*	*	*	†24,170,187	†2,089,296
1921	109,874	100,890	*	*	*	†32,813,204	†4,027,256
1922	106,286	118,698	*	*	*	†45,985,904	†3,026,447
1923	142,812	167,669	*	*	*	†41,653,344	†3,190,805
1924	126,123	167,322	*	*	*	†35,578,812	†2,751,312
1925	185,035	129,187	*	*	*	†53,731,160	†4,051,632
1926	..	..	*	*	*	†32,874,047	†2,542,626

* Information not available owing to the Federal Government having abandoned the collecting and recording of Inter-State imports and exports from 13th September, 1910.

† For period of six months to 30th June.

‡ For year ended 30th June.

NOTE.—In addition to the quantity of land actually sold and the amount realized for sales effected and completed within the year, the figures under the head "Crown Land Sales" represent during each of the years after 1868 the total extent of, and the amount paid on lands purchased under deferred payments on which the payments were completed within the year, although such payments had extended over a series of years. The extent selected, of which the purchase had not been completed, is not included in the area sold. This amounted, at the end of 1925, to 9,239,991 acres. The figures for 1894 include 12,221 acres disposed of to Messrs. Chaffey Bros. in previous years at £1 per acre, which area and amount were not previously taken into account. The figures for 1895 include 11,584 acres granted without purchase to Messrs. Chaffey Bros.; but, except for this, lands granted without purchase, which amounted, up to the end of 1925, to 128,778 acres (including 50,000 granted to Messrs. Chaffey Bros.), are excluded.

The figures for 1894 and 1895 which are referred to above appear on page 601 of the Year-Book for 1920-21.

COMMERCE—continued.

Year.	Value of Australian Produce Exported Oversea.	Value of Oversea Imports.	Value of Oversea Exports.	Value of Total Oversea Trade.
	†	†	†	†
	£	£	£	£
1859 ..	*	12,873,360	12,558,129	25,431,489
1860 ..	*	12,736,535	11,390,445	24,126,980
1870 ..	*	10,608,267	11,236,300	21,844,567
1880 ..	*	9,034,538	12,151,798	21,186,336
1890 ..	*	15,161,356	9,553,031	24,714,387
1900 ..	11,855,052	11,937,644	12,165,364	24,103,008
1910 ..	17,388,708	20,002,606	18,188,236	38,190,842
1911 ..	17,936,017	21,850,963	18,915,716	40,766,679
1912 ..	18,366,092	25,081,074	19,113,121	44,194,195
1913 ..	16,750,278	24,387,073	17,837,591	42,224,664
1914 (to 30th June) ..	8,746,861	12,718,794	8,994,698	21,713,492
1914-15 ..	12,009,497	21,050,310	12,349,662	33,399,972
1915-16 ..	14,279,482	26,761,922	14,748,730	41,510,652
1916-17 ..	18,668,224	25,474,839	19,030,146	44,504,985
1917-18 ..	20,270,842	21,113,588	20,716,688	41,830,276
1918-19 ..	27,682,262	35,026,311	28,095,159	63,121,470
1919-20 ..	42,236,835	33,788,287	43,124,940	76,913,227
1920-21 ..	33,890,767	57,608,777	34,871,961	92,480,738
1921-22 ..	33,681,068	36,352,056	34,644,182	70,996,238
1922-23 ..	33,148,563	46,729,100	33,768,701	80,497,801
1923-24 ..	29,088,613	49,592,643	29,612,548	79,205,191
1924-25 ..	41,066,355	54,289,690	41,641,979	95,931,669
1925-26 ..	32,652,454	50,332,845	33,110,231	83,443,076

* Information not available.

† The figures in these columns refer only to Imports from and Exports to countries beyond Australia.

COMMERCE—continued.

Year.	Exports (Oversea) of—						
	Wool.		Tallow.		Wheat.		Frozen Meats.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Value.
	lbs.	£	cwt.	£	bushels.	£	£
1850	17,780,000	815,892	87,763	130,397	85	21	..
1860	24,216,847	2,021,396	6,029	15,687	328	165	..
1870	51,830,526	3,199,309	197,420	358,092	5,294	1,458	..
1880	111,509,915	6,372,306	134,022	191,531	2,378,097	539,421	..
1890	131,041,074	5,862,011	162,140	156,535	505,025	95,930	..
1900	100,743,853	4,164,656	153,340	171,327	6,246,645	874,323	432,120
1910	164,213,073	7,190,789	248,735	378,924	15,319,971	3,091,079	888,001
1911	159,955,473	6,255,599	334,937	480,256	20,351,479	3,592,534	941,406
1912	166,859,531	6,990,918	229,638	324,497	9,183,280	1,836,387	889,297
1913	143,391,292	6,282,291	258,969	371,316	11,220,525	2,053,454	1,565,061
1914*	44,626,388	1,979,174	156,470	227,759	17,579,763	3,260,551	710,018
1914-15	115,234,566	5,251,177	143,695	192,400	786,432	160,642	1,779,952
1915-16	100,526,942	6,203,565	24,831	45,214	9,974,218	2,767,099	140,973
1916-17	84,127,550	6,149,212	106,260	246,091	18,089,912	4,177,726	630,494
1917-18	87,681,189	6,820,006	44,819	133,577	10,050,700	2,776,635	478,921
1918-19	146,762,561	10,968,651	177,489	467,529	15,070,085	3,923,715	891,297
1919-20	156,458,960	12,800,519	265,870	1,037,986	28,675,295	7,983,987	4,096,685
1920-21	118,862,086	8,909,004	101,400	282,306	21,760,063	10,086,400	1,036,982
1921-22	193,425,056	11,185,526	203,829	336,869	32,268,626	9,182,731	1,132,230
1922-23	204,143,606	16,115,971	278,058	451,405	9,252,600	2,498,066	2,448,056
1923-24	118,152,098	13,067,701	99,118	188,767	16,762,086	3,922,823	707,179
1924-25	117,325,046	14,446,378	215,726	44,986	31,777,857	10,413,976	1,123,529
1925-26	194,663,036	15,402,800	205,879	399,783	10,110,257	3,132,983	1,528,751

* Period of six months to 30th June.

COMMERCE ; SHIPPING.

Year.	Exports (Oversea) of—			Shipping.			
	Flour.		Hides and Skins.	Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Value.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
	tons.	£	£				
1850 ..	..	..	1,245	555	108,030	508	87,087
1860 ..	995	17,713	141,194	1,814	581,642	1,841	599,137
1870 ..	1,077	13,423	23,141	1,759	630,474	1,834	645,571
1880 ..	11,742	113,404	86,127	1,648	1,006,478	1,688	1,028,721
1890 ..	7,323	68,036	163,258	2,076	2,119,171	2,078	2,128,895
1900 ..	21,672	132,398	271,691	1,928	2,901,619	1,935	2,912,696
1910 ..	68,766	609,960	1,296,516	2,308	4,952,273	2,312	4,954,773
1911 ..	79,684	629,427	1,089,451	2,335	5,148,184	2,347	5,156,952
1912 ..	68,782	600,267	1,329,400	2,399	5,426,146	2,385	5,410,801
1913 ..	84,689	710,416	1,688,409	2,481	5,950,035	2,469	5,902,277
1914*..	48,113	398,442	552,211	1,281	3,150,689	1,297	3,208,400
1914-15	21,058	191,214	885,075	2,324	5,290,063	2,329	5,308,817
1915-16	55,600	653,490	534,440	2,392	4,935,129	2,385	4,902,245
1916-17	101,991	1,213,751	548,736	1,962	4,042,819	1,967	4,050,095
1917-18	135,180	1,529,789	478,236	1,721	2,871,343	1,724	2,873,770
1918-19	144,073	1,707,399	1,078,163	1,730	2,870,974	1,709	2,815,938
1919-20	207,616	3,259,296	1,947,747	1,792	3,987,262	1,809	4,021,188
1920-21	87,422	1,900,888	784,421	2,246	4,663,126	2,248	4,651,818
1921-22	145,127	2,157,754	768,010	2,442	5,506,127	2,436	5,518,393
1922-23	178,812	2,024,921	1,562,572	2,634	6,611,352	2,634	6,618,968
1923-24	211,685	2,175,854	1,704,857	2,666	6,782,495	2,676	6,749,873
1924-25	177,778	2,408,542	2,158,241	2,577	6,807,357	2,605	6,806,355
1925-26	162,081	2,177,935	2,273,963	2,470	6,485,561	2,447	6,494,779

* Period of six months to 30th June.

POST OFFICE, TELEGRAPHS, AND TELEPHONES.

Year.	Postage.			Electric Telegraphs.			Tele- phones.‡
	Number of Post Offices.	Number of Letters.†	Number of Newspapers.	Number of Stations.	Number of Miles of Wire.	Number of Telegrams.‡	Number of Sub- scribers.
1860	311	8,116,302	5,683,023	33	*	166,803	..
1870	677	11,133,283	5,287,482	95	3,371	454,598	..
1880	1,100	24,195,149	10,640,540	284	6,019	1,160,912	..
1890	1,671	62,526,448	22,729,005	748	13,499	3,114,783	2,307
1900	1,615	74,291,204	25,466,342	824	15,198	1,993,009	5,136
1910	1,657	143,483,191	*	1,374	16,405	2,757,737	20,236
1911	1,720	159,092,011	36,125,728	1,455	17,403	2,894,664	22,859
1912	1,730	175,588,805	37,826,929	1,538	18,649	2,969,237	26,562
1913	1,749	189,975,987	40,950,516	1,648	19,403	2,971,041	30,640
1914	1,816	188,440,698	40,737,663	1,748	26,146	3,267,195	34,071
1915-16	1,787	191,427,078	40,246,088	1,796	28,937	3,335,026	36,372
1916-17	1,782	201,093,447	43,175,024	1,711	29,446	3,428,871	38,025
1917-18	1,726	197,830,163	36,695,699	1,695	29,606	3,532,430	40,754
1918-19	1,715	188,526,047	34,982,384	1,671	30,860	3,804,234	44,035
1919-20	1,707	197,080,463	31,756,907	1,663	29,955	4,490,656	49,017
1920-21	1,712	180,797,030	31,660,611	1,703	31,243	4,096,843	52,791
1921-22	1,721	170,337,926	31,293,290	1,791	31,839	3,940,167	55,986
1922-23	1,736	178,682,295	37,264,106	1,858	32,594	4,094,863	61,201
1923-24	1,774	195,166,640	40,241,184	2,040	35,043	4,308,242	71,138
1924-25	1,785	205,819,138	44,828,254	2,219	38,388	4,461,790	81,794
1925-26	1,792	213,819,753	46,552,400	2,300	43,110	4,475,214	91,301

* Information not available.

† Post cards were first issued in April, 1876. They are included with letters in this column.
‡ Telegrams on Railway service are not included in 1890 and subsequent years. There was a reduction in the rates for telegrams in 1885 which led to a large increase in their number.

§ The Telephone system was taken over by the Post Office on 22nd September, 1887. Previously it was worked as a private undertaking.

|| Exclusive of letters and newspapers posted in other States for delivery in Victoria, which are included in all previous years. In 1920-21 these numbered:—Letters, 20,681,335; newspapers, 2,218,408.

STATE RAILWAYS, ETC.

Year.	State Railways.					Churches, Chapels, and Buildings used for Public Worship.
	Miles Con- structed.	Capital Cost.	Total Receipts.	Working Expenses.	Train Miles Travelled.	
1880	1,199	£ 18,041,295	£ 1,492,917	£ 814,075	4,380,802	3,307
1890	2,471	32,588,375	3,131,866	2,132,158	11,773,152	4,583
1900	3,186	39,496,247	3,025,162	1,902,540	10,107,549	5,037
1910	3,544	43,091,478	4,455,748	2,827,735	12,045,866	4,748
1911	3,576	44,021,212	4,909,062	3,109,323	13,319,572	4,887
1912	3,675	45,603,114	5,233,979	3,455,086	14,203,681	4,946
1913	3,700	47,076,911	5,222,271	3,605,001	14,648,489	4,993
1914	3,888	49,311,907	5,581,474	3,886,348	15,570,098	5,173
1915	3,928	51,620,187	5,183,687	4,528,316	15,880,677	5,134
1916	4,153	54,560,106	5,730,743	4,141,588	14,424,357	5,059
1917	4,176	55,808,163	5,980,638	4,305,958	14,594,775	5,042
1918	4,205	56,694,141	6,593,873	4,603,905	14,147,896	5,010
1919	4,245	57,658,557	6,476,076	4,474,771	13,587,968	4,953
1920	4,270	58,496,357	8,287,063	6,265,754	15,687,177	4,720
1921	4,322	60,012,250	9,851,908	8,093,869	16,583,638	4,997
1922	4,372	63,186,759	10,857,853	8,287,146	15,830,605	4,846
1923	4,389	64,938,085	11,413,782	8,442,214	16,323,481	5,068
1924	4,490	66,212,984	12,025,987	8,982,880	17,245,219	4,964
1925	4,539	67,470,720	12,830,283	9,704,455	18,172,188	5,062
1926	4,683	69,181,724	12,743,566	9,833,240	18,267,000	..

NOTE.—The figures for 1880 in relation to State Railways are for the calendar year; those for 1890 and subsequent years relate to the period of twelve months ending 30th June of the year mentioned in the table.

EDUCATION.

Year.	Number of Schools.			Number of Scholars on Rolls.			Melbourne University.	
	State.	Private.	Total.	State.	Private.	Total.	Number of Matriculated Students.	Number of Graduates (Direct degrees).
1860	665	221	886	46,687	4,981	51,668	10	6
1870	908	959	1,867	123,385	30,968	154,353	82	10
1880	1,810	643	2,453	229,723	28,134	257,857	151	49
1890	2,170	791	2,961	250,097	40,181	290,278	154	99
1900	1,948	884	2,832	243,667	48,483	292,150	101	124
1910	2,036	641	2,677	235,042	54,740	289,782	287	201
1911	2,059	587	2,646	234,766	55,893	290,659	283	243
1912	2,093	548	2,641	238,111	56,035	294,146	315	184
1913	2,127	519	2,646	241,042	57,698	298,740	287	260
1914	2,175	512	2,687	246,447	58,886	305,333	364	305
1915	2,227	509	2,736	250,264	60,865	311,129	316	347
1916	2,225	495	2,720	257,726	64,830	322,556	364	302
1917	2,202	495	2,697	254,033	64,369	318,402	373	241
1918	2,272	493	2,765	240,664	63,476	304,140	430	295
1919	2,280	486	2,766	235,292	63,106	298,398	636	204
1920	2,333	489	2,822	247,337	66,445	313,782	746	387
1921	2,334	486	2,820	247,204	68,048	315,252	610	380
1922	2,405	486	2,891	248,882	67,673	316,555	548	514
1923	2,460	486	2,946	253,307	70,615	323,922	496	573
1924	2,503	490	2,993	254,144	71,925	326,069	509	619
1925	2,530	495	3,025	255,101	71,772	326,873	600	644

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES ; OLD-AGE AND INVALID PENSIONS.

Year.	Friendly Societies.*				Old-age and Invalid Pensions.†		
	Number of Branches.	Average Number of Members.	Receipts.	Funds at end of Year.	Old-age.	Invalid.	Amounts Expended.
			£	£			No.
1860	61	5,028	20,084	26,421	..	..	..
1870	592	34,224	117,295	186,384	..	..	..
1880	748	45,876	171,987	450,719	..	..	..
1890	1,003	86,450	322,747	909,504	..	..	..
1900	1,132	96,802	372,631	1,318,165	..	..	..
1910	1,475	139,308	534,616	2,122,602	20,218	..	470,658
1911	1,498	145,439	559,585	2,246,396	23,722	2,272	573,699
1912	1,505	151,262	580,371	2,361,464	24,449	3,162	672,593
1913	1,501	155,601	606,785	2,490,957	25,434	3,918	715,924
1914	1,524	158,511	620,765	2,644,216	27,150	4,844	795,449
1915	1,533	158,746	634,649	2,775,787	28,365	6,054	839,718
1916	1,522	157,819	672,650	2,912,178	28,446	6,869	908,159
1917	1,516	158,035	653,055	3,017,503	29,064	7,921	1,070,386
1918	1,496	153,870	658,435	3,073,083	29,159	8,901	1,168,498
1919	1,489	146,919	664,526	3,056,666	29,179	9,337	1,199,787
1920	1,475	143,651	681,232	3,173,678	29,565	10,277	1,348,100
1921	1,464	143,421	763,031	3,375,050	30,385	11,174	1,533,430
1922	1,467	145,254	790,788	3,549,798	30,958	11,444	1,581,898
1923	1,469	150,264	1,193,550	3,838,052	31,248	11,707	1,589,362
1924					32,603	12,220	1,947,069
1925	1,470	154,609	800,028	4,065,808	33,845	12,950	2,027,202
1926	1,468	156,599	820,550	4,280,400	36,800	14,062	2,348,571

* Until 1880 the figures given do not represent particulars of all the Friendly Societies in the State, but only of such as furnished returns. For that year and subsequent years the returns are complete. The figures for 1923-24 relate to a period of eighteen months ended 30th June, 1924.

† Old-age pensions were first granted in Victoria on 18th January, 1901, and the Commonwealth Government took over the administration on 1st July, 1909. The figures relate to the financial year ended 30th June.

LIVE STOCK ; CRIME.

Year.	Live Stock.				Crime : Number of Persons—			
	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Taken into Custody.*	Committed for Trial.*	Convicted after Commitment.*	Executed.
1860	76,536	722,332	5,780,896	61,259	29,030	1,329	796	3
1870	167,220	721,096	10,761,887	130,946	22,527	908	573	5
1880	275,516	1,286,267	10,360,285	241,936	22,843	680	398	1
1890	436,469	1,782,881	12,692,843	282,457	37,339	1,129	662	..
1900	392,237	1,602,384	10,841,790	350,370	26,104	575	374	1
1910	472,080	1,547,569	12,882,665	333,281	19,070	503	354	..
1911	507,813	1,647,127	13,857,804	348,069	19,398	522	334	..
1912	530,494	1,508,089	11,892,224	240,072	19,814	518	352	1
1913	562,331	1,528,553	12,113,682	221,277	21,554	568	352	..
1914	552,053	1,362,542	12,051,685	243,196	21,084	518	342	..
1915	493,779	1,043,604	10,545,632	192,002	20,276	561	391	..
1916	514,403	1,175,098	12,576,587	254,436	17,599	509	343	2
1917	514,061	1,371,049	14,760,013	323,159	12,689	440	276	..
1918	523,788	1,596,544	15,773,902	267,819	10,346	340	209	2
1919	513,500	1,631,120	14,422,745	186,810	11,993	506	307	..
1920	487,503	1,575,159	12,171,084	175,275	14,582	759	442	..
1921	496,124	1,750,369	12,325,818	230,770	15,249	715	483	..
1922	494,947	1,785,660	11,765,520	294,962	16,163	684	434	1
1923	486,075	1,591,367	11,059,761	259,795	17,223	570	361	..
1924	473,236	1,605,554	12,649,898	288,509	17,786	514	347	1
1925	463,051	1,513,787	13,740,500	339,601	17,922	648	451	..

* The figures prior to 1900 represent the number of offences with which persons arrested were charged ; those for 1900 and subsequent years represent distinct arrests.

MINERAL PRODUCTION.

Year.	Gold Raised.		Black Coal Produced.		Other Minerals.	Total.
	Estimated Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Value.	Value.
	oz. gross.	£	tons.	£	£	£
1870	1,304,304	5,217,216	100	100	24,421	5,241,737
1880	829,121	3,316,484	..	..	30,936	3,347,420
1890	588,560	2,354,240	14,601	13,899	16,311	2,384,450
1900	807,407	3,229,628	211,596	101,599	49,017*	3,380,244
1910	609,998	2,422,745	369,059	188,977	139,434	2,751,156
1911	542,074	2,140,855	653,864	298,829	178,107	2,617,791
1912	516,255	2,039,464	589,143	258,455	201,796	2,499,715
1913	467,052	1,847,475	593,912	274,371	222,898	2,344,744
1914	443,347	1,755,236	617,536	288,535	235,238	2,279,009
1915	352,272	1,397,793	588,104	274,770	282,884	1,955,447
1916	276,188	1,090,194	417,183	216,292	229,901	1,536,387
1917	217,092	857,500	466,220	335,259	307,473	1,500,232
1918	171,271	674,655	439,575	349,696	317,971	1,342,322
1919	146,981	575,260	423,946	372,075	382,791	1,330,126
1920	165,115	648,969	442,241	464,739	493,937	1,607,645
1921	114,602	443,938	514,859	603,323	495,893	1,543,154
1922	117,944	453,962	559,284	664,251	547,668	1,665,881
1923	105,111	405,245	476,823	525,270	601,912	1,532,427
1924	74,638	285,316	518,315	569,555	613,784	1,468,655
1925	51,857	200,958	534,246	596,117	791,598	1,588,673

* From 1900 the production of stone quarries is included in the value of mineral production; before 1894 it was included in the output of manufacturing industries.

AGRICULTURE.

Year.	Total Area Cultivated.	Area under each Description of Tillage.					
		Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Maize.	Rye.	Peas and Beans.
	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.
1850-51	52,340½	28,510¼	5,007¾	2,101¾	24½	..	..
1860-61	407,740¼	161,251¾	86,337¼	4,123¼	1,650	111¾	662
1870-71	762,031	284,167	149,309	19,646	1,014	1,168	4,366
1880-81	1,742,949	977,285	134,089	68,630	1,769	1,569	23,378
1890-91	2,417,527	1,145,163	221,048	87,751	10,357	948	25,992
1900-01	3,717,002	2,017,321	362,689	58,853	9,389	823	7,812
1910-11	5,386,247	2,398,089	392,681	52,687	20,151	2,640	11,068
1911-12	5,109,849	2,164,066	302,238	53,541	18,223	1,098	11,535
1912-13	5,706,579	2,085,216	439,242	71,631	19,986	1,428	11,875
1913-14	6,129,893	2,565,861	442,060	83,351	17,962	1,779	12,630
1914-15	5,969,304	2,863,535	434,815	62,492	19,433	1,955	12,944
1915-16	7,069,608	3,679,971	353,932	61,400	22,258	3,137	8,563
1916-17	6,750,894	3,125,692	441,598	93,015	23,076	3,481	9,956
1917-18	5,782,954	2,690,216	293,214	84,931	20,987	1,597	11,899
1918-19	5,491,020	2,214,490	342,867	100,198	22,559	982	12,398
1919-20	5,358,351	1,918,269	559,547	85,323	23,474	784	9,655
1920-21	6,425,250	2,295,865	443,636	93,954	24,149	1,717	7,655
1921-22	6,583,276	2,611,198	318,681	100,127	23,227	1,320	9,423
1922-23	7,049,429	2,644,314	492,356	102,773	25,846	1,291	12,287
1923-24	6,976,441	2,454,117	520,654	56,564	29,104	899	12,195
1924-25	6,976,664	2,705,323	517,229	63,764	23,126	1,029	12,787
1925-26	6,890,628	2,513,494	437,696	103,395	21,913	978	15,055

AGRICULTURE—continued.

Year.	Produce.						
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Maize.	Rye.	Peas and Beans.	Potatoes.
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	tons.
1850-51	556,167	99,535	40,144	4	..	..	5,613
1860-61	3,459,914	2,633,693	83,854	25,045	1,720	11,973	77,258
1870-71	2,870,409	2,237,010	240,825	20,028	14,856	73,449	127,579
1880-81	9,727,369	2,362,425	1,068,830	49,299	13,978	403,321	129,262
1890-91	12,751,295	4,919,325	1,571,599	574,083	17,583	739,310	204,155
1900-01	17,847,321	9,582,332	1,215,478	604,180	11,989	146,357	123,126
1910-11	34,813,019	9,699,127	1,340,387	982,103	32,647	223,284	163,312
1911-12	20,891,877	4,585,326	1,024,584	792,660	9,981	181,113	119,092
1912-13	26,223,104	8,323,639	1,744,527	715,299	17,141	232,856	191,112
1913-14	32,936,245	8,890,321	1,812,890	800,529	19,029	226,564	176,602
1914-15	3,940,947*	1,608,419	600,599	1,018,419	13,415	124,612	189,225
1915-16	58,521,706	9,328,894	1,734,511	999,886	42,857	151,508	173,821
1916-17	51,162,438	8,289,289	1,799,784	1,172,330	42,953	162,951	187,992
1917-18	37,737,552	6,141,287	1,970,650	1,152,787	17,021	213,840	182,195
1918-19	25,239,871	5,274,984	2,028,635	711,679	7,428	160,419	137,533
1919-20	14,858,380	6,603,067	1,528,654	878,922	8,547	128,639	145,888
1920-21	39,468,625	10,907,191	2,495,762	1,065,880	21,359	146,150	171,628
1921-22	43,867,596	6,082,258	2,336,248	951,960	14,442	182,579	173,660
1922-23	35,697,220	8,093,459	2,442,041	879,915	15,718	238,552	148,354
1923-24	37,795,704	9,366,205	1,455,435	1,464,731	11,151	253,908	238,520
1924-25	47,364,495	9,572,003	1,444,823	891,987	13,000	274,391	139,043
1925-26	29,255,534	4,998,165	1,774,963	768,761	10,788	185,551	160,729

* In 1914-15 the almost total failure was due to drought.

AGRICULTURE—continued.

Year.	Area under each Description of Tillage.						
	Potatoes.	Mangel- wurzel.	Beet, Carrots, Parsnips, and Turnips.	Onions.	Hay.	Green Forage.	Chicory.
	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.
1850-51	2,837 $\frac{3}{4}$	..	..	..	13,567	130	..
1860-61	24,841 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,029	1,228 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	90,920 $\frac{1}{4}$	6,020 $\frac{1}{2}$	..
1870-71	39,026	957	1,886	287	163,181	6,868	220
1880-81	45,951	1,284	808	1,056	249,656	9,617	230
1890-91	53,818	892	708	2,238	413,052	10,091	258
1900-01	38,477	636	507	2,815	502,105	18,975	184
1910-11	62,904	1,254	872	6,161	832,669	71,826	467
1911-12	47,692	797	658	3,652	860,205	75,177	399
1912-13	47,575	1,121	627	4,977	1,203,728	84,460	506
1913-14	74,574	952	470	6,121	977,684	98,963	531
1914-15	65,495	893	563	8,937	895,755	139,654	595
1915-16	56,910	1,091	758	9,294	1,330,455	60,426	805
1916-17	73,618	860	524	6,324	897,186	49,667	658
1917-18	66,966	690	500	5,134	748,808	55,903	664
1918-19	51,620	581	407	5,512	984,479	73,641	536
1919-20	53,918	547	460	6,863	1,116,998	89,802	295
1920-21	62,687	524	410	8,000	1,333,397	79,524	392
1921-22	63,895	560	401	6,158	1,159,135	89,410	615
1922-23	61,741	684	433	6,954	1,261,408	102,451	739
1923-24	59,306	854	538	4,714	1,277,606	107,371	608
1924-25	61,295	736	238	4,504	1,120,312	99,531	309
1925-26	63,369	1,046	624	5,379	1,013,613	107,873	528

AGRICULTURE—continued.

Year.	Area under each Description of Tillage.							Artificial Grass.*
	Grass and Clover Seeds.	Hops.	To-bacco.	Vines.	Other Crops.	Gardens and Orchards.	Land in Fallow.	
	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.
1850-51	..	..	..	161½	..	..	..	..
1860-61	..	..	91	1,138	579½	7,298½	20,457½	11,640
1870-71	242	64	93	5,466	24	14,856	69,191	146,984
1880-81	2,817	428	1,990	4,980	984	22,288	194,140	254,994
1890-91	2,587	789	618	20,686	1,095	33,864	385,572	235,241
1900-01	2,235	401	109	30,634	2,671	57,496	602,870	207,896
1910-11	1,295	121	329	23,412	5,291	68,153	1,434,177	991,195
1911-12	1,188	122	356	24,193	4,785	70,316	1,469,608	1,041,772
1912-13	2,429	131	138	24,579	6,084	73,623	1,627,223	1,085,346
1913-14	1,452	117	284	22,435	6,135	77,960	1,738,572	1,094,566
1914-15	149	115	196	21,801	6,195	87,237	1,346,545	1,202,130
1915-16	2,435	107	160	22,353	5,711	91,499	1,358,343	1,182,995
1916-17	1,769	87	73	23,264	6,654	93,833	1,899,559	1,292,817
1917-18	2,312	64	82	25,236	5,842	95,180	1,672,729	1,268,310
1918-19	2,152	71	167	26,072	7,443	96,724	1,548,121	1,269,493
1919-20	1,235	72	406	27,441	6,757	98,969	1,357,536	1,062,244
1920-21	1,872	93	95	29,255	6,309	99,969	1,935,747	1,051,290
1921-22	1,800	104	604	33,175	6,684	103,795	2,052,964	1,032,104
1922-23	1,468	194	890	38,892	7,705	100,122	2,186,881	957,454
1923-24	1,306	224	1,047	42,599	10,656	101,782	2,294,297	938,547
1924-25	1,424	269	1,228	42,467	5,845	99,978	2,215,270	843,095
1925-26	1,290	312	1,179	40,712	5,762	99,274	2,457,136	820,337

* Not included in land under cultivation.

AGRICULTURE—continued.

Year.	Produce.						
	Mangel- wurzeln.	Beet, Carrots, Parsnips, and Turnips.	Onions.	Hay.	Chicory.	Grass and Clover Seeds.	Hops.
	tons.	tons.	cwt.	tons.	tons.	bushels.	cwt.
1850-51	..	..	..	20,971	..	..	..
1860-61	13,446	6,405	26,189	144,211	..	..	..
1870-71	10,521	10,363	32,900	183,708	1,349	2,652	318
1880-81	12,640	4,335	99,580	300,581	960	26,320	2,744
1890-91	14,676	8,556	279,220	567,779	1,859	36,415	7,931
1900-01	7,670	4,514	255,320	677,757	233	35,084	2,741
1910-11	17,654	7,481	749,680	1,292,410	432	16,262	737
1911-12	9,568	4,953	418,220	1,032,288	333	9,503	777
1912-13	14,615	5,628	572,820	1,572,933	500	23,206	1,387
1913-14	15,642	3,166	495,100	1,350,374	360	16,349	961
1914-15	9,921	2,249	630,560	568,956	380	1,100	903
1915-16	13,067	4,938	751,740	2,341,094	595	24,087	855
1916-17	10,307	2,025	563,260	1,232,721	515	13,174	975
1917-18	7,826	2,809	434,900	949,545	518	22,059	838
1918-19	9,818	2,412	484,220	1,113,861	485	15,443	522
1919-20	6,388	2,121	540,640	1,242,489	148	8,625	691
1920-21	6,742	2,289	859,700	1,984,854	310	11,555	1,199
1921-22	7,768	2,134	631,720	1,548,453	468	12,226	1,812
1922-23	8,120	1,878	888,180	1,665,089	640	7,859	2,071
1923-24	13,569	4,222	633,660	1,541,287	690	6,466	2,481
1924-25	10,022	1,847	531,100	1,492,588	314	8,597	4,240
1925-26	10,333	2,758	434,560	929,068	430	7,330	3,934

AGRICULTURE—continued.

Year.	Produce.			
	Tobacco.	Grapes not made into Wine.	Grapes made into Wine.	Wine made.
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	gallons.
1850-51 .. ..	..	..	..	4,621
1860-61	1,257	7,979	..	12,129
1870-71	467	26,296	98,642	629,219
1880-81	17,333	24,817	79,045	484,028
1890-91	326*	63,535	293,775	2,008,493
1900-01	311*	235,268	396,644	2,578,187
1910-11	1,090	397,808	194,630	1,362,420
1911-12	3,686	542,761	140,489	983,423
1912-13	661	564,991	168,588	1,206,111
1913-14	2,037	675,388	161,105	1,131,491
1914-15	1,192	528,468	92,408	605,636
1915-16	596	898,991	185,775	1,380,367
1916-17	410	827,967	185,230	1,302,660
1917-18	526	623,935	135,635	800,068
1918-19	1,825	804,124	215,255	1,349,309
1919-20	2,669	1,071,319	253,118	1,634,680
1920-21	908	717,069	355,698	2,222,305
1921-22	3,735	1,101,880	212,959	1,335,066
1922-23	4,151	1,607,502	272,462	1,717,490
1923-24	1,165	2,320,800	386,929	2,177,127
1924-25	3,199	1,925,959	216,390	1,368,765
1925-26	†	1,973,258	280,626	1,637,274

* The tobacco crops of 1890-91 and 1900-1 failed in most parts of the State.

† Not available.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.

Year.		Bacon and Hams Cured.	Cheese made.	Butter made.
		lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
1891	.. ..	*	3,311,012	16,703,786
1900	.. ..	13,204,547	4,284,170	55,604,118
1910	.. ..	16,581,361	4,530,893	70,603,787
1911	.. ..	19,617,212	4,549,843	86,500,474
1912	.. ..	20,094,206	4,176,778	67,655,834
1913	.. ..	19,340,878	4,856,321	73,381,567
1914	.. ..	18,861,755	4,395,502	62,421,288
1915	.. ..	13,705,004	3,497,278	42,345,113
1916-17	.. ..	18,146,328	5,869,562	59,568,771
1917-18	.. ..	21,324,846	5,285,003	64,405,711
1918-19	.. ..	22,212,395	6,055,964	66,240,403
1919-20	.. ..	19,385,509	7,735,023	60,218,945
1920-21	.. ..	15,139,100	3,636,571	64,938,458
1921-22	.. ..	17,396,798	5,675,909	82,981,570
1922-23	.. ..	19,269,124	3,754,958	84,355,939
1923-24	.. ..	22,540,974	7,216,938	86,888,723
1924-25	.. ..	21,993,869	6,193,135	100,849,382
1925-26	.. ..	21,213,925	5,279,009	81,747,291

* Not available.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION.

Year.	Value of Agricultural Production.						
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Maize.	Hay.	Potatoes.	Onions.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1904	3,119,878	465,257	123,423	79,967	861,479	417,150	116,721
1905	3,366,290	678,040	182,828	88,167	1,641,936	597,426	133,638
1906	3,109,980	810,851	205,832	70,496	1,681,768	333,678	79,800
1907	2,443,906	791,162	241,507	87,973	3,023,128	383,145	108,155
1908	4,405,303	989,844	253,309	116,402	3,256,308	411,840	138,408
1909	5,501,605	777,547	165,181	119,725	2,432,840	517,775	98,325
1910	5,512,060	909,295	227,382	96,166	2,455,560	534,515	63,723
1911	3,547,266	663,916	261,443	147,357	3,200,109	614,540	177,744
1912	4,343,202	953,750	332,430	119,305	4,010,979	678,448	176,142
1913	5,352,141	777,903	236,804	121,234	2,565,740	573,227	138,257
1914	1,391,647	397,078	161,899	234,597	4,181,827	800,269	167,098
1915	10,972,820	942,607	294,597	191,645	4,098,664	1,017,563	105,244
1916	10,232,488	828,929	299,481	163,638	2,033,990	550,086	118,423
1917	7,547,510	965,973	373,379	243,766	2,801,158	519,605	141,343
1918	5,994,469	1,175,882	461,056	190,522	4,622,523	1,079,496	236,451
1919	5,726,667	1,848,903	477,573	336,920	8,304,475	1,328,640	274,375
1920	14,307,377	1,295,229	447,352	186,529	5,259,863	586,458	131,104
1921	10,509,945	931,346	401,600	194,358	4,413,091	555,111	157,930
1922	8,031,875	1,416,355	436,237	205,314	6,327,338	1,040,662	139,888
1923	8,189,069	1,455,331	262,210	253,276	5,229,162	701,229	215,444
1924	11,993,546	934,538	354,006	137,948	3,639,496	682,878	209,803
1925	6,665,150	684,320	290,166	172,825	3,497,253	1,309,470	267,793

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION—*continued.*

Year.	Value of Agricultural Production— <i>continued.</i>						
	Green Forage.	Raisins.	Currants.	Fruit (including Grapes not made into Wine).	Market Gardens.	All Other.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1904	74,755	49,526	9,757	405,263	197,600	295,437	6,216,213
1905	85,103	89,346	11,952	406,495	183,325	263,875	7,728,421
1906	91,255	180,473	21,994	524,962	197,650	267,808	7,576,547
1907	149,742	110,248	19,296	458,453	225,550	333,189	8,375,454
1908	157,665	102,483	21,472	441,700	231,975	478,577	11,005,286
1909	141,465	130,558	49,334	489,738	255,350	417,890	11,097,333
1910	179,565	132,262	48,829	586,084	269,450	397,695	11,412,586
1911	187,943	195,560	88,899	639,104	258,275	311,535	10,293,691
1912	211,150	213,818	60,421	696,029	260,350	373,633	12,429,657
1913	247,408	176,026	71,413	803,536	269,425	368,623	11,701,737
1914	418,962	181,177	37,085	536,797	323,375	352,819	9,184,630
1915	181,278	361,879	123,473	808,802	284,475	382,081	19,765,128
1916	149,001	227,448	91,355	633,718	268,650	359,317	15,956,524
1917	167,709	191,523	92,803	783,293	284,050	289,061	14,401,173
1918	368,205	317,668	139,880	934,677	405,790	435,485	16,362,104
1919	449,010	632,936	139,153	1,330,550	442,155	592,688	21,884,045
1920	397,620	348,305	157,298	1,090,751	427,035	555,429	25,190,350
1921	447,950	570,473	187,605	1,236,707	500,640	432,302	20,538,158
1922	512,255	687,367	171,642	1,254,788	493,780	479,525	21,197,026
1923	536,855	150,195	57,027	1,249,783	810,600	550,193	19,660,374
1924	497,655	791,786	110,099	1,146,825	731,000	471,327	18,165,772*
1925	539,365	750,417	93,972	1,337,126	830,450	548,071	13,702,818*

* The figures for 1924 and 1925 are not comparable with those for former years. The cost of bags, cases, seed and spraying material has been deducted from the values of the various crops for the last two years. The value of hay and manure, viz. £3,535,135 in 1924, and £3,283,560 in 1925, which obviously cannot be deducted from any particular item, has been subtracted from the total value of Agricultural Production. Similar deductions were not made in other years.

PASTORAL AND DAIRY PRODUCTION.

Value of Pastoral and Dairy Production.									
Year.	Wool Produced.	Horses Produced.	Cattle Produced.	Sheep Produced.	Pigs Produced.	Milk Consumed in Natural State.*	Butter made.	Cheese made.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1904	3,543,810	198,456	1,740,767	1,429,970	380,616	696,972	2,414,695	89,022	10,494,308
1905	3,313,550	176,267	2,064,000	1,599,800	331,140	753,510	2,496,580	102,563	10,837,410
1906	3,869,000	335,538	2,480,226	1,913,202	325,381	817,317	2,978,860	116,860	12,836,384
1907	3,878,431	273,700	2,056,198	1,716,908	424,660	850,126	2,855,305	109,948	12,165,276
1908	3,556,168	15,274	298,606	597,880	380,650	845,004	2,388,743	126,252	8,208,577
1909	4,044,755	261,268	1,602,858	1,317,320	470,081	891,755	2,493,990	130,670	11,212,697
1910	4,318,100	388,556	1,860,838	1,298,740	541,785	1,020,360	3,109,510	105,340	12,643,279
1911	4,142,747	520,580	2,344,680	1,553,170	454,815	1,317,484	3,860,100	106,160	14,304,736
1912	3,751,083	328,020	1,165,430	709,660	389,350	1,805,320	3,478,640	125,480	11,752,983
1913	4,032,954	454,820	2,277,170	1,572,420	678,355	1,694,826	3,341,920	126,670	14,179,135
1914	3,410,913	..	1,766,473	1,134,678	735,065	1,821,580	2,998,820	117,210	11,984,739
1915	4,066,003	..	226,480	784,575	472,050	2,295,376	2,528,360	129,110	10,501,954
1916	5,927,814	262,020	4,774,610	3,928,860	825,450	2,451,170	4,224,420	223,040	22,617,384
1917	6,410,077	70,880	5,270,940	3,641,630	1,002,250	2,786,890	4,229,310	197,750	23,609,727
1918	7,621,410	97,640	5,383,660	3,288,330	884,280	3,395,040	4,868,670	257,880	25,796,910
1919	7,908,010	..	4,856,160	2,782,290	1,139,960	3,973,020	4,945,480	344,210	25,949,070
1920	4,729,400	..	5,269,650	1,750,220	1,250,680	4,583,650	7,043,950	189,070	24,816,620
1921	4,662,750	71,800	3,099,300	1,991,600	1,277,730	4,181,790	5,127,570	203,620	20,616,160
1922	6,380,600	..	3,384,270	3,752,260	1,280,040	3,557,530	6,660,600	163,180	25,178,480
1923	7,695,000	..	1,413,310	2,600,450	1,507,600	3,816,835	6,491,310	253,795	23,778,300
1924	11,440,240	..	3,538,240	4,390,880	1,588,620	3,558,045	6,618,240	204,890	29,615,977†
1925	7,082,820	..	3,707,000	3,316,660	1,720,740	3,955,010	6,182,120	227,660	24,420,210†

* Including cream not made into butter, and concentrated milk.

† The total value of pastoral and dairy production for 1924 and 1925 is not comparable for former years. Deductions have been made for the value of hay, bran, pollard, green fodder and root crops used as fodder on the pastoral and dairy holdings of the State. The value of the products thus consumed was £1,723,178 in 1924 and £1,771,800 in 1925. These amounts have been deducted from the total value of Pastoral and Dairy Production.

MANUFACTORIES (EXCLUSIVE OF QUARRIES).

Year.*	Number.	Number of Hands Employed.	Salaries and Wages Paid.	Value of Machinery, Plant, Land & Buildings.	Value of Output.
1860 ..	566	5,467	£ ..	£ ..	£ ..
1870 ..	1,579	17,630	..	..	..
1880 ..	2,468	38,178	..	7,465,328	13,370,836
1890 ..	3,104	56,369	..	16,773,448	22,390,251
1900 ..	3,097	64,207	..	11,894,949	19,478,780
1910 ..	4,873	102,176	7,600,932	16,613,348	36,660,854
1911 ..	5,126	111,948	8,911,019	18,257,889	41,747,863
1912 ..	5,263	116,108	10,102,244	19,457,795	45,410,773
1913 ..	5,613	118,744	10,714,336	20,775,738	47,936,647
1914 ..	5,650	118,399	11,099,940	21,975,646	49,439,985
1915 ..	5,413	113,834	11,036,345	22,529,072	51,466,093
1916 ..	5,445	116,970	11,833,517	23,784,289	60,047,284
1917 ..	5,627	118,241	12,502,601	25,460,282	67,066,715
1918 ..	5,720	122,349	14,080,403	27,318,735	80,195,677
1919 ..	6,038	136,522	17,702,173	30,804,520	101,475,363
1920 ..	6,532	140,743	21,377,216	35,492,735	106,008,294
1921 ..	6,753	144,876	23,846,495	40,992,280	106,243,181
1922 ..	7,096	152,625	25,547,192	46,423,240	111,286,343
1923 ..	7,289	156,162	27,472,084	53,196,475	113,921,927
1924 ..	7,425	154,158	29,057,052	61,031,975	118,177,398
1925 ..	7,461	152,959	29,329,400	60,396,500	119,986,439

* The figures for 1916 and subsequent years relate to the financial years ending on the 30th June following, *i.e.*, 1916-17, 1917-18, &c.

INSURANCE, ETC.

Year.	Life Assurance.			Insurance—other than Life.		Amount Received from the Commonwealth Government by the State of Victoria.*
	Number of Policies.	Amount Assured.	Annual Premiums.	Premiums.	Losses.	
		£	£	£	£	£
1894 ..	131,210	23,095,900	..	..	..	..
1900 ..	172,713	26,315,862	..	..	..	..
1910 ..	292,055	36,495,251	1,315,172	851,949	353,348	1,922,278
1911 ..	311,695	38,185,859	1,378,059	897,185	391,324	1,617,572
1912 ..	331,846	40,132,346	1,454,169	956,677	423,737	1,667,657
1913 ..	351,250	41,546,825	1,519,427	1,048,271	414,541	1,691,833
1914 ..	363,481	43,305,375	1,593,707	1,336,103	663,504	1,733,280
1915 ..	381,106	44,402,089	1,650,909	1,426,456	569,695	1,757,894
1916 ..	401,591	46,145,573	1,758,827	1,561,437	679,312	1,743,467
1917 ..	425,481	48,389,346	1,870,513	1,645,632	458,367	1,722,409
1918 ..	453,724	51,563,634	1,984,909	1,768,511	477,949	1,739,481
1919 ..	484,965	55,656,616	2,150,203	1,940,085	794,499	1,764,239
1920 ..	524,520	61,405,905	2,388,209	2,324,700	676,486	1,847,085
1921 ..	562,332	66,102,630	2,574,329	2,501,200	891,573	1,878,449
1922 ..	607,840	72,347,222	2,828,556	2,512,430	833,576	1,918,967
1923 ..	650,432	78,690,619	3,084,990	2,702,081	1,107,396	1,969,772
1924 ..	689,711	84,273,720	3,338,971	3,014,988	1,499,664	2,014,746
1925 ..	720,662	89,327,985	3,546,325	3,166,387	1,733,234	2,055,834
1926 ..	..	..	..	..	..	2,090,951

* Year ended 30th June.

APPENDIX.

Information received since the parts of the book which deal with the subjects mentioned were sent to press is given below :—

PART II.—FINANCE.**REVENUE, EXPENDITURE, ETC., OF VICTORIA, 1925-26.**

	£	£
Public Revenue	25,269,756	
Public Expenditure	25,559,583	
Expenditure from Loan Funds ..	8,001,375	
Public Debt at 30th June, 1926—		
Payable in London		54,503,506
Payable in Australia		85,761,483
Total		<u>140,264,989</u>

The interest on the public debt at 30th June, 1926, was £6,880,892, of which £2,525,676 was payable in London, and £4,355,216 in Australia.

The amount collected by the State through Taxation (including Motor Taxation £641,765) in 1925-26 was £5,821,034, or £3 9s. 2d. per head of population.

PART III.—POPULATION.

Estimated population of the State of Victoria, 31st December, 1926 :—

Males	852,399
Females	859,428
Total	<u>1,711,827</u>

Estimated population of Melbourne and suburbs, 31st December, 1926, 944,400.

PART VI.—ACCUMULATION.

Bank Deposits in Victoria, 31st December, 1926 :—

	£
Joint Stock Banks	89,705,087
Commonwealth Bank	4,473,719
Commonwealth Savings Bank	5,859,497
State Savings Bank*	56,464,272
State Penny Bank Department	157,944
Total	<u>156,660,519</u>

* Including Deposit Stock Accounts.

General Index.

	Page
Aborigines in Victoria	119, 120
Accidental violence, death rate from	191
Accident Insurance Office, State	368
Accidents, fatal, among males at different ages	192
" traffic	456
" vehicular	192
Accumulation, Part VI.	249
Acts of Parliament, State, 1925	20
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis)	174
Adelaide, population	118
Advertising and Intelligence Bureau	400
Ages at three Census years, 1901, 1911, and 1921	105
" of distinct persons arrested	300
" prisoners	311
" scholars in State schools	329
" persons at dependent and supporting	106
Agricultural colleges	491
" Department	491
" implement works	568
" produce, prices of	509
" production	497
" research and education	491
" wages	521
Agriculture	497
" in Victoria and Great Britain	543
" State expenditure and revenue	496
Alcohol, consumption of	304
Alfred Hospital	378, 382
Allan Ministry	29
Alluvial workings, gold yield from	547
Amherst Consumption Sanatorium	384
Anæmia, Chlorosis, Leucæmia, death rate from	184
Annuity policies	271
Antimony	553
Appendicitis, death rate from	186
Appendix	624
Aquarium at Exhibition Buildings	342
Ararat population	114
Arbitration cases—Workers' compensation	285
Area of Greater Melbourne	111
" Victoria.. .. .	1
Arrested persons, sentences of	298
Arrests and summons	294
" " for drunkenness	294, 297, 301
" " various offences	294
" of distinct individuals	299
Arrivals (see also Immigration)	90 <i>et seq.</i>
Artificial grasses	510
Asiatics in Victoria	121
Assembly, Legislative (see Constitution, Parliament).. .. .	31
" " 1926, members	31
Assessment of properties in municipalities	199, 201

	Page
Births, excess over deaths	91
" illegitimate	143
" " proportion to single women	144
" number, 1880-1925	135
" proportion of, to married women, Australasia and England	137
" registration of	123
" twin and triplet	143
Biscuits, exports of	572
Bladder and prostate, diseases of, deaths from	187
Boot and shoe industry	576
Bores, artesian	487
" mining	552
Botanic Garden, Melbourne	343
Breweries, output, materials used, &c.	573
Brickyards and bricks	566
Bright's disease of kidneys, deaths from	187
Brisbane population	118
Bronchitis, deaths from	185
Building societies	277
Bullocks, prices of	529
Butter and cheese, exports of	533
" " factories, hands, output, &c.	569
" " made in factories and on farms	532
" produced	8
Calculi, biliary, death rate from	166
" urinary system, death rate from	166
Cancer, death rate from	181
" " in age groups	182
" deaths from	181
" parts affected by	183
Candle and soap works	565
Capitals, Australasian, population 1871 to 1925	118
Carrots, parsnips, turnips, beet	511
Carrum, population	114
Castlemaine, population	114
Census of 1921	94
Centenarians in Victoria	108
Central Research Farm	491
Cerebro-spinal meningitis, deaths from	175
Charitable and reformatory institutions, inmates, and finances	371
" institutions, accommodation, &c.	376
" " cost of	373
" " " maintenance	374
" " " distribution of Hospital Sunday collections	388
" " " income of	373
" " " inmates and deaths	377
" " " receipts and expenditure	373
" " " sources of income	375
Charities Act	378
" Hospital Saturday and Sunday donations	388
Charity Organization Society	385
Cheese (see Butter).	
Children boarded out by Children's Welfare Department	393, 395
Children's Courts	295
" Hospital	371
" Maintenance Act 1919	395
" Welfare Act, Part VIII.	396
" " Department	392
Chinese	119

	Page
Chinese and half-caste Chinese births	140
Chronological table	6
Churches, chapels, ministers, and Sunday schools	345
Cigars and cigarettes made in tobacco factories	575
Cities, towns, and boroughs	196, 201
Clearing-house transactions	259
Clergymen, registered	134
Climate and rainfall	1
Climatic elements	490
Closer Settlement, acquisition and administration of estates	461
" " advances to settlers	463
" " agricultural labourers' allotments	466
" " discharged soldiers	468
" " estates purchased and acquired	465
" " extent of	466
" " farm allotments	463 and 466
" " financial statement	467
" " group settlement in mountainous areas	464
" " in irrigation districts	476
" " progress of, in irrigation districts	478
" " Redemption Fund	79
" " wire-netting advances to settlers	464
" " workmen's home allotments	465 and 466
" Settlements Fund	35
Coal, boring for	552
" brown	550
" Miners' Accidents Relief Fund	398
" Mines Sinking Fund	80
" production and value	551
" State mine	551
Coin and bullion held by banks	256
" " issued from Mint	252
Colac population	115
College, Training for Teachers	330
" Working Men's	338
Coloured persons, number of	121
Committals for trial	294 to 296
Commonwealth debt	82
" land tax	53
" revenue and expenditure in Victoria, 1920-21 to 1924-25	63
" State and local revenue and expenditure	64
" subsidy	41
Companies	275 <i>et seq.</i>
Compensation, Workers'	368
Confinements, death rate	188
" medical attendance at	190
Conjugal condition, 1921	102
" " of persons marrying	132
Consolidated Inscribed Stock Redemption Fund	77
Constitution and Government	1
" " " Reform Act 1903	9
Consuls, foreign	33
Consumption of drink	304
" sanatoria	384
Contracts of sale	282
Convalescent homes	371
Convulsions, death rate from	165
Co-operative societies	278
Copper ore produced	546

	Page
Council, Executive	11
" Legislative	12
" " members, 1926	30
Counties, population of	101
Country Fire Brigades Board	247
" Roads Board	2.4
" " " Fund	36
County Courts, litigation	284
Court, High, of Australia	287
Cows and cowkeepers	532
" prices of	529
Cream sold by factories	532
Creameries	569
Crime (see also arrests, offences, and prisoners)	290
Criminal law, administration of	290
Criminals hanged	314
" in prison	3.0
Crops, minor	519
" other than principal	510
" principal, annual acreage and production	498, 499
" " compared with population	500
" " percentage in each district of total cultivation	499
" " " of total of each in districts	500
" " values of	501
" value, 1921-22 to 1925-26	594
Cultivation, area under	497
" experimental	491
" on classified holdings	523, 525, 526
" progress of	497
" value, 1921-22 to 1925-26	594
Currants and raisins	514
Customs and excise, revenue	426
" " " in Victoria	63
" " tariffs	401
Cyanidation—plant, &c.	549
Dairying	531
" industry, value, 1921-22 to 1925-26	595
Dandenong population	115
Dealings under the Real Property Act	281
" " " Transfer of Land Acts	280
Death rate, decrease in, of metropolis	151
" " of illegitimate infants	160
" " " from certain causes	160
" " ordinary, unreliable	145
" rates among metropolitan and country residents	149, 151
" " crude, and age distribution	146
" " from various causes	165
" " in age groups	148
" " Australia and New Zealand	145
" " child-bed according to age	188
" " country towns	152
" " districts of Greater Melbourne	150
" " town and country	149
Deaths	145
" at different ages, 1923-25	164
" excess of births over	193
" in charitable institutions	377
" child-bed	189
" hospitals, &c.	154

	Page
Deaths in hospitals showing usual residence of deceased	152
" quarters	145
" index of mortality, Australian States	147
" of children under five years	162
" infants (see also infantile mortality)	154
" members of friendly societies	352
" registration of	123
Debentures, Government, prices in Melbourne	266
Departures (see also Emigration and Immigration)	90 <i>et seq.</i>
Deposits and depositors in savings bank	260
" in banks	256, 257
Developmental Railways Account	37
" Roads Sinking Fund	80
Diabetes, death rate from	183
Diarrhoeal diseases, death rate from	186
Digestive diseases, death rate from	186
Diphtheria, cases of, and deaths from	172, 173
Discharged Soldiers Concession Fund	36
" " land settlement	468 <i>et seq.</i>
" " Settlement Fund	36
Diseases, seasonal prevalence of	166 <i>et seq.</i>
Dispensaries, free	372
Dissolution of Parliament, granting a	11
Distilleries, output and materials used	574
Districts, population of	100
Divorce	288
" grounds of	289
" sex	289
Divorced persons, age at re-marriage	130
" " marriage rate of	132
" " re-marrying	132
Divorces in Victoria and New South Wales compared	290
Dookie Agricultural College	491
Dredge mining and hydraulic sluicing	549
Dress (exclusive of boot) factories	577
Dried fruits (exclusive of currants and raisins)	518
Drill in State schools	325
Drink bill, Australia and New Zealand	305
" intoxicating, consumption of, in Australasia	304
Drowning, death rate from	192
Drunkenness, arrested or summoned for	302
" arrests of persons under 20 years of age	303
" distinct persons arrested more than once	301
" " charged with other offences	301
Dwellings and population in municipalities, Census, 1921	95
" inhabited and uninhabited	199
" occupied by owners and tenants	104
Education (see also State schools)	315
" agricultural	491
" cost of instruction in State schools	61, 62
" expenditure on, 1920-21 to 1924-25	60
" of distinct persons arrested	304
" State, expenditure on	8
" system, compulsory clauses	323
" " district high schools	331
" " free subjects	324
" " higher elementary schools	332
" " league of young gardeners	327
" " medical inspection	327

	Page
Education system, of the State	322
" " patriotic fund	326
" " religious instruction	335
" " school committees	324
" " " forestry	327
" " standard of education	336
" " teachers	328
" technical	336
Election expenses, limitation of	14
Elections, State, percentage of votes, 1866 to 1924	19
" voting by post	14
" 1924, Legislative Assembly electors and votes	16
" 1925, Legislative Council electors and votes	15
Electors, State	15
Electric light and power works	577
Emigration by rail	92
" sea	92
" Chinese	119
" coloured persons	121
" to various places	93
Endowment of municipalities	208
Engineering, ironfoundry, &c.	567
Ensilage	512
Epilepsy, death rate from	165
Erection of dwelling houses by State Savings Bank Commissioners	212
Estates of deceased persons	252
Events, leading	6
Execution of criminals	314
Executive Council	11
Exhibition Buildings	342
Expenditure, as evidence of progress	8
" Commonwealth, in Victoria	63
" from loan funds	76
" on education	60 <i>et seq.</i>
" police and gaols	313
" railways	44, 54
" State, principal heads	43, 46
" surplus revenue	54
Exports, destination of principal articles	425
" oversea	8
" principal articles, oversea	411 <i>et seq.</i>
Factories	554 <i>et seq.</i>
" accidents in	593
" and shops, legislation	354, 360
" buildings, land, and improvements, value of	592
" capital invested in plant and premises	592
" children employed in	585
" cost of production and value of produce	589 <i>et seq.</i>
" employees, wages, production, &c., in each industry in 1925-26	556 <i>et seq.</i>
" female employment in	585
" increase of	8
" machinery in	586
" males and females employed in	584
" metropolitan and remainder of State	581
" number and location of	581
" occupations of persons employed in	584
" outworkers	584
" percentage of costs to production	590, 591
" persons employed in	582

	Page
Factories, power used in	587
" rate of wages and wages boards	355, 359
" size of	583
" value of output	563, 589, 591
" wages in	588
Factory, definition of	555
Fallow land	498, 5 9
Farm allotments, closer settlement estates	463, 466
Farming, Government experimental	491
Farms, hands employed on	521
Fathers, proportion of, in age groups	140
Fauna	6
Federal Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act	389
Fellmongeries	564
Female suffrage, State elections	16
Ferry, Port Melbourne and Williamstown	430
Finance, Part II.	35
Fire Brigades Boards	246
" " revenue and expenditure	65
Firewood	567
Fish and fisheries	541 <i>et seq.</i>
" value of production	595
Flax, area and production	513, 519
Flora	6
Flour, exports of	572
" mills, grain used, flour made, &c.	571
Forage, green	512
Foreign consuls	33
Forest, produce, value of	595
" saw mills	566
Forestry	494
Foundling Hospitals	371
Franchise, State	12
Free Places at University	334
Freezing works	570
Freights, Victorian railways	447
Friendly Societies	347
" " mortality rates compared with Australian population	354
" " progress of	8
" " secessions and expenses	352
" " sickness and mortality experience	353
Fruit, area under	514
" census of fruit trees, 1926	516
" dried (exclusive of raisins and currants)	518
" gathered (large and small)	517, 518
" growing	514
" preserved and pulped in manufactories	572
" sold, value of	518
" trees and plants	515
" value of production	594
Fuel, percentage of, to articles produced in factories	590, 591
Game, frozen, imports and exports	571
Gaols and prisoners	310
" expenditure on	513
Gardens and orchards, area under	514
" parks, area in Greater Melbourne	344
" " in country towns	344
" market	518
" Melbourne Botanic	343

	Page
Gas works	580
Geelong Hospital	378
" population	114
" Waterworks and Sewerage Trust	244
Geographical position, area, and climate	1
Geography, physical	6
" " mountains, rivers, and lakes	2
Geology	6
Gold Mining. (See Mining.)	
" received at and issued from Mint	252
Government and Constitution	9
" Labour Exchange	364
" stock, prices and return to investors	265 <i>et seq.</i>
Governor, the	10
Governors of Victoria	25
Grass and clover seeds, area under and production of	512
Grasses, artificial, area under	510
Greenvale Consumption Sanatorium	384
Gypsum	553
Hamilton, population	114
Hands employed in factories	582 <i>et seq.</i>
Harbor Trust, Geelong, revenue and expenditure	231
" " Melbourne, revenue and expenditure	229
" Trusts, revenue and expenditure	65
Hay, area under, and production	508
" prices of	509
Health Act 1919	384
Heart, diseases of, death rate from	184
Heatherton Consumption Sanatorium	384
Hernia, &c., death rate from	166
Hides and skins, tanned	564
High Court of Australia	287
Hills and mountains in Victoria	2
History of Victoria	6
Hobart, population	118
Holdings, classification of area, cultivation, and live stock	523 <i>et seq.</i>
Homes, convalescent	371
" Salvation Army	372
Homicide, death rate from	193
Homœopathic Hospital	378
Honey and beeswax, value of production	595
" hives, and beekeepers	539
Hops, area under, and production	513
Horsham, population	115
Horticulture, School of	492
Hospital, Melbourne	378, 382
" Saturday and Sunday donations	388
Hospitals, &c., deaths in	154
" and Charities Act 1922	378
" for the insane	391
" Foundling	371
" general	378
" residents of different municipalities dying in	152
Hotels closed	308
" number of	309
Houses connected with the sewerage system	240
Housing and Reclamation Acts, 1920, 1922 and 1923	212
Humane Society, Royal	386
Hydatids, death rate from	187

	Page
Interest paid on loans	76
" payable in London and Melbourne	73 and 74
" rates on outstanding loans	74
Intermediate examination	317
Intestate estates, order of distribution	287
Intoxicants consumed in Australia and New Zealand	304
" restricting hours for sale of	306
Introduction and Constitution, Part I.	1
Invalid pensioners	390
Iron ore produced	546
Ironfoundry, engineering, &c.	567
Irrigation	474 <i>et seq.</i>
" area of crops watered	476
" capital expenditure on works	471
" construction works	480 <i>et seq.</i>
" in closer settlement areas	476
" River Murray waters	485
" settlement, Maffra-Sale	484
" " Mildura	487
" " Red Cliffs	484
" State works	473
" storage capacity of reservoirs	471 and 480
" total area irrigated	476
" works—capital written off	473
Jam, pickle, and sauce works	572
Junior scholarships	333
Juvenile offenders arrested	303
Kaolin	553
Labour Exchange, Government	364
Lakes in Victoria	3
Land, area under cultivation	497
" classified holdings, cultivation, pasture, and live stock	523 <i>et seq.</i>
" concession to seekers	460
" cultivation and sheep carrying capacity of	526
" in fallow	498 and 519
" occupation in each district	527
" mortgages	280 and 281
" percentage of cultivation and pasture on classified holdings	526
" persons who may select	460
" revenue	42
" selecting, leasing, licensing	460
" settlement	458 <i>et seq.</i>
" Tax Act 1925, State	23
" " Commonwealth	53
" " State	52
" " " revenue from	41
" Transfer Act	460
" " Assurance Fund	461
Lands, alienated	457 and 458
" Crown, amounts realized by sale of	458
" " occupied	523 and 525
" " pastoral occupation of	460
" " remaining for disposal	459
" " total area	457
" in process of alienation	457
" private and Crown, occupied	523 and 525
" " purchased for closer settlement	465
" " total area	457
" reserved for various purposes	457

	Page
Law, Crime, &c., Part VII.	283
Leading events	6
League of Young Gardeners	327
Leather industry	564
Legal system in Victoria	293
Legislative Assembly	13
" " electors and voters	16
" " members, 1926	31
" Council	12
" " elections, 1925	15
" " members, 1926	30
Legitimated, proportion of children, in Australian States and New Zealand	143
Liabilities of former years paid out of ordinary revenue	41
Libraries	341
" free, public	342
Library, Patent Office	342
" Public, of Victoria	341
" Supreme Court	342
Licence-fees paid to municipalities	220
Licences	85 and 86
Licensing Court and Licences Reduction Board	307
" Fund	37, 219
Liens on wool and crops	281
Life assurance, 1916 to 1925	267
" " business of Australasian and other companies	267
" " " per head of population	270
" " classification of policies	268
" " new business	271
" " policies in force, 1921 to 1925	269
" " " average amounts	270
" Saving Society	386
Liquor, intoxicating, consumed in Australasia	304
Litigation and legal business	283
" in County Courts	284
Live stock	8
" " 1861 to 1926	522
" " equivalent in sheep	522
" " in Australasia	539
" Victoria and Great Britain	543
" " numbers in years 1922 to 1926	528
" " on pastoral lands	528
" " per square mile	522
" " prices in Melbourne	529
" " slaughtered	530
" " total, and per head of population	522
Liver, Cirrhosis and other diseases of, death rate from	166
Loan expenditure	76
" " Federal, State and local	66
Loans, due dates	71
" " floated in London	67
" " " Melbourne	69
" " municipal, receipts and expenditure	222
" " " unexpended balances	223
" " outstanding and rates of interest	74
" " purposes for which raised	69
" " raised and redeemed	67
" " redemption funds	77 <i>et seq.</i>
Local Authorities, revenue and expenditure	65
" " option	305

	Page
Longerenong Agricultural College	491
Lord Mayor's Fund	387
Lunatic asylums	391
Machinery and plant in factories, approximate value of	586, 592
" steam, gas, oil, &c., in factories	587
" value of, on gold-fields	548
Magistrates, offences dealt with by	294
" sentences by	298
Main roads sinking fund	80
Maize, area under, and production	510
Mallee land account	38, 77
Mangel-wurzel, area and production	511
Manufactories. (See Factories.)	
" increase of	8
" wages boards	355
Manufacturing industries, growth in	554
Manure used for fertilization	520
Market gardens, area and value of produce	518
" " value of production	594
Marriage, ages of bridegrooms and brides in combination	129
" " of parties at	130, 131
" decrees for dissolution of	289
" rates	123
" " bachelors, widowers, spinsters and widows	128
" " divorced persons	132
" " factors in	125
" " in age groups	128
" " Australia and New Zealand	124
Marriageable persons in town and country	127
Marriages	123
" 1880-1925	124
" by principal denominations	133
" civil	134
" conjugal condition of parties	132
" during each quarter	132
" of divorced persons	132
" minors	133
" proportion of bridegrooms and brides in age groups	130
" " to marriageable men and women	125
" " " in Australasia	126
" " population	124
" registration of	123
" signing register with marks	336
Married women, proportion of, in age groups under 45	138
Maryborough, population	115
Maternity allowance	390
Measles, death rate from	171
Meat freezing and preserving	570
Meats, frozen and preserved, imports and exports	571
Mechanics' institutes	342
Medical attendance at confinements	190
" inspection of school children	327
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works	232
" " " " revenue and expenditure	65
" " " Municipal Loans Redemption Fund	225
" " " Tramways	449 <i>et seq.</i>
" " suburbs, population of	111, 113
" " rate of increase of population	116
" Botanic Garden	343

	Page
Melbourne Greater, parks and gardens area	344
" Hospital	378, 382
" port of	431 <i>et seq.</i>
" revenue and expenditure	227
" sewerage system	237
" University	315
Meningitis, different forms of, deaths from	175
" " " ages at death	175
Meteorological records	488 <i>et seq.</i>
Metropolitan Roads Fund	38
" sewerage farm	241
Migration (see also Emigration, Immigration)	90 <i>et seq.</i>
Mildura Irrigation Settlement	487
" population	114
Milk, concentrated, made in factories	532
" consumed, value of	595
" received at butter and cheese factories	532
Mineral production, and value of	546
Miners, gold, number of	548
" rights	543
Mines, Schools of	337
Mining	543 <i>et seq.</i>
" accident relief funds	398
" accidents	552
" allocation of loan expenditure	545
" area under occupation	544
" boring for gold, coal, &c.	552
" coal	550
" cyanidation plant, &c.	549
" development	545
" districts, gold yield, alluvial and quartz	547
" dredging and hydraulic sluicing	549
" expenditure in aid of	545
" gold	547
" " dividends	548
" " machinery, value of	548
" Government batteries, &c.	550
" leases	543
" production, value of	546
Ministers and churches	345
" prior to responsible government	27
" responsible	11
Ministries since responsible government	28
Ministry, formation of new	10
" State, personnel of	29
Minor crops	519
Mint returns, Melbourne	252 <i>et seq.</i>
Molybdenite	553
Mordialloc population	114
Mortality experience, friendly societies	353
" index of	147
Mortgages of land	280, 281
" " personal chattels	282
" " stock	281
Mothers, proportion of, in age groups	140
Motor vehicles licensed	454
" vehicle registrations	454
Mountains and hills, rivers and lakes in Victoria	2
Municipal and corporation debts in Victoria	82

	Page
Municipal assets and liabilities	207
" councillors	196
" electors, franchise, &c.	197
" endowment	208
" indebtedness	221
" loans	220
" Officers' Fidelity Guarantee Fund	228
" ratings	205
" revenue and expenditure	65, 206
" " increase in	200
" statistics, Part V.	195
" taxation	83, 84
Municipalities, increase in value of rateable property	8
" population and dwellings, Census 1921	95
Mutton and lamb, exports of	531
" preserved	570
National Gallery and Museum	341
Natural increase of population in Australasia	193
Naturalization, 1871 to 1925	122
Neglected children arrested	296
" " &c., schools	392
" " cost of maintenance	396
" " total number of	397
Nephritis, death rate from	166
New municipalities	199
Newman College	321
New Zealand, consumption of spirits, wine, and beer	304
" density of population, 1925	118
" drink bill	305
" population, 1925	118
" " 1861 to 1921	117
Notes, bank, in circulation	256
Nuts gathered	517
Oats, area and production	507
" prices of	509
" varieties sown	507
Occupations, 1911 and 1921	103
" grades of	104
" of insolvents	288
Offences against person and property	294, 295, 297
" various, heard by magistrates	294
Official and Parliamentary, State	25
Old age, deaths from	191
" pensions	389
" " expenditure on	390
" " Federal Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act	389
Old Colonists' Association	372
Onions, area and production	512
Orchards and gardens, area and produce	514
" inspection of	493
Ormond College	320
Orphan asylums	372
Owners, dwellings occupied by	104
Parks and gardens, area in Greater Melbourne	344
" " in country towns	344
Parliament, Acts of State	20
" State, constitution of	9
" " franchise, tenure, powers, &c.	11
" " granting a dissolution	11

	Page
Parliament, State, members, 1926	30
" " " qualification franchise, &c.	11
" " " voting by post	14
Parliaments and sessions, duration of, 1856 to 1924	20
Parsnips, turnips, beet, carrots	511
Pastoral and dairying industries	522
" industries, value of production	595
" occupation of Crown lands	460
" wages	521
Patent Office, library	342
Patriotic funds	400
Peas, area and production	511
Pensions, gratuities, &c.	54 <i>et seq.</i>
" invalid	389
" old-age	389
" public and railway servants	57
" South Africa Contingent	57
Pentridge, value of output	594
Persons arrested more than once	301
" employed in factories	582 <i>et seq.</i>
" " upon farming, dairying, and pastoral holdings	521
Perth, population	118
Phthisis, death rate from	176
" " in age groups	177
" " Melbourne, Ballarat, and Bendigo	178
" deaths from, each age	176
" prevalence in different areas	179
Physical geography and geology of Victoria	6
Pipes and tiles made, value of	566
Pleurisy, death rate from	166
Pneumonia, &c. death rate from	165
Police courts, civil business	285
" expenditure on	313
" number	312
" Pensions Act of 1923	56
" " Fund	37
" proportion to population, Australian States	313
" Superannuation Fund	37, 55
Population, ages of	105
" and dwellings in municipalities, Census, 1921	95
" birthplaces of	109
" coloured persons	121
" conjugal condition	102
" counties	101
" density	108
" " in capital cities of Australasia	118
" estimated for 1925	90
" increase, 1891 to 1925	91
" " 1861 to 1921	110
" " of males and females	110
" metropolitan and other	112
" movement of, 1891 to 1925	90
" natural increase in Australasia	193
" occupations of	103
" of Australasian capitals	118
" chief towns in Victoria	114, 115
" Greater Melbourne	111, 113
" States and New Zealand, 1925	118
" Victoria	8, 89, 624

	Page
Population, Part III.	87
" proportion of sexes	110
" " Greater Melbourne to Victoria	112
" rate of increase, 1851 to 1925	116
Port Phillip Pilot Fund	38, 57
Post, voting by, in State elections	14
Postal business	8
" Department, cable rates	433
" " dead letters, &c.	435
" " letters, newspapers, &c.	433
" " money orders	436
" " postal notes	436
" " rates of postage	433
" " revenue and expenditure	438
" " telegraphs and telegrams	436
" " telephones	437
" " wireless licences issued	437
Posts and telegraphs, revenue and expenditure	63
Potatoes, area and production	508
" prices of	509
Pottery made, value of	566
Poultry, frozen	570
" value of production (estimated)	595
Precious stones	546
Preferential voting	18
Prematurity, death rate of infants from	158 <i>et seq.</i>
Prices of agricultural produce	509
" live stock in Melbourne	529
Prisoners, ages of	311
" Aid Society of Victoria	372
" and gaols	310
" average number	311
" birthplaces	311
" religions of	311
Probate returns	249 <i>et seq.</i>
Probates, etc., granted during 1924	249
" " " 1925	252
Production, Part X.	457
" total value of Victorian	594, 595
" values per head, Victorian	596
Properties rated, number of	201
Property, rateable, definition of	197
" " value of	199
Prostate and bladder, diseases of, death rate from	166
Public debt	8
" (see also loans)	67 <i>et seq.</i>
" and interest, payable in London and Melbourne	73
" due dates	71
" growth of and interest	75
" increase in ten years	71
" of Australian States	81
" Commonwealth	82
" State and local, 1925	82
" servants, superannuation	57
" works sinking fund	80
Quarries, stone output, &c.	553
Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital	371
Queen's College	321
" Fund	399

	Page
Rabbit and hare skins exported oversea	540
Rabbits and game, sold at Melbourne market	540
" hares, exports of frozen	540
" " value of production	595
" frozen and preserved	570
" State expenditure on destruction of	539
Race-course licences, and percentage fees	309
Railway accident and fire insurance fund	38 and 54
" revenue and expenditure, 1920-21 to 1924-1925	53
" servants, superannuation	57
Railways, accidents and compensation	446
" capital cost of lines and equipment	440
" electrification of suburban lines	440
" fares	448
" Flinders-street station traffic	442
" goods rates	447
" interest charges and expenses	444
" length of lines and cost of construction	439
" mileage and traffic	441
" officers and employees	445
" open	8
" other than State-owned	448
" receipts and expenditure	443
" " " per average mile open	444
" rolling-stock	445
" sinking fund	80
" St. Kilda-Brighton and Sandringham-Black Rock Electric Tramways	445
" under construction, &c.	439
Rainfall	2
" records and averages	489
Raisins and currants made	514
Rateable property, increase in value of	8
Ratepayers, number of	199
Rates, municipal	198
Rating on unimproved values	209
Ratings in municipalities	205
Recovery of rates	198
Reformatory schools	392
Refuges for females	372
Registered schools	329
Registration of births, deaths, and marriages	123
" schools and teachers	329
Religions of prisoners	311
" the people	346
Religious instruction in State schools	335
Repatriation	366
Reserves, public	344
Reservoirs	471
Respiratory diseases, death rate from, in age groups	185
Responsible government	11
Revenue and expenditure account, State, 1924-25	39
" " Commonwealth, in Victoria	63
" " " and State combined	64
" " " State and local	64
" " Fire Brigades Boards	248
" " Harbor Trust, Melbourne	229
" " " Geelong	231
" " Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works	233, 237

	Page
Revenue and expenditure, Melbourne	227
" " State, 1915-16 to 1924-25	40
" as evidence of progress	8
" devoted to paying off old liabilities	41
" from licences	85
" railways	42 and 54
" heads of, State	41 and 46
Rivers in Victoria	2
Royal Horticultural Society	344
" Humane Society	386
" Life Saving Society	386
Rutherglen Experimental Farm, &c.	492
Rye, area and production	511
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	372
Sanatoria, consumption	384
Savings bank, 1875 to 1925	260
" " advances department	263 and 264
" " assets and liabilities	262
" " Commonwealth	265
" " Housing and Reclamation Act	263
" " investment of deposits	262
" " loans to farmers and others	263 and 264
" " penny	261
" " transactions, 1920-21 to 1924-25	261
" " banks deposits	8
Saw-mills, forest	566
Scarlet fever, death rate from	171
Scholars in registered schools	330
" State schools	328
Scholarships, State school	333
School leaving examination	317
Schools, industrial and reformatory	392
" registered	329
" State, teachers and scholars	328
" technical	336
Seasonal prevalence of diseases	166 <i>et seq.</i>
Senile decay, deaths from	191
Senior scholarships	333
Sentences of persons arrested	298
Septic diseases (puerperal), death rate from	190
Settlement, closer	461 <i>et seq.</i>
Sewage farm	241
Sewerage system of Ballarat	243
" " Bendigo	245
" " Geelong	244
" " Melbourne	237
Sheep (see also Live Stock).	
" areas of holdings and sizes of flocks thereon	538
" flocks of, in districts	536
" frozen	570
" shorn	534
" sizes of flocks	537 and 538
" wool clip	533
Shepparton, population of	115
Shipping, cargo shipped and discharged	430 and 431
" entered at each port—oversea, interstate, and coastwise	429
" in ballast	427
" inward and outward	427
" nationality of vessels	428

	Page
Shipping, port of Melbourne	433
" vessels on register	429
" Victorian	8
" with principal countries	427
Shires	196, 202
Shops and factories, legislation	354, 360
Sickness experience, friendly societies	353
Silver production	546
Sinking funds	77 <i>et seq.</i>
Slaughtering	530
Small-pox, deaths from	171
Soap and candle works	565
Social condition, Part VIII.	315
Societies, benevolent	372
" friendly	347
" horticultural	344
Society, Charity Organization	385
" for the Protection of Animals	387
Soldiers, migration of	92
Special funds kept at Treasury	35 <i>et seq.</i>
Spinal diseases, death rate from	184
Spinsters, average age at marriage	130
" marriage rate of	128
Spirits, beer, and wine consumed in Australia and New Zealand	304
" " " expenditure on	305
" distilled	574
St. John Ambulance Association	385
St. Vincent's Hospital	378
State Accident Insurance Fund	38
" " " Office	368
" Advertising and Intelligence Bureau	400
" business undertakings	46
" coal field	551
" education system	322
" Electricity Commission Acts	578
" expenditure, heads of	43, 46
" finance	35 <i>et seq.</i>
" revenue, heads of	41, 46
" schools, teachers, and scholars	328
" taxation	83, 84
Statistical summary, 1836 to 1925-26	8, 597 <i>et seq.</i>
Stawell, population	115
Still births, number of	135
Stock. (See Live Stock.)	
" and debentures, prices, &c., in Melbourne	266
" mortgages	281
" Victorian, in London, investors' annual interest	266
" " " quotations	265
Stomach, diseases of, death rate of	166
Stone quarries, output, &c.	553
Sugar-beet industry	572
Suicide, death rate from	193
Summonses and arrests for various offences	294
Superannuation Act, 1925	22
" fund	38, 57 <i>et seq.</i>
Supreme Court civil business	284
" " library	342
Surplus revenue expenditure	45
Sydney, population	118

	Page
Syphilis, death rate from	165
Tanneries, &c., output, &c.	564
Taxation, Commonwealth, State and local	83, 84
" income tax	47 <i>et seq.</i>
" land tax	52
" new	85
" per head of population, Commonwealth, State, and local	84
Teachers' College	330
" in State schools	328
" remuneration and classification	327
Technical scholarships	333
" schools, expenditure on	337
Telegraph lines	8
Temperature	1, 490
Tenants, dwellings occupied by	104
Tiles and pipes made, value of	566
Timber sawn in forest saw-mills	566
Tin	553
Titles Office, land transactions, 1916 to 1925	280, 281
Tobacco, area and production	513
" factories, output, &c.	575
Towns, chief, population of	114, 115
Trade Commonwealth	403
" Commissioners	34
" port of Melbourne	433
" with Belgium	420
" France	422
" Germany	422
" India and Ceylon	418
" Japan	424
" Netherlands East Indies	421
" New Zealand	419
" principal countries	415, 416
" United Kingdom	417
" " States of America	424
Trading companies registered	275 <i>et seq.</i>
Training college for teachers	330
Tramways, controlled by Railways Commissioners	445
" country	453
" in Victoria	454
" " (exclusive of Railways)	449 <i>et seq.</i>
" Melbourne and Metropolitan	449 <i>et seq.</i>
Trinity College	320
Trust funds	81
Trustees, executors and agency companies	280
Tubercular diseases, death rate from, Melbourne, Ballarat, and Bendigo	178
" " deaths of recent arrivals in Victoria from	181
" " (excluding Phthisis), death rates from	179
Tuberculosis, pulmonary (see Phthisis).	
Turnips, beet, carrots, parsnips	511
Twin and triplet births	143
Typhoid Fever, cases of and deaths from	168 <i>et seq.</i>
Unimproved value of rateable property	200, 209
Universal suffrage	13
University, affiliated colleges	320
" degrees conferred	317
" endowment	316
" examinations, public	317
" extension	322

	Page
University, finance	319
" of Melbourne	315
" undergraduates and students attending lectures	319
Urban and rural population	112
Urinary diseases, death rate from	187
Vaccinations per 100 births	168
Value of Victorian production, detailed	591, 595
Vehicles licensed in Melbourne	454
Victoria, population of, 1836 to 1925	89
" position, area, and climate	1
" statistical summary of	8, 597
Victorian Civil Ambulance Service	385
" Coal Miners' Accidents Relief Fund	398
" Loans Redemption Fund	78
" Mining Accident Relief Fund	398
Vines, area and production	514
Vital Statistics, Part IV.	123
Voters at State elections	15
Voting by post	14
Wages, agricultural and pastoral	521
" boards, Factories Acts	355
" " legislation	555
" paid in factories	588
" percentage of, to articles produced in factories	590, 591
War pensions	368
Warrnambool, population	114
Water, consumption of, in Melbourne	237
" output of systems	236
" supply and irrigation	471 <i>et seq.</i>
" " for domestic and stock purposes	479
" " schemes	480 <i>et seq.</i>
Waterworks controlled by trusts and corporations	471, 473
" flood protection schemes	485
" purposes of supply	471
" summary of State advances and expenditure	473
" " storage capacity and capital expenditure	471
Watson Fund—the Bendigo Miners' Association	399
Wattle Day	388
Wellington, population	118
Wheat and flour, stocks on hand	506
" area and production	498 <i>et seq.</i>
" average yields in wheat-growing counties	504
" ground in flour mills	571
" growing counties, area and production	503
" prices of	509
" returns, 1860 to 1926	501
" varieties sown in various districts	504
" weights, standard and actual	506
Whooping Cough, death rate from	171
Widowers, age at re-marriage	130
" marriage rate of	128
Widows, age at re-marriage	130
" marriage rate of	128
Wild fowl sold at Melbourne market	540
Wine consumption in Australia and New Zealand	304
" quantity made	514
Wire netting advances	464, 539
Women voters	16
Women's Hospital	371

Index.

647

	Page
Wonthaggi population	114
Woodworking factories	557
Wool, home consumption and exportable balance	534
" liens registered	281
" prices of	535
" production	8, 533
" used in manufactories	534
" value of production	534
" washing	564
" weight of a fleece	534
Woollen mills, output, &c.	575
Workers' Compensation Acts	368
" " arbitration cases	285
" dwellings	213
Working Men's College	338
Writs received by the sheriff	286
Zoological Gardens	343
Zoology	6