

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.

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
Glennelg ..	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.
