

The population of the State at the end of 1850 was 76,162; at the end of 1927 it had increased to 1,741,350. During the period 1850-1927 the revenue steadily increased from £259,433 to £27,128,700. There was no public debt until after the separation of the State from New South Wales. In 1861 the State indebtedness was £6,835,060; in 1927 the funded debt had reached £149,546,966, 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 7,304,194 acres. The value of oversea imports in 1861 was £10,991,377; in 1926-27 it was £55,560,899. Oversea exports amounted to £12,209,794 in 1861, and to £34,741,689 in 1926-27. No railways or telegraphs were in existence up to the end of 1855; in 1861 there were 214 miles of railway open, and in 1927 there were 4,644 miles; 2,586 miles of telegraph wires had been erected up to 1861, and 46,241 miles up to the 30th June, 1927. 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 £63,706,081 in 1927.

The expenditure on education amounted to £162,547 in 1861, and had increased to £3,254,575 in 1926-27. Members of friendly societies numbered 7,166 in 1861 and 159,115 in 1926-27—the funds amounting to £213,000 in 1871 and £4,513,972 in 1926-27. Hands employed in factories rose from 19,468 in 1871 to 161,639 in 1926-27. The total value of rateable property in municipalities, which was £29,600,000 in 1861, was £606,322,402 in 1926-27.

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

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
Legislative
Council.**

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 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 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. Under the provisions of Act No. 3488, passed on 23rd December, 1926, voting was made compulsory at elections for the Legislative Assembly. 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 26th June, 1924, 8,069 persons voted by post, representing 2·18 per cent. of the total votes recorded, and at the elections held on 9th April, 1927, 26,616 persons voted similarly, this number being 3·41 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

Voting by
post at
elections.

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.

RE-DIVISION OF ELECTORAL DISTRICTS.

Re-division
of Electoral
Districts.

An Act (*Electoral Districts Act 1926*, No. 3451) passed on the 14th October, 1926, provided for the re-division of the electoral districts for the Legislative Assembly. The number of districts remain the same as shown in *The Constitution Act Amendment Act 1915*, viz., 65. For the purpose of the re-division power was given to appoint three Commissioners, one of whom was to be the Chief Electoral Officer. Provision was made for the constitution of 26 metropolitan and 39 urban and country electoral districts on the basis approximately of the following quotas:—

- (1) Twenty-two thousand electors for each metropolitan district ;
- (2) Fifteen thousand electors for each urban district ; and
- (3) Ten thousand electors for each country district.

The Commissioners were empowered to adopt a margin of allowance to be used whenever necessary, but the quota was not to be departed from to a greater extent than 15 per cent. more or 15 per cent. less. A greater margin of allowance could be adopted if the Commissioners considered that any portion of any existing urban electoral district would be more properly included in any proposed country electoral district or districts and also in the case of any proposed country electoral district where the greater part of the area thereof was mountainous and sparsely populated.

In making the re-division the Commissioners were to give due consideration to—

- (a) The distribution of the numbers of electors throughout the State and the likelihood of any changes in the distribution of electors within any localities in the State ;
- (b) community or diversity of interests ;
- (c) means of communication ;
- (d) physical features ;
- (e) existing boundaries of electoral districts and subdivisions ;
and
- (f) Commonwealth electoral boundaries.

In order to provide for the metropolitan electoral districts the Commissioners were to include in any proposed district such portion of any existing country electoral district contiguous thereto as they

thought necessary, but so that the total number of electors to be added to the whole of such proposed metropolitan electoral districts should not exceed twenty thousand. The Commissioners could in any other case include in any proposed electoral district such portion as they thought necessary of any existing electoral district contiguous thereto whether of the same class or not.

Commissioners were appointed in accordance with this Act, and drew up a scheme of electoral subdivisions. This scheme was slightly altered by them at the direction of Parliament, and was then passed by both Houses. The elections for the Legislative Assembly held on 9th April, 1927, were conducted on the basis of the new boundaries thus agreed upon.

ELECTIONS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, 1928.

Elections for
the Legislative
Council.

At the triennial elections for the Legislative Council, held on 2nd June, 1928, ten seats were contested, seven 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 2ND JUNE, 1928.

Province.	Number of Electors on Rolls.	Number of Electors who voted.	Informal Votes.	Number who voted by Post.	Proportion of Electors who voted.
East Yarra	62,824	14,675	97	337	Per cent. 23·36
Melbourne	23,551	..	..	..	..
" East	20,212	..	..	..	..
" North	58,422	..	..	..	..
" South	30,814	11,914	590	357	38·66
" West	34,491	..	..	..	..
Bendigo	11,385	6,849	137	434	60·16
Gippsland	18,150	4,651	61	184	25·63
Nelson	11,934	..	..	..	..
Northern	16,376	6,499	161	152	39·69
North-Eastern	13,366	5,448	56	113	40·76
North-Western	24,149	11,506	84	239	47·65
Southern	17,627	6,564	50	366	37·24
South-Eastern	49,942	8,714	69	560	17·45
South-Western	23,531	8,552	83	483	36·34
Wellington	11,740	..	..	..	..
Western	15,764	..	..	..	..
	444,278				
Less uncontested provinces (7)	176,114				
Total	268,164	85,372	1,388	3,225	31·84

ELECTIONS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1927.

**Elections.
Legislative
Assembly.**

At the elections for the Legislative Assembly held on 9th April, 1927, there were contests in 57 of the 65 constituencies, each returning one member. The number of electors on the rolls was 993,211—480,485 males and 512,726 females—and in contested districts 91·76 per cent. of the number entitled recorded their votes, the proportion for males being 92·02 per cent. and for females 91·51 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 9TH APRIL, 1927.

Electoral District.	Number of Electors on Rolls at Date of General Election.			Electors who Voted.					
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Percentage of Num- ber on the Roll.		
							Males.	Females.	Total.
Albert Park ..	10,617	13,080	23,697	9,266	11,902	21,168	87·28	90·99	89·33
Allandale ..	4,910	4,799	9,709	4,649	4,617	9,266	94·68	96·21	95·44
Ballarat ..	7,018	9,503	16,521	6,856	8,822	15,678	97·69	92·83	94·90
Barwon ..	5,481	5,960	11,441	4,980	5,506	10,486	90·86	92·38	91·65
Benalla ..	5,066	4,651	9,717	4,676	4,334	9,010	92·30	93·18	92·72
Benambra ..	4,372	3,694	8,066	No contest.					
Bendigo ..	6,745	8,639	15,384	6,368	8,088	14,456	94·41	93·62	93·97
Boroondara ..	9,747	12,084	21,831	8,862	11,372	20,234	90·92	94·11	92·63
Brighton ..	9,932	12,821	22,753	No contest.					
Brunswick ..	10,926	12,072	22,998	10,537	11,132	21,669	96·44	92·21	94·22
Bulla and Dal- house ..	5,227	4,744	9,971	4,659	4,213	8,872	89·13	88·81	88·98
Carlton ..	10,349	11,685	22,034	9,471	10,433	19,904	91·52	89·29	90·33
Castlemaine and Kyneton ..	4,623	5,305	9,928	4,316	4,984	9,300	93·36	93·95	93·67
Canfield ..	10,346	13,042	23,388	9,604	12,072	21,676	92·83	92·56	92·68
Clifton Hill ..	11,152	13,195	24,347	9,853	11,271	21,124	88·35	85·42	86·76
Coburg ..	9,809	10,749	20,528	9,356	10,088	19,444	95·38	94·11	94·72
Collingwood ..	11,170	12,709	23,879	10,183	11,443	21,626	91·16	90·04	90·56
Dandenong ..	10,122	10,449	20,571	9,202	9,546	18,748	90·91	91·36	91·14
Dundas ..	5,396	5,172	10,568	5,162	4,890	10,052	95·66	94·55	95·12
Essendon ..	9,560	11,117	20,677	9,070	10,524	19,594	94·88	94·67	94·76
Evelyn ..	4,850	4,644	9,494	4,380	4,207	8,587	90·31	90·59	90·45
Flemington ..	10,216	11,471	21,687	9,614	10,333	19,947	94·11	90·08	91·98
Footscray ..	10,939	10,660	21,599	No contest.					
Geelong ..	8,389	9,232	17,621	7,817	8,600	16,417	93·18	93·15	93·17
Gippsland East ..	3,991	3,049	7,040	3,558	2,710	6,268	89·15	88·88	89·03
Gippsland North ..	5,480	4,482	9,962	5,134	4,034	9,168	93·69	90·00	92·03
Gippsland South ..	5,496	4,546	10,042	5,110	4,153	9,263	92·98	91·36	92·24
Gippsland West ..	5,456	4,604	10,060	5,016	4,192	9,208	91·94	91·05	91·53
Goulburn Valley ..	5,706	5,072	10,778	No contest.					
Grant ..	5,028	4,144	9,172	4,561	3,855	8,416	90·71	93·03	91·76
Gunbower ..	5,902	4,817	10,719	5,348	4,355	9,703	90·61	90·41	90·52
Hampden ..	5,316	5,042	10,358	4,925	4,638	9,563	92·64	91·99	92·32

NUMBER OF ELECTORS AND VOTES POLLED FOR THE LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY AT THE GENERAL ELECTION ON 9TH APRIL, 1927
—continued.

Electoral District.	Number of Electors on Rolls at Date of General Election.			Electors who Voted.					
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Percentage of Num- ber on the Roll.		
							Males.	Females.	Total.
Hawthorn ..	9,115	12,526	21,641	8,737	11,696	20,433	95·85	93·37	94·42
Heidelberg ..	10,502	11,452	21,954	9,793	10,438	20,231	93·25	91·15	92·15
Kara Kara and Borung ..	5,491	5,044	10,535	5,008	4,559	9,567	91·20	90·38	90·81
Kew ..	9,027	12,583	21,610	8,465	11,656	20,121	93·77	92·63	93·11
Korong and Eagle- hawk ..	5,429	5,347	10,776	5,132	4,897	10,029	94·53	91·58	93·07
Lowan ..	5,727	5,196	10,923	5,233	4,694	9,927	91·37	90·34	90·88
Maryborough and Daylesford ..	5,084	5,431	10,515	4,782	5,083	9,865	94·06	93·59	93·82
Melbourne ..	11,975	11,070	23,045	9,096	9,579	18,675	75·96	86·53	81·04
Mildura ..	5,211	3,855	9,066	4,768	3,472	8,240	91·50	90·06	90·89
Mornington ..	5,649	4,871	10,520	4,932	4,454	9,386	87·31	91·44	89·22
Northcote ..	10,557	11,848	22,405	No contest.					
Nunawading ..	8,559	10,453	19,012	8,058	9,633	17,691	94·15	92·14	93·05
Oakleigh ..	11,421	13,309	24,730	10,845	12,345	23,190	94·96	92·76	93·77
Ouyen ..	6,021	4,478	10,499	5,270	3,835	9,105	87·53	85·64	86·72
Polwarth ..	5,832	5,149	10,981	No contest.					
Port Fairy and Glennelg ..	5,612	5,286	10,898	5,277	4,988	10,265	94·03	94·36	94·19
Port Melbourne ..	11,003	11,073	22,076	No contest.					
Prahran ..	10,093	14,994	25,087	9,653	13,255	22,908	95·64	88·40	91·31
Richmond ..	11,429	12,630	24,059	No contest.					
Rodney ..	5,675	5,180	10,855	5,242	4,759	10,001	92·37	91·87	92·13
St. Kilda ..	10,660	14,298	24,958	10,019	12,921	22,940	93·99	90·37	91·91
Stawell and Ararat ..	5,579	5,302	10,881	5,183	4,912	10,095	92·90	92·64	92·78
Swan Hill ..	5,028	3,809	8,837	4,436	3,260	7,696	88·23	85·59	87·09
Toorak ..	9,147	13,046	22,193	7,841	12,111	19,952	85·73	92·83	89·90
Upper Goulburn ..	5,087	4,246	9,333	4,594	3,820	8,414	90·31	89·97	90·15
Upper Yarra ..	5,957	5,599	11,556	5,405	5,006	10,411	90·73	89·41	90·09
Walhalla ..	5,382	3,914	9,296	4,859	3,618	8,477	90·28	92·44	91·19
Wangaratta and Ovens ..	4,798	4,508	9,306	4,404	4,157	8,561	91·79	92·21	91·99
Waranga ..	4,981	4,368	9,349	4,569	3,959	8,528	91·73	90·64	91·22
Warrenheip and Grenville ..	4,627	5,116	9,743	4,508	4,757	9,265	97·43	92·98	95·09
Warrnambool ..	5,037	4,954	9,991	4,775	4,625	9,400	94·80	93·36	94·08
Williamstown ..	10,239	10,140	20,379	9,648	9,548	19,196	94·23	94·16	94·20
Wonthaggi ..	5,214	4,448	9,662	4,876	4,107	8,983	93·52	92·33	92·97
Total ..	480,485	512,726	993,211	..	..	..	..	..	..
Less eight un- contested districts ..	69,770	72,947	142,717	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	410,715	439,779	850,494	377,941	402,458	780,399	92·02	91·51	91·76

**Compulsory
Voting.**

Compulsory voting was in operation for the first
time in elections for the Legislative Assembly on 9th
April, 1927.

**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 twenty-eight of the contests in the election of April, 1927, there were more than two candidates. In five 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 23 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 nine 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-five 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 1927.

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	1900	63·47
1868	61·59	1902	65·47
1871	65·02	1904	66·72
1874	61·00	1907	61·26
1877	62·29	1908	53·64
1880 (Feb.) ...	66·56	1911	63·61
1880 (July) ...	65·85	1914	53·92
1883	64·96	1917	54·21
1886	64·70	1920	63·70
1889	66·58	1921	57·26
1892	65·12	1924	59·24
1894	70·99	1927	91·76*
1897	70·33		

* The increase in the percentage of voters at the elections held on 9th April, 1927, compared with former elections is accounted for by voting having been made compulsory by Act No. 3488, passed on 23rd December, 1926.

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, and closed on 11th January, 1927. Parliament was dissolved on 4th March, 1927. The first session of the twenty-ninth Parliament was opened on 6th July, 1927, and closed on 11th January, 1928.

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 1927.

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
28th	..	..	1924-27	970	571	58.9

STATE ACTS PASSED DURING 1927.

The following is a short synopsis of the Acts passed by the State Parliament during 1927 :—

Act No.	Date.	
3502 ..	7th July ..	.. This Act applies £3,028,828 out of the Consolidated Revenue to the service of the year 1927-28.
3503 ..	14th July ..	.. This Act applies £565,087 out of the Consolidated Revenue to the service of the year 1926-27.
3504 ..	23rd August	.. The <i>Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Act 1927</i> increases the borrowing powers of the Board from £4,000,000 to £4,750,000.
3505 ..	25th August	.. The <i>Victorian Loan Act 1927</i> authorizes the raising of £1,400,000 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.
3506 ..	25th August	.. The <i>Water Supply Loans Application Act 1927</i> sanctions the issue and application of £1,741,000 available under Loans Act for irrigation works, water supply works, drainage and flood protection works in country districts and for works under the River Murray Waters Acts.
3507 ..	1st September	.. This Act applies £1,621,784 out of the Consolidated Revenue to the service of the year 1927-28.
3508 ..	6th September	.. The <i>Footscray Land Act 1927</i> revokes in part the reservation and Crown grant of certain land in the City of Footscray permanently reserved as a site for a Mechanics' Institute, and provides for the transfer of portion to the Minister of Public Instruction and declares portion to be a public highway.
3509 ..	13th September	.. The <i>State Electricity Commission (Shepparton Purchase) Act 1927</i> relates to the purchase by the State Electricity Commission of Victoria of a certain undertaking at Shepparton for the supply of electricity.
3510 ..	21st September	.. The <i>Fallowing Advances Act 1927</i> enables advances of fodder to be made on certain terms to cultivators of land to enable them to fallow their land.
3511 ..	21st September	.. The <i>Geelong Land Act 1927</i> provides for the closing of portion of a certain street in the city of Geelong and for the reservation of part of the land as a site for hospital purposes and part as a site for State school purposes.
3512 ..	21st September	.. The <i>Walpeup West Lands Act 1927</i> relates to certain Crown lands situate within the Walpeup West Waterworks District.
3513 ..	21st September	.. The <i>Victorian Government Debentures Regulation Act 1927</i> amends the <i>Victorian Stock and Debentures Conversion Act 1905</i> and the <i>Victorian Government Debentures Regulation Act 1912</i> .
3514 ..	21st September	.. The <i>Metropolitan Town Planning Commission Act 1927</i> extends the operation of the Metropolitan Town Planning Commission Acts.

Act No.	Date.	
3515 ..	28th September	.. The <i>Spencer-street Bridge Act</i> 1927 relates to the construction and maintenance across the river Yarra Yarra of a bridge at or near Spencer-street, Melbourne.
3516 ..	5th October	.. The <i>Charlton Land Act</i> 1927 provides for the revocation of the reservation of certain Crown Lands at or near Charlton and the sale of portion thereof, the closing of and sale of portion of a street in Charlton, and the reservation of the remainder of the said Crown lands.
3517 ..	5th October	.. The <i>Altona Railway Act</i> 1927 ratifies and provides for carrying out an agreement respecting the transfer to the State of the Altona railway.
3518 ..	5th October	.. The <i>Law Institute Act</i> 1927 amends the Act of 1917 by widening the powers of the Statutory Committee so that it may inquire into cases of misconduct other than misconduct in a professional capacity.
3519 ..	5th October	.. The <i>Victorian Loan Authority Act</i> 1927 relates to moneys authorized but not required to be raised under certain Acts.
3520 ..	5th October	.. The <i>Cowwarr Land Act</i> 1927 revokes the reservation of certain land in the township of Cowwarr permanently reserved as a site for a Mechanics' Institute and Free Library and provides for the payment of certain moneys to the committee of the Cowwarr Mechanics' Institute.
3521 ..	5th October	.. This Act applies £1,544,953 out of the Consolidated Revenue to the service of the year 1927-28.
3522 ..	11th October	.. The <i>Mildura College Lands Act</i> 1927 amends the Act of 1916.
3523 ..	3rd November	.. The <i>Swine Compensation Act</i> 1927 provides compensation for the owners of pigs destroyed by order of an inspector of stock when these are suffering from or suspected of suffering from disease.
3524 ..	3rd November	.. The <i>Instruments Act</i> 1927, to be read with the Act of 1915, amends the law relating to bills of sale. It dispenses with notice of intention to register a bill of sale and, in lieu thereof, provides for the lodgment of the bill of sale itself.
3525 ..	10th November	.. The <i>Electoral (Absent Voters) Act</i> 1927, to be read with the <i>Constitution Act Amendment Act</i> 1915, provides for voting by absent voters at elections for the Legislative Assembly.
3526 ..	10th November	.. This Act applies £1,432,601 out of the Consolidated Revenue to the service of the year 1927-28.
3527 ..	21st November	.. The <i>Cranbourne Race Meetings Act</i> 1927 provides that horse racing be allowed on two days annually on the Cranbourne race-course.
3528 ..	21st November	.. The <i>Evidence Act</i> 1927 amends the Act of 1915. It includes Minister of Crown among those whose signatures may be judicially noticed.
3529 ..	21st November	.. The <i>Trinity College Act</i> 1927 relates to a college affiliated to the Melbourne University and known as Trinity College.
3530 ..	21st November	.. The <i>Pounds Act</i> 1927 amends the Pounds Acts.
3531 ..	21st November	.. The <i>Casterton to Nangeela Railway Construction Act</i> 1927 authorizes the construction by the State of a line of railway from Casterton to Nangeela.

Act. No.	Date.	
3532 ..	29th November	.. The <i>Land Tax Act</i> 1927 fixes the rate of land tax for 1928 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.
3533 ..	6th December	.. The <i>Income Tax Act</i> 1927, to be read with the Acts of 1914 and 1915 and amending Acts, to come into force on 31st December, 1927, fixes the rates of income tax for the year ending 30th June, 1928. 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 $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. in the £1 up to £500; where such income exceeds £500, for every £1 up to £500, $5\frac{1}{2}$ d.; for every £1 over £500 and up to £1,000, $6\frac{1}{2}$ d.; for every £1 over £1,000 and up to £1,500, $7\frac{1}{2}$ d.; and for every £1 over £1,500, $8\frac{1}{2}$ d. 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 $12\frac{1}{2}$ 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. 6d. 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. 6d. in the £1 on all other business. Any married taxpayer ordinarily resident in Victoria whose income does not exceed £800 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.
3534 ..	6th December	.. The <i>Treasury Bonds Act</i> 1927 authorizes the Government to raise £641,203 by the issue of Treasury bonds.
3535 ..	6th December	.. The <i>Victorian Government Loans (Debentures) Act</i> 1927, to be deemed to have come into operation on 1st July, 1925, authorizes the Victorian Government to issue debentures in favour of the Commonwealth Government in lieu of the creation and issue of Victorian Government Consolidated Inscribed Stock under certain Acts.
3536 ..	7th December	.. This Act applies £1,518,884 out of the Consolidated Revenue to the service of the year 1927-28.
3537 ..	13th December	.. The <i>Wages Attachment Act</i> 1927, to come into operation on 1st January, 1928, enacts that no order can be made for the attachment of wages not exceeding £3 per week.

Act No.	Date.	
3538 ..	13th December	.. The <i>Betting (Mechanical Coursing) Act 1927</i> prohibits betting or wagering in connexion with the coursing of dogs with a mechanically or electrically controlled quarry.
3539 ..	13th December	.. The <i>Architects Registration Act 1927</i> amends section 7 of the Act of 1922 so as to extend the time within which certain persons may apply for registration as architects.
3540 ..	13th December	.. The <i>Supreme Court Act 1927</i> amends the Act of 1922 and the law relating to conveyancing.
3541 ..	21st December	.. The <i>Coburg and Somerton Railway Act 1927</i> provides for the re-opening of portion of the Coburg and Somerton railway situate between the Fawkner and Somerton stations, and empowers Broadmeadows municipality to levy a betterment rate on unimproved value basis.
3542 ..	21st December	.. The <i>Poisons Act 1927</i> amends the Act of 1915.
3543 ..	21st December	.. The <i>Business Names Act 1927</i> provides for the registration of firms and persons carrying on business under business names and relates to the titles or designations under which businesses are carried on.
3544 ..	21st December	.. The <i>Victorian Government Stock Act 1927</i> , to operate from 1st February, 1928, gives further facilities to holders of Victorian Government stock.
3545 ..	21st December	.. The <i>State Savings Bank Act 1927</i> amends the State Savings Bank Acts and the <i>Housing and Reclamation Act 1920</i> , and ratifies and provides for carrying into effect an agreement between the Commonwealth of Australia and the Commissioners of the State Savings Bank of Victoria. Maximum amount loanable on buildings under Credit Foncier terms is increased from £2,000 to £4,000 and maximum loan to a farmer is increased from £2,000 to £4,000. Cost limit of buildings under Housing and Reclamation Act is increased from £850 to £1,000 in case of timber dwellings and from £950 to £1,300 for dwellings of brick, stone or concrete.
3546 ..	21st December	.. The <i>Apprenticeship Act 1927</i> amends the law relating to apprenticeship.
3547 ..	21st December	.. The <i>Income Tax Acts Amendment Act 1927</i> amends the procedure relating to deduction of losses and outgoings and where husband and wife carry on business in partnership. Donations to the fund known as the "National War Memorial of Victoria" are allowed to be deducted from income.
3548 ..	21st December	.. The <i>Poor Persons Legal Assistance Act 1927</i> extends the privilege of suing <i>in forma pauperis</i> in civil and divorce and matrimonial causes to any person who proves that he has not property exceeding £50 in value after payment of his just debts.
3549 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Forests Act 1927</i> amends the Acts relating to forestry. It is designed to strengthen the law for protection of forests.

Act No.	Date.	
3550 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Swine (Sales) Act 1927</i> prohibits the making of certain charges or deductions in connexion with the sale of swine.
3551 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Cultivation Advances Act 1927</i> enables advances to be made on certain terms to cultivators of land who have been afflicted by drought or other adverse climatic conditions.
3552 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Municipal Endowment Act 1927</i> provides that the municipal endowment for the year ending 30th June, 1928, be £50,000.
3553 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works (Borrowing Powers) Act 1927</i> increases the borrowing powers of the Board from £16,750,000 to £19,750,000 and increases the amount that may be obtained on overdraft from £200,000 to £500,000. The payment for audit is also increased from £500 to £700.
3554 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Commonwealth and State Financial Agreement Act 1927</i> approves an agreement between the Commonwealth of Australia and the different States concerning the adjustment of the financial relations of the Commonwealth and the said States.
3555 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Motor Omnibus Act 1927</i> amends the Act of 1924 by prescribing the penalties for any motor omnibus plying for hire and not registered and licensed.
3556 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Local Government (Borrowing Powers) Act 1927</i> authorizes councils of municipalities to borrow money by the issue of debentures for the purpose of defraying the cost and expenses of works under section 534 of the <i>Local Government Act 1915</i> .
3557 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Railway Loan Application Act 1927</i> sanctions the issue and application of £2,760,000 available under Loan Acts for railway and other purposes.
3558 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Victorian Loan (Public Works) Act 1927</i> authorizes the raising of £494,100 for public works and sanctions the issue and application of such money.
3559 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works (Contributions) Act 1927</i> provides for contributions by the Board to certain municipalities and for expenditure by the Board in connexion with the maintenance of certain roads.
3560 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Harbor Boards Act 1927</i> makes provision so that Harbor Boards may be constituted at Gippsland Lakes, Welshpool, Warrnambool, Port Fairy and Portland.
3561 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Nowingi to Millewa South Railway Construction Act 1927</i> authorizes the construction by the State of a line of railway from Nowingi to Millewa South.
3562 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Dried Fruits Act 1927</i> amends the Dried Fruit Acts by bringing the law into line with that of other States for marketing of dried fruits.
3563 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Victorian Railways Commissioners Act 1927</i> validates the appointment of Mr. W. M. Shannon as a Victorian Railways Commissioner.

Act No.	Date.	
3564 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Victorian Loan (Country Sewerage) Act 1927</i> authorizes the raising of £95,000 for sewerage works in country districts and sanctions the issue and application of such moneys.
3565 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Victorian Loan (Electricity Supply) and Application Act 1927</i> authorizes the raising of £1,750,000 for works and undertakings of the State Electricity Commission of Victoria and sanctions the issue and application of such moneys.
3566 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Railways Classification Board Act 1927</i> , to be read with the Act of 1919, makes provision for fees and expenses of the chairman of the Board.
3567 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Fire Brigades Act 1927</i> , to be read with the Act of 1915, authorizes the Board to borrow a further sum not exceeding £50,000.
3568 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Country Roads Act 1927</i> , to be read with the Act of 1915, relates to commission paid to municipalities under the Country Road Acts and to hoardings and advertisements on or in the vicinity of State highways.
3569 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Medical (Dentists) Act 1927</i> , to be read with Part II. of the <i>Medical Act 1915</i> , amends the law relating to the registration of dentists.
3570 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Motor Omnibus (Urban and Country) Act 1927</i> makes provision with respect to motor omnibuses operating mainly in urban and country districts.
3571 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Postponement of Payments Act 1927</i> provides for the temporary suspension of payments in pursuance of certain obligations in the case of certain persons affected by conditions arising from drought or frost in the mallee country and some other parts of Victoria.
3572 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board Act 1927</i> continues in office the members of the Board until the 31st December, 1928.
3573 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Factories and Shops Act 1927</i> amends the Factories and Shops Acts.
3574 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Melbourne to Footscray Road Act 1927</i> makes provision with respect to the construction and maintenance of a road between Melbourne and Footscray and matters incidental thereto.
3575 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Highways and Vehicles Act 1927</i> , to be read with the <i>Motor Car Act 1915</i> , amends that Act and further amends Part II. of the <i>Highways and Vehicles Act 1924</i> .
3576 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Registrar-General's Fees Act 1927</i> , to be read with the Act of 1917, amends the law relating to fees payable in the office of the Registrar-General.
3577 ..	30th December	.. The <i>Geelong Harbour Trust Acts (Amendment) Act, 1927</i> , to be read with the Act of 1915, makes provision that the sinking fund may be applied to re-purchasing or redeeming any debentures issued by the Trust.
3578 ..	30th December	.. This Act applies £9,404,616 out of the Consolidated Revenue to the service of the year 1927-28, and appropriates supplies granted during the session amounting to £19,116,753 to the service of the Government.

OFFICIAL AND PARLIAMENTARY.

The following statement shows the names and periods of 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
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 Brongham Loch, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.	15th July, 1884 ...	8th March, 1889
Sir William Cleaver Francis Robinson, G.C.M.G. (acting)	18th October, 1889	15th November, 1889
The Right Honorable John Adrian Louis Hope, Earl of Hopetoun, G.C.M.G.	9th March, 1889 ...	17th October, 1889
	16th November, 1889	27th November, 1889
	28th November, 1889	12th July, 1895
The Honorable John Madden, LL.D. (acting)	26th January, 1893	11th May, 1893
	27th March, 1895 ...	24th October, 1895
The Right Honorable Baron Brassay, K.C.B.	25th October, 1895	31st March, 1900
The Honorable Sir John Madden, K.C.M.G., LL.D. (acting)	29th December, 1896	16th February, 1897
	23rd March, 1898 ...	21st October, 1898

GOVERNORS OF VICTORIA—*continued.*

Name.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.
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 ...	18th November, 1907
	6th July, 1908 ...	27th July, 1908
	19th May, 1911 ...	24th May, 1911
	28th August, 1913	23rd February, 1914
Sir Thomas David Gibson Car- michael, 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*
Sir William Hill Irvine, K.C.M.G., { Lieutenant Governor (acting)	30th July, 1919 ...	24th February, 1921
	1st April, 1923 ...	24th October, 1923
	7th April, 1926 ...	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 Tennysen 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.

Ministers of
the Crown,
1851 to 1855.

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 ..	
James Croke	Solicitor-General ..	21st July, 1852
Frederick Armand Powlett ..	Colonial Treasurer..	30th September, 1852
Hugh Culling Eardley Childers ..	Auditor-General ..	11th October, 1852
Andrew Clarke	Surveyor-General ..	1st July, 1853
John Vesey Fitzgerald Foster ..	Colonial Secretary	20th July, 1853
William Lonsdale	Colonial Treasurer	20th July, 1853
Hugh Culling Eardley Childers ..	Collector of Customs	5th December, 1853
Edward Grimes	Auditor-General	8th December, 1853
Robert Molesworth	Solicitor-General ..	4th January, 1854
William Clark Haines	Colonial Secretary	12th December, 1854

In the next list will be found the names of the
Ministries, Premiers of the several Governments from 1855 to the
1855 to 1928. 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.
			Days.
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'Loughlen...	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
35. George Alexander Elmslie	9th December, 1913	22nd December, 1913	13

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.
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	20th May, 1927 ...	913
45. Edmond John Hogan	20th May, 1927		

As a result of the general elections held on 9th April, 1927, the Hon. J. Allan (Premier) relinquished office and the leader of the Labour party, the Hon. E. J. Hogan, was commissioned to form a new Ministry, which assumed office on 20th May, 1927. It consisted of the following members:—

Hogan
Ministry.

HOGAN MINISTRY.

Namæ.	Office.
Hogan, Edmond John ..	Premier, Treasurer, and Minister of Markets.
Tunnecliffe, Thomas ..	Minister of Railways, Minister in charge of electrical undertakings, and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works.
Lemmon, John ..	Minister of Public Instruction and Minister of Labour.
Bailey, Henry Stephen ..	Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey, Minister of Water Supply, and President of the Board of Land and Works.
Prendergast, George Michael	Chief Secretary.
Slater, William ..	Attorney-General, Solicitor-General, and Minister for Agriculture.
Jones, John Percy, M.L.C.	Commissioner of Public Works, Minister of Mines, Minister in charge of Immigration, and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works.
Beckett, William James, M.L.C. ..	Minister of Forests, Minister of Public Health, and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works.
Disney, James Herbert, M.L.C. ..	Minister without Portfolio.
Williams, Robert, M.L.C. ..	Minister without Portfolio.
Cain, John ..	Minister without Portfolio.
Webber, Gordon Charles ..	Minister without Portfolio.

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, 1923.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

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

Name of Province.	Name of Member.	Date of Retirement.
Bendigo	Hon. H. Keck	1931
	Hon. G. V. Lansell	1934
East Yarra	Hon. W. H. Edgar (Chairman of Committees)	1931
	Hon. G. Swinburne	1934
Gippsland	Hon. G. M. Davis	1931
	Hon. M. McGregor	1934
Melbourne	Hon. H. I. Cohen, K.C.	1931
	Hon. H. H. Smith	1934
Melbourne East	Hon. D. L. McNamara	1931
	Hon. J. P. Jones (Commissioner of Public Works, Minister of Mines and Minister in charge of Immigration)	1934
Melbourne North	Hon. W. J. Beckett (Minister of Forests and Minister of Public Health)	1931
	Hon. E. L. Kiernan	1934
Melbourne South	Hon. Sir F. G. Clarke K.B.E. (President)	1931
	Hon. N. Falkiner	1934
Melbourne West	Hon. J. H. Disney	1931
	Hon. R. Williams (Minister without Portfolio)	1934
Nelson	Hon. E. G. Bath	1931
	Hon. H. A. Currie	1934
Northern	Hon. G. J. Tuckett	1931
	Hon. R. Kilpatrick	1934
North Eastern	Hon. A. M. Zwar	1931
	Hon. Dr. J. R. Harris	1934
North Western	Hon. G. L. Goudie	1931
	Hon. W. J. McCann	1934
Southern	Hon. W. L. R. Clarke	1931
	Hon. W. C. Angliss	1934
South Eastern	Hon. A. E. Chandler	1931
	Hon. W. Tyner	1934
South Western	Hon. H. Hitchcock	1931
	Hon. H. F. Richardson	1934
Wellington	Hon. A. Bell	1931
	Hon. F. W. Brawn	1934
Western	Hon. E. J. White	1931
	Hon. M. Saltau	1934

Clerk of the Legislative Council : P. T. Pook.

Clerk Assistant, Clerk of Committees and Accountant : W. R. Barstow.

Usher and Clerk of the Records : H. B. Jamieson.

Clerk of the Papers : L. V. Hoyle.

MEMBERS OF THE STATE PARLIAMENT, 1928—*continued*.

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Speaker : Hon. Sir A. J. Peacock, K.C.M.G.

Name of Electoral District.	Name of Member.
Albert Park ..	R. M. Cuthbertson.
Allandale ..	Hon. Sir A. J. Peacock, K.C.M.G. (Speaker).
Ballarat ..	W. J. McAdam.
Barwon ..	E. Morley.
Benalla ..	E. F. Cleary.
Benambra ..	Hon. H. Beardmore.
Bendigo ..	A. E. Cook.
Boroondara ..	R. Linton.
Brighton ..	I. Macfarlan.
Brunswick ..	J. R. Jewell.
Bulla-Dalhousie ..	R. T. Pollard.
Carlton ..	R. H. Solly (Chairman of Committees).
Castlemaine and Kyneton ..	Hon. H. S. W. Lawson.
Caulfield ..	Lieut.-Colonel F. E. Forrest.
Clifton Hill ..	M. M. Blackburn.
Coburg ..	F. Keane.
Collingwood ..	Hon. T. Tunnecliffe (Minister of Railways and Minister in charge of electrical undertakings).
Dandenong ..	Hon. F. Groves.
Dundas ..	Hon. W. Slater (Attorney-General, Solicitor- General, and Minister for Agriculture).
Essendon ..	A. S. Drakeford.
Evelyn ..	W. H. Everard.
Flemington ..	J. J. Holland.
Footscray ..	Hon. G. M. Prendergast (Chief Secretary).
Geelong ..	W. Brownbill.
Gippsland East ..	A. E. Lind.
Gippsland North ..	J. W. McLachlan.
Gippsland South ..	W. West.
Gippsland West ..	A. L. N. Walter.
Goulburn Valley ..	Colonel Hon. M. W. J. Bouchier, C.M.G., D.S.O.
Grant ..	R. T. Hjorth.
Gunbower ..	Hon. H. Angus.
Hampden ..	A. Hughes.
Hawthorn ..	Hon. Sir W. M. McPherson, K.B.E.
Heidelberg ..	Hon. G. C. Webber (Minister without Portfolio).
Kara Kara-Borong ..	Hon. J. W. Pennington, O.B.E.
Kew ..	W. S. Kent Hughes.
Korong-Eaglehawk ..	A. A. Dunstan.
Lowan ..	Hon. M. E. Wettenhall.
Maryborough-Daylesford ..	G. C. Frost.
Melbourne ..	T. Hayes.
Mildura ..	A. G. Allnutt.
Mornington ..	Hon. A. Downward.
Northcote ..	Hon. J. Cain (Minister without Portfolio).
Nunawading ..	E. W. Greenwood.
Oakleigh ..	S. H. Reid.
Ouyen ..	H. Glowrey.
Polwarth ..	Hon. J. McDonald.
Port Fairy-Glenelg ..	E. E. Bond.
Port Melbourne ..	J. L. Murphy.

MEMBERS OF THE STATE PARLIAMENT, 1928—*continued.*

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY—*continued.*

Name of Electoral District.	Name of Member.
Pahran	A. R. Jackson.
Richmond	E. J. Cotter.
Rodney	Hon. J. Allan.
St. Kilda	B. Gray.
Stawell and Ararat	Hon. R. F. Toutcher.
Swan Hill	Hon. F. E. Old.
Toorak	Hon. Dr. S. S. Argyle.
Upper Goulburn	Hon. E. J. Mackrell.
Upper Yarra	Lieut.-Colonel G. H. Knox.
Walhalla	W. A. Moncur.
Wangaratta-Ovens	Hon. Sir J. Bowser.
Waranga	E. A. Coyle.
Warrenheip-Grenville	Hon. E. J. Hogan (Premier, Treasurer, and Minister of Markets).
Warrnambool	Hon. H. S. Bailey (Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey and Minister of Water Supply).
Williamstown	Hon. J. Lemmon (Minister of Public Instruction and Minister of Labour).
Wonthaggi	W. G. McKenzie.
Clerk of Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Assembly : W. R. Alexander, J.P.	
Clerk Assistant and Clerk of Private Bills : G. R. Webb.	
Clerk of Committees and Serjeant-at-Arms : F. E. Wanke.	
Reader and Clerk of the Record : T. J. Landy.	
Accountant and Assistant Clerk of Committees : P. P. Conlan.	
Clerk of the Papers : H. K. McLachlan.	
Chief <i>Hansard</i> Reporter : A. H. Angel.	
Librarian : E. L. Frazer.	

FOREIGN CONSULS.

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

CONSULS-GENERAL			Name.
Country.			
China .. .. .	..	..	Ouei Tze-King.
Colombia .. ..	..	..	Lyle, M.
Germany .. ..	..	..	Hemmen, Dr. H. R. (Acting).
Honduras .. ..	..	..	Mattei, Senor Don Rafael Medina (Hon.)
Norway .. .. .	..	..	Arentz, E. K. B.
Peru .. .. .	..	..	Vargas, L. A.
United States .. ..	..	..	Garrels, A

CONSULS.

Country.	Name.
Austria	Hauser, L. (Hon.)
Belgium	Vanderkelen, R.
Chili	Le Plastrier, C. W.
Czecho-Slovakia	Peacock, E. R. (Hon.)
Denmark	Holdenson, P. J. (Hon.)
France	Turek, R.
Greece	Maniachi, A. V. (Hon.)
Guatemala	De Bavay, Auguste.
Japan	McBeath, Sir W. G., K.B.E. (Hon.)
Netherlands	Wright, F. H. (Hon.)
Nicaragua	Mattei, Senor Don Rafael Medina.
Norway	Schreuder, A. T. (Hon.)
Panama	Kelson, V. J.
Portugal	Thomson, J. (Hon.)
Salvador	Karagheusian, V. N. T. (Hon.)
Spain	The Marques de Bellpuig.
Sweden	Helin, H. (Hon.)
Switzerland	Frossard, P.
United States	Robinson, T. H.
Uruguay	Morell, Sir S. J. (Hon.)

VICE-CONSULS.

Argentina	Fernandez, R. C.
Denmark	Belcher, E. N. (Geelong).
Finland	Sleigh, H. C. (Hon.) (Acting).
Germany	Fricke, H. H. F.
Greece	Martyn, J.
Italy	Vitali, L. B. (Hon.)
Japan	Black, P. J. (Hon.)
Norway	Howard, J. (Hon.)
United States	Moran, J. E.
"	Wasson, T. C.

CONSULAR AGENT.

Brazil	Sheppard, R.
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TRADE COMMISSIONERS.

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

Representing—	
United Kingdom	Setchell, H. E.
Canada	Ross, D. H.
New Zealand	Manson, H. J.
United States	Pauly, Elmer G.