

SOCIAL CONDITION.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.

The University of Melbourne was incorporated and endowed by an Act of the Governor and Legislative Council of Victoria, to which the Royal assent was given on 22nd January, 1853. The University buildings, together with those of the affiliated colleges, are situated on 106 acres of land, in the southern part of Carlton. The University consists of a Council and Senate, and is incorporated and made a body politic with perpetual succession. It has power to grant degrees, diplomas, certificates, and licences in all faculties except divinity. The Council consists of twenty members elected by the Senate for a term of five years, together with three members appointed by the Governor in Council. It elects two of its members to be Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor respectively. The Senate consists of all male persons who have graduated doctor or master in the University. It elects a Warden annually from its members. Control and management are in the hands of the Council. Council and Senate conjointly make statutes and regulations. There is no religious test for admission. By Royal letters patent of 14th March, 1859, it is declared that the degrees of the University of Melbourne shall be as fully recognised as those of any University in the United Kingdom. Scholarships, exhibitions, and prizes are provided in all the principal subjects, the cost being defrayed partly out of University funds and partly by private bequests. In the matter of endowment by private persons, the Melbourne University does not, however, compare favorably with others. The Act of 1853 provides for an endowment of £9,000 annually for maintenance and management. Additional grants have been voted annually by Parliament for maintenance, and from time to time for building purposes. Since 1853 the total amount received from the Government was £805,967—£168,467 for building and apparatus, £521,500 endowment under "Special Appropriation Act," 16 Vict. 34, and £116,000 additional endowment by annual votes of the Legislature. By Act No. 1926 of 1904 an additional endowment of £11,000 annually is provided for a period of ten years, conditionally on the University undertaking teaching in agriculture and mining, and granting a number of free scholarships to pupils from the primary schools; also £1,000 on condition that Evening Lectures are held at the University. In

The University of Melbourne

addition, the Council derives income from the fees paid by students for lectures, examinations, certificates, and diplomas. These are charged as follow:—

- For the degree of Bachelor of Arts, £12 12s. per annum.
- For the degree of Bachelor of Science, £21 per annum.
- For the degree of Bachelor of Laws, £12 12s. for each of the 1st and 2nd years; £25 4s. for each of the 3rd and 4th years.
- For the degree of Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery, £22 per annum.
- For the degree of Bachelor of Civil Engineering, Bachelor of Electrical Engineering, Bachelor of Mining Engineering, Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering, £18 18s. for the 1st year; £21 for the 2nd year; £25 4s. for each of the 3rd and 4th years.
- For the degree of Bachelor of Music and Diploma in Music, £12 12s. per annum.
- For the degree of Bachelor of Agriculture, £21 per annum.
- For the degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery, fees are paid to the Australian College of Dentistry.
- For the course for Diploma of Education, £6 6s. per annum for Students of the Education Department, and Special Fees for other Students, according to subjects taken.
- For the Diploma of Agriculture, £21 per annum.
- For the Diplomas in Mining and in Metallurgy, £18 18s. for the 1st year, £21 for the 2nd year, and £25 4s. for the 3rd year.
- For the Diploma in Architecture, £12 12s. per annum.
- For single subjects, special fees are charged, ranging from £3 3s. each annually for Art subjects to £21 for Science subjects, in which laboratory work plays a great part.
- For admission to degrees, £7 7s. is payable by bachelors, £10 10s. by masters, £5 5s. for any *ad eundem* degree.
- For any diploma, £3 3s. is the fee.
- For certificates of matriculation, attendance upon lectures, &c., special small fees are charged.

Examina-
tions.

In May, 1906, the last matriculation examination was held, and the new system of junior and senior public and commercial examinations was introduced in December, 1906. Under the regulations, the rights of all candidates who had passed any subject at any previous matriculation examination were reserved. The subjoined table gives the results of the public examinations conducted by the University during 1907:—

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS CONDUCTED BY THE MELBOURNE
UNIVERSITY, 1907.

| | Number who attempted to Pass fully. | Number who Passed fully. | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| | | Total. | Percentage. |
| Examination— | | | |
| Primary | 390 | 128 | 32·8 |
| Junior, Public | 1,028 | 400 | 38·9 |
| „ Commercial | 79 | 26 | 32·9 |
| Senior, Public | 148 | 86 | 58·1 |

No candidate attempted to pass fully in the Senior Commercial Examination. The percentage of passes obtained at the Junior Public Examination, viz., 38.9 was lower than that generally gained at previous Matriculation examinations.

The number of degrees taken in 1907 was 149, 146 of which were direct and 3 *ad eundem*, as against a total of 721 for the five preceding years, or an average of 144 per year. The direct graduates numbered 688, and the *ad eundem* degrees 33 in the five preceding years. Of the total number of 4,107 degrees conferred, 352 were conferred on women, 349 of which were direct and three *ad eundem*: and 167 of which were the degree of Bachelor of Arts, 76 Master of Arts, 42 Bachelor of Medicine, 2 Doctor of Medicine, 39 Bachelor of Surgery, 2 Bachelor of Laws, 1 Doctor of Science, 13 Bachelor of Science, 9 Master of Science, and 1 Bachelor of Music. The following table shows the number of degrees conferred at the University between the date of its first opening and the end of 1907—the years 1906 and 1907 being shown separately:—

DEGREES CONFERRED.

| Degrees. | Prior to 1906. | | | During 1906. | | | During 1907. | | | Total. | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------|--------------|-------------------|--------|--------------|-------------------|--------|---------|-------------------|--------|
| | Direct. | <i>Ad eundem.</i> | Total. | Direct. | <i>Ad eundem.</i> | Total. | Direct. | <i>Ad eundem.</i> | Total. | Direct. | <i>Ad eundem.</i> | Total. |
| Bachelor of Arts ... | 841 | 107 | 948 | 26 | 3 | 29 | 28 | ... | 28 | 895 | 110 | 1005 |
| Master of Arts ... | 470 | 162 | 632 | 23 | 6 | 29 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 501 | 169 | 670 |
| Bachelor of Medicine | 662 | 15 | 677 | 38 | ... | 38 | 33 | ... | 33 | 733 | 15 | 748 |
| Doctor of Medicine ... | 108 | 100 | 208 | 11 | 7 | 18 | 8 | ... | 8 | 127 | 107 | 234 |
| Bachelor of Surgery | 573 | 4 | 577 | 36 | ... | 36 | 39 | ... | 39 | 648 | 4 | 652 |
| Master of Surgery ... | 15 | ... | 15 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15 | ... | 15 |
| Bachelor of Laws ... | 326 | 9 | 335 | 8 | ... | 8 | 6 | ... | 6 | 340 | 9 | 349 |
| Master of Laws ... | 62 | 3 | 65 | 4 | ... | 4 | 1 | ... | 1 | 67 | 3 | 70 |
| Doctor of Laws ... | 15 | 20 | 35 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 15 | 21 | 36 |
| Bachelor of Engineering | 132 | 2 | 134 | 6 | ... | 6 | 5 | ... | 5 | 143 | 2 | 145 |
| Bachelor of Mining Engineering ... | 3 | ... | 3 | 4 | ... | 4 | 2 | ... | 2 | 9 | ... | 9 |
| Master of Engineering | 67 | ... | 67 | 1 | ... | 1 | 3 | ... | 3 | 71 | ... | 71 |
| Bachelor of Science . | 42 | 3 | 45 | 3 | ... | 3 | 8 | ... | 8 | 53 | 3 | 56 |
| Master of Science . | 17 | 1 | 18 | 4 | ... | 4 | 3 | ... | 3 | 24 | 1 | 25 |
| Doctor of Science . | 3 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 13 |
| Bachelor of Music ... | 3 | 2 | 5 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| Doctor of Music ... | ... | 2 | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 2 |
| Bachelor of Dental Surgery ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 |
| Total | 3339 | 436 | 3775 | 166 | 17 | 183 | 146 | 3 | 149 | 3651 | 456 | 4107 |

Students attending lectures and undergraduates admitted.

The number of persons attending lectures has greatly increased during the past five years, the total in 1907 being 980, as compared with 628 in 1903, an advance of 56 per cent. To some extent, this is due to the inclusion of new subjects in University teaching, principally agriculture, metallurgy, mining, and public health; but apart from these, the increase is very large. A great improvement is also shown in the admission of undergraduates, the number having doubled in the years stated.

PERSONS ADMITTED AS UNDERGRADUATES, AND STUDENTS ATTENDING LECTURES, 1903 TO 1907.

| Year. | Number of Persons Matriculated and Admitted as Undergraduates. | | | Number of Students Attending Lectures. | | |
|----------|--|----------|--------|--|----------|--------|
| | Males. | Females. | Total. | Males. | Females. | Total. |
| 1903 ... | 89 | 22 | 111 | 434 | 194 | 628 |
| 1904 ... | 110 | 21 | 131 | 431 | 184 | 615 |
| 1905 ... | 156 | 39 | 195 | 586 | 216 | 802 |
| 1906 ... | 153 | 44 | 197 | 648 | 212 | 860 |
| 1907 ... | 186 | 41 | 227 | 749 | 231 | 980 |

Of the 980 students who attended lectures in 1907, 237 attended Arts, 79 in Laws, 68 in Engineering, 330 in Medicine, 41 in Science, 94 in Music, 51 in Education, 69 in Dentistry, 5 in Public Health, 1 in Mining, 1 in Metallurgy, and 4 in Agriculture.

University finance.

Lecture and examination fees comprised 46½ per cent. of the total receipts of the University in 1907. The Government grant amounted to 52 per cent., and only the very small proportion of 1½ per cent. came from outside sources.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1903 TO 1907.

| | 1903. | 1904. | 1905. | 1906. | 1907. |
|---------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Receipts— | £. | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Government grant | 13,500 | 16,750 | 21,000 | 21,000 | 21,000 |
| Lecture, degree, and examination fees | 15,484 | 15,572 | 15,594 | 18,918 | 18,839 |
| Other sources ... | 1,114 | 528 | 461 | 558 | 622 |
| Total ... | 30,098 | 32,850 | 37,055 | 40,476 | 40,461 |
| Expenditure ... | 27,170 | 28,092 | 32,271 | 35,301 | 37,543 |

AFFILIATED COLLEGES.

The permission accorded by the "University Act of Incorporation" for the establishment of affiliated colleges has been taken advantage of by the clergy and people of the Church of England, and of the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches of Victoria. Large residential colleges have been built upon the sites reserved for this purpose, which are situated in the northern portion of the University grounds, fronting Sydney-road and College-crescent, Carlton. These colleges, which admit students without regard to their religious beliefs, maintain efficient staffs of tutors and lecturers for the teaching of the principal subjects in each of the University courses. They also provide training for the ministers of their respective denominations. The Roman Catholic body has not yet erected a college upon its site in Madeline-street. In 1906, the Australian College of Dentistry was formally affiliated to the University, which obtained certain rights of supervision and control, and in return undertook to recognise the professional teaching of the College for the purpose of the newly-instituted Degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery.

The
affiliated
colleges.

The Anglican Church was the first to avail itself of the right. In 1869, Bishop Perry (then Lord Bishop of Melbourne), assisted by Professor Wilson and others, undertook to raise the funds required for the college buildings. Their efforts were crowned with success, and the building of Trinity was commenced in the following year. Its progress was remarkably rapid, and in 1877 it was found necessary to increase the accommodation for students. In 1883 the Clarke buildings were erected by Sir W. J. and Mr. Joseph Clarke, and additions have been repeatedly made since that time. In 1886, Trinity College Hostel, for resident women students of the college, was established by the present Warden, and was carried on until 1890 in houses rented by him. In 1890, mainly through the munificence of Janet Lady Clarke, the Hostel was supplied with permanent buildings erected within the College precincts, and named "The Janet Clarke Buildings." The Hostel forms an integral part of Trinity College, and the women students of the college consequently enjoy all its educational advantages on equal terms with the men students. The Hostel, like the College itself, is open to students of all religious denominations. The college buildings consist of a chapel, dining hall, chemical and biological laboratories, lecture-rooms, libraries, and students' common-room, in addition to apartments for the Warden, tutors, and students. Fresh additions are now contemplated in consequence of the great increase in the number of students seeking admission, many of whom it is necessary to refuse each year. The Warden of the college is Dr. A. Leeper, M.A., LL.D., late of Trinity College, Dublin, and of St. John's College, Oxford, who is assisted by a staff of ten tutors and lecturers. The college annually holds, in the month of November, an examination for open scholarships and exhibitions. Prospectuses can be obtained by applying to the Warden.

Trinity
College.

Ormond
College.

In 1877, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Victoria appointed a committee to take charge of the site in its interests. Shortly afterwards it was resolved to raise subscriptions, to obtain the Crown grant for the land, and to proceed with the erection of a college. When £6,000 was subscribed for the purpose, Mr. Francis Ormond offered £10,000, provided that the Church obtained £10,000 from other sources, and in less than a year the Council were in a position to receive Mr. Ormond's subscription. The buildings were at once commenced, and the college opened in March, 1881. It was then announced that Mr. Ormond would bear the whole expense of the structural part of the building, so that the remaining subscriptions could be entirely devoted to payments for fittings, improvements, repairs, &c. In 1883 the buildings were enlarged. In 1887 Mr. Ormond erected the Victoria wing, in honour of the late Queen's Jubilee. The buildings comprise lecture and reading-rooms, common-room, and masters', tutors', and students' quarters. They form a college of residence for students attending the University of Melbourne in Arts, Science, Law, Medicine, Engineering, Mining, and Agriculture. The college is open to members of all religious denominations. In it are delivered the lectures of the Theological Hall of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria for the training of ministers of that church. The theological course covers three years after a student has taken his B.A. degree in the University, and the lectures are given by a staff specially set apart for that purpose. Mr. Ormond's benefactions, amounting to £41,780 during his lifetime, were increased under his bequest to a sum which will ultimately amount to £100,000. The college bears the name of this generous donor. The master is Dr. J. H. MacFarland, M.A., LL.D.

Queen's
College.

The Conference of the Wesleyan Church in Victoria, in 1878, appointed a committee to arrange for the building of a college. A request for donations met with a generous response, the first donor being Sir William McArthur, who made a gift of £1,000. The work of erecting the college was not, however, commenced until 1887. It was formally opened in March, 1888. The strenuous efforts of the Rev. W. A. Quick, in the establishment of the college, entitle him to the honour of being practically its founder. In 1889 large additions were made to the buildings, which now comprise fully equipped lecture-rooms, laboratories, library, reading-rooms, and apartments for the master, tutors, and students. Further additions were made in 1905, and the college is now capable of holding about 50 students and tutors. The master is the Rev. E. H. Sugden, M.A., B.Sc.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

University
extension.

The system of local lectures and classes, known as University Extension, which has been in vogue in England for nearly 40 years, and has more lately been introduced into the countries of Europe and the United States, was organized in Victoria in 1891, under a board appointed by the Melbourne University. The system aims at

bringing teaching of the scope and standard of that given at the University itself within the reach of the numerous and constantly growing class of people whose position in life prevents them from attending lectures there, but who wish to devote their leisure to systematic reading and study. To these, material assistance is given by formal lectures, illustrated, where the subject requires it, by demonstrations and experiments, informal classes and discussions, checking written essays, and examinations, by men of special training. By thus systematizing the knowledge of the extension students, guiding their reading, and suggesting new methods and new directions of inquiry, the higher education is imparted to them. The lectures are not of the ordinary popular kind. Their primary object is education, they seek to instruct and stimulate rather than to entertain; at the same time, they endeavour to avoid pedantry and dullness. The lectures are delivered in courses, and thus fairly wide subjects may be treated with some approach to thoroughness. The work is carried on by local committees, both in Melbourne and suburbs, and in urban centres, acting in conjunction with the Central Board. This body supplies a list of suitable courses of lectures by competent and approved lecturers, and the local committee chooses the lecturer and subject. In 1904 there were eight centres, eight courses of lectures, and 950 students enrolled. In 1905 and 1906 respectively only five centres were active, and five courses of lectures were delivered. In 1907, the number of active centres was only four, but the attendance was well maintained.

THE STATE EDUCATION SYSTEM.

The present system of "free, compulsory, and secular" education came into operation on the 1st January, 1873, the Act which introduced it having been passed the previous year. Subsequently, this Act, with two Amending Acts passed in 1876 and 1889, was consolidated in the *Education Act* 1890, which in turn has been amended by Act No. 1777, passed in December, 1901, and Act No. 2005 passed in December, 1905. Before the inception of the present system, several different systems were tried. Prior to 1848 education was left to private enterprise; but in that year a denominational system was introduced and administered by a Board, subsidy being granted by the State. Under that system, religious as well as secular instruction was imparted by the teachers—the former being given according to the principles of the denomination to which the school was attached, the clergy of which also exercised control over the instruction imparted. On the separation of Port Phillip district from New South Wales in 1851, a Board of National Education was established in the new Colony of Victoria "for the formation and management of schools to be conducted under Lord Stanley's National System of Education, and for administering the funds in connexion therewith." There were thus two systems of education under separate boards in operation at the same time, which duplicate system continued in force

The education system of Victoria.

until 1862, when it was abolished as being cumbrous and costly. The *Common Schools Act 1862* transferred the powers of both boards to a single Board of Education, provided a limit to the distance between which schools might be established, and fixed a minimum of scholars a school must have in order to entitle it to State aid; it prescribed, moreover, that four hours each day must be set apart for secular instruction, and that no child be refused admission to any school on account of its religious persuasion. Although this Act caused some improvement, it was not such as to wholly abolish denominationalism, nor did it reduce the number of small schools to any appreciable extent. In continued in force, however, for ten years, when it was repealed by the present Act in 1872. Under these systems, a fee ranging from 6d. to 2s. 6d. weekly was charged to all children except those whose parents were in destitute circumstances. Under the Act of 1872, education was made free to all willing to accept it; compulsory, in the sense that, whether they attend or do not attend State schools, evidence must be produced that all children are educated up to a certain standard; and secular, no teacher being allowed to give other than secular instruction in any State school building. Facilities are, however, afforded to persons other than State school teachers to give religious instruction, on one or two days each week, to the children of the parents who desire that their children shall receive such instruction.

Main details
of the
system.

In each school four hours at least are set apart during each school day for secular instruction, two hours of which are to be before, and two hours after, noon. Secular instruction, in the case of children over nine years of age, includes the teaching of some recognised lesson-books on the laws of health and lessons from some recognised temperance lesson-books.

Compulsory
clauses.

Parents and custodians of children not less than six nor more than fourteen years of age (up to 31st December, 1905, the statutory age was from six to thirteen years), are required to cause such children to attend a State school for not less than eight half-days in any week, in which the school is open for ten (10) half-days. Non-attendance may be excused for any of the four following reasons:—(1) If the child is receiving efficient instruction in some other manner, and is complying with the prescribed conditions as to regularity of attendance; or (2) has been prevented from attending by sickness, fear of infection, temporary or permanent infirmity, or any unavoidable cause; or (3) is twelve years of age, and has been educated up to the standard, or has been excused by a general or particular order of the Minister; or (4) that there is no State school within one, two, two and a half, or three miles in the case of children under seven, between seven and nine, between nine and eleven, and over eleven years of age respectively. In regard to the latter cause, however, in cases where schools are closed through low average attendance, or where, though there is no school, the number of children would warrant the department in establishing a school, allowances are made by

the department for the conveyance of children to the nearest school. The amount of the allowance is 3d. per day for children over six and under twelve who reside between two and a half and three miles from the nearest school, or 4d. per day for all children over six and under thirteen who reside three miles or over from the nearest school. Parents and custodians who fail to make a child attend as provided may be summoned and fined not less than 2s., or more than 10s., for each such offence, or in default, may be imprisoned for any term not exceeding three days; and truant officers are appointed to see that the compulsory provisions are carried out.

There are at present 376 school districts, in each of which a Board of Advice is elected every three years by the ratepayers in the district, the members of such boards being seven or five according to the size or importance of the district. The main functions of a Board of Advice are:—To report on the condition of schools and premises, whether new ones are required, and as to books, furniture, gymnastic appliances or other requirements; to suspend teachers for misconduct, and report cause to the Minister; to visit schools, record the number present, and its opinion as to the general condition and the management of the schools in the district; and to endeavour to induce parents to send their children regularly to school, to compare the attendance with the roll, and report names of parents who fail to comply with the compulsory clauses.

The following are the subjects in which instruction is absolutely free:—Reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, history, drill, singing, drawing, elementary science, manual training, gymnastics, and swimming where practicable; lessons on the laws of health and on temperance previously mentioned; and needlework, and, where practicable, cookery, and domestic economy for girls. Pupils buy their own books and material. To cover the cost of the latter for paper work and cardboard modelling, 1d. per week is charged, and for woodwork 2d. per week. For instruction in other branches, fees are charged to the parents, and the teacher is entitled to such fees if the inspector is satisfied with the instruction imparted.

In the latter half of 1902, a revised programme of free instruction was issued, the provisions of which are such as to secure a more realistic treatment than formerly of the essential subjects of school education, and a larger share of attention to the training of the hand and eye through manual instruction in various forms. The requirements from teachers of infants were also made such as to secure methods of teaching in accord with the principles enunciated by Froebel, the founder of the kindergarten system. Great activity has been displayed in the training of teachers for the new work. During the past few years hundreds of country teachers have been instructed, at the University and Training College, in such subjects as drawing, brush-work, paper-work, cardboard modelling, kindergarten, experimental science, and nature-study; while, at centres throughout the State, Saturday classes have been held in several of these subjects.

Drill,
swimming,
school garden,
etc.

There were, on the 30th June, 1907, 20 Sloyd centres in operation, having accommodation for 4,140 boys; and twelve cookery centres, having accommodation for 1,560 girls. Military drill receives a large share of attention, and the older boys of the larger schools are enrolled in corps and provided with light rifles. The teaching of swimming is organized when practicable, the children being formed into swimming clubs, which hold annual competitions at Melbourne and Geelong. The cultivation of school gardens and the study of the elements of agriculture are warmly encouraged by the Department's officers; and every facility is made for the celebration of arbor days.

Extra
subjects.

The following are the extra subjects and the fees chargeable:—Latin, French, German, and painting, for which the fee must not exceed one shilling weekly; natural science (other than that provided in the course of free instruction) Euclid, algebra, trigonometry, fancy work, elocution, shorthand, and typewriting, fee not exceeding sixpence weekly; bookkeeping and calisthenics, fee not exceeding threepence weekly; and such other subjects as may be approved by the Director. The instruction in extra subjects must be given so as not to interfere with the ordinary free instruction.

Standard of
education.

Yearly examinations are held to determine the quality of the work done by teachers, to award merit certificates, and to grant certificates of exemption from compulsory attendance to children who present themselves. The subjects of examination for the latter certificates are:—Reading, writing, spelling, composition, and arithmetic, as prescribed for Class V.; and any child over 12 years of age who wishes exemption from further compulsory attendance may be so exempt on passing this test. Half-yearly examinations are also held for the examination of children not attending State schools who desire to prove that they are educated up to the standard.

Teachers'
remuneration
and
classification.

Male teachers are divided into eight classes and female teachers into seven classes, there being no female teachers in the first class. The salaries for males, excluding junior teachers, range from £100 to £415, and those for females excluding junior teachers and sewing mistresses, from £80 to £200. The system of payments by way of results was finally abolished by Act No. 2006, which came into force on the 1st January, 1906. In addition to the head and assistant teachers, there are four classes of male and female junior teachers, with salaries ranging from £20 to £50 and from £16 to £40 respectively. Sewing mistresses receive £30 yearly.

State
schools,
teachers,
and scholars,
1872
to 1907.

The following statement shows the progress as regards State schools, teachers, and scholars since 1872. The figures relating to the number of schools and teachers refer to 30th June, and those relating to the number of scholars to the financial year ended 30th June.

for the last six years, and to the years ended 31st December for all previous returns:—

STATE SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, 1872 TO 1906-7.

| Year. | Number of Schools. | Number of Instructors. | Number of Scholars. | | |
|---------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | | | Enrolled during the Year. | In Average Attendance. | Distinct Children (estimated). |
| 1872 | 1,049 | 2,416 | 136,055 | 68,456 | 113,197 |
| 1880 | 1,810 | 4,215 | 229,723 | 119,520 | 195,736 |
| 1890 | 2,170 | 4,708 | 250,097 | 133,768 | 213,886 |
| 1898 | 1,877 | 4,618 | 238,357 | 134,976 | 212,164 |
| 1899 | 1,892 | 4,808 | 239,732 | 143,844 | 214,522 |
| 1900 | 1,948 | 4,977 | 243,667 | 147,020 | 218,240 |
| 1901-2 | 2,041 | 5,066 | 257,355 | 150,939 | 228,241 |
| 1902-3 | 1,988 | 5,037 | 251,655 | 150,268 | 224,178 |
| 1903-4 | 1,922 | 4,797 | 241,145 | 145,500 | 214,822 |
| 1904-5 | 1,935 | 4,689 | 234,614 | 143,362 | 210,200 |
| 1905-6 | 1,953 | 4,598 | 229,179 | 142,216 | 203,119 |
| 1906-7 | 1,974 | 4,721* | 231,759 | 147,270 | 203,782 |

* In addition to these teachers, 219 were temporarily employed on the 30th June, 1907.

In 1872, before attendance at school was free and compulsory, each child on the average attended 58 days out of each 100 days the school was open; now each child attends 72½ days out of each 100 school days.

Children's attendance at school, 1872 and 1907.

The decrease in the number of schools and of scholars (*i.e.*, as compared with the number for the year ended 30th June, 1902) has arisen from several causes. Between 1890 and 1898, and between 1902 and 1904, many very small schools were closed or worked on the part-time system. In cases where the schools were closed, an allowance of 3d. to 4d. per day was made to enable parents to have the children of school age conveyed, where practicable, to neighbouring schools. The fluctuations in the enrolment and average attendance were due to such causes as sickness or variation in the birth rate, with consequent variation in the number of children of school age in any given year. In the year 1905-6, a considerable increase took place in the number of children enrolled at private schools.

Fluctuations in the number of schools and scholars.

The following are particulars of the number and percentage of distinct children attending State schools, below, at, and above the school age (6 and under 14), during the year 1906-7:—

Ages of State school scholars.

AGES OF DISTINCT CHILDREN.

| Ages. | Distinct Children Attending— | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|---------|--------------|
| | Day Schools. | | Night Schools. | | Total. | |
| | Number. | Per-centage. | Number. | Per-centage. | Number. | Per-centage. |
| Under 6 years | 10,138 | 4·99 | ... | ... | 10,138 | 4·97 |
| 6 to 14 " | 168,667 | 83·10 | ... | ... | 168,667 | 82·77 |
| 14 years and upwards | 24,167 | 11·91 | 810 | 100 | 24,977 | 12·26 |
| Total | 202,972 | 100·00 | 810 | 100 | 203,782 | 100·00 |

Children at school age receiving instruction.

The estimated number of children in the State at school age (6 to 14 years) on the 30th June, 1907, was 210,087, and of these 199,936 were being instructed in State and private schools. The number of children not being instructed in schools was, therefore, 10,151, and if allowance be made for those being taught at home, for others who, having obtained certificates of exemption, have left school, and for those bodily or mentally afflicted, it would appear that the number of children whose education is being wholly neglected is not great.

Net enrolment in Australia and New Zealand.

In the following return will be found a comparative statement for the year 1906, showing, for the various States of the Commonwealth and for New Zealand, the mean population, the net enrolment of children in State and private schools, and the percentage of such enrolment to the population. The percentage in the Commonwealth is 19.13 (15.54 per cent. in State, and 3.59 in private schools), and in New Zealand 17.79 (15.40 per cent. in State, and 2.39 in private schools). The highest enrolment in State and private schools is in Victoria, 20.52 per cent., New South Wales coming next with 19.71.

NET ENROLMENT OF SCHOLARS IN STATE AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND, 1906.

| State. | Mean Population. | Net Enrolment of Scholars —all Ages. | | | Percentage of Population. | | |
|-------------------|------------------|---|------------------|---------|---------------------------|------------------|--------|
| | | State Primary Schools. | Private Schools. | Total. | State Primary Schools. | Private Schools. | Total. |
| Victoria .. | 1,227,072 | 203,119 | 48,732 | 251,851 | 16.55 | 3.97 | 20.52 |
| New South Wales | 1,510,103 | 237,493 | 60,119 | 297,612 | 15.73 | 3.98 | 19.71 |
| Queensland .. | 532,783 | 89,488 | 12,833 | 102,321 | 16.80 | 2.41 | 19.21 |
| South Australia | 380,069 | 57,365 | 9,778 | 67,143 | 15.10 | 2.57 | 17.67 |
| Western Australia | 259,824 | 28,927 | 7,515 | 36,442 | 11.13 | 2.89 | 14.02 |
| Tasmania .. | 180,634 | 19,144 | 7,979 | 27,123 | 10.60 | 4.42 | 15.02 |
| Total Australia | 4,090,485 | 635,536 | 146,956 | 782,492 | 15.54 | 3.59 | 19.13 |
| New Zealand .. | 895,594 | 137,880 | 21,401 | 159,281 | 15.40 | 2.39 | 17.79 |

Primary instruction, cost per scholar.

The cost of primary instruction, including the expenditure on buildings, in the Commonwealth and in New Zealand for the year 1906, is set out below. The average cost per scholar in Australia is £5 4s. 7d., and in New Zealand £5 8s. 9d. The cost for 1905 was—Australia, £4 19s. 10d.; New Zealand, £4 17s. 6d.

COST OF PRIMARY INSTRUCTION IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND,
1906.

| State. | Scholars in Average Attendance. | Expenditure— | | | Per Head of Scholars in Average Attendance. | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------|---|---------|
| | | On Administration and Maintenance. | On Buildings and Rent. | Total. | Including Buildings and Rent. | |
| | | | | | Excluding Buildings and Rent. | |
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
| Victoria .. | 142,216 | 671,367 | 39,183 | 710,550 | 4 19 11 | 4 14 5 |
| New South Wales .. | 151,261 | 791,606 | 89,975 | 881,581 | 5 16 7 | 5 4 8 |
| Queensland .. | 69,771 | 286,629 | 24,896 | 311,525 | 4 9 4 | 4 2 2 |
| South Australia .. | 40,308 | 149,307 | 15,175 | 164,482 | 4 1 7 | 3 14 1 |
| Western Australia .. | 24,973 | 132,806 | 39,156 | 171,962 | 6 17 9 | 5 6 4 |
| Tasmania .. | 13,729 | 58,458 | 13,308 | 71,766 | 5 4 7 | 4 5 2 |
| Total Australia | 442,258 | 2,090,173 | 221,693 | 2,311,866 | 5 4 7 | 4 14 6 |
| New Zealand .. | 121,958 | 512,723 | 150,344 | 663,067 | 5 8 9 | 4 4 1 |

The items taken into consideration in compiling the expenditure are:—Instruction in day and night schools in primary subjects, as defined by Acts of Parliament, cost of training, cost of administration, cost of buildings, rent, and pensions and gratuities.

The number of private schools, instructors in same, and individual scholars in attendance in 1872, the year before the adoption of the present secular system, for a number of subsequent years, and for the latest year available, was:—

Private Schools
1872 to

PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND ATTENDANCE, 1872 TO 1906-7.

| Year. (4th Quarter.) | Number of Schools. | Number of Instructors. | Number of Individual Scholars. |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1872 | 888 | 1,841 | 24,781 |
| 1880 | 643 | 1,516 | 28,134 |
| 1890 | 791 | 2,037 | 40,181 |
| 1898 | 945 | 2,440 | 43,926 |
| 1899 | 901 | 2,417 | 48,854 |
| 1900 | 884 | 2,348 | 48,483 |
| 1901-2 | 872 | 2,379 | 43,182 |
| 1902-3 | 798 | 2,369 | 42,695 |
| 1903-4 | 787 | 2,360 | 42,214 |
| 1904-5 | 771 | 2,289 | 43,014 |
| 1905-6 | 757 | 2,397 | 48,732 |
| 1906-7 | 751 | 2,313 | 49,803 |

On comparing the number of scholars with the number attending schools, it is seen that 20 per cent. of the scholars attending school during 1906-7 attended private schools, and the balance, 80 per cent., attended State schools.

Scholars attendin
State and
private
schools.

TRAINING COLLEGE.

College for
training
teachers.

A State College for the training of teachers is situated in the corner of the University grounds, Carlton. It provides courses for Kindergarten or Infant schools, Primary or State schools, and Secondary schools. In connexion with the first two courses special certificates are issued, and in connexion with the third the University of Melbourne grants a special diploma. The course for the diploma is purely a University one, but the work in education, both theoretical and practical, is done by the Training College principal, assisted by the lecturers. Each of the above-named courses extends over two years. Lectures and lessons are given in education, kindergarten principles, psychology, English language and literature, British history, Latin, mathematics, science, nature-study, music, drawing, manual training, kindergarten subjects and infant school work, domestic economy, and gymnastics. Criticism lessons in connexion with all the courses are held weekly, and full opportunity is given to every student either at the practising or associated schools of gaining experience in the practical work of his profession. The majority of the students attending the Training College belong to the State schools. These have been either classified teachers or pupil teachers, and they hold studentships gained by competitive examination, which entitle them to free instruction. If they reside at the college they must pay £12 per annum towards the expense of their board and residence, but on the other hand they receive a grant of the same amount from the State each year; if they reside at home they are entitled to an allowance of £18 per annum towards board and residence. Holders of State school exhibitions may be granted a studentship for any two years during the currency of their exhibition, but without allowance for board and residence (other than that payable to them as exhibitors). Studentships, not exceeding five in number in any one year, may be granted to persons who have passed the junior public examination of the Melbourne University, or an approved equivalent, who are at least eighteen years of age, and who have been classed as meritorious in the competitive examination above mentioned. Such students will be entitled to tuition in the course of instruction at the College free of expense, but without any allowance for board and residence. Every "State" student will be required to enter into an agreement, by himself and an approved surety, not to relinquish his course of training without the permission of the Minister, and for four years after the termination of his studentship to teach in any school to which he may be appointed. Visiting students other than above may, on payment of a fee of £10 per annum, be admitted to the course of instruction at the Training College; or, on payment of a fee of £4 4s. per annum, to the course of instruction in education only; or, on payment of a fee of £6 6s. per annum, to the course for the Kindergarten certificate. The fees for the Diploma of Education are payable to the University.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND EXHIBITIONS.

Any person may collect, raise, or give a sum of money towards founding a scholarship or exhibition in connexion with any particular State school; and money or land, or both, may be bequeathed for that purpose. By an amended regulation of 13th December, 1904, the Minister of Public Instruction may annually award eighty scholarships, each tenable for three years. Of these, forty are open to State school pupils, for the purpose of facilitating their higher education in the general work of the University or the science work of the Technical school; and forty to pupils of State or other schools, to enable them to proceed to a diploma or degree in mining or agriculture at the University. The scholarship holders are to become students in a State continuation school, or an approved secondary school or college, and to obtain at the end of each year a satisfactory report of conduct and progress. Under specified conditions, cost of transit (not exceeding £5 per annum) may be allowed to a student who resides with his parents or guardians more than five miles from the school. Where it is impracticable for the student to reside with his parents or guardians, the Minister may make an allowance of £26 for board and residence, instead of the transit allowance. Scholars while attending approved secondary schools and colleges are granted an allowance of £8 per annum toward the expenses of their tuition. Holders of scholarships will be admitted free of cost as pupils in continuation schools, and receive instruction in such subjects as the Minister determines. The Minister may cancel any scholarship where the conditions are not observed, or where the scholar is guilty of disorderly or immoral conduct. Examinations were held in December last. Those candidates returned as meritorious will be permitted to make such arrangements as they please with the teachers of secondary schools, and with satisfactory progress reports and examinations, they will, in due course, be eligible to attend examination for an exhibition. The holders of scholarships whose age does not exceed seventeen years and six months who have attended regularly at an approved secondary school or college for the preceding two years, from the authorities of which good reports have been obtained, and who have passed the junior public examination at the University, are eligible to compete for forty exhibitions annually awarded by the Department. The exhibitions are allotted on competitive examination conducted by the University authorities in four of the subjects prescribed for the Senior Public examination of the Melbourne University. Twenty of the exhibitions are of the annual value of £40, tenable for three years at technical schools, or for four years at the Melbourne University. The other twenty exhibitions entitle their holders to free tuition at the Melbourne University in the subjects prescribed for a degree or a diploma in Mining or in Agriculture. Such exhibitioners may also receive an allowance of £26 per annum, provided that the net income of their parents or guardians does not exceed £250 per annum.

Scholarships
and exhibi-
tions.

CENSUS RETURNS.

Education of
the people,
census
1901.

The following statement, taken from the returns of the census of 1901, shows the number and percentage of persons (excluding Chinese and aborigines) in the State at different ages who could read and write, who could read only, or who were unable to read:—

EDUCATION OF THE PEOPLE, 1901.

| Ages. | Numbers in 1901. | | | | Number in every 100 at each age in 1901. | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------|--|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| | Able to read and write. | Able to read only. | Unable to read. | Total. | Able to read and write. | Able to read only. | Unable to read. |
| Under 6 years .. | 4,811 | 5,237 | 146,796 | 156,844 | 3·07 | 3·34 | 93·59 |
| 6 to 13 .. | 175,797 | 8,046 | 11,251 | 195,094 | 90·12 | 4·12 | 5·76 |
| 13 ,, 15 .. | 50,547 | 65 | 220 | 50,832 | 99·44 | ·13 | ·43 |
| 15 ,, 25 .. | 222,076 | 239 | 1,245 | 223,560 | 99·34 | ·10 | ·56 |
| 25 ,, 35 .. | 187,879 | 238 | 1,512 | 189,679 | 99·05 | ·15 | ·80 |
| 35 ,, 45 .. | 155,206 | 650 | 1,994 | 157,850 | 98·32 | ·41 | 1·27 |
| 45 ,, 55 .. | 76,480 | 1,120 | 2,350 | 79,950 | 95·66 | 1·40 | 2·94 |
| 55 ,, 65 .. | 52,808 | 1,986 | 2,994 | 57,788 | 91·38 | 3·44 | 5·18 |
| 65 years and upwards | 54,809 | 3,776 | 4,865 | 63,450 | 86·38 | 5·95 | 7·67 |
| Unspecified adults .. | 1,647 | 27 | 45 | 1,719 | 95·81 | 1·57 | 2·62 |
| All ages .. | 982,060 | 21,434 | 173,272 | 1,176,766 | 83·46 | 1·82 | 14·72 |
| 15 years and upwards | 750,905 | 8,086 | 15,005 | 773,996 | 97·02 | 1·04 | 1·94 |
| 21 ,, ,, ,, | 613,018 | 7,936 | 14,335 | 635,289 | 96·49 | 1·25 | 2·26 |

The number of children from 6 to 13 years of age includes those children whose ages were not specified, the total figures exclude those whose educational attainments were not returned, and in the ages 15 years and upwards, and 21 years and upwards, are included the adults whose ages were unspecified.

The numbers of persons in every 10,000 of the population who could both read and write, and of those who were unable to read, at the last two enumerations, were as follow:—

| | In 1891. | In 1901. |
|-----------------------------------|----------|----------------------|
| At all ages | 8,318 | 8,528 could read |
| " " " " " | 8,029 | 8,346 could write |
| " " " " " | 1,682 | 1,472 could not read |
| Between 6 and 13 (school age*) .. | 9,389 | 9,424 could read |
| " " " " " | 8,769 | 9,012 could write |
| " " " " " | 611 | 576 could not read |
| At 15 and upwards | 9,771 | 9,806 could read |
| " " " " " | 9,573 | 9,702 could write |
| " " " " " | 229 | 194 could not read |
| At 21 and upwards | 9,728 | 9,774 could read |
| " " " " " | 9,491 | 9,649 could write |
| " " " " " | 272 | 226 could not read |

* The school age is now 6 to 14 years of age.

Education
1891 and
1901.

A marked improvement is noticeable at all ages, and in regard to children at school age the proportion entirely illiterate was only 576 per 10,000.

A comparison of the results of the censuses of 1891 and 1901 in every 10,000 children of school age,* *i.e.*, between 6 and 13 years of age, indicates that the educational attainments of both boys and girls had materially improved, as there were proportionately more children able to read in 1901 than there were in 1891. This will be readily seen by an examination of the following figures:—

Education of boys and girls, 1891 and 1901.

| 1891. | | 1901. | |
|-------|--------|-------|---------------------|
| Boys. | Girls. | Boys. | Girls. |
| 9,357 | 9,421 | 9,398 | 9,454 could read |
| 8,686 | 8,852 | 8,971 | 9,056 could write |
| 643 | 579 | 602 | 546 could not read. |

It is always a noticeable fact that in Victoria girls are much more forward in regard to the rudiments of education than are boys. Whether this is owing to a closer application to lessons, to less distractions caused by sports and games, or to quicker natural abilities, it is hard to determine. This relative backwardness of boys is not a condition peculiar to Victoria, but is just as noticeable in the other States.

The degree of education of children differs somewhat according to religious denomination, as will be seen by the following figures taken at the census of 1901:—

Education of children of different sects.

EDUCATION OF CHILDREN OF DIFFERENT DENOMINATIONS, 1901.

| Religious Denominations. | Number aged 5 to 15 years. | | | Proportion per cent. | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| | Able to read and write. | Able to read only. | Unable to read. | Able to read and write. | Able to read only. | Unable to read. |
| Church of England .. | 84,406 | 4,797 | 9,914 | 85·16 | 4·84 | 10·00 |
| Presbyterian .. | 36,808 | 2,032 | 4,232 | 85·46 | 4·72 | 9·82 |
| Methodist .. | 40,769 | 2,036 | 4,102 | 86·92 | 4·34 | 8·74 |
| Other Protestants ... | 18,022 | 858 | 2,028 | 86·20 | 4·10 | 9·70 |
| Total Protestants | 180,005 | 9,723 | 20,276 | 85·72 | 4·63 | 9·65 |
| Roman Catholics .. | 46,468 | 2,849 | 6,253 | 83·62 | 5·13 | 11·25 |
| Jews .. | 1,026 | 56 | 79 | 88·37 | 4·82 | 6·81 |
| Residue .. | 3,657 | 198 | 497 | 84·03 | 4·55 | 11·42 |
| Total .. | 231,156 | 12,826 | 27,105 | 85·27 | 4·73 | 10·00 |

In addition to these, there were 5,770 children between the ages of five and fifteen whose education was unstated.

* The school age is now 6 to 14 years of age.

Education of children at census, 1901.

At the census of 1901 the number of children at school age (over 6 and under 13 years*) resident in Victoria was 197,704, and of these 184,200 were receiving instruction, whilst the balance, 13,504, were not under instruction nor receiving any education whatsoever. There were also 43,353 children either above or below the school age, making a total of 241,057 children under instruction. Of every 1,000 of these, 783 were educated at State schools, 33 at colleges and grammar schools, 72 at denominational schools, 63 at private schools, and 10 at unspecified schools, whilst the balance of 39 were educated at home. Of the 13,504 at school age who were returned as not receiving any instruction at all, 4,608 were in Melbourne and suburbs, 2,209 in country cities, towns, and boroughs, and 6,687 in rural districts. Of the children at school age resident in Melbourne and suburbs, 6·13 per cent., of those in the country towns, &c., 7·03 per cent., and of those in rural districts 7·34 per cent. were not receiving instruction.

Education of children. Progress and comparison with other States.

As a measure of the progress of education under the free, compulsory, and secular system, it may be mentioned that 90·12 per cent. of children of school age (6 to 13 years) at the census of 1901 were able to read and write, as against 87·69 at that of 1891, 81·70 in 1881, and 65·60 in 1871, just before the introduction of the system. The percentage just mentioned as being able to read and write at the census of 1901 (viz., 90·12) is considerably higher than that in any other State in the Commonwealth, the percentage being, at the 1901 census, 84·42 in Queensland (Australian born children only), 82·05 in Western Australia, 82·00 in South Australia, 80·35 in New South Wales, and 78·77 in Tasmania.

STANDARD OF EDUCATION.

Signing with marks.

The proportion of either sex who showed their want of elementary education, by signing the marriage register with a mark instead of in writing, is given in the following table for each fifth year from 1875, and for the years 1900 to 1907:—

SIGNING THE MARRIAGE REGISTER WITH MARKS, 1875 TO 1907.

| Year. | Men. | Women. | Mean. |
|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. |
| 1875 .. | 5·48 | 9·43 | 7·46 |
| 1880 .. | 4·18 | 4·09 | 4·13 |
| 1885 .. | 2·56 | 2·62 | 2·59 |
| 1890 .. | 1·50 | 1·53 | 1·52 |
| 1895 .. | ·89 | ·67 | ·78 |
| 1900 .. | ·66 | ·85 | ·76 |
| 1901 .. | ·56 | ·50 | ·53 |
| 1902 .. | ·67 | ·54 | ·60 |
| 1903 .. | ·69 | ·50 | ·59 |
| 1904 .. | ·65 | ·40 | ·52 |
| 1905 .. | ·50 | ·38 | ·44 |
| 1906 .. | ·43 | ·44 | ·43 |
| 1907 .. | ·47 | ·29 | ·38 |

* The school age is now 6 to 14 years of age.

It will be observed that in proportion to the total numbers married, a very satisfactory increase has taken place during the 20 years ended with 1895 in the numbers of both sexes signing the marriage register in writing, in that nearly every year, as compared with its predecessor, a smaller proportion of persons signed with their marks. From 1895 to 1900 this proportion remained at a somewhat uniform level, but since the latter year the improvement is marked. It is probable, however, that the irreducible minimum has almost now been reached, for a certain residuum of the proportion will remain illiterate even under the compulsory system of education which prevails in Victoria. This is confirmed by the results of the census of 1901, which show that the percentage of males aged 21 years and upwards (exclusive of Chinese and aborigines) who could not write was 3·18, and that of females aged 15 years and upwards, 3·23; whereas at the age groups fifteen to twenty, immediately following the school period, the percentage was ·81 for males and ·45 for females, so that the persons at all ages now marrying in Victoria are not only far better instructed than the general population, but are quite as well educated as those who have just completed their school life.

Increased numbers signing in writing.

Compared with England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, where the proportions signing with marks were 1.69, 1.89, and 8.78 respectively, the elementary educational standard is very high in this State, which, in this respect, occupies the highest position in Australasia.

The following table shows the principal religions of the people as ascertained at the census of 1901:—

Religions of the people.

RELIGIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF VICTORIA AT THE CENSUS OF 1901.

| Religion. | Number. | Per cent. of Population. |
|---|----------------|--------------------------|
| Protestant Churches— | | |
| Church of England (including Protestant, so stated) | 432,704 | 36·52 |
| Presbyterian Church of Victoria | 190,725 | 16·09 |
| Free Presbyterian | 778 | ·07 |
| Methodist | 180,272 | 15·21 |
| Independent or Congregational | 17,141 | 1·45 |
| Baptist | 32,648 | 2·75 |
| Evangelical Lutheran | 13,935 | 1·18 |
| Unitarian | 788 | ·07 |
| Church of Christ | 10,682 | ·90 |
| Welsh Calvinistic Methodist | 1,257 | ·11 |
| Society of Friends | 251 | ·02 |
| United Brethren or Moravian | 144 | ·01 |
| Australian Church | 964 | ·08 |
| Seventh Day Adventists | 1,086 | ·09 |
| Free Christian Church | 71 | ·01 |
| Other Protestant Churches | 12,658 | 1·06 |
| Total Protestant Churches | 896,104 | 75·62 |

RELIGIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF VICTORIA AT THE CENSUS
OF 1901—*continued.*

| Religion. | Number. | Per cent. of Population. |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Roman Catholic Church | 263,710 | 22·26 |
| Other Denominations— | | |
| New Church (or Swedenborgian) | 146 | ·01 |
| Catholic Apostolic Church | 460 | ·04 |
| Christian Israelites | 258 | ·02 |
| Spiritualists | 913 | ·08 |
| Salvation Army | 8,830 | ·74 |
| Greek Orthodox Church | 367 | ·03 |
| Jews | 5,907 | ·50 |
| Other Religions | 3,293 | ·28 |
| Sceptics | 4,969 | ·42 |
| Total specified | 1,184,957 | 100·00 |
| Unspecified | 16,384 | .. |
| Grand Total | 1,201,341 | .. |

Protestants
and Roman
Catholics.

The total number of Protestants of all denominations in 1901 was 896,104, as against 836,857 in 1891. In 1901 the Roman Catholics numbered 263,710; in 1891, 248,591. The rate of increase of each of these bodies in the ten years was, therefore, about the same as that of the population.

Protestant
sects.

The Presbyterians, Methodists, and Baptists have improved their positions relatively to the total population since 1891. The proportion of members of the Church of England has remained almost stationary. The Independents have decreased from 22,100 to 17,141.

Salvation
Army.

In 1891 the adherents of the Salvation Army were enumerated at 13,521, but they numbered only 8,830 in 1901.

Ministers
and
Churches.

At the end of 1907, there were 2,828 regular churches and chapels, and 1,959 other buildings, where religious services were held—a total of 4,787 places of public worship throughout the State

—attended by 1,862 regular clergymen. The following statement contains particulars of the different denominations:—

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS, 1907.

| Denominations. | Number of Clergy, Ministers, &c. | Buildings used for Public Worship. | | |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| | | Churches and Chapels. | Other Buildings. | Total. |
| Protestant Churches— | | | | |
| Church of England ... | 322 | 607 | 633 | 1,240 |
| Presbyterian Church of Victoria ... | 242 | 501 | 398 | 899 |
| Free Presbyterian ... | 3 | 10 | 3 | 13 |
| Methodist ... | 226 | 810 | 464 | 1,274 |
| Independent or Congregational ... | 55 | 77 | 46 | 123 |
| Baptist ... | 81 | 96 | 81 | 177 |
| Other Protestant ... | 68 | 136 | 66 | 202 |
| Roman Catholic Church ... | 263 | 500 | 179 | 679 |
| New Church (or Swedenborgian) ... | 1 | 2 | ... | 2 |
| Catholic Apostolic Church ... | 2 | 1 | ... | 1 |
| Spiritualists ... | 2 | ... | 3 | 3 |
| Salvation Army ... | 584 | 78 | 83 | 161 |
| Greek Orthodox Church ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 |
| Jews ... | 7 | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| Re-organized Church of Latter Day Saints ... | 6 | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| Total ... | 1,862 | 2,828 | 1,959 | 4,787 |

The Sunday Schools of the various religious bodies numbered 2,975; the teachers, 20,320; and the number of scholars on the rolls, 211,935—93,741 males and 118,194 females. Sunday Schools.

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

All the technical schools, under which name are included the Schools of Mines, Working Men's Colleges, and Schools of Art and Design, are managed by local councils elected by subscribers. The Education Department, however, retains the general direction of technical education, and decides when schools are to be opened. Regulations are issued defining the powers of the councils, allotting the Government grants, and providing for the instruction and examination of the students. In the schools of art and design, the subjects taught comprise practical geometry, mechanical and architectural drawing, perspective, model, and freehand drawing. The schools of mines, which have been established at the principal mining centres, provide both theoretical and practical instruction, not only in all the subjects in any way connected with mining pursuits, but also in the arts and sciences generally; whilst a wide range of subjects is taught at the working men's and other colleges. In Technical schools.

1906-7, there were altogether 16 technical schools in the State. Six of these afforded instruction in science, art, and trade subjects; three in art and science; four in art and trade; while two schools confined their teaching to art, and one to trade. Six schools, viz., the Working Men's College, Melbourne, and the Schools of Mines at Ballarat, Bendigo, Bairnsdale, Stawell, and Maryborough, are classed as certified science schools, and are eligible to receive State school exhibitioners. The schools, as a whole had, during 1906-7, an average enrolment of 3,599 pupils for each term; whilst the fees per term ranged in the different schools from 3s. to £8 15s. The Government expenditure on all the institutions in 1906-7 amounted to £22,322. The students paid in fees £11,586 during the year.

The following is a statement showing the Government expenditure on each technical school during the financial year 1906-7:—

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, 1906-7.

| Name. | Amount. |
|--|---------|
| <i>Schools of Mines and Technical Schools.</i> | |
| Bairnsdale | £ 942 |
| Ballarat | 4,096 |
| Bendigo | 1,878 |
| Castlemaine | 565 |
| Daylesford | 398 |
| Horsham | 350 |
| Kyneton | 340 |
| Maryborough | 678 |
| Sale | 577 |
| Stawell | 712 |
| <i>Schools of Art.</i> | |
| Echuca | 210 |
| Nhill | 200 |
| Warrnambool | 150 |
| Gordon Technical College, Geelong .. | 753 |
| <i>Working Men's College.</i> | |
| Melbourne | 7,218 |
| <i>College of Domestic Economy.</i> | |
| Melbourne | 2,352 |
| Miscellaneous Expenditure .. | 903 |
| Total | 22,322 |

SCHOOLS OF MINES AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

Bairnsdale
District.

The Bairnsdale District School of Mines was founded in 1890 for the purpose of giving instruction in such subjects as pertained to local industries. With this object in view, classes in Chemistry,

the Principles of Agriculture, Metallurgical and Mining subjects, as well as drawing classes for artisans, were established. It was soon found that the metallurgical industry needed the greatest attention. The ores in the neighbourhood of Omeo were complex, and yielded but little of their gold to ordinary methods of treatment. A well-equipped metallurgical plant was erected at the school. It soon justified its existence by the successful treatment of ore which was previously looked upon as valueless. One result has been that mines in North Gippsland, having refractory gold ores, are now profitably dealt with. In addition to this work, experimental work on parcels of from one ton to five ton samples of complex ore from various States have been dealt with in order to demonstrate particular methods of treatment.

Amongst the lots treated were sulphide ores containing oxide of tin, separation of heavy mineral sands, such as zircons from oxide of tin, separation of zinc, lead and copper from a complex sulphide ore, separation of zinc, and other sulphides, according to Potter's process.

The students do all the work, including battery treatment, amalgamation roasting, retorting, cyaniding, chlorinating, and smelting, and thus get an actual insight into their duties.

The courses for mining and metallurgy have been drawn up by the Education Department, and are the same for all approved Schools of Mines. The time taken is from three to four years. After passing the necessary examinations, and having had a year's practical experience, diplomas are granted by the Government of Victoria. Owing to the demand made for mining and metallurgical teaching, the classes in agriculture had to be temporarily discontinued, and although it is not possible to give the same courses as in mining subjects, yet on account of the local importance of the industry, the School Council has obtained the assistance of the Agricultural Department in providing for a winter course of lectures and demonstrations by the various experts in that Department. This course will be continuous for about three months. In addition to the regular courses, separate subjects may be taken up during day and evening, including engineering, drawing, and various science and art subjects of technical importance. The students from the school have been very successful in after life. Many are now engaged in professional work in Victoria, others in New South Wales, Western Australia, Tasmania, and South Africa.

This is the oldest established School of Mines in Australasia, Ballarat. having been founded in 1870 "to impart instruction in the various branches of science relating to mining." It was established on the initiative of the public spirited and enlightened mining men of Ballarat—the resolution of the Mining Board dating from 6th October, 1869. After consultation with Sir Roderick Murchison—at that time of the Royal School of Mines, London—and other educational and mining authorities, the plan was decided upon which the institution was to be modelled. With the old court-house rented from the Government as a building nucleus (to which laboratories

may be excused from attendance or examination, or from both, in such subject or subjects, on a certificate from the Board of Examiners. The number of associate students—those taking a three or four years'

were immediately afterwards added, supported by public subscription, and assisted by a modest Government grant), the first classes assembled on 23rd January, 1871, and the school was launched upon its career. Since that date, its income, which has steadily increased, has been drawn from students' fees, public subscriptions and donations, private bequests, and an annual grant from the Government. The four-acre block which the school already possesses, centrally situated as it is, constitutes an ideal site for a mining institution. From west to east it has a fall of 60 feet, well adapted for the battery and concentration plants, whilst one corner of the ground is within a few yards of the creek, allowing of the easy disposal of tailings. The general efficiency and usefulness of the school have recently been greatly promoted by extensive additions to the buildings and plant, and numerous improvements in the chemical, metallurgical, engineering, and mining departments. In the chemical laboratories—of which there are four—provision is made for upwards of 200 students. The assay laboratory, to which four weighing rooms are attached, contains upwards of thirty furnaces. The engineering department is well supplied with theodolites, levels, and a quantity of other surveying apparatus, and the engineering laboratory has been fitted with an experimental steam-engine and boiler, and other apparatus of the most modern form. The extensive new buildings erected as a mining laboratory continue to prove of eminent value to the school, where the most advanced systems of treating free and refractory gold ores have been introduced. The primary object of this laboratory is for the instruction of students in the large scale treatment and for testing parcels of ore for the public. This department contains a furnace for roasting pyrites and provision for milling, concentrating, chlorinating, and cyaniding, and a model mine with ample equipment. There is also a model 40-head battery with pumping, driving, and hauling engines for class purposes. In the department of geology and mineralogy, the students have the advantage of a well supplied lecture and demonstration room, where the determination of minerals by blowpipe tests, and the examination of rocks and minerals by microscopical tests, are made. The school has always concentrated its resources and energies upon mining education, aiming to do this one thing well rather than to risk loss of efficiency through diffuseness of effort. The aim is to make the instruction eminently practical, and so to train up the young mine managers and metallurgists that by the time they leave the school they shall be prepared at all points to complete their education at the mine and metallurgical works, and thus become, with the least possible delay, capable and trusted metallurgists and mine managers. The school has, in addition, since its commencement, acted the part of an information bureau upon subjects connected with mining, and is at present freely consulted upon questions associated with mining engineering, metallurgy, mining, geology, electrical technology, and similar subjects. It is greatly aided in this work by its being situated not only in a thriving city, but in the centre of a large mining and agricultural district, and of an interesting

geological area full of varied and instructive features. Many mining claims are within sight of the buildings, and the deep alluvial fields of Allendale and Loddon are near at hand. Quartz vein mining, shallow and deep alluvial—illustrating a wide range of treatment from primitive methods up to the most approved processes—dredging plants, chlorination and cyanide works of latest patterns, besides foundries and engineering works, are all within easy reach. Regular visits of inspection are made to these and other objects of scientific interest by the school classes. These inspections are supplemented by holiday excursions much further afield. The directorates, mine managers, and works superintendents of the district greatly assist by affording ready facilities for the inspection of their works and mines, and by engaging students who are required to complete a prescribed course of practical work—one or two years as the case may be—before they can obtain their diplomas.

The entire mining district, with its mines and works, thus constitute one vast permanent object lesson for the school's use, and an ever active source of inspiration to the student. Practice in the laboratories and workshops of the school is made a special feature of the instruction, every candidate being required to pass an appointed time in one or more of these laboratories, according to the diploma or certificate he seeks.

The school draws its students from every Australian State, and from countries beyond the boundaries of the Commonwealth, whilst its associates and certificated students are to be found occupying important and lucrative positions in most of the mining fields of the world. A very pleasing feature is the readiness with which students obtain suitable employment in mines and metallurgical works, either as chemists, metallurgists, mining engineers, assayers, officers in charge of cyanide plants, or mining managers. The school offers instruction to all persons who shall have entered their names and paid the prescribed fees, and these persons are admitted to examination in any particular subject. The diploma of associate of the school is issued in mining engineering, metallurgy, geology, and electrical engineering, and for certificates as mine manager and assayer. Classes are also organized for candidates preparing for the Victorian Government examinations just instituted for certificates as cyanide, chlorination, and battery managers, underground foremen, and mining manager. In the case of students taking single subjects, or such courses as that for certificate as mine manager, or for a certificate as assayer, no entrance examination is required. Students desirous of qualifying for one or more of the associated courses are expected to have a preliminary education up to matriculation standard, and to attend all the prescribed courses of instruction, unless they can produce to the satisfaction of the Board of Examiners evidence of having attained elsewhere the degree of proficiency required in any subject or subjects. In such cases students may be excused from attendance or examination, or from both, in such subject or subjects, on a certificate from the Board of Examiners. The number of associate students—those taking a three or four years'

course of special training—has been well maintained. Besides these, there are a number who have taken the assayers' course, which includes chemistry, assaying, metallurgy, and mineralogy, and is usually taken by those who cannot afford the time necessary to compete for a full associateship, or who desire to specialize in assaying.

During 1907, the control of the local art and trade schools has been placed under the Council of the School of Mines. It is anticipated that under this arrangement more systematic and efficient work will be done than hitherto in the branches of technical instruction.

The total fees for lectures and practical work for an associate course is one hundred guineas, payable in yearly, half-yearly, or quarterly instalments.

Weekly lectures on electricity and magnetism are given gratuitously to the senior scholars of State schools. Members of these classes, on passing a satisfactory examination, are admitted to the ordinary lecture classes of the school at a much reduced fee. The Council have now adopted a scheme suggested by the Director of Education, to train 150 of the senior boys from the local State schools.

The museum, library, and reading rooms are necessary adjuncts, and are open daily to the public. The museum, rich as it is in geological and mineralogical specimens, is of great aid to the students and to those interested in these and cognate branches of science.

The Scientific and Literary Society holds regularly, at the school, their fortnightly meetings, when highly interesting and instructive papers are read and much information given. That such a society is needed is shown by the large attendance at meetings and the interest displayed.

The Ironworkers' Association continues to hold its meetings at the school. Lectures are delivered weekly to its members and the public, and its library, containing upwards of 2,000 books, all of a scientific and technical character, is recognised as being one of the best selected scientific libraries in the State.

Bendigo.

The school was established in 1873 as a School of Mines and Industries. Courses of from three to four years are provided for mining engineers, metallurgists, electrical and mechanical engineers, and shorter courses for mining managers, assayers, draughtsmen, and for subjects relating to applied art. Classes for tradesmen, such as builders, carpenters, metal workers and stone workers, are provided—the aim of the school being to give a thorough training to those who spend all their time there, and to improve the technical skill of the tradesmen or artisans who attend evening classes. The place is eminently situated for mining students, since there are over 100 mines in active operation surrounding the school. Visits to these are frequently made, the methods of work and machinery studied, and typical mines are surveyed and plotted out by the students. The numerous types of crushing and amalgamating appliances, the methods of roasting and subsequent treatment by chlorination or

cyanide, may be studied within half-an-hour's journey from the school. When a student finishes his course and requires practical experience, he is taken on for the necessary period by one of the local mines. The school is provided with a large crushing, concentrating, and amalgamating plant, and Mr. Thos. Edwards has donated a valuable patent tilting roasting furnace. Cyanide vats and other appliances are now erected, and the school is in a position to deal with large parcels of complex ore. The assay and analytical work of the district is mainly done at the school, and students thus get the fullest opportunity for learning commercial as well as scientific methods. Students for electrical engineering are usually employed by the Bendigo Electrical Supply Company, and attend classes at the school.

In October, 1887, a School of Mines was established in a building which was granted for the purpose by the Government of the day. Classes in art subjects, chemistry, assaying, telegraphy, carpentry, languages, mathematics, and botany, were at once commenced in a temporary school. In 1890 the permanent building was opened. Classes are now held in mining, metallurgy, surveying, chemistry, assaying, geology, mineralogy, electricity, engineering drawing, building construction, architecture and clay modelling, and the instruction in art subjects has been amplified and extended. The attendance of students during 1907 averaged 126 per term. Scholarships have been founded by local residents and institutions, and are of great aid to the students. A complete cyanide plant has been installed, and instruction in cyaniding has been added to the programme. A branch School of Mines has also been formed at Maldon, where, during the year 1906, a laboratory was erected, the funds being obtained by local subscriptions supplemented by a Government grant. Classes are held there in mining and metallurgical subjects, the instruction being given by the staff of the head school at Castlemaine.

The Daylesford Technical School was founded in 1889, with the object of providing facilities for students to continue their school education, and removing the difficulties experienced by young miners in getting technical instruction in the various branches of their occupation. The borough council gave a building for the institution, where a commencement was at once made, a substantial new building taking the place of the old one in the course of the following year. The objects are defined as follow:—To foster and develop a knowledge of handicrafts, arts, and sciences, and all subjects related directly and indirectly to scientific education, by the establishment of classes, workshops, laboratories, and museums. By this means the higher education is attainable in the district at a comparatively small cost.

This college was founded in 1890, and met first in the State school, and afterwards in the hall at the Mechanics' Institute. In 1894, the present commodious building was erected specially to meet the needs of an art school. In addition to the main building, there

is an outer one, containing the carpenter's workshop, smith's forge, &c. The late Dr. Young, who was for years president, was untiring in his efforts to promote the welfare of the college, which he liberally supported. The subjects taught include geometry, perspective, free-hand, and model drawing, painting in oil and water colours, modelling, moulding and casting, repoussé work, wood carving, manual training, architectural and mechanical drawing, drawing in black and white for reproduction, and other processes of applied art. A teachers' drawing class is held on Saturdays, which any teachers in the district may attend free of charge. The technical library is available to past and present students. The college also accommodates the local museum, which possesses a good collection of natural history specimens and objects of industrial art processes. It is the nature study centre for teachers in the State schools of this district. The Director is Mr. Ernest E. Barker, F.R.M.S.

Mary-
borough.

The Maryborough Technical School was established in 1888. The present building was opened in 1891. The average number of students attending during 1907 was 85. On the science side, classes are open in all branches of chemistry, metallurgy, mathematics, geology, and kindred subjects, and students enter for special courses in assaying, metallurgy, and electrical engineering. The art curriculum deals mainly with the technical side of art, and includes freehand drawing in all its branches, wood carving, modelling, machine and architectural drawing, design, &c. The school is managed by a local council, elected by subscribers.

The Stawell School of Mines had its origin in 1882, when a School of Design was established by a number of citizens of Stawell enthusiastically working together and obtaining assistance from those anxious to have such an institution. The first classes were held in the Mechanics' Institute, and it was not until 1890 that the present buildings were occupied. The school curriculum embraces a thorough training in decorative and pictorial art, and includes drawing, painting and modelling from the flat, from the round, and from life; decorative design and pictorial composition, building construction; architectural drawing and design, engineering drawing and design, sign-writing, graining, and marbling, wood carving, repoussé, embossed leather work, gesso work, carpentry and manual training and cabinet-making. Class lectures are delivered on practical, plane, and solid geometry, perspective, elements and principles of decorative art, historic ornament, artistic anatomy, &c. A unique adjunct of the school is its art library and reading-room, containing the standard and latest works on architecture and technology, drawing and painting, applied art and decoration. Many of these works being beyond the means of the average individual student, the facilities thus afforded for their perusal are invaluable. A State school teachers' drawing centre has been established for some time in connexion with this school, which is open to all State school teachers free of charge, and the classes are conducted every Saturday morning between the hours of 10 and 12 o'clock.

This school was established in 1888 by a few of the principal townsmen, who were influenced by the then prevailing wave of feeling with regard to the useful influence of technical education, and who desired to offer the younger members of the community some of the advantages which had hitherto been one of the attractions of the metropolis. They more especially desired to encourage an appreciation and cultivation of the arts and crafts; but science, trade, and other classes have also received due attention. A large proportion of the youth of both sexes has passed through the school, and its influence has been marked in many ways. Some of the students have been enabled to occupy positions of importance where knowledge, art, and science are requisite. In the trade classes valuable work has been achieved, more especially in the engine-driving class, which has been very successful. The work of the school has always been as practical as possible, such subjects as the drawing and projection of plans of all kinds, modelling and casting, wood carving, and the necessary designing have been the most prominent in the art section. Mining men have been the principal science students, and, together with factory hands, have chiefly constituted the engine-driving class. Altogether over 100 pupils have passed through the various courses. In consequence of the report of the Education Department that the building occupied was unsuitable, the council took into consideration the advisability of erecting a new structure. For this purpose, £500 was locally raised which was supplemented by £500 from the Government. With these funds in hand, a handsome building has been erected, which meets all requirements.

A School of Design was in existence in 1885, but the institution was projected on its present basis in 1889 under the title of School of Mines, Art, and Technology, which was subsequently changed to "Technical School." From its inception the management has been in the hands of the Mechanics' Institute committee, and two-thirds of the present building is used by the school classes, the remaining third being the institute proper. The old Mechanics' Institute, in which instruction was first given, was quite unfitted for the purpose in view, and in 1889 the committee resolved that an effort should be made to erect a suitable building. At a public meeting held that year, an appeal for funds resulted in a collection of £100. Induced by the interest shown, and by the promise of a subsidy from the Government, the committee erected the present commodious buildings in York-street at an ultimate cost, including site, of £5,000. To meet this outlay, the Government has contributed a building grant of £2,634, and the public, by bazaars, donations, &c., the remainder, and the building is now free of debt. The object of the school is to facilitate the attainment of a knowledge of the various handicrafts, arts, and sciences, and especially to improve the education of craftsmen and craftswomen by the establishment of classes, workrooms, laboratories, libraries, and museums. The classes are open to all who pay the prescribed fees, and pledge themselves to obey the rules of the institution.

During 1906, the Education Department announced that the science side of the school in its then form would definitely cease in December on account of low attendances, and proposed to establish an Agricultural High School in its place on certain conditions. The School Council on their part agreed to give the Department the free use of all the rooms of the building used for the Sale Technical School, together with plant, so long as the Department carries on a Technical or Agricultural High School in the building, while it was further enacted by the Department that £150 should be raised locally to defray half the cost of alterations necessary to the building; that 20 acres of land should be placed at the disposal of the school, and promises to attend the courses obtained from 50 pupils. The Art side of the school was not to be interfered with, as it had more than justified its existence.

The help of various outside bodies was sought to accomplish these objects, and the Agricultural and Continuation High School was opened for instruction in 1907, under the direction of Mr. Rephaug.

MELBOURNE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.

Melbourne
College of
Pharmacy.

The Melbourne College of Pharmacy was established in 1881 for the purpose of providing instruction in the subjects prescribed in the compulsory curriculum set out in section 88 of the *Medical Act* 1890, Part III., for qualification as a pharmaceutical chemist in Victoria. In 1882, the old County Court, in Swanston-street, was purchased from the Government, and since then a large amount has been spent in the erection of laboratories, lecture rooms, library, &c. The College is under the control of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia, by whom it was established. It is also recognised by the Pharmacy Board of Victoria as a school of pharmacy providing instruction in accordance with the provisions of section 88 of the *Medical Act* 1890. The land upon which the College is erected is a reservation by the Crown for educational purposes, and is vested in the Pharmacy Board and Pharmaceutical Society.

The College of Pharmacy, in addition to providing instruction for pharmaceutical students in chemistry, practical chemistry, materia medica and botany, is affiliated to the Melbourne University, and gives instruction in materia medica and practical pharmacy to second-year medical students. It is represented on the Faculty of Medicine by a member of the teaching staff. Dental students undergoing the curriculum prescribed by the Dentists Act, receive instruction at the College in theoretical and practical chemistry. The syllabus also makes provision for students entering the College at any date, and pursuing an independent course of study, according to the object in view. In 1906, evening post-graduate classes in bacteriology and urine analysis were established. Provision is also made in the laboratory for students desirous of acquiring a knowledge of chemistry in its application to medicine, manufactures, toxicology,

brewing, analysis, or original research. The Royal Commission on Technical Education in 1901, after full inquiry into its scope and objects, reported that the functions of the College were manifestly those of a high class technical school.

Appended are the details of the work up to 31st December, 1907 :—

Number of Students who have attended the College.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-------|
| Pharmaceutical students | ... | ... | 588 |
| Medical students, Melbourne University | ... | ... | 799 |
| Dental students | ... | ... | 277 |
| Extra laboratory students | ... | ... | 314 |
| Bacteriological students | ... | ... | 48 |
| Urine Analysis students | ... | ... | 14 |
| Analytical and Applied Chemistry | ... | ... | 26 |
| | | | 2,066 |

Number of Candidates Examined.

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-------|
| Preliminary examination | ... | ... | 2,316 |
| Intermediate examination | ... | ... | 1,283 |
| Modified examination | ... | ... | 164 |
| Final qualifying examination | ... | ... | 945 |
| Medical students | ... | ... | 664 |
| Dental students | ... | ... | 269 |
| Bacteriological students | ... | ... | 22 |
| Urine Analysis | ... | ... | 11 |
| Analytical and Applied Chemistry | ... | ... | 12 |
| | | | 5,686 |

Finance.

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|--------|
| Revenue— | | | £ |
| Grants from Government | ... | ... | 11,460 |
| Fees received from students | ... | ... | 13,303 |
| Aids from Pharmaceutical Society | ... | ... | 5,231 |
| | | | 29,994 |
| Expenditure— | | | £ |
| Ordinary | ... | ... | 26,704 |
| On Buildings | ... | ... | 3,290 |
| | | | 29,994 |
| Total Expenditure | ... | ... | 29,994 |

SCHOOLS OF ART.

Echuca.

This school was originated for the purpose of educating the working classes in the various handicrafts, and in art; no record of the successes of the school has been retained, but many of its pupils have been enabled, through the instruction which has been imparted, to obtain positions of trust and responsibility. The following subjects are taught:—Drawing, painting, geometry, building construction, architectural drawing, engineering drawing, sign writing, coach trimming, modelling, repoussé work, and poker work. A drawing centre has been established in connexion with the school, which is open to all *bonâ fide* State school teachers free of charge. Mr. F. P. Vize is the director and instructor.

Warrnambool.

The Warrnambool School of Art was opened in 1883. The subjects taught are drawing, wood-carving, modelling, and life study. During the year, 70 students passed through the school, and their examination results were very satisfactory. The school is of value to the State school teachers of the district, who attend on Saturdays. Several of the students have been successful in the matriculation examination of the Melbourne University.

Nhill.

The Nhill Technical Art School was formed, about thirteen years ago, by leading residents of the district, to impart instruction in the art of drawing, painting, practical geometry, building and engineering, drawing and construction, and general designing, &c., to those far removed from centres where these very necessary subjects were taught. On an average 45 students have annually availed themselves of the benefits of the institution. In addition, the State school teachers of the district have, in recent years, been afforded special facilities for free instruction by an accredited art instructor in the subjects they are required to teach in the State schools. Amongst the local craftsmen in the building and iron-workers' trades, carriage builders, smithwrights, mill hands, signwriters, painters and decorators, &c., are many former students. Some of these are now in positions of responsibility and trust, and carrying out the practical work which they had been taught in the school. A few are in business for themselves, and are still attending the school.

The usefulness of the institution is now further enhanced by the introduction of carpentry, joiners' and cabinet-makers' work, detailing drawings, and mensuration of quantities, modelling and carving, decoration in all branches, and designing for practical purposes.

During 1905 the council of the school purchased the Masonic Buildings, formerly rented, and made such alterations, improvements, and general equipments as were necessary to bring the school up-to-date. The Government generously contributed one-half (£200) towards the purchase and a two-thirds grant towards the improvements, &c. The technical classes particularly have been well attended, and have been forward in competitions, &c. The work exhibited at the State School and Technical Schools' Exhibition, held in September, 1906, was well reported upon, as also some designing executed by the students. Other students have advanced their interests in life owing to the information gained at the school. Mr. C. F. Mudie is the director of the school.

THE WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, MELBOURNE.

The Working Men's College is a technical institution and school of mines, founded in 1887. It is open to all classes and both sexes, and supplies high-class instruction. Its revenue is obtained from students' fees, supplemented by a Government grant. There are both day and evening courses.

Working Men's College, Melbourne.

All fees are payable in advance, and no refund is allowed. Students under 18 years of age, and those under 21 in receipt of less wages than 25s. per week, and indentured apprentices, are admitted at reduced fees to many of the evening classes. Examinations are held in July and December, and entrance to these examinations is free to students of the college attending the classes in which they present themselves for examination, provided they have made the necessary attendances.

FEES PAYABLE.

| | Full Day Course. | Fee. |
|---|------------------|-------------|
| Mechanical, Electrical, Municipal, Marine, and Mining | | |
| Engineering— | | |
| First year ... | ... | £5 per term |
| Second year ... | ... | £6 " |
| Third year ... | ... | £8 " |
| Metallurgy— | | |
| First year ... | ... | £5 " |
| Second year ... | ... | £6 " |
| Third year ... | ... | £8 " |
| Applied Chemistry— | | |
| First year ... | ... | £5 " |
| Second year ... | ... | £6 " |
| Third year ... | ... | £7 " |
| Fourth year ... | ... | £8 " |
| Building and Contracting— | | |
| First year ... | ... | £4 " |
| Second year ... | ... | £5 " |
| Third year ... | ... | £6 " |

EVENING CLASSES.

| | | |
|--|-----|--|
| Preliminary year for Science Courses | ... | Various amounts ranging from 3s. upwards per term. |
| Preliminary year for Trade Courses | ... | |
| Arithmetic | ... | |
| Algebra | ... | |
| Practical Geometry | ... | |
| Freehand Drawing | ... | |
| Painting | ... | |
| Modelling | ... | |
| Applied Mechanics | ... | |
| Applied Electricity | ... | |
| Architecture | ... | |
| Building Construction | ... | |
| Woolsorting | ... | |
| Chemistry | ... | |
| Cookery | ... | |
| Millinery | ... | |
| Dressmaking | ... | |
| Mechanical Drawing | ... | |
| Photography | ... | |
| Science, Art, Trade, Commercial, and Mining, and numerous other Subjects | ... | |

Prizes.

Special prizes are awarded to students annually. The Magee prize is of the annual value of £3, and is awarded to the student who obtains highest marks at examination in the work of the senior mechanical drawing class. The Sir George Verdon prize is of an annual value equal to the interest on the amount of the donor's endowment of £210, and is awarded for excellence of design and workmanship in the technical or trade subject selected by the Council at the beginning of each year. The Turri prizes, awarded for original inventions of students, consist of one prize of £10 10s., two prizes of £5 5s., and five prizes of £1 1s. each. The total receipts from Government, in 1907, amounted to £9,047.

By F. A. Campbell, Esq., M.C.E., Director.

Over 100 classes are held in the following departments:—Commercial, Elocution and Music, Mathematics, Engineering, Architecture, Chemistry, Mining and Metallurgy, Photography, Art and Applied Art, Rural Industries, Household Economy, and Trade Courses. The work is divided into—(1) day courses, and (2) evening courses and classes. In the day courses the lower technical school prepares for the higher technical school, and also gives boys after they have left school a course of practical training, fitting them to enter intelligently on any line of industrial work. The higher technical school prepares students for the higher positions of industrial life, and has the following complete courses:—(1) Mechanical Engineering, (2) Electrical Engineering, (3) Marine Engineering, (4) Mining Engineering, (5) Sanitary Engineering, (6) Building and Contracting, (7) Metallurgy, and (8) Applied Chemistry. To students who complete any of the above courses, pass the necessary examinations, and produce evidence of having obtained twelve months' approved practical experience, the Diploma of "Associateship" of the College is issued.

In the evening school, the following courses for Experts' certificates are in operation, and preliminary years for these courses are also held:—(A) carpenters, (B) fitters and machinists, (C) cabinet-makers, (D) plumbers and gasfitters, (E) house decorators, (F) modellers and terra cotta workers, (G) lithographic artists and draughtsmen, (H) photographers, (I) electricians, (J) assayers, (K) geologists, (L) municipal engineers, (M) commercial, (N) sheep and wool. There are also courses for marine engineers and for naval artificers, both fitters and wood workers. The following figures indi-

cate the comparative amount of work done at the college during the years 1903 to 1907:—

STUDENTS AT WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, 1903 TO 1907.

| | 1903. | 1904. | 1905. | 1906. | 1907. |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Students enrolled— | | | | | |
| Average per term | 2,182 | 2,239 | 2,313 | 2,276 | 2,453 |
| Males over 21 | 437 | 417 | 363 | 377 | 436 |
| „ under 21—Apprentices | 145 | 150 | 195 | 334 | 569 |
| „ „ Others | 1,135 | 1,198 | 1,325 | 1,184 | 1,091 |
| Females | 465 | 474 | 430 | 381 | 357 |
| Fees received during the year £ | 7,105 | 7,296 | 7,475 | 7,528 | 8,150 |
| Average fee per student .. | 65s. 1d. | 65s. 2d. | 64s. 8d. | 66s. 2d. | 66s. 5d. |
| Number of classes | 163 | 166 | 168 | 169 | 170 |
| „ instructors | 55 | 60 | 62 | 66 | 73 |
| Salaries paid instructors £ | 7,223 | 7,533 | 8,163 | 8,528 | 9,228 |

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

In the last issue of the *Year-Book* will be found an interesting and instructive article upon Technical Education in Victoria, from the pen of the late J. Dennant, Science Inspector of Technical Schools.

LIBRARIES.

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF VICTORIA.

The buildings of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of Victoria cost £229,382. The funds were provided by the Government, as also were further moneys expended on maintenance, amounting, with the sum just named, to a total of £1,195,850. At the end of 1907 the Reference library contained 174,647 volumes. It is open to the public without payment on week days (Christmas Day and Good Friday excepted), between the hours of 10 a.m. and 10 p.m., and was visited during the year by 328,847 persons. The Library consists of three distinct sections, viz.:—The Reference Library, the Lending Library, and the Country Lending Library. The librarian reports that 3,998 volumes were purchased, 2,272 volumes presented, 298 volumes obtained under the "Copyright Act," and 42,635 newspapers were added to the Reference Library during the year. The Lending Branch, which is also free to the public, issued 171,110 volumes during 1907, and the number of persons to whom the books were lent was 8,951. Of these volumes 53.1 per cent. related to fiction, 14.2 to history, 8.6 to general literature, 12.1 to religion, philosophy, natural science and art, 7.8 to arts and trades, and 3.1 per cent. to social science. The number of volumes in the Lending Library at the end of 1907 was 24,651, of which 1,137 were added during the year.

Public
Library of
Victoria.

Following on the establishment of the Melbourne Public Library, libraries were founded in many of the larger towns. The attention of the original trustees of the Melbourne Library was directed to these institutions, and to the vast number of people whom the distance prevented from reaching the building. They, therefore, established a scheme by which the larger country centres should have the benefit of the collection, and forwarded cases of books on loan for fixed periods. To the country towns of less importance cases were also sent, and in many instances the nucleus of a local library was thus formed. This travelling library system, as it is called, thus greatly stimulated the library movement in those places where it had begun, and inaugurated it in many places to which as yet it had not spread. At the present time loans are made up to 300 volumes at a time to the committees of free libraries and mechanics' institutes, and to the councils of municipalities, for a period of one year, with a further extension of time if required. The books are selected with a view to meeting the special requirements of the district to which they are to be forwarded, publications on mining being sent to mining centres, and those relating to agricultural and pastoral pursuits to those districts where these industries are carried on. Although this scheme is now in operation in many countries, research among library records does not reveal the existence of anything similar prior to its establishment in Melbourne, so that the credit of starting it seems to belong undoubtedly to the original trustees of our library. Many of the local libraries are now in a position to supply all the wants of their patrons without having recourse to these loans.

National
Gallery.

The National Gallery at the end of 1907 contained 17,764 works of art, viz., 505 oil paintings, 3,530 objects of statuary, &c., and 13,729 water colour drawings, engravings, photographs, &c. It is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily on week days (Christmas Day and Good Friday excepted), and on Sundays it is open from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. The school of painting in connexion with this institution was attended in the year by 7 male and 20 female students, and the school of design by 40 male and 55 female students. The students are encouraged to paint original works, by which means it is hoped the foundation may be laid of a school of art of purely Australian subjects. Every three years a Travelling Scholarship is open for competition amongst the students of painting. Its money value is £150 per annum, and it is awarded with the object of enabling promising students to travel and complete their art studies in England and on the Continent. The Trustees also award a prize of £20 for the best painting from life shown at the annual exhibition of students' work, and numerous other prizes for distinction in the different branches of the drawing and painting schools.

Industrial
Museum.

The Industrial and Technological Museum adjoins the National Gallery, and was opened on the 7th September, 1870. At the end of 1907 it contained 55,455 specimens. It is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily on week days (Christmas Day and Good Friday excepted), and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The collection in the National Museum, formerly kept in a building situated on the grounds of the Melbourne University, is now located in the Public Library Buildings. It comprises natural history, geology, and ethnology. The National Museum is open to the public free of charge on all week days throughout the year, except Thursdays, Christmas Day, and Good Friday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. In 1907 the expenditure for specimens, furniture, materials, &c., was £1,550. The payments for salaries and wages during the year amounted to £2,320.

National
Museum.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

There is a free library attached to the Commonwealth Patent Office, Melbourne. This contains over 10,000 volumes, consisting of the printed patent records from Great Britain, Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, Queensland, New Zealand, Canada, the United States, France, Italy, Germany, &c., technical periodicals, and other works relating to Science, Patents, and Trade Marks. The approximate value of the books is over £20,000, and additions of several hundred volumes are made annually. During 1905, the printing of the Commonwealth Patent Specifications was commenced, and over 1,500 have been issued; these are arranged in two separate files for free public perusal, one arranged chronologically and numerically, the other classified according to the subjects of the inventions. Complete sets are also sent weekly to the branch Patent Offices in the State capitals, and to other public libraries. The library is open to the public on each week day, except Saturday, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4.30 p.m., and on Saturday from 9 a.m. until noon. Patent records, &c. are also received from Austro-Hungary, Argentine, Belgium, Finland, Luxemburg, Japan, Portugal, Peru, Mexico, British India, and South Africa.

Patent
Office
Library.

The Supreme Court Library at Melbourne has eighteen branches in the assize towns. It is free to members of the legal profession between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., except on Saturdays, when it closes at noon. It is supported by fees paid under Acts of Parliament and rules of court for the admission of barristers and attorneys.

Supreme
Court
Library.

FREE LIBRARIES.

Most of the suburban and country libraries receive Government aid—the amount granted in 1906-7 being £3,340. In addition to the Melbourne Public Library, 463 furnished returns in 1907, which show that they possessed 741,896 volumes, received £41,745 in revenue, and that 3,054,681 visits were paid to the 405 institutions which kept records of the attendances of visitors. As to the class of literature in general use, it appears, from particulars received from a number of institutions, that works of fiction are in much greater demand than any other class. Next come general literature, history, and travel, in that order.

Free
Libraries.

City of
Ballarat
Free
Library.

This library was established in 1878, on a site situated at the corner of Sturt and Camp Streets, which was at the time occupied by the Mining Board, the District Mining Surveyor, and Registrar of Births and Deaths. These officials were, however, compensated by the founders of the library to the extent of £600. With the aid of donations from some of the citizens, gifts of books from others, and loans of books from the Melbourne Public Library, the Committee were enabled in course of time to thoroughly establish the institution. In 1901-2, a sum of £3,000 was expended on a new library and reading-rooms. During the year 1907, the municipal grant was £50; and receipts from subscribers, rents, &c., £820. The library now contains 10,146 volumes on science, history, travels, and other subjects, besides a supply of reviews, magazines, and newspapers of Great Britain and the Commonwealth. The number of visitors during the last twelve months was 210,602.

Ballarat
Public
Library.

This institution has experienced a very successful year, more especially towards the end, which shows that the library is becoming more popular. During the past year, 73 new members were enrolled, and the subscriptions were increased from £103 to £114; 17,062 volumes were issued during the year, and 488 were added to the library's stock. A club-room has been established for members, which is the means of augmenting the funds of the institution very considerably. A first-class new billiard table has been installed, and tables have been set apart for chess, draughts, &c., which action is very much appreciated by the members.

Sandhurst
Mechanics'
Institute.

This institute was established in 1854. The total cost up to date is over £10,000. The library contains 15,000 volumes, and is supplied with the current periodicals and newspapers. The reading-room and library are open daily to the public. The institute is under the control of the Council of the School of Mines. The institute is maintained by members' subscriptions, grants from the City Council, rents, and Government subsidy.

Geelong
Free
Library
and
Museum.

The Geelong Free Library and Museum is located in a handsome building, originally built as the Chamber of Commerce at a cost of about £20,000. It was purchased in 1876 from that body for £3,200, for the purposes of the library and museum, which, as an institution, had been in existence since 1854. The total cost of buildings to date was £5,278. It has been mainly supported by residents of the town, and amply supplies all requirements. The average daily attendance is about 465. The library contains 5,859 books, comprising works of fiction, poetry and the drama, educational, scientific, geological, religious, biographical, classical, and other works, together with daily, weekly, and monthly publications. In addition, there is a library of 320 books in embossed type for the use of the blind. The museum contains an interesting collection of geological and mineralogical specimens, native weapons, and objects of natural history. In the art gallery are several excellent oil paintings, which add largely to the attraction of the institution. In 1907 the receipts were £184, and the expenditure £184.

This institute was established on a very small scale in 1855, but from that time onward it has continued to make steady and satisfactory progress. Up to the end of 1907 the buildings erected cost £5,047. The Hall, which is used for general entertainments and meetings, accommodates 600 persons. There are at the present time 250 subscribers to the institution, which contains suitable and commodious reading and other rooms for the use of the general public, well equipped with books on various subjects, numbering at the end of the year 10,631 volumes, also magazines, newspapers, and illustrated papers. There is also a billiard-room for the use of subscribers. The income for the year 1907 from all sources was £527; the expenditure £515. The total number of visits was 25,000.

Castlemaine
Free
Library
and
Mechanics'
Insti

This library dates its origin as far back as 1858, when the inhabitants of the Reef, Pleasant Creek, opened a building for the purpose of a mechanics' institute, circulating library, and reading room, which served the needs of the people until 1866, when it was destroyed by a fire. It was replaced by a two-story structure, which, in addition, provided space for lodge and lecture rooms. This building was burnt in 1875, and replaced by the structure now known as the Stawell Free Library and Mechanics' Institute, the cost of which was about £4,000, and at the present time there is upon it an outstanding debt of £500. The library contains 3,607 volumes of various classes of literature, and is well supplied with newspapers, magazines, journals, and illustrated papers. The institute is managed by a committee of sixteen, six members being elected each year by the public, and six by the subscribers for the same term; three being trustees or permanent members of the committee, and the Mayor of Stawell is, *ex officio*, its president. The receipts during 1907 were £319.

Stawell Free
Library
and
Mechanics'
Institute.

In October, 1853, a public meeting was held at Warrnambool for the purpose of petitioning the Government to reserve a block of land for the purposes of a mechanics' institute building site. The site then obtained was given up some years later, and that upon which the building now stands was obtained in its stead. It was not, however, until after the lapse of some years, in August, 1871, that the committee were in a position to erect buildings thereon. In this year a reading-room was erected, at a cost of £340, and in the September of the following year four additional rooms were added. In 1885, a large art gallery and museum was added, and opened free of all encumbrance, the total cost of the building to date being £3,331. Valuable works of art, curiosities, and historical relics were gradually collected by the curator. In 1889, the museum was transferred to the town council, which body removed the collection to the old court-house building, thus leaving the hall free for works of art, many of which were purchased at the Melbourne Exhibition of 1888. Though not quite free from debt, the position of the institution is fairly satisfactory. It comprises a large reading-room furnished with the leading newspapers and magazines; a billiard room; a library, containing 8,285 volumes; an art gallery, and school of art.

Warrnam-
bool
Mechanics'
Institute
and Free
Library.

EXHIBITION BUILDINGS.

Exhibition
Buildings,
Aquarium,
and
Museum.

The Exhibition Buildings, which are situated in the Carlton Gardens, Melbourne, when first opened, in October, 1880, occupied a total space of 907,400 square feet. The original cost of the permanent structure was £132,951, of the temporary annexes, £83,111; gardens, £18,481; machinery, £5,715; organ, £5,560; and miscellaneous expenditure, £547—making a total of £246,365. After the close of the exhibition, on the 30th April, 1881, the annexes were removed, and the permanent building was vested in trustees. Another exhibition was opened in the building on the 1st August, 1888, to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the first Australian Colony. On this occasion, a further sum of £125,178 was expended upon the re-erection of the annexes; £30,986 upon additions, alterations, and decorations to the permanent building; £4,854 upon the gardens; £16,471 upon machinery; £77,128 upon electric lighting; and £8,337 upon gas and gas fittings—making a total of £262,954. At the close of the exhibition, there was realized from the sale of various materials, including temporary annexes, a sum of £56,904. The property again reverted to the trustees, who report, for the year 1907, that all the buildings are in a good and substantial condition, the gardens well maintained, and the aquarium and insectarium museums extremely useful, both from educational and scientific points of view. A new system of arc lighting has been installed throughout the main building and oval, which gives a very powerful and efficient light. The receipts for the year amounted to £5,260, consisting of rents, £2,749; and aquarium and other receipts, £2,511. The expenditure totalled £4,559, viz., £1,926 for expenses of the Aquarium; and £2,633 for maintenance and improvement of the building and gardens, insurance, and sundry expenses. The deposits and balances in banks to the credit of the trust amount to £1,660.

THE MELBOURNE BOTANIC GARDEN.

Botanic
Garden.

The Melbourne Botanic Garden is situated on the south side of the River Yarra, and is at a distance of about a mile and a half from the city. The area of the garden proper, including lawns, groups, &c., is 88 acres, whilst that of the lake, including the added elbow, or bend of the River Yarra, amounts to 12 acres in addition. This now historic garden, together with the Government House grounds (62 acres), and the Domain (150 acres), comprises a total of 312 acres. The facts as to the commencement and progress of the establishment, having been compiled from the most reliable sources, are to be found in the illustrated "Guide Book," as published by the Government Printer in 1901-2, from which the accompanying quotation has been taken:—

"The first site chosen for a Botanic Garden was an area of 50 acres, near to where the Spencer-street railway station is situated, and was selected by Mr. Hoddle, Surveyor-General, in 1842. Afterwards various other localities were proposed, but finally, owing mainly to the discrimination and taste of the Hon. Charles Joseph La Trobe, first Government Superintendent (afterwards Lieutenant-Governor) of the province of Port Phillip, a portion of the present site

was decided upon for the purpose. In September, 1845, Dr. Nicholson presented a petition, signed by three or four hundred of the citizens, headed by the Mayor, praying for the immediate establishment of the Botanic Garden, and the sum of £750 was thereupon voted—1845-6—for its maintenance. The first superintendent, or curator (Mr. John Arthur), was appointed 1st March, 1846, and he at once fenced in a 5-acre paddock, that portion of the gardens at present known as the Anderson-street Lawn, sloping towards the tea-house on the edge of Lake, in which he made good progress both as to cultivation and planting. Mr. Arthur, however, whose labours were much appreciated at the time, died in January, 1849. Mr. John Dallachy succeeded Mr. Arthur as curator, and insured such good results that, at the end of 1851, a progress report submitted to the Legislature showed that, in addition to an extension of cultivated ground, many kinds of exotic plants had been added to the collection, and also that the native vegetation has received attention. The various shows of the Horticultural Society were at that time held in the gardens. For several years prior to the retirement of Mr. Dallachy, a scientific arrangement of plants in a part of the gardens was undertaken by the then Government Botanist, Dr. Ferdinand Mueller (subsequently Baron Sir F. von Mueller), who had accompanied the Gregory Expedition in search of Leichhardt, the explorer. After the Baron had received the appointment as Director (1857), Mr. Dallachy was re-employed for several years as a collector of seeds and herbarium specimens for the gardens, and discovered many new and beautiful species in Queensland. The Baron held office as Director until 1873, when, with the view of enabling him to give undivided attention to his scientific labours as Government Botanist, he was relieved of control of the Botanic Gardens, and Mr. W. R. Guilfoyle was appointed to the position. Since 1873 the gardens have been entirely remodelled by him and their area extended by more than 30 acres.

The present features of the gardens are its extensive undulating lawn areas and broad sweeping paths with varied groupings and marginal beds of ornamental trees, flowering shrubs, and useful plants. Large specimens of Australian and exotic trees and other vegetation are effectively disposed about the grounds. At suitable spots, rockeries and mounds have been formed and planted. Along the western and southern boundary fence an interesting plantation of Australian vegetation has been made, which contains many hundreds of representative trees and shrubs of the Continent.

When the present Director took charge of the gardens, in 1873, about 2,500 species of plants were growing there, and these, having been constantly added to, now represent no less than 14,000 species. Many of the most valuable additions are large palms in great variety, and arborescent and other ferns—as, for instance, those in and around the rather extensive Fern-gully, which has a thousand feet of winding pathway running through its area. There are, besides, hundreds of rare ornamental and utilitarian plants, and a large collection of medicinal herbs.

An extensive "System Pavilion" was also formed by the present Director. The plants, all in large pots, are classified in their natural orders, and, like the various collections in the outer grounds, conservatory, &c., have labels attached—giving both their scientific and common names, their orders, native countries, &c.

The "Museum of Botany and Plant Products" established by Mr. Guilfoyle contains many thousands of fully-named herbarium specimens; seeds in their seed vessels (or pods), fibres, and woods; products of food, medicinal, and other plants. Both the system

pavilion and museum, which are open to the public on Tuesdays and Fridays from 2 to 4 p.m., are largely visited by students connected with botanical classes in colleges and schools.

A *Nymphæa* or Water-lily lake has recently been formed in the valley immediately above the head of the fern gully on the south side of the gardens. Over 40 different varieties of *Nymphæas* have been planted in the pockets built for them in the form of mounds in the lake. Around the margin of the water, a "shelf" or "shallow" has been raised to within a few inches of the surface, and on this a number of ornamental semi-aquatic plants have been planted. The area directly surrounding the lake has been laid out in gently sloping swards of grass, with mounds and promontories covered with suitable vegetation jutting out at various intervals.

The grounds are almost encircled by a much-used carriage way, which, having been inter-connected, comprises the Alexandra Avenue and the South Yarra Drive, and now makes one wide promenade of $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles in length. Adjacent to the two entrances from the Alexandra Avenue, and on one of the highest points, close to Government House, has been erected a large domed structure with ten columns, which is known as the Temple of the Winds. This has been dedicated by the Director to the memory of the Hon. Charles Joseph La Trobe, the first Governor of Victoria, who selected the site for the Botanic Garden in 1845-6. The Temple is very attractive to visitors, as from it, very fine views of the Gardens, Yarra Improvements, City, Eastern Suburbs, and the Dandenong and Healesville Ranges are to be obtained.

An efficient water supply for the gardens is obtained from the River Yarra. A pumping station is located near Dight's Falls, at Studley Park, and the water is drawn by powerful pumps from the river and forced into a storage reservoir, situated on the highest point in the Park. The whole of the water required is conducted from this reservoir for a distance of over three miles directly into the gardens water mains. A service of Yan Yean water is provided for drinking purposes for visitors.

The gardens may be approached from the City by foot or vehicle along the interesting Alexandra Drive and Avenue from Prince's Bridge, by boat along the Yarra River, or by the South Yarra or Toorak trams, which pass close to one of the main entrances; while visitors from the northern, eastern, or southern suburbs can obtain access by gates on these boundaries of the gardens.

The gates of the gardens are daily opened from April to September (inclusive) at 7.30 a.m., and from October to March (inclusive) at 7 a.m., and closed at sunset.

It will be seen by the facts quoted that the Melbourne Botanic Garden has now had an existence of over 60 years, and as a favorite resort has become increasingly popular, being attended by many thousands of people on Sundays and holidays, whilst being on week days much used by citizens and others, including visitors from other States, Colonies, &c., Great Britain, and other countries.

The gardens of the Zoological and Acclimatisation Society of Victoria are situated in the centre of Royal Park, on the northern side of the city, distant nearly two miles from the Post Office, and can be reached by the tramcars starting every few minutes from the lower end of Elizabeth-street, or by rail. The ground enclosed contains 50 acres, rather more than half of which is laid out as a zoological garden and the rest in deer paddocks. The Patron of the Society is His Excellency the Governor-General, and the present director is Mr. D. Le Souéf.

Zoological
and Acclimatisation
Gardens.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA.

The initiation and progress of the horticultural interests in this State may justly be considered as due to the efforts of this society, which, as the Horticultural Society of Victoria, was started in the year 1849. Its pioneer members have by this time all passed away, but there remain a few who were members of the society in the early fifties and whose interest in the work of popularizing the growth of plants, flowers, and fruits still manifests itself.

Some few years after its establishment, the society undertook the responsibility of forming and maintaining experimental gardens at Burnley—the park of which it formed a part being known as Survey Paddock—and Mr. Clarson was intrusted with the direction of the work, acting for many years as honorary director. Upon his resignation in 1882, Mr. George Neilson took charge as curator and remained in that position until his death a few years ago. During all this time, the society was rendering most valued assistance to growers, especially in the establishment of the most complete and reliable type collection of fruits ever seen in Australasia. Horticulturists from all parts of Australia and New Zealand readily availed themselves of this magnificent collection in order to settle disputed questions of nomenclature of fruits, as very great pains were taken to insure absolute correctness of name of every variety planted among the collection. In 1885, Her Majesty the late Queen Victoria issued the warrant for the society to use the name of "Royal," and it has since worked under the full title of Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria.

The years of depression following the crash of the land boom had their full effect on the society, many of the most liberal donors to its funds being compelled to relinquish the financial support they had in past years generously accorded the committee. In 1891, the Government of the day undertook the establishment of a School of Horticulture, and the balance due to debenture-holders on the handsome show pavilion erected in the gardens having been paid by the Government, the estate was handed over to the management of the Department of Agriculture, Mr. Neilson continuing as curator under the direction of a Board of Horticultural Advice to whose personnel the Government appointed three, the society three, with the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture as Chairman. This arrangement

worked with the utmost satisfaction until the death of the curator. Some years after that event, the Minister made a new departure by dissolving the board and placing the School of Horticulture under the sole auspices of the Department.

Since relinquishing the sole control of the Gardens, the society has set itself the task of giving instruction by means of lectures and exhibits at monthly meetings of members, and by imposing fruit and floral displays, all of which attract large attendances.

The President of the society is the Hon. T. H. Payne, M.L.C., who succeeded the Hon. William Anderson, of Southern Cross, in the Koroit District.

The membership subscription is low enough (10s. per annum) to be within the reach of all lovers of horticulture, and as a consequence the list of members is an encouraging evidence of the society's popularity.

The business of the society is vested in a committee, consisting of the president, two vice-presidents (one amateur and one professional), an honorary treasurer, and sixteen members (eight amateurs and eight professionals), the administrative work being conducted by the secretary, Mr. James R. A. Milligan, at the office, Broken Hill Chambers, 31 Queen-street, Melbourne.

Other Societies.

There are 27 other horticultural societies in the State, situated at Ballarat, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Kyneton, Mildura, Terang, Traralgon, and other centres. The Government provided £290 in aid of these associations during the year ended 30th June, 1907.

METROPOLITAN PUBLIC RESERVES.

Public reserves in Greater Melbourne.

Greater Melbourne is amply supplied with public reserves and parks, the total area devoted to such purposes being 5,441 acres in 1907. The following list of these reserves, together with a statement of their respective areas, has been supplied by the Lands Department:—

AREA OF RESERVES, PARKS, AND GARDENS IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS, 1907.

| Municipality. | Name of Reserve. | Area. |
|----------------|-------------------|-------|
| Melbourne City | Royal Park | 425 |
| " | Yarra " | 155 |
| " | Prince's " | 97 |
| " | Fawkner " | 102 |
| " | Flinders " | 17 |
| " | Alexandra Park | 46 |
| " | Park (Model Farm) | 28 |

AREA OF RESERVES, PARKS, AND GARDENS IN MELBOURNE AND
 SUBURBS, 1907—*continued.*

| Municipality. | Name of Reserve. | Area. |
|----------------------|--|-----------------|
| Melbourne City | Botanic Garden and Domain | 178 |
| " | Queen Victoria Memorial Statue and Garden | 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | Zoological Garden | 55 |
| " | Carlton " | 63 |
| " | Fitzroy " | 64 |
| " | Spring " | 21 |
| " | Flagstaff " | 18 |
| " | Argyle Square | 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| " | Curtain " | 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | Darling " | 2 |
| " | Lincoln " | 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| " | Macarthur " | 1 |
| " | Murchison " | 1 |
| " | University " | 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | University Grounds | 106 |
| " | School Children's Recreation Reserve | 25 |
| " | Industrial Schools and Board of Health Depot | 47 |
| " | Melbourne Cricket Ground | 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | East Melbourne " | 7 |
| " | Scotch College " | 7 |
| " | Richmond Cricket Ground | 6 |
| " | Carlton " (old) | 5 |
| " | Parliament Reserve | 10 |
| " | Ornamental Plantations | 26 |
| " | General Cemetery | 101 |
| " | Old Cemetery | 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | Military Parade Ground | 5 |
| " | Recreation (Brown's Hill) | 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | Recreation (North Melbourne) | 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | Racecourse (Flemington) | 301 |
| " | Recreation (Kensington) | 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Fitzroy City | Edinburgh Park | 34 |
| " | Recreation | 7 |
| Collingwood City | Mayor's Park | 6 |
| " | Recreation | 7 |
| " | Darling Gardens | 16 |
| " | Victoria Park | 10 |
| Richmond City | Richmond Park | 158 |
| " | Horticultural Gardens | 33 |
| " | Barkly Square | 7 |
| " | Municipal Reserve | 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ |
| Northcote Town | Jika Park | 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| " | Recreation | 7 |
| South Melbourne City | Albert Park (part of) | 464 |
| " | St. Vincent Gardens | 7 $\frac{7}{8}$ |
| " | Ornamental Plantations | 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| " | Cricket and Recreation (Warehousemen's) | 8 |
| Port Melbourne Town | Cricket Ground | 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| " | Park and Garden | 58 |
| " | " | 2 |
| " | Ornamental Plantations | 17 |
| Prahran City | Toorak Park | 7 |
| " | Victoria Gardens | 4 |
| " | Gardens (Grattan-street) | 2 |
| St. Kilda City | St. Kilda Gardens | 16 |

AREA OF RESERVES, PARKS, AND GARDENS IN MELBOURNE AND
SUBURBS, 1907—*continued.*

| Municipality. | Name of Reserve. | Area. |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| | | Acres. |
| St. Kilda City | Albert Park (part of) | 106 |
| " | Recreation (Point Ormond) | 54 |
| " | " | 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| " | " | 11 |
| " | " (Beach Reserves) | 47 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | " Dandenong Road | 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | Cemetery | 20 |
| Brighton Town | Elsternwick Park | 90 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | Recreation (Elsternwick) | 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | Beach Park | 67 |
| Esseidon Town | Recreation | 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | " | 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | Agricultural Society's Yards | 30 |
| " | Queen's Park | 22 |
| " | Water Reserve | 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Hawthorn City | Recreation | 15 |
| Kew Borough | Studley Park | 203 |
| " | Lunatic Asylum | 384 |
| " | Cemetery | 31 |
| " | Recreation | 16 |
| Footscray City | Public Gardens and Recreation | 104 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | " | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | Cricket Ground, &c. | 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | Recreation (Yarraville) | 5 |
| " | " (Footscray West) | 15 |
| " | " | 11 |
| Williamstown Town | Park (Newport) | 25 |
| " | " | 2 |
| " | " | 20 |
| " | Recreation | 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ |
| " | Beach Park | 20 |
| " | Cemetery | 28 |
| " | Rifle Range | 332 |
| " | Cricket Ground | 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ |
| " | Public Garden | 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | Recreation (Newport) | 13 |
| Malvern Town | Park and Garden | 8 |
| " | Recreation | 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | Park and Garden (Waverley-road) | 16 |
| Caulfield Town | Race-course | 144 |
| " | Park | 62 |
| " | Park (East Caulfield) | 17 |
| " | Recreation | 13 |
| " | Brighton Cemetery | 29 |
| Oakleigh Borough | Recreation | 8 |
| " | Park and Garden | 21 |
| " | Park and Recreation | 5 |
| " | Cemetery | 10 |
| Camberwell Town | Gardens | 7 |
| " | Norwood Recreation Reserve | 4 |
| Coburg Borough | Recreation | 5 |
| Outside urban muni- } cipalities | Yarra Bend Asylum | 350 |
| | Williamstown Race-course | 190 |
| | Total | 5,441 $\frac{1}{2}$ |

Most of the large towns throughout the State also possess public gardens, parks, and reserves for recreation purposes. The following table contains particulars respecting the most important of these :—

Public Reserves in Country Towns.

NUMBER AND AREA OF PARKS AND GARDENS OF COUNTRY TOWNS IN VICTORIA, 1907.

| Town. | Number of Reserves. | Area. |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------|
| | | Acres. |
| Ararat | 4 | 36½ |
| Bairnsdale | 3 | 150 |
| Ballarat | 6 | 1,153 |
| Ballarat East | 11 | 185¼ |
| Beechworth | 5 | 161 |
| Bendigo | 10 | 168 |
| Buninyong | 4 | 114 |
| Burrumbeet | 1 | 100 |
| Castlemaine | 3 | 109 |
| Clunes | 5 | 78½ |
| Colac | 1 | 38 |
| Creswick | 2 | 43 |
| Daylesford | 5 | 242 |
| Dromana | 3 | 274¾ |
| Dunolly | 5 | 312 |
| Eaglehawk | 4 | 42½ |
| Echuca | 4 | 251 |
| Flinders | 1 | 14¼ |
| Geelong | 5 | 261 |
| Hamilton | 4 | 58 |
| Horsham | 3 | 142¼ |
| Koroit | 1 | 13 |
| Kyneton | 1 | 14 |
| Korumburra | 2 | 31½ |
| Learmonth | 4 | 76 |
| Majorca | 2 | 185 |
| Maldon | 4 | 156 |
| Maryborough | 3 | 142 |
| Mortlake | 2 | 82 |
| Portland | 5 | 103 |
| Port Fairy | 1 | 26 |
| Queenscliff | 2 | 46 |
| Sale | 1 | 40 |
| Sebastopol | 1 | 36 |
| Shepparton | 4 | 123¼ |
| St. Arnaud | 2 | 63 |
| Stawell | 3 | 71¾ |
| Wangaratta | 3 | 125 |
| Warrnambool | 9 | 449 |

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

Valuations
of Friendly
Societies.

Friendly societies are regulated under the *Friendly Societies Act* 1890 and amendments thereof in the Acts of 1891, 1896, 1900, 1905, 1906, and 1907, which, amongst other provisions, prescribe that each society shall furnish returns annually to the Government Actuary for Friendly Societies, and once at least in every five years shall cause its assets and liabilities to be valued to the satisfaction of that officer. The fees for valuation have purposely been fixed low, and average no more than threepence per member, the result being that, although it is competent for the societies to employ outside valuers if they desire it, as a matter of fact they have rarely done so, and all the valuations are now made by the Government Actuary for Friendly Societies.

Registra-
tion, &c.
of Friendly
Societies.

The amending Act of 1907 provides that all Societies which do friendly societies' work shall register, and every registered society must adopt a scale of adequate contributions within 18 months of the passing of the Act. In the event of any society not complying with this latter condition, the Government Actuary for Friendly Societies has to report in writing to the Registrar for Friendly Societies, who is empowered to cancel the registration; and if any officer subsequently takes any money on account of an unregistered society for any benefit received or to be received, he is liable to a penalty of £50. Trades unions are exempted from the provisions of the Act. The investment of funds on leasehold property is made illegal, but the power to invest generally is extended to all trustee securities. All loans on freehold property must be on first mortgage only, and are not to exceed three-fifths of the value as certified by a practical surveyor or valuer. The trustees are prohibited from investing if the fee-simple of the property has been in the possession of a trustee or his wife during the previous five years. Formerly it was not lawful for a friendly societies' dispensary to sell patent or other medicines to members of friendly societies or their relatives, but this has been amended so that all benefit members who have paid the full subscription to the dispensary, and the full amount payable to the society for medicines and medical appliances, may now be supplied with medicines for which payment is required.

The following is an epitome of the particulars furnished respecting friendly societies for the five years, 1903 to 1907: —

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES, 1903 TO 1907.
(Including Female Societies.)

| | 1903. | 1904. | 1905. | 1906. | 1907. |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Number of societies ... | 26 | 26 | 26 | 26 | 27 |
| Number of branches ... | 1,236 | 1,266 | 1,306 | 1,351 | 1,376 |
| Average number of members | 105,784 | 107,213 | 110,063 | 114,059 | 120,002 |
| Number of members sick | 19,527 | 21,608 | 20,951 | 22,394 | 24,456 |
| Weeks for which alimnt was allowed | 173,676 | 184,799 | 180,986 | 185,537 | 190,702 |
| Deaths of members ... | 1,030 | 1,007 | 1,035 | 1,052 | 1,068 |
| Deaths of registered wives | 408 | 406 | 413 | 424 | 431 |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Income of sick and funeral fund | 212,607 | 223,460 | 225,790 | 239,172 | 246,045 |
| Income of incidental fund | 174,798 | 181,085 | 183,881 | 193,095 | 202,116 |
| Total Income ... | 387,405 | 404,545 | 409,671 | 432,267 | 448,161 |
| Expenditure of sick and funeral fund | 154,652 | 161,277 | 152,434 | 161,991 | 165,426 |
| Expenditure of incidental fund | 173,629 | 177,899 | 182,234 | 190,498 | 198,113 |
| Total Expenditure... | 328,281 | 339,176 | 334,668 | 352,489 | 363,539 |
| Amount to credit of sick and funeral fund | 1,375,207 | 1,437,390 | 1,510,746 | 1,587,927 | 1,668,546 |
| Amount to credit of incidental fund | 52,816 | 56,032 | 57,679 | 60,276 | 64,279 |
| Amount invested—sick and funeral fund | 1,315,904 | 1,378,151 | 1,451,359 | 1,530,569 | 1,608,510 |
| Amount invested—incidental fund | 43,903 | 47,395 | 48,549 | 48,754 | 50,678 |
| Total invested ... | 1,359,807 | 1,425,546 | 1,499,908 | 1,579,323 | 1,659,188 |

During the quinquennium ended with 1907, the number of members in friendly societies increased by 17,729, or by about 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., the amount to the credit of the sick and funeral fund by £351,294, or by more than 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and the total amount invested by £364,013, or over 28 per cent.

At the end of 1907 registered friendly societies consisting solely of females numbered 8, and the branches 139. The average number of members during the year was 6,993, the total income £15,454, and the expenditure £11,306. The capital amounted to £16,767, of which £15,540 was invested.

Sickness
and death
rates.

In proportion to the number of effective male members of Friendly Societies, the amount of sickness experienced in 1907 was about the average of recent years. The days per effective member for which alimant was allowed were equal to an average of about 12.0 in each of the five years 1903-1907, but the average was only 11.0 during the twenty years ended 1902. The death rate in 1907 was slightly below the average—the rate per 1,000 members being 9.18 in 1907, 9.61 in 1906, 9.75 in 1905, 9.64 in 1904, 10.02 in 1903, and 10.41 for the 30 years ended 1907. The female societies experienced a smaller amount of sickness than the male branches—the days per effective member for which alimant was allowed only averaging 6.1 yearly in the five years ended 1907. The death rate, too, was considerably lower, being 4.29 per 1,000 members in 1907, and not exceeding 5 per 1,000 members in any of the years of the quinquennium.

OCCUPATIONS.—CENSUS RETURNS.

Occupations,
1901.

The occupations of the people in 1901 were ascertained at the census. The various divisions of employment, under 28 heads, were:—

OCCUPATIONS OF THE PEOPLE, 1901.

| | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|---|--------|----------|--------|
| Ministering to— | | | |
| Government, Defence, &c. | 6,719 | 165 | 6,884 |
| Religion, Charity, Science, Education, &c. | 13,664 | 14,676 | 28,340 |
| Board, Lodging, and Attendance | 13,129 | 53,686 | 66,815 |
| Dealing in— | | | |
| Money and Real Property | 10,039 | 2,760 | 12,799 |
| Art and Mechanic Productions | 3,720 | 934 | 4,654 |
| Textile Fabrics, Dress and Fibrous Materials | 6,374 | 2,452 | 8,826 |
| Foods, Drinks, Narcotics, and Stimulants | 18,217 | 3,428 | 21,645 |
| Animals, and Animal and Vegetable Sub- stances | 3,977 | 198 | 4,175 |
| Metal or Minerals (other than those used for Fuel and Light) | 2,044 | 162 | 2,206 |
| Minerals, &c., mainly used for Fuel and Light | 2,794 | 34 | 2,828 |
| Engaged in— | | | |
| General Dealing and Mercantile Pursuits | 16,091 | 4,446 | 20,537 |
| Speculating on Chance Events | 284 | 1 | 285 |
| Storage | 1,093 | ... | 1,093 |
| Transport and Communication | 30,318 | 1,198 | 31,516 |

OCCUPATIONS OF THE PEOPLE, 1901—continued.

| | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|---|---------|----------|-----------|
| Manufacturers of— | | | |
| Art and Mechanic Productions ... | 20,676 | 1,748 | 22,424 |
| Textile Fabrics, Dress and Fibrous Materials | 10,664 | 28,450 | 39,114 |
| Foods, Drinks, Narcotics, and Stimulants | 10,251 | 1,402 | 11,653 |
| Animal and Vegetable Substances ... | 5,281 | 85 | 5,366 |
| Metals and Minerals (other than those used for Fuel and Light) | 14,315 | 88 | 14,403 |
| Materials used for Heat, Light, or Energy | 1,035 | 37 | 1,072 |
| Constructors of Buildings, Roads, Railways, Earthworks, &c. | 27,392 | 17 | 27,409 |
| Engaged in Disposing of the Dead or Refuse | 1,260 | 24 | 1,284 |
| Ill-defined Industrial Workers (chiefly Labourers) | 22,653 | 855 | 23,508 |
| Engaged on Land or with Animals, and in Obtaining Raw Products from Natural Sources | 140,149 | 24,998 | 165,147 |
| Persons— | | | |
| Of Independent Means ... | 7,242 | 2,824 | 10,066 |
| Dependent upon Natural Guardians ... | 203,279 | 444,931 | 648,210 |
| Dependent upon the State or upon Public or Private Support | 7,701 | 6,444 | 14,145 |
| Occupation not stated (chiefly Breadwinners) | 3,522 | 1,415 | 4,937 |
| Total ... | 603,883 | 597,458 | 1,201,341 |

The number of breadwinners and dependents were:—

BREADWINNERS AND DEPENDENTS, 1901.

Breadwinners and dependents, 1901.

| | Males. | Females. | Total. | Percentage. | | |
|----------------|---------|----------|-----------|-------------|----------|--------|
| | | | | Males. | Females. | Total. |
| Breadwinners | 389,381 | 144,668 | 534,049 | 65 | 24 | 45 |
| Dependents ... | 210,980 | 451,375 | 662,355 | 35 | 76 | 55 |
| Total ... | 600,361 | 596,043 | 1,196,404 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Proportion of breadwinners and dependents.

The proportion of breadwinners was 100 to every 124 dependents, which was almost the same as at the previous census, when 100 breadwinners supported 125 dependents. It will be seen, too, that nearly one-fourth of the females in Victoria were returned as earning their own living.

FACTORIES AND SHOPS.

The Factories and Shops Acts were consolidated during the year 1905 by the *Factories and Shops Act 1905*, No. 1975. Beyond making the Act a permanent measure, no changes were effected in the law by Act 1975. The nine existing Acts were merely consolidated.

Factory legislation.

Shortly after the consolidation, the *Factories and Shops Act 1905* (No. 2), No. 2008, was passed, and came into force on the 1st March, 1906. The *Factories and Shops Act 1907* (No. 2137) was passed on 23rd December, 1907, and came into force on 1st March, 1908. These measures remove a number of administrative difficulties, but the majority of their provisions do not call for special remark.

An important change was, however, made by Act 2008 as regards the provisions governing the closing of shops in the Metropolitan District. Under the old law, the majority of shops were required to close at 7 p.m. on ordinary nights, and 10 p.m. on Saturdays, unless a majority of the shopkeepers of any class in any district petitioned the Governor in Council to fix a later hour by Regulation. Shopkeepers could also petition for the closing of shops for a half-holiday.

The above provisions continue in force as regards places outside the Metropolitan District, but, as regards the latter, the amending Act fixes the hours for closing and for a half-holiday, and same cannot be altered except by Act of Parliament.

Shortly stated, the hours for closing butchers' shops are fixed at 5 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, 6 p.m. on Friday, 1 p.m. on Wednesday or Saturday, whichever the shopkeeper may prefer. If Wednesday be chosen for half-holiday, the hour for closing on Saturday is 9 p.m., and if Saturday be chosen the hour for closing on Wednesday is 5 p.m. Bicycle shops, boot repairers' shops, dairy produce shops, flower shops, hairdressers' shops, and pawnbrokers' shops must be closed on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 8 p.m.; on Wednesday or Saturday, at 1 p.m. If shop be closed on Saturday at 1 p.m., it must be closed on Wednesday at 8 p.m.; if it be closed at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, it can be kept open till 11 p.m. on Saturday.

All other shops (except Fourth Schedule Shops) must be closed at 6 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. On Friday, at 6 p.m., if shop be closed on Wednesday at 1 p.m., but if closed on Wednesday at 6 p.m., and on Saturday at 1 p.m., the shop may be kept open till 10 p.m. on Friday. If closed on Wednesday at 1 p.m., shop may be kept open till 10 p.m. on Saturday. The shop must be closed for a half-holiday on Wednesday or Saturday at 1 p.m., whichever day the shopkeeper may elect, but having elected one day or the other he cannot change it for three months.

The Fourth Schedule shops, so far as Metropolitan District is concerned, are:—

- Chemists' shops.
- Coffee-houses.
- Confectioners.
- Cooked meat (other than tinned meat) shops.
- Eating-houses.
- Fish and oyster shops.
- Fruit and vegetable shops.
- Restaurants.
- Tobacconists' shops.
- Booksellers' and news agents' shops.

No hours for closing such shops are fixed by the Act.

Under the provisions of the *Factories and Shops Act 1907* the Minister can grant permission to certain shopkeepers, who under Act 2008 are required to close their shops at 6 p.m., to keep open till 8 p.m. Such permission can only be granted to widows, old people, and in cases of great hardship.

Provision is also made under Act 2137 for overtime and tea money for shop employés.

A factory is defined to mean any place in which four or more persons other than a Chinese, or in which one or more Chinese are employed in any handicraft, or in preparing articles for trade or sale; or any place in which one or more are employed, if motive power be used in the preparation of such articles, or where furniture is made, or where bread or pastry is made or baked for sale. The expression handicraft includes any work done in a laundry or dyeworks. Provision is made for the registration of factories; and inspectors are appointed to inspect and examine them in order to see that the health requirements and other provisions of the Acts are complied with. A record is to be kept in every factory of the names, work, and wages of all employés, and the ages of those under 21. The employment of persons under 13 is debarred, and a strict limitation is placed on the hours of employment for all females and for males under sixteen. There are special provisions to guard against accidents, and persons in charge of engines and boilers must hold certificates of competency or service. The working hours of Chinese are specially restricted, in order to try to prevent or lessen unfair competition. Every employé in a factory must be paid at least 2s. 6d. per week. This provision is, of course, intended as a protection for juvenile workers.

The most important provision contained in the Act of 1896, and extended by subsequent Acts, is in regard to the formation of Boards to fix the rates of wages and piece-work in various trades, for which purpose it is provided that, to determine the lowest prices or rates to be paid, the Governor-in-Council may appoint special Boards, if a resolution in favour of creating a Board for any process, trade, or business has been carried in both Houses of Parliament, consisting of from four to ten members (half elected by employers and half by employés), who are to nominate some outside person as chairman; or if no agreement can be arrived at as to such nomination, then the Governor-in-Council shall appoint the chairman. The Board so appointed may fix piece-work rates which may be paid, and also the lowest wages rates, and may also determine the number of improvers

Wages.
Boards.

who may be employed. There are 51 Special Boards now in existence, of which number 48 have made determinations affecting over 50,000 operatives. These Boards are:—

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Aerated Water Trade Board. | 27. Jam Trade Board. |
| 2. Agricultural Implements Board. | 28. Jewellers Board. |
| 3. Artificial Manure Board. | 29. Leather Goods Board. |
| 4. Bedstead Makers Board. | 30. Malt Board. |
| 5. Boot Board. | 31. Millet Broom Board. |
| 6. Brassworkers Board. | 32. Milliners Board. |
| 7. Bread Board. | 33. Ovenmakers Board. |
| 8. Brewers Board. | 34. Paper Bag Trade Board. |
| 9. Brick Trade Board. | 35. Pastrycooks Board. |
| 10. Brushmakers Board. | 36. Picture Frame Board. |
| 11. Butchers Board. | 37. Plate Glass Board. |
| 12. Candlemakers Board. | 38. Pottery Trade Board. |
| 13. Cardboard Box Trade Board. | 39. Printers Board. |
| 14. Cigar Trade Board. | 40. Saddlery Board. |
| 15. Clothing Board. | 41. Shirt Board. |
| 16. Confectioners Board. | 42. Soap and Soda Board. |
| 17. Coopers Board. | 43. Starch Board. |
| 18. Cycle Trade Board. | 44. Stone Cutters Board. |
| 19. Dressmakers Board. | 45. Tanners Board. |
| 20. Engravers Board. | 46. Tinsmiths Board. |
| 21. Farriers Board. | 47. Underclothing Board. |
| 22. Fellmongers Board. | 48. Waterproof Clothing Board. |
| 23. Flour Board. | 49. Wicker Board. |
| 24. Furniture Trade Board. | 50. Woodworkers Board. |
| 25. Glassworkers Board. | 51. Woollen Trade Board. |
| 26. Ironmoulders Board. | |

The most important provision of the *Factories and Shops Act 1907* is that which provides for the extension of the Special Board system to—

1. Any business whatsoever usually or frequently carried on in a shop.
2. Any business of carting or driving generally, or in any specified business.
3. Any specified process, trade, or business connected with the erection of buildings or quarrying.
4. Any business connected with the preparation or sale of firewood.

This is a very great extension of the Special Board system, but it must be remembered that not one new Special Board can be appointed under the provisions of the new Act unless such appointment is sanctioned by a vote in both Houses of Parliament.

The Chief Inspector of Factories reports that determinations, made by forty-two Boards appointed under the Act, were in full operation during 1907, and furnishes figures showing the increase in average earnings consequent thereon. For instance, the average weekly wage for all employés (including boys) in the bread-making trade was £1 12s. 6d. in 1896, prior to the Wages Board being in operation, and £2 4s. 9d. in 1907, when its determination was in full force. Likewise, the average wage of persons employed in the clothing trade increased from £1 in 1896 to £1 os. 7d. in 1907, the average wage in the boot trade from £1 3s. 2d. to £1 7s. 6d., and in the furniture trade from £1 9s. 1d. to £1 15s. 9d. In

Effect—
Rise in
earnings

1900, the average wage of persons engaged in the engraving trade was 36s. 11d., and in 1907, when the determination was in force, it was £1 19s. 11d., or an increase of 3s. In the pottery trade the average wage was £1 8s. 1d. in 1900, before the Wages Board fixed the rates, and in 1907, when the determination was in operation, it has risen to £1 12s. 10d., or an average increase of 4s. 9d. for each employé engaged in the trade.

Provision has been made in the law for appeals against the determination of any Special Board to a Court of Industrial Appeals. The Court consists of a Judge of the Supreme Court, who may be assisted by two assessors for technical purposes only. The assessors have no voice in the decisions of the Court. There have been five appeals against the determinations of Special Boards to this Court.

GOVERNMENT LABOUR BUREAU.

Prior to the 1st October, 1900, two labour bureaux were administered by the Railway Department. One registered men in search of work, and distributed all Government work, each Department paying the cost. The other was a Railway Staff Office, regulating and distributing all temporary and casual railway employment. Both these are now administered by a bureau under the control of the Public Works Department, where applicants are registered for temporary or casual employment principally as artisans and labourers on Government works, including railways. Men are supplied when work is available according to their order of registration, subject to fitness. This bureau also undertakes to supply workmen for private employment, and advances railway tickets to deserving applicants who may themselves have obtained employment in country districts, which they would be otherwise unable to reach, these advances being subject to orders for repayment out of earnings.

Government
Labour
Bureau.

The following is a summary of the operations of the bureau in respect to registrations and applicants sent to employment for the year 1907 :—

GOVERNMENT LABOUR BUREAU.

| Year and Month. | Number of Applicants for Work as Registered at the End of each Month. | Number of Men for whom Employment was Obtained. |
|----------------------|---|---|
| 1907—January | 1,133 | } 2,466 |
| February | 1,142 | |
| March | 968 | |
| April | 965 | |
| May | 1,715 | |
| June | 1,265 | |
| July | 1,022 | |
| August | 846 | |
| September | 815 | |
| October | * | |
| November | 870 | |
| December | * | |

* Figures not available.

In the next table particulars are given of the operations of the bureau over a series of years:—

| Year. | Registrations Effected. | Engagements Effected. |
|-------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1901 | 13,865 | 2,705 |
| 1902 | 16,071 | 806 |
| 1903 | 7,629 | 1,203 |
| 1904 | 11,559 | 1,329 |
| 1905 | 12,937 | 1,531 |
| 1906 | 13,232 | 2,896 |
| 1907 | 10,119 | 2,466 |

Regarding the number of distinct individuals included in the registrations and engagements effected, the officer in charge of the bureau states that the number of men who are regular applicants at the bureau is very considerable, especially amongst unskilled labourers, and consequently the allowance to be made for duplication of registrations is proportionately great. It would probably be safe to say that the number of distinct individuals applying in any one year would be represented by about half the registrations effected. In connexion with the engagements effected during the year allowance must also be made for the fact that the same applicants may be engaged more than once during the year, and this, it is considered, would be equal to about one-sixth to one-eighth of the engagements made.

During the year 1907 the number of railway tickets advanced was 740, valued at £609, of which £431 was refunded. During the past seven and a quarter years 5,515 railway tickets have been advanced, of the value of £4,613, of which £2,737 has been refunded.

CHARITIES AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.

The total number of organizations administering charitable relief and of a reformatory character throughout the State which forwarded returns to the Government Statist for the year 1907 was 241. The number of these which received aid from the Government was 216. The amount received by all these institutions was £852,974, of which the Government contributed £598,134, and £254,840 was received from all other sources. The total expenditure amounted to £843,561. The daily average number under care indoors throughout the year was 13,832, and there were no less than 121,916 distinct cases of outdoor relief. With regard to the outdoor relief, it has been ascertained that in some institutions the "distinct cases treated" represent the actual number of persons treated; in others, they represent the actual cases of illness, accident, or disease; but in these latter cases, the books of the institutions do not furnish the necessary particulars as to the number of distinct persons. Again, it is considered probable that some obtained relief at more than one establishment, and that some, in the course of the year, became inmates of one or other of the institutions. There is no available information upon which an estimate of these duplications can be based.

In the following table will be found a summary containing full particulars of all these charitable and reformatory institutions, showing the number in each class, the daily average number of persons under care in institutions, the total number of distinct cases receiving outdoor relief, together with receipts and expenditure :—

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS—INMATES, RECEIPTS,
AND EXPENDITURE, 1906-7.

| Name of Institution, &c. | Number of Institutions. | Daily Average Indoors. | Outdoor Relief Distinct Cases. | Receipts. | | | Expenditure (including Building Expenses for Year). |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|----------------|---|
| | | | | From Government. | From Other Sources. | Total. | |
| HOSPITALS. | | | | | | | |
| General Hospitals | 45 | 2,138 | 61,561 | £ 49,462 | £ 100,447 | £ 149,909 | £ 144,126 |
| Women's Hospital | 1 | 87 | 1,184 | 2,400 | 5,724 | 8,124 | 7,659 |
| Children's Hospital | 1 | 93 | 13,507 | 500 | 13,198 | 13,698 | 15,653 |
| Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children | 1 | 18 | 3,443 | 445 | 1,876 | 2,321 | 1,986 |
| Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives | 1 | 53 | .. | 4,745 | 201 | 4,946 | 4,946 |
| Consumptive Sanatorium | 1 | 67 | .. | 300 | 3,954 | 4,254 | 5,734 |
| Convalescent Homes | 2 | 43 | .. | 370 | 1,392 | 1,762 | 1,713 |
| Deaf and Dumb, Blind, and Eye and Ear Institutions | 3 | 229 | 5,725 | 3,400 | 12,317 | 15,717 | 16,162 |
| Hospitals for Insane, Idiot Asylum, and Receiving House | 10 | 4,938 | .. | 197,976 | 17,414 | 215,390 | 215,390 |
| Foundling Hospitals | 2 | 151 | .. | 741 | 1,062 | 2,403 | 2,432 |
| Infectious Diseases Hospital | 1 | 33 | .. | 1,245 | 2,044 | 3,289 | 3,744 |
| Total | 68 | 7,850 | 85,420 | 261,584 | 160,229 | 421,813 | 419,545 |
| BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS AND SOCIETIES. | | | | | | | |
| Benevolent Asylums | 8 | 2,442 | 1,763 | 20,931 | 15,660 | 36,591 | 36,802 |
| Old Colonists' Association | 1 | 56 | 9 | .. | 5,727 | 5,727 | 3,745 |
| Freemasons' Home | 1 | 16 | 1 | .. | 804 | 804 | 556 |
| Old Actors' Home | 1 | 5 | 32 | .. | 707 | 707 | 693 |
| Benevolent Societies | 97 | .. | 14,099 | 7,930 | 19,116 | 27,046 | 25,428 |
| Orphan Asylums | 9 | 1,495 | .. | 5,910 | 17,863 | 23,773 | 21,816 |
| Total | 117 | 4,014 | 15,904 | 34,771 | 59,877 | 94,648 | 89,040 |
| REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS. | | | | | | | |
| Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools | 13 | 256 | 4,913 | 62,072 | 1,932 | 64,004 | 64,004 |
| Female Refuges | 10 | 643 | .. | 2,130 | 20,796 | 22,926 | 21,795 |
| Salvation Army Rescue Homes | 6 | 149 | .. | 566 | 5,080 | 5,646 | 5,154 |
| Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society | 1 | .. | 673 | 195 | 548 | 743 | 752 |
| Gaols and Penal Establishments | 16 | 920 | .. | 52,923 | .. | 52,923 | 52,923 |
| Total | 51 | 1,968 | 5,586 | 117,886 | 28,356 | 146,242 | 144,628 |
| MISCELLANEOUS. | | | | | | | |
| Old-age Pensioners | .. | .. | 10,732 | 183,713 | 4,080 | 187,793 | 187,793 |
| Night Shelters (Dr. Singleton's) | 2 | .. | .. | 40 | 58 | 98 | 74 |
| Charity Organization Society | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 1,769 | 1,769 | 1,884 |
| Free Dispensaries | 2 | .. | 4,274 | 140 | 471 | 611 | 597 |
| Total | 5 | .. | 15,006 | 183,893 | 6,378 | 190,271 | 190,348 |
| Grand Total | 241 | 13,832 | 121,916 | 598,134 | 254,840 | 852,974 | 843,561 |

Charitable
institutions
—accom-
modation.

Particulars relating to the accommodation in the most important of the various classes of charitable institutions in the State are as follow. The information relates to the year ended the 30th June, 1907, except for the Hospitals for the Insane, the Idiot Asylum, and the Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, in which cases it relates to the calendar year 1907, and in the case of the Infectious Diseases Hospital, it is for the year ended 30th September, 1907. Of the general hospitals, six are in Melbourne, the remainder in country towns, nine of the latter being also benevolent asylums. The accommodation available for indoor patients was as follows:—

AMOUNT OF ACCOMMODATION, 1906-7.

| Description of Institution. | Number of Institutions. | Dormitories. | | Number of Beds for Inmates. | Number of Cubic Feet to each Bed. |
|--|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | Number. | Capacity in Cubic Feet. | | |
| General Hospitals ... | 45 | 401 | 4,428,763 | 3,137 | 1,412 |
| Women's Hospital ... | 1 | 25 | 144,450 | 104 | 1,389 |
| Children's Hospital ... | 1 | 17 | 141,815 | 115 | 1,233 |
| Eye and Ear Hospital ... | 1 | 8 | 54,680 | 60 | 911 |
| Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children | 1 | 3 | 23,892 | 22 | 1,086 |
| Infectious Diseases Hospital | 1 | 6 | 96,304 | 50 | 1,926 |
| Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows) | 1 | 10 | ... | 90 | ... |
| The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home | 1 | 3 | 15,336 | 61 | 251 |
| Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives | 1 | 11 | ... | 67 | ... |
| Consumptive Sanatorium... | 1 | 32 | 56,000 | 139 | 403 |
| Receiving House for the Insane | 1 | 12 | 26,673 | 31 | 860 |
| Hospitals for the Insane ... | 8 | 1,257 | 3,097,450 | 4,355 | 711 |
| Idiot Asylum ... | 1 | 20 | 114,288 | 292 | 391 |
| Benevolent Asylums ... | 8 | 215 | 1,743,466 | 2,710 | 643 |
| Convalescent Homes ... | 2 | 30 | 69,000 | 61 | 1,131 |
| Blind Asylum ... | 1 | 5 | 91,318 | 112 | 815 |
| Deaf and Dumb Asylum ... | 1 | 5 | 87,604 | 89 | 984 |
| Orphan Asylums ... | 9 | 70 | 704,038 | 1,483 | 475 |
| Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools | 18 | 90 | 311,222 | 681 | 457 |
| Female Refuges ... | 10 | 128 | 492,619 | 713 | 691 |
| Salvation Army Rescue Homes | 6 | 18 | 110,435 | 189 | 584 |
| Total ... | 119 | 2,366 | 11,809,353 | 14,561 | 811 |

The following statement shows the number of inmates and of deaths in these institutions:—

Charitable
institutions
—inmates
and deaths

INMATES AND DEATHS, 1906-7.

| Description of Institution. | Number of Inmates. | | Number of Deaths. | Proportion of Deaths to Total Number of Inmates. |
|--|------------------------|----------------|-------------------|--|
| | Total during the Year. | Daily Average. | | |
| General Hospitals | 23,645 | 2,138 | 2,376 | Per cent. 10·0 |
| Women's Hospital | 2,136 | 87 | 33 | 1·5 |
| Children's Hospital | 1,724 | 93 | 202 | 11·7 |
| Eye and Ear Hospital | 753 | 56 | 5 | ·7 |
| Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children | 274 | 18 | 11 | 4·0 |
| Infectious Diseases Hospital ... | 482 | 33 | 8 | 1·7 |
| Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows) | 146 | 74 | 12 | 8·2 |
| Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home | 138 | 77 | 9 | 6·5 |
| Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives | 305 | 53 | 2 | ·7 |
| Consumptive Sanatorium | 254 | 67 | 8 | 3·1 |
| Receiving House for the Insane .. | 86 | 16 | ... | ... |
| Hospitals for the Insane | 5,527 | 4,596 | 303 | 5·5 |
| Idiot Asylum | 372 | 326 | 30 | 8·1 |
| Benevolent Asylums | 3,823 | 2,442 | 450 | 11·8 |
| Convalescent Homes | 1,172 | 43 | ... | ... |
| Blind Asylum | 101 | 90 | ... | ... |
| Deaf and Dumb Asylum | 100 | 83 | ... | ... |
| Orphan Asylums | 1,982 | 1,495 | 9 | ·5 |
| Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools | 5,966 | 5,169 | 36 | ·6 |
| Female Refuges | 1,045 | 643 | 10 | 1·0 |
| Salvation Army Rescue Homes ... | 557 | 149 | ... | ... |
| Old Colonists' Association | 63 | 56 | 7 | 11·1 |
| Old Actors' Home | 5 | 5 | ... | ... |
| Freemasons' Home | 17 | 16 | 1 | 5·9 |
| Total | 50,673 | 17,825 | 3,512 | 6·9 |

In addition to the inmates shown in the preceding table, there were 54 mothers of infants in the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home, 91 infants in the Female Refuges, and 138 infants in Salvation Army Homes during the year.

Charitable institutions—receipts and expenditure

The total receipts of all charitable institutions in the year 1906-7 amounted to £612,258, of which £361,498, or nearly 60 per cent., was contributed by Government, and the expenditure amounted to £602,845. Of the Government contribution, £264,793 was expended on the Receiving House for the Insane, Hospitals for the Insane, the Idiot Asylum, the Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, and the Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives, which are Government institutions.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1906-7.

| Description of Institution. | Receipts. | | | Expenditure. |
|---|------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | From Government. | From other Sources. | Total. | |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| General Hospitals | 49,462 | 100,447 | 149,909 | 144,126 |
| Women's Hospital | 2,400 | 5,724 | 8,124 | 7,659 |
| Children's Hospital | 500 | 13,198 | 13,698 | 15,653 |
| Eye and Ear Hospital | 800 | 5,226 | 6,026 | 4,013 |
| Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children | 445 | 1,876 | 2,321 | 1,986 |
| Infectious Diseases Hospital ... | 1,245 | 2,044 | 3,289 | 3,744 |
| Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows) | 291 | 696 | 987 | 955 |
| The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home | 450 | 966 | 1,416 | 1,477 |
| Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives | 4,745 | 201 | 4,946 | 4,946 |
| Consumptive Sanatorium | 300 | 3,954 | 4,254 | 5,734 |
| Receiving House for Insane Hospitals for the Insane | 197,976 | 17,414 | 215,390 | 215,390 |
| Idiot Asylum | | | | |
| Benevolent Asylums | 20,931 | 15,660 | 36,591 | 36,802 |
| Convalescent Homes | 370 | 1,392 | 1,762 | 1,713 |
| Blind Asylum | 1,700 | 3,404 | 5,104 | 6,302 |
| Deaf and Dumb Asylum | 900 | 3,687 | 4,587 | 5,847 |
| Orphan Asylums | 5,910 | 17,863 | 23,773 | 21,816 |
| Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools | 62,072 | 1,932 | 64,004 | 64,004 |
| Female Refuges | 2,130 | 20,796 | 22,926 | 21,795 |
| Salvation Army Rescue Homes ... | 566 | 5,080 | 5,646 | 5,154 |
| Old Colonists' Association | ... | 5,727 | 5,727 | 3,745 |
| Old Actors' Home | ... | 707 | 707 | 693 |
| Freemasons' Home | ... | 804 | 804 | 556 |
| Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society | 195 | 548 | 743 | 752 |
| Charity Organization Society | ... | 1,769 | 1,769 | 1,884 |
| Benevolent Societies | 7,930 | 19,116 | 27,046 | 25,428 |
| Free Dispensaries | 140 | 471 | 611 | 597 |
| Dr. Singleton's Night Shelters ... | 40 | 58 | 98 | 74 |
| Total | 361,498 | 250,760 | 612,258 | 602,845 |

The following statement shows the average number of inmates of the respective institutions, the total cost of their maintenance, and the average cost for the year of each inmate:—

Charitable institutions—average cost per inmate.

COST OF MAINTENANCE, 1906-7.

| Description of Institution. | Daily average Number of Inmates. | Total Cost of Maintenance. | Average cost of each Inmate. |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | £ | £ s. d. |
| General Hospitals | 2,138 | 119,750 | 56 0 2 |
| Women's Hospital | 87 | 6,310 | 72 10 7 |
| Children's Hospital | 93 | 8,717 | 93 14 7 |
| Eye and Ear Hospital | 56 | 3,862 | 68 19 3 |
| Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children | 18 | 1,834 | 101 17 9 |
| Infectious Diseases Hospital ... | 33 | 3,249 | 98 9 1 |
| Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows) ... | 74 | 812 | 10 19 6 |
| The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home | 77 | 1,473 | 19 2 7 |
| Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives | 53 | 3,186 | 60 2 3 |
| Consumptive Sanatorium | 67 | 5,221 | 77 18 6 |
| Receiving House for the Insane | | | |
| Hospitals for the Insane | 4,938 | 139,497 | 28 5 0 |
| Idiot Asylum | | | |
| Benevolent Asylums | 2,442 | 32,409 | 13 5 5 |
| Convalescent Homes | 43 | 1,393 | 32 7 10 |
| Blind Asylum | 90 | 3,755 | 41 14 5 |
| Deaf and Dumb Asylum | 83 | 3,300 | 39 15 2 |
| Orphan Asylums | 1,495 | 18,851 | 12 12 2 |
| Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools | 5,169 | 64,004 | 12 7 8 |
| Female Refuges | 643 | 18,480 | 28 14 10 |
| Salvation Army Rescue Homes | 149 | 5,154 | 34 11 10 |
| Old Colonists' Association | 56 | 2,820 | 50 7 2 |
| Old Actors' Home | 5 | 693 | 138 12 0 |
| Freemasons' Home | 16 | 556 | 34 15 0 |
| Total | 17,825 | 445,326 | 24 19 8 |

In calculating the average cost of each inmate, the cost of treating out-patients is necessarily included, as there is no available information showing the cost of in-patients and out-patients separately.

The institutions showing the lowest average cost per inmate are the Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows), Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, the Orphan Asylums, and the Benevolent Asylums. As many of the children of the Industrial and Reformatory Schools cost the State nothing—maintaining themselves at service or being supported by relatives—the cost of maintenance per head shown above is somewhat misleading, the true cost per head of those supported by the State being about £17 3s. The average cost per inmate of the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home, Female Refuges, and Salvation Army Homes would be reduced if allowance were made for mothers of infants in the first-named institution, and for infants in the two latter groups of institutions.

Melbourne
Hospital.

The origin of this institution belongs to the very earliest days of Melbourne. Five years from the foundation of the city, the great desirability, and even necessity, of providing some establishment for the reception, nursing, and treatment of the sick poor, and for the relief of victims of accidents, was apparent. A public meeting, presided over by the Superintendent of the Province, Mr. Latrobe, and attended by the leading people of the settlement, was held on 1st March, 1841, and resolutions were unanimously and enthusiastically adopted in favour of the foundation of a hospital in which the best medical advice and the most skilful surgical treatment available would be at the service of those who were in indigent circumstances, as well as of those who would be admitted as paying patients. The severity of the struggle for existence in those early days, and the poverty of the people of the settlement, retarded for a time the collection of subscriptions. In a year, only £300 had been received; but urgent requirements were met by the establishment of a dispensary in a small brick cottage rented for the purpose in Little Collins-street. The grant in aid, which had been fully expected, was refused by the Government in Sydney; but the charitable work was not thereby doomed, and private donations enabled larger premises, in Bourke-street west, to be engaged for hospital purposes. It was intimated that no more than £500 could in any event be expected from Sydney, and the indignation and disappointment in Melbourne culminated in a meeting of prominent colonists at the house of Dr. Palmer, afterwards President of the Legislative Council under responsible government. Strong representations were made to the Governor, Sir George Gipps, who promised the memorialists a site for the hospital, and a money grant by way of building fund and endowment. In February, 1845, two sites were offered, namely, the hay and corn market reserve, between Flinders-lane and Flinders-street, and a block, in a then sequestered corner of the town, bounded by Lonsdale, Little Lonsdale, Swanston, and Russell streets. The latter was ultimately chosen, and upon it the building of the hospital was commenced.

As an intimation had been received from Sydney that the Government was prepared to advance £1,000 if a like amount was subscribed in Melbourne, immediate steps were taken to fulfil the condition. £265 was raised at a public meeting, at which also a governing body was appointed. The first entertainment raised nearly £60, and was given by some gentlemen amateurs who had formed themselves into a philharmonic society. In January, 1846, tenders were called for the erection of the building. The foundation stone was laid on the same day as that of the original Prince's-bridge. Early in 1848, the building was ready for occupation, a staff was appointed, and in March of that year two patients were admitted and four out-patients treated. By July, 1848, all the beds, 21 in number, were occupied, and even at that early date applications for admission exceeded the available accommodation, and additions had therefore to be made. The original building now forms the east wing of the main building. From that time up to the present day continual additions and alterations have been made in order to meet the growing demands of an increasing

population, and equip the institution for the position it has held as the principal general hospital of Victoria, and the chief medical training school for University students. The wards now contain over 300 beds, in which over 5,000 in-patients are treated annually. In the out-patients' department, 20,579 persons were treated last year, including 8,461 casualty cases. The aggregate number of attendances was 76,009.

As far as has been possible in an institution, the greater part of which was built over half a century ago, the hospital has been improved in accordance with the latest views of hospital construction, and the requirements of modern science. A fine new operating theatre was built a few years ago, and recently the old original theatre was reconstructed and brought thoroughly up-to-date. In these two theatres during 1907, no fewer than 1,817 operations were performed. There is a most effective system of steam supply and hot-water pipes installed at this hospital, whereby the operating theatres and some of the wards are heated, the sterilizers are supplied with steam at a high temperature, and the theatres are provided with absolutely sterilized water.

Some years ago an excellently-equipped mortuary was added to the hospital, and a fine large lecture-room for University students. Other important additions have been two new wards for septic cases. These are the most up-to-date wards in the hospital, and have proved highly satisfactory. Another department of the institution which has been excellently equipped is the X rays room. Generous donations from the trustees of the estate of the late Edward Wilson have provided for this highly useful department the latest and best equipment.

The usefulness of the Melbourne Hospital since its inauguration may be judged from the work carried out. The in-patients treated up to date number 195,074; the out-patients, 852,667.

In 1906-7 the Government granted £10,000 towards maintenance; the municipal grants were £709; private contributions amounted to £4,543; proceeds of entertainments, £142; legacies, bequests, £5,082; Hospital Sunday, £1,662; payments and contributions by in-door patients, £1,740; out-patients' fees, £1,255; and £3,792 was received from all other sources. The total receipts for the twelve months were £28,925, which includes £3,000, bequests, &c., to the endowment fund. The expenditure was £25,945—£24,745 for maintenance, &c., and £1,200 for buildings and extraordinary repairs.

During the year 1907 an offer of £120,000 was made by the trustees of the Edward Wilson estate towards the erection of a new hospital. This was subsequently added to by the trustees of the Sumner estate to the extent of £20,000, and by gifts of £1,000 each from Mrs. Aubrey Bowen and Mr. S. Miller, and a promise of £500 in fittings from Mr. A. T. Danks, making a total of £142,500. It has been decided to re-build on the present site, and the committee have commissioned an architect (Mr. J. I. Clarke) to visit Great Britain, the Continent, and America, with the object of studying modern hospital architecture before preparing the plans for the new structure.

Alfred
Hospital.

For many years before the establishment of this institution, the necessity for a second general hospital in Melbourne was recognised. It was not, however, until 1868 that it was finally resolved that a charitable institution should be erected as a memorial of the providential escape of H.R.H. Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, from assassination during his visit to Sydney. A site of 13 acres within the municipality of Prahran was secured, and the foundation stone was laid in March, 1869, by His Royal Highness, after whom the hospital was named. In May, 1871, the establishment was opened, and additions were made in 1885. In 1888, a fire occurred, which entirely destroyed a portion of the original buildings. During the year 1901-2, further additions were made. This hospital is recognised by the Melbourne University as a clinical school for medical students, and, in addition, a training school for nurses was established in 1880, the term of instruction decided upon being one year, but this was subsequently increased to three years. The pupils are of two grades—the first pay an entrance fee and a fixed sum monthly for maintenance, &c., whilst the second receive a small and progressive salary after six months. For the year ended 30th June, 1907, the daily average number of in-patients was 161.5. The number of patients treated shows a continuous and steady increase. Thus, the total number of patients for year ended 30th June, 1897, was 6,715, while the figures for the year 1906-7 are 10,584. The total revenue from all sources was £13,581—£4,000 from the Government; £421 municipal grants; £1,960 private contributions; £42 proceeds of entertainments; £2,989 legacies, bequests, &c.; £850 Hospital Sunday; £1,704 contributions by in-door patients; £791 by out-door patients; £396 from interest, and £428 all other receipts. The total expenditure was £13,391. A new operating theatre, on the most approved model, has been erected at a cost of £2,000. The management has now under consideration the provision of sleeping quarters for the night nurses away from the main buildings, and £500 has been specially subscribed towards carrying out this project.

Homoeo-
pathic
Hospital.

This institution was first established in 1869 as a dispensary, in Spring-street, Melbourne. In 1876, the buildings were enlarged, and founded as a hospital for the treatment of both in and out-patients. In 1881, owing to annually increasing demands for the treatment of in-patients, it was decided to remove the institution to its present site on St. Kilda-road, and the northern wing and administration quarters were then erected. In 1890, the southern wing, which is reserved for surgical cases, was added, the cost being met by a gift of £9,000 made by Mr. James S. Hosie, of Melbourne. Since the institution was first opened, up to 30th June, 1907, 150,587 patients have received treatment. During the year ended on that date, 8,681 patients were treated. The visits of out-patients during the same period were 23,362. The average stay of in-patients was 19 days for males and 21 days for females, which is an exceedingly low average. 684 operations were performed by the visiting honorary surgeons, and 1,758 casualty cases were attended to. The establishment has attached to it a school for training nurses, who have to serve a period

of three years, and pass prescribed examinations. Visitors are admitted on Sundays and Wednesdays, between the hours of 2 and 4 p.m. The income for the year was £5,481, made up of £1,400 Government grant; £256 municipal grants; £915 private contributions; £177 proceeds of entertainments; £1,141 legacies, bequests, &c.; £329 Hospital Sunday; £440 contributions by in-door, and £488 by out-door patients; and £335 from all other sources. The expenditure was £4,289—£22 for buildings; £4,221 for maintenance; and miscellaneous items £46.

The institution has accommodation for 84 patients. On 30th June, 1907, there were remaining under care 17 men and 24 women. A new operating theatre has recently been built, equipped with all the latest instruments and appliances, and it is proposed by the board of management of the hospital very shortly to proceed with the erection of a children's wing, which will provide accommodation for over 30 children. Also a new building for nurses' accommodation, dispensary, and out-patients' waiting rooms.

This hospital for incurables, the only one of its kind in Victoria, is situated on a block of 17 acres at Heidelberg. Its origin belongs to the year 1880, when Mrs. Thomas Austin, of Barwon Park, Winchelsea, offered £6,000 for the purposes of the institution. Other donations quickly followed, and the Government of the day granted the present site. The hospital was opened in August, 1882, and provided accommodation for 66 patients. In 1884, a wing, containing sixteen beds for the reception of cancer patients, was opened, and in 1900 another wing was added for consumptives, containing 41 beds. Alterations in 1897 increased by eight the accommodation for cancer patients. The Nurses' Home, with accommodation for 30 nurses and women servants, was erected and furnished in 1897. This building was enlarged in 1906 so as to increase the accommodation for nurses and women servants to 45 beds. In 1901, the children's wing was erected, and a laundry has since been added. In 1905 an additional wing for consumptives, capable of containing 60 patients, was opened. £5,110 of the total cost (about £6,000) of the erection of the building was provided by Mr. Joseph Kronheimer, of Melbourne. The ground floor of the wing, holding 30 beds, has been furnished at a cost of about £480, of which amount quite two-thirds has been specially contributed, without solicitation, by friends of the institution. The whole (60 beds) of the accommodation for patients in the Kronheimer wing was rendered available in 1906. Up to 30th June, 1907, 2,546 patients were admitted; of this number 1,735 died in the institution, 604 were discharged, and 207 were occupying beds in the various wards. The patients treated have been all of the one class, *i.e.*, chronic or incurable, many of them reaching the hospital in a dying condition. Amongst the number set out as having been discharged, a fair percentage, say, 45 per cent., have benefited very considerably from the treatment received in the institution, the remaining 55 per cent. having left of their own accord, many of them preferring to die amongst their friends and relatives. Practically no cures have been

Austin
Hospital
for
Incurables.

effected at the establishment. The patients treated during the year 1906-7 numbered 428, of whom 236 were new admissions, and the daily average was 195. The institution is well supported by the public. Of the total expenditure for 1906-7, £10,160, £2,058 was spent on buildings, and £8,102 on maintenance and other expenses. The revenue was £9,099; made up of £1,000 Government grant; £223 municipal grants; £2,400 private contributions; £53 proceeds of entertainments; £3,392 legacies and bequests; £605 Hospital Sunday; £468 contributions from in-door patients; and £958 miscellaneous contributions. Of the surplus in hand, £3,600 was credited to the Perpetual Endowment account, and £1,497 is at the credit of the building account. The institution now contains 30 dormitories with 210 beds. There were 119 males and 88 females under care on 30th June, 1907.

S. Vincent
Hospital,
Melbourne.

This hospital was founded in 1893, and is conducted by the Sisters of Charity; but, though associated with the Roman Catholic Church, the work of the institution is carried on upon entirely unsectarian lines. The site is in Victoria Parade, Fitzroy. The present building only forms the rear portion of the proposed completed structure, and contains 120 beds. During the year ended 30th June, 1907, 1,596 patients were treated in the institution; 120 patients remaining, showing that every available bed was occupied. The number of out-patients who received treatment was 10,401, making a total of 11,997. The total number of operations performed on patients during the year was 1,527, of whom 40 died, giving a death-rate of 2.6 per 100 operations. The total receipts were £9,585, made up of £2,500 Government grant; £98 from municipalities; £1,435 private contributions; £658 proceeds of entertainments; £2,752 from legacies and bequests; £476 from Hospital Sunday Committee; £1,606 patients' contributions, and other receipts £60. The expenditure was £9,802, of which £1,424 was spent on buildings and repairs, and £8,378 on maintenance, &c.

Ballarat
District
Hospital.

The foundation stone of this hospital was laid on the 25th December, 1855, and on the 1st January following a memorial stone was laid to commemorate the completion of the main building. On the Queen's Birthday, 1869, the foundation stone of the Prince Alfred Memorial Ward was laid. This building provides accommodation for 75 beds. On 23rd March, 1897, a public meeting of the ladies of the district was held, when it was decided to collect funds for the purpose of building wards to accommodate 50 female patients, and on 21st June, 1897, was laid the foundation stone of the Queen Victoria Women's Ward, in commemoration of the Jubilee of Her Majesty, the late Queen Victoria, and this building was completed and opened on 26th October, 1900. The establishment is now fully equipped for the accommodation of 170 patients, and its work and usefulness are of a high character. The receipts for 1906-7 were £5,201, made up of £2,100 Government grant, £322 municipal grants, £833 private contributions, £232 proceeds of entertainments, £856 legacies, bequests, &c., £90 Hospital Sunday collections, £200 contributions by in-door patients, £123 by out-door patients,

£273 interest, and £172 other receipts. The expenditure was £6,366—£1,439 on buildings and repairs, and £4,927 on maintenance, &c. There are twelve dormitories, and in the 170 beds there were 106 persons under care on 30th June, 1907.

This establishment was founded in 1853, upon a site of 10 acres, which was permanently reserved in 1856, when the main portion of the present building was erected to provide accommodation for 60 patients, the Bowen wing having been subsequently added. This hospital, through the munificence of the late Mr. George Lansell, has the right to six beds for patients from the Bendigo district in the Austin Hospital for Incurables, at Heidelberg. The hospital now includes detention wards of six rooms, built on modern lines by the Government at a cost of over £2,500 for male and female insane patients, where they are kept under observation for limited periods prior to discharge or transfer to a public asylum. There is also a special cottage set apart for contagious diseases, which, however, is not adequate to meet the wants of the district, and local effort is now being made to raise the necessary funds whereby this cottage may be enlarged, or a new ward on approved modern lines built. For this purpose, £1,004 has been collected locally. By a gift of £1,000, Miss Edith Lansell has endowed in perpetuity a cot in the children's ward as a thank offering for her recovery from a long and dangerous illness. The General Hospital provides accommodation for 172 patients, but during the last ten years the daily average has only been 112. The number of patients received during the year was 1,444, which, with 106 remaining at the close of the previous year, yields a total of 1,550 treated. The electric light has been installed throughout, and electric fans have been placed in the principal wards. The out-patients numbered 2,602, and their attendances 7,806. The receipts for 1906-7 were £8,724, made up as follows:—Government grant, £2,690; municipal grants, £298; private contributions, £1,287; proceeds of entertainments, £533; legacies, bequests, &c., £2,212; Hospital Sunday, £421; in-door patients' contributions, £653 (includes £247 payment by Government for lunacy patients); out-door patients' fees, £133; and other sources, £497. The expenditure amounted to £6,679, of which £75 was spent on buildings, and £6,604 on maintenance and other expenses.

Bendigo
Hospital.

There are no official records in existence dealing with the formation and early history of this hospital. Many attempts have been made by members of various committees in the past to obtain reliable data and original documents to enable them to do so, but unfortunately, without success. In 1903, however, some important private documents were discovered which threw some light upon the subject. From these it appears that a public meeting was convened at Castlemaine on the 17th February, 1853, when it was resolved that a hospital should be established for (1) the reception of sick persons who are totally destitute; (2) for accidents; and (3) for those who are able to pay to be attended by their own medical men if desired. On the 24th May, 1853, the hospital appears to have been opened

Castlemaine
Hospital.

in a good building, 30 feet long by 20 feet wide, with a detached surgery, kitchen, and men's room. The first resident surgeon was appointed to the institution about the middle of 1853. Cases of leprosy were treated early in the sixties, in a tent specially set apart for the purpose, but, in 1870, the patients were all removed to Melbourne, and there strictly isolated. To commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of the late Queen Victoria in June, 1897, an up-to-date building was erected for the treatment of infectious diseases. It consists of two wards, each containing three beds, specially fitted up to receive patients suffering from contagious diseases. It is called the Queen Victoria Ward. In 1906-7, 268 patients were admitted, 254 were discharged, cured, or relieved, 24 died, and 26 remained at the close of the year. The institution contains 13 dormitories, with 75 beds. The average number of in-patients for the year was 31.5. The total receipts were £2,635, made up of £1,180 Government grant; £128 municipal grants; £983 private contributions; £28 proceeds of entertainments; £70 legacies and bequests; £42 Hospital Sunday; £130 contributed by in-door and £30 by out-door patients; and £44 miscellaneous receipts. The expenditure was £2,810.

Seelong
Infirmery
and
Benevolent
Asylum.

This institution was opened on the 23rd April, 1852, and during the remainder of that year 150 patients were treated in the Infirmery and seven inmates were admitted to the Benevolent Asylum. It is managed by a president, assisted by a committee of 22 persons, who meet once a month for the transaction of business. The staff consists of a superintendent and secretary, dispenser, resident surgeon and assistants, a matron, wardsman, and women nurses and probationers. A nurses' training school is a special feature of this establishment, twelve nurses being constantly under tuition, the course of instruction extending over a term of three years. The buildings, being now 56 years old, are showing signs of age, but everything is done to keep the wards in an up-to-date condition. There is a handsome new out-patients' department which is kept quite apart from the general hospital. It contains an operating theatre, with all modern appliances. A thoroughly up-to-date X-ray apparatus has been imported from Germany at a cost of £100, and the institution is now perfectly equipped in this important branch of medical science. An infectious ward has been erected at the rear of the present hospital. It will accommodate 24 patients. A plant to distil all water used at operations for surgical purposes has been installed, together with the latest basins, in the theatre, which are filled and emptied by valves operated by the surgeon's feet. The laundry is fitted up with the latest steam washing machines, everything being washed and sterilized on the premises. There is also a plant in use for the manufacture of aerated waters. The number of beds is 205, the average number occupied, 155. During 1907, 1,849 cases—910 in-door and 939 out-door—received relief, and there were 151 under care in the institution at the close of the year. The total ordinary income from all sources for the twelve months ended 30th June, 1907, was £8,181, made up as follows:—Government grant,

£2,400; municipal grant, £172; private contributions, £1,108; proceeds of entertainments, £31; legacies, bequests, &c., £2,848; Hospital Sunday, £377; in-patients' contributions, £820 (includes £42 payment by Government for lunacy patients); out-patients' fees, £67; and other sources, £358. The expenditure was £7,637, of which £2,688 was spent on buildings, and £4,949 on maintenance and other expenses.

Within spacious grounds, tastefully laid out, this hospital is an imposing structure, the grounds and buildings covering an area of 5 acres. The hospital was established in a modest way in the early days of gold-mining in the fifties, and came as a great boon to gold diggers. Since its establishment, it has increased in importance and dimensions, and many thousands of people have regained health and strength under its auspices. There is a house surgeon, three honorary physicians, one honorary surgeon-dentist, a dispenser, a matron, and a capable staff of nurses. The main building now contains eight dormitories with 85 beds, and a detached contagious diseases ward (a fine brick building erected by the municipalities of the district, assisted by the Government) contains ten beds. On the 30th June, 1906, there were 52 patients under care, and during the year 556 were admitted, giving a daily average of 51.6. The number remaining in the hospital on 30th June, 1907, was 44. The number of out-patients was 865, and their attendances 2,597. The receipts during the year totalled £2,415—£1,250 Government grant; £91 municipal grant; £496 private contributions; £213 proceeds of entertainments; £34 legacies, bequests, &c.; £30 Hospital Sunday; £158 contributed by in-patients, and £106 by out-patients; and £37 miscellaneous. The expenditure was £2,221—£150 for buildings, and £2,071 for maintenance, &c.

The Pleasant Creek Hospital was established in 1858, and a building of wood, canvas, and iron, capable of accommodating twenty patients, was constructed. In February, 1859, this temporary hospital was opened, and before the end of that year 67 patients had been admitted. In 1861, the permanent building was opened, on the admirable site of 19 acres, which the Government had granted. Numerous additional wards have from time to time been constructed, and in 1883 the scope of the operations of the charity was widened by the incorporation with the hospital of a benevolent asylum; its name also was altered to the Stawell Hospital and Benevolent Asylum. The buildings are now capable of accommodating 59 patients in the hospital and 13 inmates in the Benevolent Asylum. A new building has been constructed for the purpose of an Infectious Diseases Hospital, and provides for twelve patients. It is designated the W. H. Syme ward, its whole structure, furnishing, and equipment being generously provided as a free gift by the widow of the late Dr. W. H. Syme, who was for many years an honorary surgeon of the institution. The building was formally opened by the Right Honorable Sir John Forrest, P.C., &c., on the 20th November, 1904. During

Mary-
borough
Hospital

Stawell
Hospital
and
Benevolent
Asylum.

the years 1906 and 1907 the sum of £872 has been expended on the buildings. Most of the wards have been thoroughly renovated, re-ceiled with fibrous plaster, painted, new ventilators fixed, &c.; a new kitchen range and a complete hot-water service were also installed. In addition, the operating theatre has been enlarged; the floor and walls have been tiled, the old windows removed, and a large elliptic head window built in, and new basins with hot and cold water fitted, making a thoroughly up-to-date operating theatre. The relief afforded during the year ended 30th June, 1907, was as follows:—In-patients, 302; out-patients, 227; number of attendances of out-patients, 1,176; daily average of in-patients, 38. The total revenue for the year was £2,029, made up of £950 Government grant; £140 municipal grant; £357 private contributions; £111 entertainments; £340 legacies, bequests, &c.; £64 Hospital Sunday; £85 payments by in-patients, and £6 by out-patients, and £76 miscellaneous. The expenditure was £2,292—£531 for buildings and repairs, and £1,761 for maintenance, &c.

Warram-
bool
Hospital
and
Benevolent
Asylum.

This institution was incorporated in 1872. During the year ended 30th June, 1907, 387 cases have been treated in the institution, viz. :—326 in the Hospital and 61 in the Benevolent Asylum. Of the hospital cases, 271 were discharged, cured or relieved, 31 died, and 24 remained in the hospital on 30th June, 1907. Of the asylum cases, 24 were discharged, 3 died, and 34 remained in the asylum on 30th June, 1907. The daily averages were:—Hospital, 30.3; Benevolent Asylum, 32.4; total, 62.7. The total attendances of out-patients numbered 2,411. There are 10 wards and dormitories containing 96 beds. An isolated building in the hospital grounds has been set apart for the treatment of contagious cases. The receipts for the year amounted to £2,157, as follow:—Government grant, £1,100; municipal grants, £200; private contributions, £198; Hospital Saturday and Sunday, £156; patients' contributions, £190; legacies, bequests, &c., £222; and other sources, £91. The expenditure was £2,427. A septic tank for the sewerage of the institution has been installed.

Women's
Hospital.

The necessity for establishing an institution of this kind forced itself upon the attention of the benevolent ladies of Melbourne over fifty years ago. In 1856 it was definitely founded, its original title being the Melbourne Lying-in Hospital and Infirmary for Diseases of Women and Children, and it was the first institution of this special nature erected in Australia. The work was first carried on in Collins-street, Eastern Hill, but a permanent site was eventually granted by the Government in Madeline-street, Carlton, where the hospital was opened in 1858, its title being altered in 1868 to Women's Hospital, the name it now bears. Important and improved additions have since been made, including the Genevieve Ward Wing, constituting the largest portion of the midwifery department, nurses' quarters, and the infirmary and midwifery operating theatres. During the past year the management have caused to be created an up-to-date pathological block and an eclamptic ward, and have put in hand the work of building a new out-patients' department and nurses' quarters to take

the place of those existing, which have fallen far behind modern requirements. These buildings are part of a complete scheme for a new Women's Hospital. The institution, early in its career, attained a high reputation for the efficient help it afforded, and the accommodation had to be augmented from time to time to meet increasing demands. It is a special training school in gynaecology and midwifery for medical men and nurses, and the excellent work carried on is fully recognised. Up to 30th June, 1907, the number of patients admitted was 47,847, and the attendances of out-patients 189,814. During the year ended on that date, 2,043 patients were admitted, which, together with 93 remaining at the close of previous year, gives a total of 2,136 treated. There were also in the same period 3,149 attendances of 1,184 out-patients. There is now accommodation for 104 in-patients, each bed having the most liberal allowance of space. It is governed by a committee of 15 ladies and 6 gentlemen, on whom falls the responsibility of the effective working of the whole establishment. The professional work devolves chiefly on an honorary staff. The receipts to maintenance were £6,758, made up of £2,400 Government grant; £299 municipal grant; £1,470 private contributions; £765 bequests and donations; £538 Hospital Sunday; £766 from patients; £449 medical students and pupil nurses; £30 interest; and £41 other sources. The receipts to the building fund were £1,366—bequests, £1,247; interest on debentures, £113; and rent of cottage, £6. The expenditure on maintenance was £6,430. The expenditure on buildings was £1,229. Every patient who passes through the wards is seen and spoken to by some lady or ladies of the committee—many of them before admission, but all before leaving. No patient is discharged without inquiries being made as to her home, &c., and, where possible, the wants of needy patients are supplied. To prevent abuse of the charitable trust, certain ladies each week give much of their time to interviewing applicants for admission to inquire into their circumstances.

In this establishment 19 patients remained under care on 30th June, 1906. During the year 1906-7 255 were admitted, making a total of 274 treated; 227 were cured or relieved, 11 were discharged incurable, 7 left at their own request, and 11 died, leaving 18 in the hospital on 30th June, 1907. The total number of distinct cases treated as out-patients was 3,443, the attendances numbering 14,632. The income for 1906-7 was £2,321, made up as follows:—Government grant, £445; municipal grant, £87; private contributions, £304; proceeds of entertainments, £179; legacies, bequests, &c., £451; Hospital Sunday, £168; out-patients' contributions, £455; in-patients' fees, £105; and miscellaneous receipts, £127. The expenditure was £1,986.

The Children's Hospital, Melbourne, founded in 1870, has completed its 37th year of useful progress. It was first opened in a very small cottage in Stephen-street, Melbourne, as an out-patient department only, but the necessity of treating in-patients was very soon felt, and in consequence, six beds were opened for the reception of in-patients. This small effort has grown with marvellous rapidity, and the hospital now occupies a site in Drummond,

Queen
Victoria
Memorial
Hospital
for Women
and
Children.

Children's
Hospital,
Melbourne.

Pelham, and Rathdown streets, Carlton, covering an area of $1\frac{3}{4}$ acres, provides accommodation for 115 in-patients, and receives daily at the big out-patients' department nearly 270 attendances. In addition there is at Brighton a Convalescent Cottage, with 22 beds, utilized solely for those children who, although cured from the disease from which they suffered, need strengthening before being sent home. Every form of infantile ailment is treated in children up to 14 years of age, and the tabulated list of causes of admission of in-patients is a wonderful record of the good work done. For the year ended 30th June, 1907, there were 1,635 cases admitted, which, with 89 in the hospital on 1st July, 1906, makes a total of 1,724 in-patients treated during the year, of whom 1,425 were discharged relieved, 202 died, and 97 were in the institution on 30th June, 1907. The total in-door patients treated from the commencement number 25,649. In the out-patients' department 13,507 children attended 81,357 times; and since the foundation of the hospital there have been 1,251,627 attendances of 254,278 out-patients. Owing to the generosity of the late Mr. John Robertson the committee have been enabled to erect a much-needed nurses' home at a cost of nearly £9,000, to be called the "John Robertson Nurses' Home," in order to perpetuate the memory of the late Mr. Robertson. The cost of maintenance last year was £9,011, which, with £6,642 expended on the building, &c., gave a total expenditure of £15,653. The revenue was £13,698, made up of £500 Government grant; £373 municipal grants; £2,647 private contributions; £679 proceeds of entertainments; £5,942 bequests; £925 Hospital Sunday; £795 schools and church collections; £1,006 contributions by patients; and £831 interest and miscellaneous revenue.

Eye and Ear
Hospital.

The Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital deals not only with the diseases which, as the name of the institution implies, fall to be treated there, but also with diseases in parts adjacent to the eye and ear, viz., the nose, pharynx, naso-pharynx, and larynx. Thus classes of ailments are treated in this institution which not only are the cause of extreme suffering in themselves, but also, when unchecked, the means of producing much helplessness and poverty, arising from deafness, blindness, &c., and entailing a heavy burden on the community. It places within the reach of all persons, without distinction of creed or country, every attainable means for the relief or cure of diseases of the eye and ear. The patients treated are distributed throughout the whole of the Commonwealth; New Zealand also contributing its quota. The in-patients admitted during 1907 numbered 696, making, with 57 in the institution at the commencement of the year, a total of 753 treated. The patients discharged numbered 705, of whom 661 were stated to be cured or relieved, and 35 to be incurable; 4 were discharged at their own request, and 5 died. Besides these, there were 5,725 out-patients treated, 65 of this number being from the other States and New Zealand; 153 were from various charitable institutions, and 65 were wards of the State, of whom 16 were treated as in-patients. The total number of attendances was 32,188, and of operations, 888. The hospital buildings are situated

on a fine site in Victoria-parade, East Melbourne, but the accommodation is quite insufficient. However, negotiations for the acquirement of the adjoining land belonging to the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, so long carried on, have at length been brought to a successful issue, and the hospital is now in actual possession, and has let the contract for the erection of the much-needed additional accommodation. The receipts for the year 1906-7 were £6,026, made up of £800 Government grant; £276 from municipalities; £856 private contributions; £2,110 legacies, bequests, &c.; £1,079 out-patients' fees; £281 in-patients' fees; and £624 other sources. The expenditure was £4,013.

ROYAL VICTORIAN INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND.

The Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind occupies a site on the St. Kilda-road, Melbourne. The institution is strictly undenominational in its character, and its objects are to give a suitable scholastic and religious education to the young blind of the State, and to teach them trades or professions by means of which they may earn an independent livelihood. It is further intended, as far as the exigencies of trade will permit, to give employment in its industrial department to blind people, who, having completed their term of training, may be unable to get work elsewhere. This, however, is restricted to the demand for the goods made. The institute is not in any sense a benevolent asylum for the indigent blind, who can not only be maintained cheaper, but can be better cared for in the ordinary institutions for the care of the destitute. The scholastic education is similar to that in the State schools, varied only in the apparatus and means employed, and examinations are held annually by the Education Department. Music is an important part of the education of the blind, and those who display exceptional talent are trained for the musical profession, and the skill of the pupils is utilized as a means of raising revenue for the institution by means of concerts and band performances in various parts of the State. In the industrial branch, pupils are trained in the trades of brush, basket, mat, and matting making, the period of training varying from two to five years. Wages are paid at somewhat higher rates than those ruling in the various trades of a similar character outside. Some less proficient workers have their wages supplemented by a bonus. Its outside workers are assisted in times of sickness by "The Blind Workers' Sick Benefit Society." Its funds are maintained by weekly contributions by its members, and it is subsidized by a grant from the board of management equal to the amount of the members' contributions. This society is managed by a committee of its members, assisted by the principal of the institution and the accountant, who acts as honorary treasurer. The institution contains 5 dormitories, with 112 beds. There were under care on 1st July, 1906, 91 persons; 10 were admitted during the year; 7 were discharged at their own request; leaving 94 at the end of the financial year. The total sales of manufactured goods were

Institute for
Blind.

£5,949. There is now no debt on the institution. The total receipts in 1906-7 were £5,104, comprising—£1,700 Government grant; £188 municipal grants; £1,450 private contributions; £908 legacies and bequests; and £858 from all other sources. The total ordinary expenditure was £3,874, and the expenditure on building new brush factory offices, &c., £2,428.

At the census of 1901 there were 1,082 blind persons in Victoria, viz., 645 males and 437 females, and of these nearly one-fourth (242) were inmates of charitable institutions.

VICTORIAN DEAF AND DUMB INSTITUTION.

Deaf and
Dumb
Institution.

The Victorian Deaf and Dumb Institution occupies a site on the St. Kilda-road, and is a home and school combined for deaf children from all parts of the State, irrespective of creed or nationality. At the beginning of the year there were 81 pupils on the roll. During the year ended 30th June, 1907, 19 new pupils were admitted and 13 discharged, leaving 87 on the roll, the largest in the institution's history. Since the institution was established 481 deaf children have enjoyed the benefits. The combined oral and manual system of teaching, which is used in the majority of similar institutions throughout the world, is also used here, with most satisfactory results. In addition to the ordinary school work, the boys are instructed in carpentering, bootmaking, and gardening; while the girls are taught dressmaking, plain and fancy needlework, and all kinds of domestic duties. The receipts for the year amounted to £4,587, made up of £900 Government grant; £215 municipal grants; £1,000 private contributions; £744 (specially raised for building fund); and £1,728 from all other sources. The expenditure was £5,847, viz., £2,459, for new buildings and extraordinary repairs; and £3,388 for maintenance, &c.

At the census of 1901 there were 410 deaf and dumb persons in the State. Of these 168 were returned as breadwinners and 242 as dependants, of whom 64 were living in the deaf and dumb institute or other charitable institutions, and the remainder with relatives or friends.

BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS.

Benevolent
asylums.

In addition to the nine Benevolent Asylums connected with general hospitals, there are eight other of these institutions in the State; two are situated at Ballarat, one each at Bendigo, Beechworth, and Castlemaine, the remaining three being in Melbourne. The number of inmates on the 1st July, 1906, was 2,472; the number admitted during the year, 1,351; the total discharged cured, relieved, or otherwise, and died was 1,386; leaving under care on 30th June, 1907, in all the institutions, 2,437. The Government grant in aid for the year 1906-7 was £20,931; from municipalities a sum of £1,094 was received; private contributions amounted to £3,748; proceeds of entertainments, £659; legacies, bequests, and special donations, £3,578; Hospital Sunday collections, £1,137; payments by patients, £2,036; from all other sources £3,408 was received, making a total income of £36,591. The expenditure was £36,802.

Ninety-seven benevolent or philanthropic societies furnished returns for the year ended 30th June, 1907. These associations are for the relief of distressed or indigent persons, and are generally managed by ladies. The names of three of the societies indicate their connexion with the Jewish body, but no distinctive denomination is perceptible in the titles of any of the others, with the exception of the Central Methodist Mission and Scots' Church Mission. The distinct adult individuals relieved during the year numbered about 14,099; the receipts amounted to £27,046, of which £7,930 was from Government, £1,478 from municipalities, and £17,638 from private sources; the expenditure was £25,428.

Benevolent societies.

There are nine of these establishments in the State, situated at Ballarat, Geelong, and Melbourne. The number of children under care on the 1st July, 1906, was 1,472; the number admitted during the 12 months was 510; the total discharged and died, 457, leaving under care on 30th June, 1907, 1,525. This shows overcrowding to a slight extent, as the daily average in attendance was 1,495, and the number of beds only 1,483. In one of these establishments, the Nazareth Home at Ballarat, the particulars respecting cost of maintenance, &c., cannot be furnished, as the management, on the score of economy, keep no books of accounts. In the other eight institutions, the total receipts were £23,773—made up of £5,910, Government grant; £376, municipal grants; £4,585, private contributions; £490, proceeds of entertainments; £5,757, legacies and bequests; £208, Hospital Sunday contributions; £2,169, payments on account of orphans maintained; and £4,278, other receipts. The total expenditure was £21,816—£2,621 for buildings, and £19,195 for maintenance and other expenses.

Orphan asylums.

There are two consumptive sanatoria, situated at Echuca and Macedon, with 139 beds. On 1st July, 1906, there were under care 35 males and 26 females, and 102 males and 91 females were admitted during the year; 76 males and 60 females were discharged cured or relieved; 15 males and 24 females were discharged incurable; and 3 males and 4 females were discharged at their own request; 7 males and 1 female died, leaving under care on 30th June, 1907, 36 males and 28 females. The Government grant in aid was £300; municipal donations amounted to £137; private contributions to £831; proceeds of entertainments, £43; legacies, bequests, &c., £288; Hospital Sunday distribution, £486; relatives contributed, £2,056; interest amounted to £103; and all other receipts £10, making a total of £4,254. The expenditure on buildings was £351; on maintenance and miscellaneous expenses, £5,383—a total of £5,734.

Sanatoria for consumptives.

The Greenvale Consumption Sanatorium, at Broadmeadows, was opened for the reception of patients on the 10th May, 1905. This institution was established by the Government, and is under the control of the Department of Public Health. During the year ended 30th June, 1907, 305 patients were treated at the Sanatorium, 40 of these being cases admitted during the previous year. Of this number 166 did very well, 25 were classed as incurable, 54 were discharged at their own request or for special reasons, and 2 deaths

Greenvale Consumption Sanatorium.

occurred. At the end of the period under review there were 58 patients remaining under care. 436 patients have now received the benefits of treatment and education that this institution affords to cases of early consumption. A most important function of the institution is the teaching of patients how to avoid communicating the disease to others. Immediately after the admission of a patient to the sanatorium, the house or room vacated is disinfected under the supervision of the municipal council of the district, a centre of infection being thus removed.

Convalescent homes.

In addition to the hospitals, there are two Convalescent Homes—one for men situated at Cheltenham, and the other for women at Clayton—with accommodation for 61 inmates. The number of inmates at the beginning of the year 1906-7 was 44; 1,128 were admitted, and 1,127 were discharged during the year, and 45 remained under care on the 30th June, 1907. The Government grant in aid of these institutions amounted to £370; municipal grants, £66; private contributions, £365; legacies, bequests, &c., £450; Hospital Sunday, &c., £282; from relatives, £84; and from interest and other sources, £145—a total of £1,762. The expenditure was £292 on buildings, &c.; £1,421 on maintenance, &c.—a total of £1,713.

Free dispensaries.

Two free dispensaries furnished returns for 1907—the Collingwood and Fitzroy Free Medical Dispensary, and the Richmond General Dispensary. The individuals treated during the year ended 30th June, 1907, numbered 4,274. The visits to or by these persons numbered 21,552. The total receipts amounted to £611, of which £140 was from Government and £471 from other sources. The total expenditure was £597.

Broadmeadows Foundling Hospital.

This hospital was established on the 1st April, 1901. The original cost of the buildings was £2,200, and £1,975 has been expended since that time in additions and improvements. The total number of inmates on 30th June, 1906, was 70; 76 were admitted during the year, 12 died, 55 were discharged or adopted, and 79 were under care on 30th June, 1907. The institution contains 10 dormitories and 90 beds. It is supported chiefly by donations and collections. It is managed by the Sisters of St. Joseph, whose aim is to protect infant life, procure suitable homes for the children, and afford shelter to destitute mothers. The condition of the institution has been greatly improved, open-air accommodation for the infants having been provided.

The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home.

The objects of the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home are the prevention of infanticide, the saving of infant life from the many evils arising from baby-farming, and the rescuing of mothers of illegitimate children from further degradation. Every child admitted must be brought by the mother or some authorized person, who must enter the child's name and the date of birth in a register kept for the purpose, and must undertake to contribute something towards its support. During year ended 30th June, 1907, 138 children were in the care of the institution. Of these 40 were discharged to friends or relations, 4 adopted, 30 boarded out, 9 died, and 55 remained in the institution on 30th June, 1907. Two new day

nurseries and foundling ward, with necessary nurses' duty rooms, &c., were opened in September, 1905, and the extra accommodation is already taxed to the uttermost. Ordinary and extraordinary receipts amounted to £1,416, of which £450 was from Government, and £966 from other sources. Expenditure was £1,477.

At the present time these refuges are ten in number, and are all situated in or near large centres of population. The women while under care in these institutions are expected to work to the best of their ability, a suitable share of labour being allotted to each. Laundry work is the chief means of providing employment, whilst sewing, art needlework, embroidery, &c., also provide occupation to a limited extent. During the year ended 30th June, 1907, the Government subsidized these establishments to the extent of £2,130; £15,498 was obtained as the result of the labour of inmates, and £5,298 from other sources, making the total receipts £22,926. The expenditure amounted to £21,795—made up of £3,090 spent on buildings, and £18,705 on maintenance. The following statement contains particulars of the number of inmates in the separate institutions during the year 1906-7:—

Refuges for women.

REFUGES FOR WOMEN, 1906-7.

| Female Refuges. | Number admitted. | | Born in the Home. | Number discharged. | | Inmates on 30th June, 1907. | |
|---|------------------|----------|-------------------|--------------------|----------|-----------------------------|----------|
| | Women and Girls. | Infants. | | Women and Girls. | Infants. | Women and Girls. | Infants. |
| Ballarat Home ... | 19 | ... | 15 | 9 | 8 | 19 | 15 |
| Bendigo Rescue Home | 12 | 5 | ... | 11 | 6 | 6 | 2 |
| Elizabeth Fry Retreat, South Yarra ... | 41 | ... | ... | 41 | ... | 28 | ... |
| Geelong ... | 10 | ... | 6 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 6 |
| Magdalen Asylum, Abbotsford ... | 143 | ... | ... | 149 | ... | 355 | ... |
| Carlton Refuge ... | 33 | 35 | ... | 38 | 42 | 29 | 17 |
| South Yarra Home .. | 46 | ... | ... | 47 | ... | 28 | ... |
| Temporary Home, Collingwood ... | 47 | 9 | ... | 49 | 10 | 10 | 3 |
| House of Mercy, Cheltenham ... | 12 | ... | ... | 13 | ... | 5 | ... |
| Magdalen Asylum, South Melbourne | 37 | ... | ... | 38 | ... | 153 | ... |
| Total ... | 400 | 49 | 21 | 403 | 69 | 642 | 43 |

There are six rescue homes controlled by the Salvation Army, at Abbotsford, Ballarat, Bendigo, Brunswick, Fitzroy, and Geelong. The establishments contained 189 beds on 1st July, 1906, when there were under care 159 adults and 22 children. During the year 398 adults and 116 children were admitted; 231 were placed at service or restored to friends; 110 were discharged at their own request; 27 were sent to hospitals and other institutions; 14 infants

Salvation Army Rescue Homes.

died; and there were 50 adults discharged for various reasons, with 91 children. The Army received £566 from the Government, in aid of these institutions; £198 from private contributions; and £4,882 from the proceeds of the labour of the inmates—a total of £5,646. The total expenditure was £5,154.

Night
shelters.

At Dr. Singleton's Night Shelters, Collingwood, 13,940 cases were accommodated during the year 1906-7, viz., 6,959 men, 6,585 women, and 396 children. The expenses were £74, which were defrayed out of the "General Charity Fund," but there were also numerous contributions in the shape of food.

Victorian
Discharged
Prisoners'
Aid
Society.

Since 1872 a society has been in existence for the purpose of affording assistance to discharged prisoners, and offering them inducements to return to the paths of honesty and industry. Relief is afforded by gifts of money, clothes, blankets, and other necessaries, railway passes, and various kinds of tools of trade; and those who desire it are supplied for a time with board and lodging in Melbourne, or are provided with means to go into the interior, or to leave the State. The society also takes charge of and distributes the sums earned by the prisoners whilst under detention. The work is aided by honorary correspondents in country centres. Very valuable aid is given in connexion with the moral reformation of the young offender. The improvement of the hardened criminal is a matter of great difficulty, but the society is a valuable help to those who have not become confirmed in careers of crime and wrong-doing, and minimizes the tendencies of drifting into the criminal class of those who have formed vicious and evil habits. The number of individuals relieved in 1906-7 was 673. The receipts were £743, including grants from the Government and the Penal Department, and contributions from private sources; and the expenditure was £752.

St. John's
Ambulance
Associa-
tion.

This association was established in Victoria in 1883. Its objects are to instruct all classes in the preliminary treatment of the sick and injured. Since the inception of the association its influence has been steadily increasing, and the number of people instructed is growing larger every day. The total number who have been instructed to date is 15,129; the number of persons who are fully qualified is 746; 2,220 railway employés and 553 members of the police force have been specially educated in the work; and 8,763 certificates and medallions have been issued. Four ambulance waggons are stationed at 25 Lang-lane (Tel. 3264), at the back of the Grand Hotel, Spring-street, and one at 476 Chapel-street, Prahran, which may be summoned when required. First aid is rendered by trained men when necessary. Ashford litters are also provided for the use of the public in cases of accident in the city.

CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY.

Charity Or-
ganization
Society

The society has been established in Melbourne since 1887, its objects being:—(1) To encourage and organize charitable work and to promote co-operation therein; (2) To check imposture and profes-

sional mendicity, and to discourage indiscriminate alms-giving; (3) To inquire into all applications for assistance, with the view of ascertaining if and in what way each case can be helped; (4) To afford (where necessary) immediate relief during inquiry or pending arrangements with charitable institutions or aid from other sources; (5) To maintain a woodyard, or other labour test, so that the means of earning food or shelter shall be open to any applicant able and willing to work; (6) To establish a loan fund; (7) To keep records of all cases for the purpose of reference, and to maintain a Central Register of help given by all relieving agencies. The society is managed by an executive committee elected by a council empowered to make rules and regulations for the conduct of its business. This council consists of a nominee of each of the charities represented, and of twenty members elected at an annual meeting of subscribers of the society. The income of the year ended 30th June, 1907 was—Administration account (for payment of all general expenses of management as well as all charges connected with the administration of the trust and relief funds)—Receipts, £914; expenditure, £934. Trust Account (being donations for special applicants and objects)—Receipts, £746; expenditure, £789. Emergency Relief Account—Receipts, £109; expenditure, £161. Woodyard—Receipts, £733; expenditure, £686. The number of cases dealt with during the year was 1,518, of which the new cases investigated were 934. The result of investigation shows that in 803 instances distress was due to misfortune, and in 69 to misconduct; in 20 cases the cause of distress was undetermined, and 42 cases come under other headings. Special efforts are made to deal with applicants for alms on street and doorstep. The society claims to have prevented a large amount of imposture, to have relieved subscribers of the annoying feeling that their benevolence was often wasted on unworthy objects, and to have stimulated and wisely directed the flow of charity. Especially good work has been done in cases where employment has been found for those who, without the society's aid, might have degenerated into permanent burdens on public or private charity, and in the large number of cases in which relatives of indigent persons have been induced to recognise natural claims in a community where no legal obligation is entailed by relationship other than that of husband to wife and of parent to infant. The woodyard is a very practical part of the society's work. It affords a test of the sincerity of men who ask help on the ground that they cannot get work; and it gives temporary work to those who really need it. This society has consistently advocated the establishment of labour colonies. That at Leongatha was founded by the advice, and with the assistance of the society fourteen years ago. The lack of suitable employment for the poor is partly met by the employment office of the society, through which a large number of persons have been given work, permanent in some cases, and temporary in others, which otherwise would not have reached them.

LABOUR COLONY, LEONGATHA.

Labour
Colony,
Leongatha.

The Labour Colony at Leongatha was established by a proclamation of 26th September, 1893, setting apart and appropriating, under the *Settlement on Lands Act 1893*, about 800 acres in the township. By a further proclamation of 24th April, 1903, the colony was abolished, and the land resumed by the Lands Department, although the colonists were still maintained on the land.

After the trustees of the old colony had all retired the Minister of Lands instructed the Director of Agriculture, on 13th June, 1903, to take over the farm and manage it as a Labour Establishment, virtually as a Labour Colony for the relief of destitute men in Melbourne who desired to go there. No order was given that the number admitted to the Establishment was to be reduced, and the destitute were as freely admitted as formerly, but in many instances were not maintained there so long, orders being issued that when a man had earned £2 he should leave in search of work.

On the 14th June, 1904, 460 acres or thereabouts of the old Labour Colony lands, including the homestead, were proclaimed a Labour Colony, and Trustees were appointed to act from 1st July, 1904.

The object sought by its establishment was to afford temporary relief at sustenance wages to able-bodied destitute men. During the first year of its existence 1,013 men were sent to the colony, and up to the present 6,866 out of the 9,965 applicants have been afforded relief. The colonists are instructed in the general work of farming, dairying, fruit, and vegetable growing. Pig breeding is carried on extensively, and poultry are also raised. During the year ended 30th June, 1907, 257 men were admitted—a weekly average of 48 was maintained during the whole year, an average of 10½ weeks—128 left looking for work, 82 left with engagements, 37 left without notice, 10 were discharged for various reasons, 3 sent to Melbourne for medical treatment, 9 received tickets but did not reach the colony, and 42 were at work on the 30th June, 1907. The cost of maintenance, including food, wages, and management, was 8s. 6d. per week per man.

When the accounts were balanced for the financial year ended 30th June, 1907, it was found that there was a credit balance of £837 in trust accounts.

The total expenses for the year were £1,523, which included £128 fares and freights; £210 plants and tools; £110 fodder, seeds, &c.; and £228 food for men.

The receipts from sales amounted to £1,382, as follows:—

| | |
|-----------------------------|------|
| Dairy produce | £536 |
| Farm produce and garden ... | 139 |
| Horses | 51 |
| Pigs | 334 |
| Dairy Herd | 15 |
| Hides, bones, &c. | 55 |
| Sheep | 52 |
| Poultry | 13 |
| Working bullocks | 91 |
| Miscellaneous | 96 |

The following is the amount of Government grants spent annually since the establishment of the Colony:—

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----|------------|----|----|
| 1893-4 | ... | ... £4,213 | 15 | 2 |
| 1894-5 | ... | ... 3,203 | 8 | 0 |
| 1895-6 | ... | ... 2,473 | 13 | 1 |
| 1896-7 | ... | ... 2,219 | 14 | 4 |
| 1897-8 | ... | ... 2,729 | 13 | 2 |
| 1898-9 | ... | ... 4,091 | 8 | 1 |
| 1899-1900 | ... | ... 3,884 | 5 | 11 |
| 1900-1 | ... | ... 3,000 | 0 | 0 |
| 1901-2 | ... | ... 2,374 | 3 | 6 |
| 1902-3 | ... | ... 3,627 | 7 | 10 |
| 1903-4 | ... | ... 1,998 | 18 | 11 |
| 1904-5 | ... | ... 999 | 19 | 7 |
| 1905-6 | ... | ... 499 | 19 | 9 |
| 1906-7 | ... | ... 496 | 9 | 10 |

Total £35,812 17 2

It will be seen that the Government grant for the past two years is only £500 per annum, the lowest that has ever been made, and is £500 less than that of the year 1904-5.

Although the profits from the farm are reduced owing to the restricted area, there will still be work in clearing and cultivation to enable men to be sent to Leongatha for several years. By the continuation of this colony no man need starve in the city. Every week applications are made by destitute unemployed men to be sent to the Institution. A greater number apply in winter than in spring or summer, and without an institution of this kind it is hard to conceive what would become of these destitute individuals. In every large community there is always a great number of human derelicts without criminal tendencies; and provision (other than gaols) where men can get work that is remunerative to the State, must of necessity be made. It is now almost self-supporting, and, in a few years' time, by the adoption of improved methods in management, should become entirely self-supporting.

AUSTRALIAN HEALTH SOCIETY AND ASSOCIATION FOR THE PREVENTION AND CURE OF TUBERCULOSIS.

The "Australian Health Society" was established in Melbourne in 1875. It consists of about 300 members, and is managed by a president, three vice-presidents, a treasurer, secretary, and fourteen members of council, five of whom are ladies. Its objects are:—(1) To create an educated public opinion with regard to sanitary matters in general, by the aid of the platform, the press, and other suitable means; (2) To induce and assist people, by personal influence, example and encouragement, to live in accordance with recognised laws whereby health is maintained and disease is prevented; (3) To seek the removal

Health Society.

of all noxious influences deleterious to the public health, and to influence and facilitate legislation in that direction. To effect these objects (its methods being distinctly benevolent), the society prints and distributes freely pamphlets, tracts, and wall sheets bearing upon the preservation of health; maintains a lending library of specially selected works for the use of members; and arranges courses of public health lectures. The ladies' committee of the council organize series of illustrated "Health Talks for Wives and Daughters" in thickly populated parts of the suburbs, given by that eminently qualified teacher, Mrs. Sadleir-Forster—thus reaching the classes most in need of sanitary enlightenment. Admission is in all cases free. In pursuance of the plan of testing the work done in the inculcation of health and temperance lessons in the State schools, an examination is held annually, with the concurrence of the Minister of Public Instruction, of pupils of thirteen years of age and upwards, in those subjects. At the last examination 101 candidates passed, and were awarded prizes and certificates, which were presented at the society's annual meeting by Mrs. Edward Bage, in the absence from the State of His Excellency the Governor (Sir Reginald Talbot, K.C.B.), patron of the society. In the latter part of 1905 arrangements were completed by which the "Victorian Association for the Prevention and Cure of Tuberculosis" and the "Women's Health Society" were amalgamated with the Australian Health Society, the view being taken that the union would tend to further the spread of hygienic knowledge and promote the cause of sanitary progress. The "fight against consumption," in particular, is thus carried on with greater energy than before. The society receives no pecuniary aid from the Government, its work being carried on by voluntary subscriptions ranging from 5s. per annum upwards. The office is located in Empire Buildings, Flinders-street.

ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY OF AUSTRALASIA.

Humane
Society.

The Royal Humane Society of Australasia was established in 1874 under the name of "The Victorian Humane Society." Its objects are as follow:—(1) To bestow awards on all who promptly risk their lives to save those of their fellow-creatures. (2) To provide assistance, as far as it is in the power of the society, in all cases of apparent death occurring in any part of Australasia. (3) To restore the apparently drowned or dead, and to distinguish by awards all who, through skill and perseverance, are successful. (4) To collect and circulate information regarding the most approved methods and the best apparatus to be used for such purposes. During the year ended 30th June, 1907, 65 applications for awards were investigated, with the result that 27 certificates, 10 bronze medals, 2 silver medals, and 2 gold medals were granted. The receipts during the year amounted to £607, and the expenditure to £414. The institution has placed and maintains 340 life-buoys at various places on the coast, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs, throughout

all the Australian States and Fiji. Of the honorary awards distributed in 1906-7, 26 were for deeds of bravery performed in Victoria, 2 for similar acts in New South Wales, 2 in New Zealand, 6 in Western Australia, 2 in Tasmania, 2 in Queensland, and 1 in South Australia. The society has 154 honorary correspondents, residing as follows, viz.:—52 in Victoria, 35 in New South Wales, 25 in New Zealand, 28 in Queensland, 8 in Tasmania, 3 in South Australia, and 3 in Western Australia. Owing to the appointment of these gentlemen and to the awards made by the society appearing to give complete satisfaction throughout the States, there is no urgency for forming local branches of the society in the other States.

Swimming competitions have been inaugurated in the schools of the Commonwealth, and awards of medals and certificates are made to those pupils who attain proficiency in exercises which have special reference to saving life from drowning. The society is making a special feature of the development of swimming and life saving proficiency.

The following figures show the number of persons accidentally drowned in Victoria during the past twenty years:—

| Period. | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|------------------|--------|----------|--------|
| 1888 to 1897 ... | 1,759 | 335 | 2,094 |
| 1898 to 1907 ... | 1,291 | 272 | 1,563 |

A large falling off is shown in the last ten years, both in the actual number of persons drowned, and in proportion to the population, the rate per 10,000 being 18 in the earlier decennium as against 13 in the last.

Taking the ten years ended 1907, the ages of persons accidentally drowned were as follow:—

AGES OF PERSONS ACCIDENTALLY DROWNED IN VICTORIA,
1898 TO 1907.

| Age. | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|--------------------------|--------|----------|--------|
| Under 10 years | 230 | 85 | 315 |
| 10 to 20 years | 253 | 42 | 295 |
| 20 to 40 years | 323 | 73 | 396 |
| 40 to 60 years | 262 | 48 | 310 |
| 60 years and over | 223 | 24 | 247 |
| Total | 1,291 | 272 | 1,563 |

The Victorian Society for the Protection of Animals has been established about 36 years. For the first 10½ years of its existence it was known as the Victorian Society for the Prevention of Cruelty

Society for
the Pro-
tection of
Animals.

to Animals. By the enforcement of the existing laws, and the procuring of such further legislation as may be deemed expedient, it seeks to prevent wanton and unnecessary cruelty. The creation of a wholesome and enlightened public opinion is also aimed at, since it is recognised that to excite and sustain such opinion regarding man's duty to the lower animals is even of greater importance than the enforcement of the law, particularly in those classes of cases where pain and suffering may actually be caused in ignorance, and where consequently a little more knowledge of animals would result in the diminution of the unconscious practice of cruelty. To this end, papers and leaflets dealing with the proper, humane, and considerate treatment of animals are widely distributed. Honorary agents of the society are appointed in more than 170 different centres, and these, by disinterested service under the supervision of and in co-operation with the secretary and inspector in Melbourne, forward the work of the institution in every portion of the State. During the year ended 30th June, 1907, 796 cases were dealt with by the society, of which 568 were connected with cruelty to horses. There were 104 prosecutions in cases of deliberate cruelty, in nearly all of which the law was vindicated by the punishment of the offenders. The receipts for the year amounted to £646, and the expenditure to £409.

HOSPITAL SATURDAY AND SUNDAY.

Hospital
Saturday
and
Sunday.

In Melbourne and suburbs, the last Saturday and Sunday of October in each year are set apart for making collections in aid of the charitable institutions. The clergy of the various denominations take an active part in the movement, preaching sermons appropriate to the occasion, and otherwise helping it forward. The church collections on this Sunday are entirely devoted to the charities. Sunday school superintendents, business firms, their employés, and others lend valuable assistance in making collections. The following are the amounts collected since the movement was inaugurated:—

COLLECTIONS, 1873 TO 1906.

| | £ | | £ |
|------------------|---------|-----------|----------|
| 1873 to 1898 ... | 190,104 | 1904 ... | 7,795 |
| 1899 ... | 5,853 | 1905 ... | 8,235 |
| 1900 ... | 5,901 | 1906 ... | 8,011 |
| 1901 ... | 6,034 | | |
| 1902 ... | 6,669 | Total ... | £245,660 |
| 1903 ... | 7,058 | | |

The returns for 1907 are not yet available.

Distribution
of moneys
collected
on Hospital
Saturday
and
Sunday.

The amounts distributed to the various charitable institutions, as well as the total sums collected, from the inception of the fund, and for the year 1906, were as follow:—

DISTRIBUTION, 1873 TO 1906.

| Institution. | Amount Distributed. | | |
|--|---------------------|---------|----------|
| | 1873 to 1905. | 1906. | Total. |
| Melbourne Hospital | £ 68,993 | £ 1,653 | £ 70,646 |
| Alfred Hospital | 30,012 | 824 | 30,836 |
| Benevolent Asylum | 20,830 | 522 | 21,352 |
| Women's Hospital | 20,826 | 538 | 21,364 |
| Children's Hospital | 26,804 | 925 | 27,729 |
| Eye and Ear Hospital | 11,400 | 328 | 11,728 |
| Homœopathic Hospital | 11,227 | 329 | 11,556 |
| Victorian Homes for Aged and Infirm | 7,447 | 153 | 7,600 |
| Richmond Dispensary | 1,491 | 40 | 1,531 |
| Collingwood Dispensary | 1,900 | ... | 1,900 |
| Austin Hospital for Incurables | 12,526 | 605 | 13,131 |
| Convalescent Home for Women | 2,355 | 140 | 2,495 |
| " " Men | 1,840 | 140 | 1,980 |
| Melbourne District Nursing Society | 932 | 150 | 1,082 |
| St. Vincent's Hospital | 3,435 | 476 | 3,911 |
| Sanatorium for Consumptives, Echuca and Macedon | 2,045 | 483 | 2,528 |
| Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children | 858 | 166 | 1,024 |
| Melbourne Dental Hospital | 124 | 30 | 154 |
| The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home | 86 | ... | 86 |
| St. John's Ambulance Association | .. | 50 | 50 |
| Total distributed | 225,131 | 7,552 | 232,683 |
| Total collected | 237,649 | 8,011 | 245,660 |

OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

An Act to provide for the payment of old-age pensions was passed in 1900. The minimum age of a pensioner is 65 years, but pensions may be granted to persons under that age if they have been permanently disabled through having been engaged in mining or any unhealthy or hazardous occupation. The period of residence in the State required to entitle a person to a pension is 20 years, five of which must be continuous and immediately preceding the application. A person who has deserted, without just cause, wife, husband, or children, for a period of 12 months in the preceding five years, is debarred from pension rights. The absence of serious criminal taint, to the extent of not having been imprisoned for periods amounting to five years during the whole qualifying period of residence, or to six months or upwards in the preceding five years, is insisted upon. Three convictions for drunkenness during the preceding two years is a disqualification. An applicant must be a British subject by birth, or a naturalized subject of not less than six months' standing, but Chinese and Asiatics, whether naturalized or not, and Aborigines are excluded. Relatives may be summoned to show cause why they do not support applicants for pensions, and may be ordered to do so. Originally the maximum pension was 10s. per week, but in the Amending Act of 1901 it was reduced to 8s. per week. By Act No. 2088 the maximum rate of pension has again been fixed at 10s. per week, dating from 5th October, 1907. Under the Amending Act of 1903 pensions are

Old-age
pensions in
Victoria.

only granted and the amount fixed by the Treasurer of the State, after recommendation of the Commissioners. 10,786 persons were entitled to receive pensions on 31st December, 1906. Between 1st January, 1907, and 31st December, 1907, 1,378 pensions were granted to new applicants, and 119 pensions were restored; 416 pensions were suspended, and 992 pensioners died, leaving 10,875 persons entitled to pensions on 31st December, 1907, of whom 10,789 received payment from last schedules prepared. (The remaining 86 pensioners are inmates of hospitals or have had their pensions temporarily withheld.) Of the persons entitled to pensions on 31st December, 1907, 4,839 were resident in Melbourne and suburbs; 733 in Ballarat and district; 486 in Bendigo and district; 310 in Geelong; 125 in Maryborough; 94 in Daylesford; 128 in Warrnambool; 98 in Creswick, and the remainder were scattered throughout the other districts of the State.

The following are the amounts paid since the inception of the system on 1st January, 1901, viz.:—

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------------|
| In 1900-01 | ... | ... | £129,338 |
| 1901-02 | ... | ... | 292,432 |
| 1902-03 | ... | ... | 215,973 |
| 1903-04 | ... | ... | 205,150 |
| 1904-05 | ... | ... | 200,464 |
| 1905-06 | ... | ... | 189,127 |
| 1906-07 | ... | ... | 187,793 |
| From 1st July, 1907, to 31st December, 1907 | ... | ... | 107,642 |
| Total | ... | ... | £1,527,919 |

Old-age pensioners in Victoria, 1908.

The following table contains the number of old-age pensioners in Victoria, distinguishing male and female, at various rates of payment on 30th April, 1908:—

NUMBER OF OLD-AGE PENSIONERS AND RATES OF PENSION ON 30TH APRIL, 1908.

| Rate of Pension per Week. | Number of Old-age Pensioners on 30th April, 1908— | | |
|---------------------------|---|----------|--------|
| | Males. | Females. | Total. |
| 10s. | 1,615 | 2,112 | 3,727 |
| 9s. 6d. | 101 | 101 | 202 |
| 9s. | 2,016 | 1,389 | 3,405 |
| 8s. 6d. | 119 | 81 | 200 |
| 8s. | 1,033 | 909 | 1,942 |
| 7s. 6d. | 65 | 78 | 143 |
| 7s. | 543 | 471 | 1,014 |
| 6s. 6d. | 31 | 19 | 50 |
| 6s. | 133 | 107 | 240 |
| 5s. 6d. | 9 | 15 | 24 |
| 5s. and under | 88 | 53 | 141 |
| Total | 5,753 | 5,335 | 11,088 |

This statement shows that about one-third of the total number of pensioners receive the maximum amount of 10s. per week—the proportion of females receiving the full pension, however, being nearly 40 per cent. as against 28 per cent. of the males. The average pension payable to those on the roll on 30th April, 1908, is 8s. 9½d. per week, which would entail an annual expenditure of £254,053, which slightly exceeds the statutory limit of £250,000, fixed under Act No. 2088, to be paid yearly on account of old-age pensions. Of the total number of pensioners, 52 per cent. are men and 48 per cent. women.

The following statement shows the estimated number of persons aged 65 years and over in the two Australian States paying old-age pensions and in New Zealand, the number of persons receiving pensions, the proportion of the latter to the former, and the annual amount payable:—

Old-age pensions in Australia and New Zealand.

OLD-AGE PENSIONS IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, 1907.

| State or Dominion. | Estimated Number of Persons Aged 65 Years and Upwards. | Number of Persons Receiving Old Age Pensions. | Proportion of those Eligible on an Age Basis Receiving Pensions. | Annual Amount Payable. |
|------------------------|--|---|--|------------------------|
| | | | Per cent. | £ |
| Victoria | 67,350 | 10,875 | 16 | 201,192* |
| New South Wales | 58,500 | 21,490 | 37 | 498,310 |
| New Zealand | 42,570 | 13,544 | 32 | 333,182 |
| Total | 168,420 | 45,909 | 27 | 1,032,684 |

It thus appears that New South Wales is paying pensions to nearly two-fifths of those eligible to receive them under the age qualification, New Zealand to nearly one-third, but in Victoria only about one-sixth of those so qualified are on the pension list. The number of pensioners in New Zealand includes about 700 Maoris.

Besides Victoria, only New South Wales and New Zealand have, in Australasia, provided pensions for their aged people. In New South Wales, the scheme sanctioned by Parliament specifies a pension of £26 a year, diminished by £1 for every £1 of income above £26 a year, and by £1 for every £15 of property the pensioner possesses. Where a husband and wife are each entitled to a pension the amount is fixed at £19 10s. a year each, unless they are living apart under a decree of the Court or a deed of separation, when the full amount of £26 is allowed. To obtain a pension a person must be 65 years of age and have resided in the State not less than 25 years. Persons under 65 years of age but over 60 years are entitled

* This amount will be increased to £250,000 per annum in 1908 by the operation of Act No. 2088, increasing the maximum pension from 8s. to 10s. per week, which took effect on the 5th October, 1907.

to pensions if they are incapacitated by sickness or injury from earning their livelihood, but debility due merely to age is not considered as an incapacitating sickness.

In New Zealand, every person 65 years of age and over, is eligible for a pension, provided he has resided continuously in the dominion for 25 years, and does not receive income in excess of £60 a year, nor possess property exceeding £260 in value. The maximum pension is £26 a year with a deduction of £1 per annum for each £1 of income above £34 a year, and for each £10 of property above £50. Where any part of the property of an applicant is that on which he permanently resides, and which produces no income a deduction of £150 is allowed. In the case of a husband and wife the amount of joint income (including pension) is limited to £90.

The law of New South Wales and New Zealand, unlike that of Victoria, makes no provision for relatives of aged impecunious persons being compelled to support them.

Federal
Invalid
and Old-
age
Pension
Act.

The Federal Parliament has made provision for the payment of invalid and old-age pensions throughout Australia, to come into force, so far as old-age pensions are concerned, on the 1st July, 1909, or on such earlier day as is fixed by proclamation. The maximum rate of pension is not to exceed 10s. per week, and the principal conditions on which old-age pensions may be granted are as under:—

OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

Every person who has attained the age of 65 years, or who being permanently incapacitated for work has attained the age of 60 years. The Governor-General may by proclamation declare that the age at which women shall be qualified to receive an old-age pension shall be 60 years.

Residence in Australia when applying for pension, and also continuously for 25 years. Continuous residence in Australia is not to be deemed as interrupted by occasional absences not exceeding in the aggregate one-tenth of the total period of residence, or if the applicant proves that during any period of absence his home was in Australia; and if married that his wife and family resided in Australia and were maintained by him.

Good character.

If a husband has not for 12 months or upwards during five years immediately preceding that date, without just cause, deserted his wife, or without just cause failed to provide her with adequate means of maintenance, or neglected to maintain any of his children under 14 years of age, or if a wife she has not for 12 months during the preceding five years without just cause deserted her husband or children under the age of 14 years.

Net capital value of property not to exceed £310, but a deduction of £1 is made for every complete £10 by which the net value of property exceeds £50, except where the property includes the home of the pensioner, when £100 is exempted. Pensioner's income, together with pension, not to be more than £52 per annum.

Any applicant who has directly or indirectly deprived himself of property or income is not eligible.

The following persons are disqualified to receive an old-age pension :—

Aliens.

Naturalized subjects of the King who have not been naturalized for three years before making application.

Asiatics (except those born in Australia), or aboriginal natives of Australia, Africa, the Islands of the Pacific, or New Zealand.

INVALID PENSIONS.

This part of the Act is not to come into force until the date is fixed by proclamation, and pensions may then be granted under the following conditions :—

Every person above the age of 16 years, who is permanently incapacitated for work by reason of an accident or by reason of his being an invalid, and who is not receiving an old-age pension.

Residence in Australia continuously for at least five years, and that the applicant has become permanently incapacitated whilst in Australia.

That the accident or invalid state of health was not self-induced nor in any way brought about with a view to obtaining a pension.

That he has no claim against any employer, company, or other person, or body to adequately maintain or compensate him on account of accident or ill-health.

That his relatives, viz., father, mother, husband, wife, or children, do not either severally or collectively adequately maintain him.

Income or property is not to exceed the limits prescribed for old-age pensions.

Persons disqualified for invalid pension are :—

Aliens.

Asiatics (except those born in Australia), or aboriginal natives of Australia, Africa, the Islands of the Pacific, or New Zealand.

As the provision relating to relatives, when in a position to do so, being compelled to support applicants for old-age pensions does not appear in the Commonwealth Act, the effect will probably be to largely increase the amount payable in the State of Victoria on account of old-age pensions.

PUBLIC HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.

During the year 1907 the most important advance in the treatment of the insane has been the opening of the Receiving House at Royal Park. This institution has been specially designed for the observation of doubtful cases, and, as the duration for which patients

Public
Hospitals
for the
Insane.

can be detained is as long as two months, it has been found possible to treat many cases of incipient or transient mental disorder therein.

During the four months from September to December, 86 patients were admitted. Of these it was found necessary, sooner or later, to send 33 on to the Hospitals for the Insane, whilst 33 were returned home well, 1 was sent to a public hospital, 1 case was discharged as relieved, and 1 as not improved. There were 17 patients remaining in the establishment at the end of the year.

All varieties of mental disorder were found amongst the patients received. There could have been no doubt at all as to the insanity of many of the patients received, but a great number of the cases were of the transient or recoverable class, *e.g.*, cases of alcoholism, hysterical insanity, and mild cases of melancholic and suicidal depression. Amongst the 86 cases received there were 15 cases of mania, 19 of melancholia, 7 cases of alcoholism, 12 of delusional insanity, 5 epileptics, 6 general paralytics, 3 senile cases, and 19 other cases of divers neurotic conditions. There is every reason to believe that the Receiving House will fill a very long felt want; and possibly, as an adjunct, or rather as the Reception Ward of the Mental Hospital at present in course of erection, its utility will be even greater.

The number of cases admitted to Hospitals for the Insane during the year 1907 was 728, the number discharged recovered was 219, and relieved 67. The number of patients remaining in the asylums on the 31st December, 1907, was 4,961, or a proportion of 1 in every 254 of the population, as compared with 4,873, or 1 in every 254 of the population, in the preceding year. Of those discharged recovered in 1907, as many as 73 per cent. had been in the asylums for less than twelve months, 16 per cent. from 1 to 2 years, and 7 per cent. from 2 to 5 years. After this length of time in the asylums recoveries are not at all likely to take place. Of those who died, 37 per cent. had been resident under twelve months, 29 per cent. from 1 to 5 years, 10 per cent. from 5 to 10 years, 6 per cent. from 10 to 15 years, 6 per cent. from 15 to 20 years, 5 per cent. from 20 to 25 years, and about 6 per cent. were in longer than 25 years. These facts tend to show that mortality is heavier during the early stages of treatment, and that the death rate amongst those inmates who have a lengthened asylum residence is very light.

Since the opening of the first asylum in 1848 up to the end of 1907, 36,346 persons have been admitted, *viz.*, 20,698 males, and 15,648 females. The proportion who recovered was 29 per cent. of males, and 33 per cent. of females, whilst 4 and 7 per cent. respectively were relieved, 20 and 21 per cent. (including transfers) were not improved, 34 and 24 per cent. died, and 12 and 14 per cent. respectively still remain under care in the institutions.

In addition to the Public Hospitals for the Insane, patients may now be cared for in private licensed houses, which are under the supervision of the Inspector-General of the Insane. There were 5 of these establishments open in 1907, to which 89 patients were admitted during the year.

Admission
discharges,
&c., 1848 to
1907.

Private
Licensed
Houses
for the
Insane.

The number of patients in the Hospitals for the Insane in the different Australian States and New Zealand, and their proportion to the total population of each State on 31st December, 1906, were:—

Patients in Hospitals for the Insane in Australasia.

NUMBER OF INSANE PERSONS IN STATES.

| State or Dominion. | Number of Insane on 31st December, 1906. | |
|--------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| | Total. | Per 100,000 of Population. |
| Victoria | 4,876 | 394 |
| Queensland | 2,032 | 380 |
| New South Wales | 5,497 | 360 |
| New Zealand | 3,208 | 353 |
| Tasmania | 482 | 268 |
| South Australia | 994 | 259 |
| Western Australia | 546 | 209 |

Insanity being a disease which develops with age, the high proportion of insane persons in Victoria is to a certain extent accounted for by the greater number of old people in the Victorian population as compared with the other States.

The recoveries of patients in the Victorian Hospitals for the Insane in 1906 were below the average of the sixteen years ended with 1906, the proportion in that year being 3,532 per 10,000 admitted, as compared with 3,716 in the period stated.

Recoveries of insane persons in Australia, 1906.

RECOVERIES.

| | Recoveries per 10,000 Admissions. | | Recoveries per 10,000 Admissions. |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| South Australia | 4,156 | Western Australia | 3,708 |
| Tasmania | 3,864 | Victoria | 3,532 |
| New South Wales | 3,811 | Queensland | 2,720 |

The mortality of patients was higher in South Australia in 1906 than in any of the other States. This will be seen by the following figures —

Deaths of insane persons in Australia and New Zealand.

DEATHS.

| | Deaths per 10,000 Resident Patients. | | Deaths per 10,000 Resident Patients. |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| South Australia | 1,213 | New Zealand | 730 |
| Western Australia | 1,000 | Victoria | 647 |
| Tasmania | 792 | Queensland | 579 |
| New South Wales | 751 | | |

NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY CHILDREN.

Neglected
and
Reformatory
Children.

There were at the end of 1907 three industrial and eleven reformatory schools in the State. Two of them (one industrial and one reformatory school) are wholly maintained and managed by the Government, and are used merely as receiving and distributing depôts, the children being sent as soon as possible after admission thereto to foster homes, situations, or to other institutions for dealing with State wards. The other schools are under private management and receive a capitation allowance from the Government for those inmates who are wards of the Neglected Children's and Reformatory Department. Many of the inmates of the reformatories are either placed with friends or licensed out. The wards of the State on 31st December, 1907, numbered 5,212—comprising 5,008 neglected and 204 reformatory children—and in addition there were 35 others free from legal control, who, being incapacitated, were maintained by the State. The following table shows the number of neglected and reformatory children under control at the end of each of the last five years:—

NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY CHILDREN, 1903 TO 1907.

| Year. | NUMBER OF NEGLECTED CHILDREN AT THE END OF THE YEAR. | | | | | Total Neglected Children. |
|----------|--|-----------------------------------|---|--|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| | Boarded Out. | Placed with friends on Probation. | Maintaining themselves at Service or Apprenticed. | In Institutions (including Hospitals). | Visiting Relatives, &c. | |
| 1903 ... | 3,363 | 771 | 767 | 143 | 1 | 5,045 |
| 1904 ... | 3,154 | 769 | 826 | 136 | 4 | 4,889 |
| 1905 ... | 3,044 | 761 | 854 | 148 | 6 | 4,813 |
| 1906 ... | 3,315 | 724 | 751 | 120 | 10 | 4,920 |
| 1907 ... | 3,358 | 740 | 777 | 127 | 6 | 5,008 |

| Year. | NUMBER OF REFORMATORY CHILDREN AT THE END OF THE YEAR. | | | | | Total Reformatory Children. |
|----------|--|------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | In Reformatory Schools. | Placed with Relatives. | Maintaining themselves at Service. | In Institutions. | Visiting Relatives, &c. | |
| 1903 ... | 192 | 54 | 64 | 3 | 3 | 316 |
| 1904 ... | 189 | 33 | 62 | 2 | 1 | 287 |
| 1905 ... | 151 | 29 | 54 | 1 | ... | 235 |
| 1906 ... | 144 | 20 | 42 | ... | ... | 206 |
| 1907 ... | 146 | 18 | 39 | ... | 1 | 204 |

The welfare of the children boarded out is cared for by honorary committees, who send reports to the Department as to their general condition. The rate paid by the Government to persons accepting charge of these children is five shillings per week for each child. Children from either industrial or reformatory schools may be placed with friends on probation, without wages, or at service.

Children boarded out, &c.

The circumstances leading to the commitment of children to the care of the Department in 1907 were as follow:—The total number of children placed under control during the year was 759, and in 256, or 34 per cent. of the whole, the parents were held to be blamable—the father in 193, the mother in 36, and both parents in 27 cases. There were 503 cases in which the parents were held to be blameless—in 278 the father was dead and the mother poor but of good character; in 7 the father was dead and the mother an invalid; in 17 both parents were dead; in 75 the parents were alive, but, though held to be of good character, were too poor to support their children; in 48 the father was an invalid and the mother poor; in 20 the father was poor and the mother dead; in 13 the father was poor and the mother an invalid; in 3 both parents were the victims of misfortune; in 14 the parents were unknown; in 7 the father was unknown and the mother dead; and in 21 the father was unknown and the mother unable through ill-health or poverty, to maintain her offspring.

Children committed to the care of the State, 1907.

The Government expenditure for the maintenance of neglected children amounted in 1907 to £54,677, and for reformatory school children to £4,141; the expenses of administration amounted to £4,774, making a total gross expenditure of £63,592. A sum of £1,873 was received from parents for maintenance, and £59 from other sources, making the net expenditure £61,660. The average number of neglected children under supervision during the year was 4,966; of this total 3,297 were maintained in foster homes at an average annual cost per head to the State of £15 1s.; 95 were in Government receiving depôts at £28 3s. 2d. per head, and 57 were in private industrial schools costing £14 3s. 6d. per head; 777 were at service earning their own living, and 740 were with relatives and others at no cost to the State. The average number of reformatory wards under supervision during the year was 199. Of this number, 141 were maintained in private schools at an average annual cost per head of £28 18s. 2d., 39 were at service earning their own living, and 19 were with relatives at no cost to the State. The average net cost per head of neglected and reformatory school children who were maintained by the State during the year was £17 3s. 2d.

Cost of maintenance of neglected and reformatory children.

Part VIII. of the *Neglected Children's Act* 1890 deals with the committal of neglected children to the care of private persons or institutions approved by the Governor in Council, and also provides for the wardship of the children, and for their transference if found unfitted for such care to the control of the Department for Neglected Children. The following return shows the societies and persons regis-

Neglected children maintained by societies or private persons.

tered under the provisions of this part of the Act, and particulars respecting the children under their care during 1907 :—

WORK OF SOCIETIES AND PERSONS REGISTERED UNDER PART VIII.
OF THE "NEGLECTED CHILDREN'S ACT."

| Name of Society or Person. | Number of Children under Supervision on 31.12.06. | Admissions during 1907. | | | Number of Children under Supervision on 31.12.07. |
|---|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| | | Court Committals. | Transfer of Guardianship. | Voluntary Admissions. | |
| Presbyterian and Scots' Church Neglected Children's Aid Society | 344 | 2 | 18 | 3 | 310 |
| Victorian Neglected Children's Aid Society | 839 | .. | .. | 592 | 592 |
| Clifden Home, Wedderburn .. | 103 | .. | .. | 2 | 105 |
| Gordon Institute, Melbourne .. | 132 | 11 | 24 | 22 | 160 |
| Try Society, Surrey-road, Hawksburn (Mr. W. M. Forster) | 35 | .. | .. | 19 | 18 |
| Burwood Boys' Home .. | 53 | 1 | 22 | .. | 57 |
| Geelong Try Boys' Brigade .. | 127 | .. | .. | 79 | 119 |
| Latrobe-street Ragged School Mission | 89 | .. | .. | 48 | 149 |
| Mission Rescue and Children's Home, Ballarat East | 28 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 35 |
| Church of England Neglected Children's Aid Society | 97 | .. | 1 | 18 | 110 |
| Methodist Homes for Children .. | 325 | 28 | 11 | 18 | 352 |
| Methodist Boys' Training Farm, Burwood East | 62 | .. | .. | 8 | 68 |
| Presbyterian Rescue Home, Brunswick | 1 | .. | 5 | 3 | 4 |
| St. Joseph's Home, Surrey Hills | 184 | .. | .. | 61 | 288 |
| Total | 2,419 | 45 | 83 | 869 | 2,367 |

Total number of neglected and orphan children.

The total number of children who were under the guardianship of the State or maintained in public institutions or by societies in 1907, reached the large number of 9,139, viz., 5,247 under the control of the Neglected Children's Department, 2,367 under the supervision of societies registered under Part VIII. of the Neglected Children's Act, and 1,525 in Orphan Asylums.

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION ACT.

Infant Life Protection Act.

With a view generally of exercising more efficient supervision over unprotected child life, and of lessening the excessive mortality amongst boarded-out children, the State Legislature passed an Act No. 2102 (which came into force on 31st December, 1907), to amend the Infant Life Protection Act of 1890. Its principal provisions are as follow :—

The administration of the Act is removed from the Chief Commissioner of Police to the Department for Neglected Children, and power is given to establish maternity homes, infant asylums, or cottage homes. No male person is eligible to be registered as the occupier of a registered house. Male or female inspectors are to be appointed, who may enter and inspect any house registered under the Act, inspect any infant in the house, and examine the registered occupier as to the proper care and maintenance of the infants, and give any necessary advice or directions. The age of children who may be dealt with under the Act is raised from 2 to 5 years. For

refusing to admit or obstructing an inspector, or for refusing to answer or answering falsely any questions put by the inspector, a penalty of £10 may be imposed.

Any person who desires to board-out an infant must make application to the Secretary of the Department, stating what amount he or she is prepared to pay weekly for the child's maintenance. The infant must then be examined by a medical man, and if he reports that it is free from syphilis, epilepsy, or any disease of a serious nature, and the Secretary is satisfied that the home is suitable, he may grant the application.

No infant under the age of 12 months is to be boarded-out for less than 10s. a week, and if over 12 months old for less than 7s. per week, nor in any case for more than 40s. per week. All payments for the maintenance of infants are to be made through the Secretary, who is not to pay any registered person more than two weeks in advance, and no instalment for any payment is to be paid after the death of the infant, except for any arrears at the time of death. If the weekly payments fall into arrear for a period of four weeks, the infant *ipso facto* becomes a ward of the Department for Neglected Children.

The Secretary may cancel the registration, and take charge of children from a registered home, and if they are not removed from his care within a month they become wards of the Department, and the Secretary shall then determine, by writing, what amount, not exceeding 12s. per week, the parents or guardians are to pay towards each child's maintenance.

A penalty of £100, with or without imprisonment for any term not more than a year, may be levied for receiving or making payment for the maintenance of an infant contrary to the method prescribed in the Act.

Information as to the parentage of infants is to be treated as confidential, and is to be recorded in a book kept by the Secretary to be called the "Private Register."

Any child found to have developed syphilis, epilepsy, or any disease, which the Governor in Council may, by Order published in the *Government Gazette*, declare to be of a serious nature, must be removed from a registered home, and committed to the care of the Department.

When a child is received in a home, notice must be sent to the Secretary, and every registered person is to keep a roll containing the name, sex, and age of each infant, and the date at which the infant was received in charge. On the removal of an infant from a registered home, the Secretary is to be notified, and entries are to be made on the roll, showing the time of such removal, and the name, address, and occupation of the person removing the infant, and if done by a married woman, the address and occupation of her husband. The penalty for neglecting to produce the roll or to keep it in proper form is a fine not exceeding £25, or imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months.

All children in registered homes are to be under the care of medical officers appointed by the Government.

Every registered person is compelled within twelve hours after the death of an infant in her care to give notice to the Secretary, and to the police. Unless a medical officer appointed pursuant to the regulations gives a certificate stating that he has personally attended or examined the infant, specifying the cause of death, and unless the coroner is satisfied that there is no cause for inquiry, an inquest must be held by the coroner, who has to make a report to the Chief Secretary, with such remarks as to him seem fit.

Every infant under 5 years of age in charge, or who for two months previously was in charge, of a registered person, or if illegitimate, dying in the house of such person, cannot be buried without the production of a certificate from a coroner, justice, or member of the police force, authorizing the burial.

It is unlawful for a Registrar of Births and Deaths to give an undertaker or other person a certificate of the registration of the death of an infant to whom the provisions of this Act apply, unless authorized by a coroner, justice, or member of the police force acting on behalf of a coroner or justice.

Certain children are exempted from the operation of most of the sections of the Act, viz., wards of the Department for Neglected Children, any infant retained or received in any charitable institution approved by the Minister, any child whom the Minister may exempt on the ground that he is satisfied that the guardian is a relative, or that it is unnecessary or undesirable.

An annual report of all proceedings under the Infant Life Protection Acts has to be submitted by the Secretary of the Neglected Children's Department to the Minister for the year ended the 31st December preceding, which document should be presented to Parliament within three weeks from its receipt.

An examination of the vital statistics of the State shows that there is pressing need for this Act for the repression of criminal negligence in the treatment of infants. In 1907 the illegitimate births numbered 1,762, and the deaths of illegitimate children under 1 year 280, equal to a rate of 15.89 deaths per 100 births, as compared with 6.74 for legitimate children under 1 year of age. The mortality rate of illegitimate infants was thus between two and three times as great as that of those born in wedlock, which proportion is the experience of all recent years.

VICTORIAN MINING ACCIDENT RELIEF FUND.

In December, 1882, an inrush of water in the New Australasian Company's mine, at Creswick, caused the deaths of 22 miners. Consequent on the disaster 79 persons, comprising 18 widows and 61 children, were left in destitute circumstances. Public subscriptions to the amount of £21,602 were raised throughout Victoria for the relief of the widows and orphan children of those who lost their lives. A fund was established, out of which the widows and children to a certain age were paid weekly allowances, and on the 31st December, 1906, there remained 7 widows, who were receiving 15s. per week each. At the same date the amount at credit was £15,011, of which £12,000 was the estimated value of freehold premises in

Queen-street; £2,500 was in Government debentures, £467 bank deposit receipts, and £44 cash in hand.

BENDIGO MINERS' ASSOCIATION—THE WATSON FUND.

About the middle of the year 1889 the idea suggested itself to Mr. J. B. Watson of doing something for the permanently injured miners of the Bendigo District. It was immediately after the occurrence of a severe mining accident that Mr. Watson sent a letter to the Miners' Association with an offer to contribute £1,500, at the rate of £100 per year unconditionally, or to give £150 per year for 10 years, if the Society would contribute a like amount. His proposal was brought under the notice of the Committee of Management with the result that a Select Committee was appointed to bring up a report, and at the same time to formulate a scheme. It was thought that the sum of money was not sufficient to meet the liability that would be likely to occur. It was ultimately decided to recommend the members to accept Mr. Watson's offer of £150 for 10 years, and at the same time to cover it with the sum of £200 per year, to be made by levy on all members. This scheme was laid before Mr. Watson and the members, and accepted by both parties, and it was arranged that all gifts and donations that could be procured should be credited to a fund to be known as the Watson Sustentation Fund. It was decided that the collections of 1890 should be reserved strictly for revenue purposes, and that the benefits should not come into full operation until 1891, so as to give the fund a good start, and place it on a sure foundation. Payments were accordingly first made in 1891, at the rate of 5s. per week, and this rate was maintained for about two years, when the sick pay was increased to 7s. 6d. per week. Further changes were afterwards made, as necessity arose.

The Watson Sustentation Fund.

The following return shows the receipts and expenditure, from the inception of the fund. In the column "Administration" the item £152 for 1903 includes £132 expenses in connexion with the sale of property:—

PERSONS RELIEVED, RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE: WATSON SUSTENTATION FUND.

| Year. | Relieved during the Year. | On Funds at end of Year. | Deaths during the Year. | Receipts. | | |
|-------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | | | From the Founder, J. B. Watson. | Other Receipts. | Total Receipts. |
| | | | | £ | £ | £ |
| 1890 | ... | ... | ... | 150 | 1,467 | 1,617 |
| 1891 | * | 11 | * | 150 | 56 | 206 |
| 1892 | * | 26 | * | 150 | 503 | 653 |
| 1893 | * | 44 | * | 150 | 452 | 602 |
| 1894 | * | 43 | * | 150 | 790 | 940 |
| 1895 | 43 | 38 | 5 | 150 | 734 | 884 |
| 1896 | 57 | 48 | 9 | 150 | 543 | 693 |
| 1897 | 56 | 52 | 4 | 150 | 1,680 | 1,830 |
| 1898 | 57 | 48 | 9 | 150 | 944 | 1,094 |
| 1899 | 56 | 41 | 15 | 150 | 524 | 674 |

* Particulars not available.

PERSONS RELIEVED, RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE: WATSON
SUSTENTATION FUND—*continued.*

| Year. | Relieved during the Year. | On Funds at end of Year. | Deaths during the Year. | Receipts. | | |
|-----------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | | | From the Founder, J. B. Watson. | Other Receipts. | Total Receipts. |
| 1900 ... | 54 | 47 | 7 | £ | £ | £ |
| 1901 ... | 66 | 48 | 18 | ... | 641 | 641 |
| 1902 ... | 52 | 41 | 11 | ... | 591 | 591 |
| 1903 ... | 50 | 43 | 7 | ... | 549 | 549 |
| 1904 ... | 58 | 48 | 10 | ... | 874 | 874 |
| 1905 ... | 63 | 40 | 20 | ... | 1,049 | 1,049 |
| 1906 ... | 76 | 40 | 36 | ... | 875 | 875 |
| 1907 ... | 68 | 35 | 33 | ... | 1,235 | 1,235 |
| Total ... | ... | ... | 184 | 1,500 | 14,638 | 16,138 |

Expenditure.

| Year. | Sick Pay. | Donations to Members and Wives and Families of Deceased Members. | Administration. | Total Expenditure | Balance at End of Year. |
|-----------|-----------|--|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1890 ... | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| 1891 ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,617 |
| 1892 ... | 104 | 87 | 6 | 197 | 1,626 |
| 1893 ... | 330 | 150 | 8 | 488 | 1,791 |
| 1894 ... | 571 | 116 | 9 | 696 | 1,697 |
| 1895 ... | 578 | 64 | 6 | 648 | 1,989 |
| 1896 ... | 777 | 98 | 7 | 882 | 1,991 |
| 1897 ... | 845 | 107 | 34 | 986 | 1,698 |
| 1898 ... | 946 | 121 | 17 | 1,084 | 2,444 |
| 1899 ... | 917 | 99 | 10 | 1,026 | 2,512 |
| 1900 ... | 873 | 61 | 7 | 941 | 2,245 |
| 1901 ... | 973 | 65 | 11 | 1,049 | 1,837 |
| 1902 ... | 765 | 140 | 9 | 914 | 1,514 |
| 1903 ... | 842 | 28 | 11 | 881 | 1,182 |
| 1904 ... | 827 | 39 | 152 | 1,018 | 1,038 |
| 1905 ... | 854 | 114 | 24 | 992 | 1,095 |
| 1906 ... | 822 | 80 | 43 | 945 | 1,025 |
| 1907 ... | 767 | 97 | 29 | 893 | 1,367 |
| 1907 ... | 715 | 96 | 27 | 838 | 1,660 |
| Total ... | 12,506 | 1,562 | 410 | 14,478 | — |

QUEEN'S FUND.

Queen's Fund.

This fund was inaugurated in 1887 by Lady Loch to commemorate the Jubilee of the late Queen Victoria. It is for the relief of women in distress, and it is arranged that only the interest on the capital shall be expended yearly. The number of women relieved during 1907-8 was 75, to whom £454 was allotted either by way of grant or loan, and the cost of management was £75. The accumulated fund on the 20th June, 1908, amounted to £13,931.