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CHAPTER XIV.

WELFARE SERVICES.

A. COMMONWEALTH SOCIAL SERVICE BENEFITS.

§ 1. Introduction.

Commonwealth social service benefits are provided under the Social Services Consolidation Act 1947-1952 which came into operation on 1st July, 1947. This Act provided for the repeal of the existing laws relating to age and invalid pensions, maternity allowances, child endowment, widows' pensions and unemployment and sickness benefits, and for the immediate re-enactment of the necessary provisions for the grant and payment of these benefits under a unified law. Its more important effects were the elimination of obsolete provisions, the removal of anomalies, the amalgamation of like provisions, and the modernizing and grouping of the legislation so that it presented a symmetrical part of a well-defined pattern of social security. The history of the variations in the rates and conditions of age and invalid pensions, maternity allowances, child endowment, widows' pensions and unemployment and sickness benefits prior to 1st July, 1947 is referred to in earlier issues of the Official Year Book.

§ 2. Commonwealth Expenditure on Social and Health Services.

1. States, 1951-52.—The Commonwealth expenditure in each State on Social and Health Services for the year 1951-52 is shown in the following table:—

COMMONWEALTH EXPENDITURE ON SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, 1951-52. (£'000.)

Social and Health Services.	N.S.W. (a)	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust. (b)	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
Age and Invalid Pensions	25,075	14,449	8,836	5,180	4,106	2,142	59,788
Funeral Benefits	168	81	37	22	19	9	276
Maternity Allowances	1,182	836	490	284	241	123	(c) 3,157
Child Endowment	17,794	12,015	7,363	4,149	3,478	1,819	(d) 46,625
Widows' Pensions	2,315	1,390	905	450	367	188	5,615
Unemployment and Sickness Benefits	351	239	253	77	59	29	1,008
Community Rehabilitation	70	129	46	71	40	5	361
Hospital Benefits	2,698	1,575	1,092	556	511	251	6,683
Tuberculosis Campaign(e)	1,622	1,103	360	302	313	179	3,879
Pharmaceutical Benefits	3,027	2,071	861	695	473	135	(f) 7,327
National Health Services—							
Medical Benefits to Pensioners ..	492	226	119	105	75	19	1,036
Pharmaceutical Benefits to Pensioners ..	187	61	40	33	30	7	358
Nutrition of Children	443	140	75	67	90	10	815
Miscellaneous	30	25	50	11	16	10	(g) 162
Mental Institution Benefits	203	150	103	35	18	9	518
Total	55,597	34,490	20,555	12,045	9,813	5,015	137,608

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (b) Includes Northern Territory. (c) Includes payments overseas, £1,000. (d) Includes payments overseas, £7,000. (e) Includes allowances and reimbursements to the States. (f) Includes administration, £65,000. (g) Includes administration, £20,000.

2. Australia, 1938-39 and 1947-48 to 1951-52.—Commonwealth expenditure on Social and Health Services, excluding cost of administration, during the years 1938-39 and 1947-48 to 1951-52, for Australia, is shown in the following table :—

COMMONWEALTH EXPENDITURE ON SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES.

(£'000.)

Social and Health Services.	1938-39.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.
Age and Invalid Pensions ..	15,992	36,526	41,694	44,557	49,520	59,788
Funeral Benefits ..		210	253	246	254	276
Maternity Allowances ..	436	2,854	2,829	3,008	3,057	3,157
Child Endowment ..		19,426	24,323	30,337	43,585	46,625
Widows' Pensions ..		3,904	4,389	4,421	4,828	5,615
Unemployment and Sickness Benefits ..		1,217	1,070	2,506	1,037	1,008
Community Rehabilitation ..			34	219	310	361
Hospital Benefits ..		4,448	5,880	6,320	6,536	6,683
Tuberculosis Campaign(a) ..		28	156	534	2,275	3,879
Pharmaceutical Benefits ..			149	305	2,930	7,327
National Health Services—						
Medical Benefits to Pensioners ..					75	1,036
Pharmaceutical Benefits to Pensioners ..						358
Nutrition of Children ..						815
Miscellaneous ..				94	131	162
Mental Institution Benefits ..				256	406	518
Rental Rebates under Housing Agreement ..				1	3	
Total ..	16,428	68,613	80,777	92,804	114,983	137,608

(a) Includes allowances and reimbursements to States.

§ 3. Age and Invalid Pensions.

1. **General.**—Age pensions are payable to men, 65 years of age and over, and women, 60 years of age and over, who have resided in Australia continuously for at least 20 years which need not be immediately prior to the date of claim for pension. Absence in a Territory of the Commonwealth does not break continuity of residence. Any periods of absence during which a person's home remained in Australia, and absences in certain other circumstances, and in the case of a claimant who has had at least 18 years' residence, occasional absences aggregating up to 2 years plus 6 months for every year of residence in excess of 18 years are counted as residence.

Invalid pensions are payable to persons, 16 years of age and over, who have resided in Australia for a continuous period of five years, and who are permanently incapacitated for work or permanently blind. For the purpose of the residential qualification, the position in regard to absences is the same as for age pensions. A person is deemed to be permanently incapacitated for work if the degree of his permanent incapacity is not less than 85 per cent. The claimant must have become permanently incapacitated or permanently blind while in Australia or during a temporary absence from Australia, but this condition is waived if he has resided in Australia for not less than 20 years (continuous or otherwise), which may be partly before or partly after the occurrence of the permanent incapacity or blindness.

2. **Blind Persons.**—All permanently blind persons qualified in other respects, are eligible for a pension of £3 a week free of the means test. Additional pension up to 10s. a week is payable subject to the means test.

Where a blind person receives income in excess of £10 per week the full pension of £3 10s. is reduced by the amount of the excess income, but not below £3 a week. Where both husband and wife are blind the full pension of £3 10s. is reduced by half the amount of any excess income of £10 a week but each pension cannot be reduced below £3 per week, and any blind pensioner who has a child under 16 years of age is entitled to receive a child's allowance of 11s. 6d. per week in addition to the pension.

3. **Persons Disqualified.**—A pension is not payable to :—an alien (except a woman who, prior to marriage, was a British subject); a person who has directly or indirectly deprived himself of property or income in order to qualify for a pension; a person in

receipt of income of £286 per annum (£572 per annum for a married couple); a person who owns property, apart from his permanent home and other exempt property, to the net value of more than £1,250 (£2,500 for married persons), a person who is not deserving of a pension; a person who is not of good character or who has deserted his wife (or her husband) or children for six months immediately preceding the date of the claim (age pension only).

4. **Aboriginal Natives.**—Pensions may be granted to aboriginal natives of Australia who have been granted exemption from State control laws, or who, in any State where exemption is not provided for, are considered suitable persons to receive pensions by virtue of character, standard of intelligence and social development.

5. **Pension Rate.**—The maximum rate of pension from 29th October, 1953, is £182 per annum.

6. **Effect of Income.**—Permissible income is £104 per annum. Any income in excess of this amount is deducted from the pension. The income of a married person is deemed to be half the total income of husband and wife except where they are legally separated or in certain other circumstances. A married couple where only one is a pensioner may have an income of £5 a week between them without reduction of the pension. "Income" does not include gifts or allowances from children or parents, benefits from friendly societies, payments in respect of illness, infirmity or old-age from any trade union, the value of State food relief, child endowment or other payments for or in respect of children, Commonwealth Hospital Benefits, Pharmaceutical Benefits and interest on Commonwealth war gratuities.

7. **Effect of Property.**—The rate of pension is reduced by £1 per annum for every complete £10 of the net value of property which exceeds £150 up to £450, and by £2 per annum for every complete £10 of the remainder (if any) of the net value of the property up to £1,250. The value of property of a married person is deemed to be half the total value of property of husband and wife.

The value of a home, furniture and personal effects, the surrender value (up to £750) of any life assurance policies, the capital value of any life interest, annuity or contingent interest, the value of any property from the estate of a deceased person which has not been received and the amount of any Commonwealth war gratuity are disregarded in the computation of property.

8. **Claimants Receiving War Pensions.**—A person receiving a war pension may be granted an age or invalid pension in addition to the war pension, but the total amount payable in respect of the two pensions must not exceed £253 10s. per annum. In the case of a married couple where husband and wife each receive a civil pension (age or invalid, or service pension), the total amount which may be received in respect of war pensions and civil pensions is £461 10s. per annum; in the case of a married couple (where husband receives a civil pension and wife receives a wife's allowance) the limit is £461 10s.; and in the case of a married person (whose husband does not receive a civil pension or whose wife does not receive a civil pension or a wife's allowance) the limit is £390. Where the war pension (or pensions) and the civil pension (or pensions) together exceed the appropriate limit, the civil pension (or pensions) is (or are) reduced by the amount of the excess, but the pensioner is permitted to have other income to bring the total war pension and civil pension payments, plus the other income, up to the appropriate limit of income plus pension, £253 10s. per annum for a single person or £507 per annum for a married couple, both qualified for pensions.

9. **Inmates of Institutions.**—A pensioner who is an inmate of a benevolent home is paid £63 14s. per annum of his pension and the balance of the pension is paid to the institution for his maintenance.

10. **Wife's Allowance.**—An allowance, not exceeding £91 per annum, may be granted to the wife of an invalid pensioner (or an age pensioner who is permanently incapacitated for work or permanently blind) if she is living with her husband and is not receiving an age or invalid pension or a service pension. The rate of the allowance is affected by income and property on the same basis as an age or invalid pension.

11. **Child's Allowance.**—An allowance of £29 18s. per annum in respect of one child under the age of 16 years may be granted to the wife of an invalid pensioner (or age pensioner who is permanently incapacitated for work or permanently blind) if she is living with her husband and is not receiving a service pension. This child's allowance is additional to the wife's allowance and may also be granted where the wife is ineligible

for a wife's allowance on account of income or property. The allowance may also be granted to any invalid pensioner who has the custody, care and control of a child under the age of 16 years, but where both husband and wife are invalid pensioners (living together) the child's allowance is payable only to the wife.

12. **Rehabilitation.**—(i) *General.* The rehabilitation service has been set up to help persons who are too disabled to work or who have had to give up their employment because of sickness or injury. It aims at restoring disabled men and women to a state of fitness where they can earn their living and lead useful lives. This is done by means of suitable treatment and training, the cases selected being those in which the person's disability is remediable and where there are reasonable prospects of his engaging in a suitable vocation within three years after the commencement of treatment or training.

The benefits are available to invalid pensioners, persons receiving unemployment or sickness benefits or tuberculosis allowances. The treatment of certain other disabled persons may also be approved by the Director-General of Social Services. During the treatment stage of rehabilitation the payment of pension or benefit is continued. If, however, vocational training is provided the pension or benefit is suspended and the trainee is paid instead a rehabilitation allowance equivalent to the amount of invalid pension for which he is qualified, or which would be payable if he were qualified, together with the amount of any wife's and child's allowances, where appropriate, plus a training allowance of £1 5s. per week.

Living-away-from-home allowances, where necessary, are paid by the Commonwealth. Fares and living expenses (including those of an attendant where required) incurred in connexion with treatment, training or attendance for an interview or for medical examination may also be paid. A person receiving treatment or training may be provided, free of charge, with necessary artificial replacements, surgical aids and appliances. He may also be provided with books, equipment and tools of trade, costing not more than £30. If these are retained by him, he is required to pay the cost, but payments may be made by small instalments after he has commenced employment.

If the treatment or vocational training does not result in the trainee being able to engage in employment, his right to the continuance of his pension or benefit is not prejudiced.

(ii) *Summary of Operations.* The number of persons receiving benefits who were examined, accepted, trained and placed in employment during the year 1951-52 are shown in the following table :—

REHABILITATION SERVICE : OPERATIONS, AUSTRALIA, 1951-52.

Type.	Examined.	Accepted.	Completed Training.	Placed in Employment.	
				After Training.	Without Training.
Invalid Pensioners	11,343	475	171	134	240
Unemployment and Sickness Beneficiaries	8,516	1,280	64	49	897
Recipients of Tuberculosis Allowances	434	252	90	77	100

13. **Funeral Benefits.**—From 1st July, 1943 a funeral benefit of up to £10 has been payable to the person who has paid, or is liable to pay, the cost of the funeral of an age or invalid pensioner or of a claimant who, but for his death, would have been granted an age or invalid pension. This provision has been extended to include payment in respect of the death of a person who at the time of his death was receiving, or was a claimant for, a tuberculosis allowance, if he was otherwise qualified to receive an age or invalid pension. Where the cost of the funeral has been partly met by payment from a contributory funeral benefit fund of an organization other than a friendly society, funeral benefit is payable to the extent of the amount (not above £10) by which the cost of the funeral exceeded the amount paid from the fund. A funeral benefit is not payable to a person administering a contributory funeral benefit fund.

14. Rates of Pension Payable.—The following statement shows the rates of pension at 1st July, 1909 and the rates as they have been varied since that date:—

MAXIMUM RATES OF PENSION PAYABLE.

Date from which Operative.	Maximum Pension Payable.		Limit of Income (including Pension) per Annum.	Date from which Operative.	Maximum Pension Payable.		Limit of Income (including Pension) per Annum.
	Per Week.	Per Annum.			Per Week.	Per Annum.	
1st July, 1909	10 0	26 8	52 0	2nd April, 1942(c)	25 0	65 0	97 10
12th October, 1916	12 6	32 10	58 10	1st October, 1942(b)	25 6	66 6	98 16
1st January, 1920	15 0	39 0	65 0	7th January, 1943(b)	26 0	67 12	100 2
13th September, 1923	17 6	45 10	78 0	1st April, 1943(b)	26 6	68 18	101 8
8th October, 1925	20 0	52 0	84 10	1st April, 1943(b)	27 0	70 4	102 14
23rd July, 1931	17 6	45 10	78 0	19th August, 1943(b)	26 6	68 18	101 8
23rd October, 1932(a)	15 0	39 0	71 10	23rd November, 1943(b)(d)	27 0	70 4	102 14
26th October, 1933	17 6	45 10	78 0	5th July, 1945	32 6	84 10	117 0
4th July, 1935(b)	18 0	46 16	79 6	13th August, 1946	32 6	84 10	116 10
24th September, 1936	19 0	49 8	81 18	3rd July, 1947	37 6	97 10	149 10
9th September, 1937	20 0	52 0	84 10	21st October, 1948	42 6	110 10	188 10
26th December, 1940	21 0	54 12	87 2	2nd November, 1950	50 0	130 0	208 0
3rd April, 1941(b)	21 6	55 18	88 8	1st November, 1951	60 0	156 0	234 0
11th December, 1941	23 6	61 2	93 12	2nd October, 1952	67 6	175 0	253 10
2nd April, 1942(b)	24 0	62 8	94 18	29th October, 1953	70 0	182 0	286 0

(a) Additional pension of £6 10s. per annum (2s. 6d. per week) was payable to a pensioner with no income. Pensioners with income of less than 2s. 6d. per week were paid additional pension of 2s. 6d. less the amount of income. (b) Variation according to rise in retail price index-number. (c) Increase paid on 9th July, 1942, retrospective to 2nd April, 1942. (d) Rate restored to £70 4s. per annum under National Security (Supplementary) Regulation 112A—Statutory Rule 315 of 1943.

NOTE.—Provision for variations according to retail price index-numbers was repealed on 6th April, 1944.

15. Age Pensions.—(i) *Number in force.* At 30th June, 1951, there were 342,806 age pensions in force. During 1951–52, 39,905 age pensions claims were granted and 2,802 pensioners were transferred from the invalid pension list, while 33,464 pensions expired through cancellations and deaths. The net increase for the year was 9,243 and the total in force at 30th June, 1952, was 352,049.

(ii) *Sexes of Age Pensioners—States.* Of the age pensioners at 30th June, 1952, 118,025 (or 34 per cent.) were males, and 234,024 (or 66 per cent.) were females. Details for each State are as follows:—

AGE PENSIONS: SEXES OF PENSIONERS AT 30th JUNE, 1952.

State.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Masculinity. (a)
New South Wales(b)	50,876	94,181	145,057	54.02
Victoria	26,503	61,342	87,845	43.21
Queensland	17,739	32,979	50,718	53.79
South Australia(c)	9,759	22,172	31,931	44.01
Western Australia	9,124	15,658	24,782	58.27
Tasmania	4,024	7,692	11,716	52.31
Total	118,025	234,024	352,049	50.43

(a) Number of males to each 100 females.

(b) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(iii) *Age and Conjugal Condition of Age Pensioners.* The recorded ages of the 39,905 pensioners (14,329 males and 25,576 females) to whom age pensions were granted during the year 1951–52 varied considerably, ranging from 6,881 at age 60 to one at age 97, but 28,969 were in the 60–70 group. The conjugal condition of these new pensioners was as follows:—Males—single, 1,840; married, 9,801; and widowed, 2,688; Females—single, 3,793; married, 11,365; and widowed, 10,418.

16. **Invalid Pensions.**—(i) *Number in force.* The number of invalid pensioners decreased from 68,918 in 1950-51 to 67,963 in 1951-52, a decrease of 955. Total pensions granted during the year were 8,160, while 6,313 pensions ceased through cancellations or deaths, and 2,802 were transferred to the age pension list.

(ii) *Sexes of Invalid Pensioners—States.* Of the 67,963 persons in receipt of invalid pensions at 30th June, 1952, 37,001 (or 54 per cent.) were males, and 30,962 (or 46 per cent.) were females. Details for each State are as follows:—

INVALID PENSIONS : SEXES OF PENSIONERS AT 30th JUNE, 1952.

State.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Masculinity. (a)
New South Wales(b)	17,986	14,410	32,396	124.82
Victoria	7,562	6,411	13,973	117.95
Queensland	5,815	4,756	10,571	122.27
South Australia(c)	2,154	2,143	4,297	100.51
Western Australia	2,131	1,833	3,964	116.26
Tasmania	1,353	1,409	2,762	96.03
Total	37,001	30,962	67,963	119.50

(a) Number of males to each 100 females.

(b) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(c) Includes Northern Territory.

(iii) *Age and Conjugal Condition of Invalid Pensioners.* The recorded ages of the 8,160 persons (4,854 males and 3,306 females) to whom invalid pensions were granted during 1951-52 varied from 16 to 89, 4,031 or 49 per cent. being in the 45-59 years age-group.

The conjugal condition of persons to whom invalid pensions were granted during the year was as follows:—Males—single, 1,606; married, 2,877; and widowed, 371; Females—single, 1,535; married, 1,197; and widowed, 574.

17. **Age and Invalid Pensions : Payments and Annual Liability.**—Separate particulars of the payments to age and invalid pensioners are not available but the total payments in 1951-52 in each State, together with the annual liability of each class of pensioner at 30th June, 1952, are shown in the following table:—

**AGE AND INVALID PENSIONS : PAYMENTS AND ANNUAL LIABILITY, 1951-52.
(£.)**

State.	Total Payments Age and Invalid Pensions, 1951-52.(a)	Annual Liability at 30th June, 1952.		
		Age Pensioners.	Invalid Pensions.	Total.
New South Wales(b)	25,075,215	21,304,272	4,900,251	26,204,523
Victoria	14,448,996	13,162,583	2,096,969	15,259,552
Queensland	8,835,443	7,621,092	1,617,046	9,238,138
South Australia(c)	5,179,666	4,767,370	655,416	5,422,786
Western Australia	4,106,291	3,671,597	593,306	4,264,903
Tasmania	2,142,392	1,728,682	415,713	2,144,395
Total	59,788,003	52,255,596	10,278,701	62,534,297

(a) Includes amounts paid to Benevolent Homes and Hospitals for the maintenance of 5,625 pensioners and 18,062 allowances to wives of invalid pensioners.

(b) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(c) Includes Northern Territory.

The actual sum disbursed in age and invalid pensions in 1951-52, including the amount paid to homes and hospitals for the maintenance of pensioners and allowances to wives of invalid pensioners, was £7 per head of population as compared with £5 19s. 2d. in the previous year.

18. Summary.—The following table gives details of age and invalid pensions for the years 1938-39 and 1947-48 to 1951-52 :—

AGE AND INVALID PENSIONS : SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA.

Year ended 30th June—	Pensioners at End of Year.				Amount Paid in Pensions.	Total Payment to Pensioners and Institutions.(b)	Average Fortnightly Pension as at 30th June.		
	Age.		Invalid.	Total.			Age	Invalid.	Total.
	No.	Rate per 1,000 persons eligible on age qualifi- cation. (a)							
1939 ..	232,836	376	88,812	321,648	15,798,038	15,991,782	(c)	(c)	38 5
1948 ..	302,854	381	73,073	375,927	36,376,104	36,526,395	71 8	72 9	71 11
1949 ..	321,327	392	76,056	397,383	41,535,907	41,693,680	81 2	82 6	81 5
1950 ..	334,923	395	73,494	408,417	44,354,253	44,557,161	80 10	82 0	81 1
1951 ..	342,806	395	68,918	411,724	49,307,690	49,520,285	95 5	96 8	95 7
1952 ..	352,049	397	67,963	420,012	59,512,514	59,788,003	114 2	116 4	114 6

(a) Based on an estimate of the aggregate of males aged 65 and over and females aged 60 and over at 30th June of each year. (b) Includes allowances to wives of invalid pensioners payable from the 8th July, 1943, but excludes funeral benefits in respect of deaths of pensioners, £209,588 in 1947-48; £252,479 in 1948-49; £243,822 in 1949-50; £243,058 in 1950-51; and £275,850 in 1951-52. (c) Not available.

§ 4. Maternity Allowances.

1. **General.**—A maternity allowance is payable to a woman who, at the date of giving birth to a child, is residing in Australia or is in Australia and intends to remain. The allowance is payable in respect of a birth which occurs in Australia or on board a ship proceeding from a port in Australia or a Territory of the Commonwealth to another port in Australia or a Territory of the Commonwealth. The allowance is also payable in respect of a birth which occurs on board a ship proceeding to Australia, provided the mother receives no maternity benefit in respect of the birth from the country from whence she came. Payment may be made in respect of the birth of a still-born child, or a child which lives for less than twelve hours, if the period of intra-uterine life of the child was at least 5½ calendar months. There is no means test.

2. **Alien Mothers.**—Payment may be made to an alien mother if she was a British subject prior to her marriage, or if she or her husband resided in Australia for at least twelve months immediately prior to the birth of the child. Payment in respect of a birth which occurs within twelve months of the mother's arrival in Australia may be made at the end of that twelve months, but may be made immediately if the mother is likely to remain in Australia.

3. **Aboriginal Natives.**—Maternity allowances may be paid only to those aboriginal natives of Australia who have been granted exemption from State control laws or who, in any State where exemption is not provided for, are considered suitable persons to receive the allowance by virtue of character, standard of intelligence and social development.

4. **Amount Payable.**—From 1st July, 1947, the amount of a maternity allowance has been £15 where there are no other children; £16 where there are one or two other children; and £17 10s. where there are three or more other children. "Other children" means children under the age of sixteen years who were in the custody, care and control of the claimant on the date of the birth in respect of which the claim is made. The amount payable is increased by £5 in respect of each additional child born at a birth. Payment of £5 on account of a maternity allowance may be made available, upon application, within a period of four weeks prior to the expected date of birth. The balance is payable immediately after the birth.

5. **Persons Temporarily Abroad.**—Maternity allowances may be paid, under certain conditions, to persons ordinarily resident in Australia who are temporarily abroad.

6. **Summary.**—The following table gives details of the maternity allowance claims paid and rejected and of the amount paid for the years 1938-39 and 1947-48 to 1951-52 and since the inception in 1912-13 :—

MATERNITY ALLOWANCES : SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA.

Particulars.		1938-39.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.	Aggregate 1912-13 to 1951-52.
Claims Paid ..	No.	80,916	177,566	177,955	189,733	191,587	195,722	4,977,624
Claims Rejected ..	"	6,272	247	235	283	306	180	111,289
Amount Paid ..	£	436,614	2,854,018	2,828,849	3,007,906	3,057,519	3,156,992	41,968,985

NOTE.—The means test was abolished from 1st July, 1943.

7. **Claims paid in each State.**—The following table shows the number of maternity allowance claims paid in each State during the years 1938-39 and 1947-48 to 1951-52 :—

MATERNITY ALLOWANCES : NUMBER OF CLAIMS PAID IN EACH STATE.

Year ended 30th June—	N.S.W. (a)	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A. (b)	W.A.	Tas.	Overseas.	Total.
1939	30,860	20,819	12,880	7,204	5,213	3,940	..	80,916
1948	68,116	46,027	27,920	15,856	12,553	7,074	20	177,566
1949	67,534	46,399	27,570	16,381	13,107	6,984	70	177,955
1950	73,566	49,035	28,652	17,273	13,759	7,408	40	189,733
1951	72,003	50,210	29,155	17,864	14,986	7,250	119	191,587
1952	72,688	52,144	30,737	17,380	15,074	7,626	73	195,722
Total, 1912-13 to 1951-52 ..	1,948,443	1,295,769	755,879	439,152	330,214	207,845	322	4,977,624

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

8. **Claims Paid at the Various Rates.**—The following table shows the number of claims paid in each State at the several rates of maternity allowances during the year 1951-52 :—

MATERNITY ALLOWANCES : NUMBER OF CLAIMS PAID AT EACH RATE, 1951-52.

State.	Single Births.			Multiple Births.						Total Claims Paid.
	£15.	£16.	£17 10s.	Twins.			Triplets.			
				£20.	£21.	£22 10s.	£25.	£26.	£27 10s.	
New South Wales(a) ..	25,355	34,726	11,759	237	414	190	1	2	4	72,688
Victoria	17,947	25,588	7,930	172	362	137	..	6	2	52,144
Queensland	9,547	14,524	6,304	92	165	103	..	1	1	30,737
South Australia(b) ..	5,670	8,880	2,639	57	85	49	..	..	..	17,380
Western Australia ..	4,661	7,573	2,649	31	103	54	1	1	1	15,074
Tasmania	2,450	3,431	1,651	23	40	30	..	1	..	7,626
Overseas .. ..	..	29	37	..	..	..	..	..	..	73
Total	65,659	94,759	32,939	612	1,169	563	2	11	8	195,722

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

§ 5. Child Endowment.

1. **General.**—Any person who is resident in Australia and has the custody, care and control of one or more children under the age of sixteen years, and an approved institution of which children are inmates shall be qualified to receive an endowment in respect of each child. There is a twelve months residential requirement in respect of a claimant and a child who were not born in Australia, but this is waived if the claimant and the

child are likely to remain permanently in Australia. A child born during the mother's temporary absence from Australia is deemed to have been born in Australia. There is no means test.

2. **Child of Alien Father.**—Endowment may be paid in respect of a child whose father is not a British subject if—the child was born in Australia; the mother is a British subject; and the child is likely to remain permanently in Australia.

3. **Aboriginal Natives.**—Endowment may be paid to aboriginal natives of Australia unless they are nomadic, or unless the child concerned is wholly or mainly dependent on the Commonwealth or a State.

4. **Rate of Payment.**—From 20th June, 1950, the rate of endowment payable has been (a) where the endowee has the custody of one child only—5s. per week; (b) where the endowee has the custody of two or more children—in respect of the elder or eldest child 5s. per week and in respect of each other child 10s. per week; and (c) in the case of an approved institution the rate is 10s. per week for each child inmate. From 1st July, 1941, the date of the inception of the scheme, the rate of endowment was 5s. per week for each child in excess of one in a family, and for each child under sixteen years in an approved institution. The rate was increased to 7s. 6d. per week from 25th June, 1945, and to 10s. per week from 9th November, 1948.

5. **Divided Families.**—There are provisions to meet cases of families divided by reason of divorce, separation, unemployment, death of a parent or other circumstances. In these cases endowment may be paid to the father, mother or other person.

6. **Australians Temporarily Overseas.**—Endowment may be paid, under certain conditions, to persons ordinarily resident in Australia who are temporarily overseas.

7. **Members of United Kingdom Defence Forces.**—Endowment will be paid for the children of members of the Naval, Military or Air Forces of the United Kingdom who are serving with the Australian Forces from the time of arrival of the children in Australia.

8. **Summary.**—During the year 1951-52, 93,866 claims were granted, cancellations amounted to 39,292 and the number of endowed family group claims in force at 30th June, 1952 was 1,205,421, an increase of 54,574 or 4.7 per cent. during the year. The large increase of 73.6 per cent. in 1950-51 was due mainly to the extension from 20th June, 1950, of endowment to the first or only child under sixteen years of age in a family. The following table shows particulars of the operations in each State and Australia during 1951-52 and in Australia for earlier years:—

CHILD ENDOWMENT : SUMMARY, 1951-52.

State.	Family Groups.					Total Payments to Endowees and Institutions.
	Claims in force at end of year.	Endowed Children.		Annual Liability at 30th June, 1952.		
		Total.	Average per claim.	Total.	Average Liability per claim.	
	No.	No.	No.	£	£	£
New South Wales(a)	476,684	971,586	2.04	19,064,344	39.99	17,793,919
Victoria ..	317,591	642,693	2.02	12,581,335	39.61	12,015,367
Queensland ..	173,179	378,559	2.19	7,591,207	43.83	7,362,953
South Australia(b)..	109,284	222,127	2.03	4,354,610	39.85	4,148,751
Western Australia..	85,971	183,257	2.13	3,647,059	42.42	3,477,916
Tasmania ..	42,424	94,430	2.23	1,903,668	44.87	1,818,862
Overseas ..	288	594	2.06	11,700	40.63	7,284
Total—1951-52 ..	1,205,421	2,493,246	2.07	49,153,923	40.78	46,625,052
1950-51 ..	1,150,847	2,365,177	2.06	46,533,591	40.43	43,584,614
1949-50 ..	662,949	1,813,925	2.74	38,543,713	58.14	30,337,363
1948-49 ..	620,819	1,083,994	1.75	28,183,844	45.40	24,323,413
1947-48 ..	586,415	1,029,777	1.76	20,080,652	34.24	19,425,518

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

In addition to the children endowed in families, child endowment benefits were paid in respect of children in approved institutions during 1947-48 to 1951-52 as follows:—1947-48, 20,580; 1948-49, 21,305; 1949-50, 22,397; 1950-51, 23,753; and 1951-52, 24,623.

9. **Number of Children.**—The following table shows, as at 30th June, 1952, the number of claims in force and the number of endowed children classified according to the number of endowed children in the family:—

CHILD ENDOWMENT : NUMBER OF CHILDREN(a), 30th JUNE, 1952.					
Size of Family.	Claims in force.	Number of endowed children.	Size of Family.	Claims in force.	Number of endowed children.
One child ..	465,698	465,698	Nine children ..	837	7,533
Two children ..	409,269	818,538	Ten children ..	317	3,170
Three children ..	198,866	596,598	Eleven children ..	66	726
Four children ..	80,033	320,132	Twelve children ..	25	300
Five children ..	30,864	154,320	Thirteen children ..	12	156
Six children ..	12,225	73,350	Fourteen children ..	2	28
Seven children ..	4,959	34,713			
Eight children ..	2,248	17,984	Total ..	1,205,421	2,493,246

(a) Under 16 years of age.

§ 6. Widows' Pensions.

1. **General.**—Widows' pensions and the rates in each class, as from 20th October, 1953, have been payable to the following classes of women:—

Class "A"—A widow who has the custody, care and control of one or more children under the age of 16 years. Rate £195 per annum.

Class "B"—A widow, not less than 50 years of age, who has no children under 16 years of age in her custody, care and control. Rate £149 10s. per annum.

Class "C"—A widow, under 50 years of age, who has no children under the age of 16 years in her custody, care and control, but is in necessitous circumstances within 26 weeks after the death of her husband. Rate £2 17s. 6d. per week for not more than 26 weeks. If at her husband's death, a widow is with child, this period will be extended until the birth of the child. She would then, of course, become eligible for an "A" class widow's pension.

Class "D"—A woman whose husband has been serving a term of imprisonment for at least six months, if she has the custody, care and control of one or more children under the age of 16 years or is not less than 50 years of age. Rate £149 10s. per annum.

The term "widow" includes:—a "dependent female" (i.e. a woman, who, for not less than three years immediately prior to the death of a man, was wholly or mainly maintained by him as his wife on a permanent and bona fide domestic basis); a deserted wife (i.e. a woman deserted by her husband for not less than six months); a divorcee (i.e. a woman whose marriage has been dissolved and who has not remarried); and a woman whose husband is an inmate of a mental hospital.

The residential qualification is five years' continuous residence in Australia immediately prior to the date of lodgment of the claim. This period is reduced to one year where the claimant and her husband were residing permanently in Australia when the husband died.

2. **Persons Disqualified.**—A widow's pension is not payable to:—a woman who is not a British subject unless she was a British subject before her marriage; a woman who is in receipt of an age or invalid pension, tuberculosis allowance, or a war widow's pension under the Repatriation Act in respect of the death of her husband; a woman who has deprived herself of property or income in order to qualify for a pension; a deserted wife or a divorcee who has not taken reasonable action to obtain maintenance from her husband or former husband; a woman who is not of good character, a woman who is not deserving of a pension; a woman in Class "A" in receipt of income of £299 per annum or more or owning property, apart from her permanent home and other

exempt property, to the net value of more than £1,500 or a woman in Classes "B" or "D" in receipt of income of £253 10s. per annum or more or owning property, apart from her permanent home and other exempt property, to the net value of more than £1,250.

3. **Aboriginal Natives.**—Widows' pensions may be granted to aboriginal native women of Australia under the same conditions as age pensions.

4. **Effect of Income.**—Permissible income is £104 per annum. Any income in excess of this amount is deducted from the pension. "Income" has the same meaning as for age pensions. Any amount in excess of 15s. per week received by a deserted wife, or a divorcee from her husband or former husband, for the maintenance of a child is taken into account in the claimant's income.

5. **Effect of Property.**—The rate of pension for women in Classes "B" and "D" is reduced by £1 per annum for every complete £10 of the net value of property which exceeds £150 but does not exceed £450, and by £1 per annum for every complete £7 of the net value above £450 up to £1,250. Property disregarded in determining eligibility for pension is the same as for age pensions.

6. **Claimants Receiving War Pension.**—A widow is not permitted to receive, in respect of the death of her husband, both a war widow's pension under the Repatriation Act and a civil widow's pension. A widow, however, may receive a civil widow's pension in addition to a war pension (as distinct from a war widows' pension) but the total amount payable in respect of the two pensions must not exceed £273 per annum in the case of a Class "A" widow or £227 10s. per annum in the case of a widow coming within Classes "B", "C" or "D". Where the war pension and the widow's pension together exceed the limit applicable, the widow's pension is reduced by the amount of the excess. The widow is permitted to have, in addition, other income to bring her total war pension and widow's pension payments up to the appropriate limit of income plus pension, £299 per annum for a Class "A" widow, £253 10s. for a Class "B" or "D" widow.

7. **Payment of Class "A" Pension for Children Continuing Education.**—The pension payable to a Class "A" widow may be continued after her child attains the age of 16 years if the child continues with full-time education at a school or university and is still dependent on the widow and is not in employment. These conditions apply until the child reaches the age of 18 years.

8. **Summary.**—The number of widows' pensions current at 30th June, 1952, was as follows:—Class "A" 17,424; Class "B", 23,095; Class "C", 99; Class "D", 140; total, 40,758. The amount paid in pensions during 1951-52 was £5,614,768. The following table shows details of widows' pensions paid in each State in the year 1951-52 and for Australia for each of the years 1947-48 to 1951-52:—

WIDOWS' PENSIONS AT 30th JUNE, 1952.(a)

State.	Pensions Current.(b)		Children for whom Pensions Payable.	Average Fort-nightly rate of Pension.	Amount paid in Pensions during 1951-52.	
	Number.	Per 10,000 of Population.			Amount.	Per head of Population.
			No.	£ s. d.	£	s. d.
New South Wales(d) ..	16,486	48	7,533	5 8 1	2,315,178	13 8
Victoria ..	10,222	44	3,696	5 6 11	1,390,109	12 1
Queensland ..	6,770	55	3,091	5 10 3	904,709	14 10
South Australia(e) ..	3,246	43	1,292	5 6 11	450,268	12 1
Western Australia ..	2,676	45	1,116	5 9 1	366,483	12 5
Tasmania ..	1,358	45	696	5 9 8	188,021	12 7
Total—1951-52 ..	40,758	47	17,424	5 8 2	5,614,768	13 2
1950-51 ..	41,962	50	17,717	4 10 10	4,828,086	11 7
1949-50 ..	42,894	52	17,760	3 19 3	4,420,566	11 0
1948-49 ..	43,251	55	17,891	3 19 8	4,388,468	11 3
1947-48 ..	43,025	56	17,732	3 8 11	3,904,086	10 3

(a) The Commonwealth Government commenced to pay widows' pensions from 1st July, 1942.

(b) Excludes eleven (1951-52), nine (1950-51), fourteen (1949-50), eleven (1948-49), six (1947-48), pensions in respect of pensioners in Benevolent Homes.

(c) Based on mean population for the financial year.

(d) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(e) Includes Northern Territory.

§ 7. Unemployment and Sickness Benefits.

1. **General.**—From 1st July, 1945, men over 16 and under 65 years of age, and women over 16 and under 60 years of age and who were qualified in other respects, have been eligible to apply for an unemployment benefit or a sickness benefit. There is a twelve months' residential requirement but this is waived if the claimant is likely to remain permanently in Australia. A person in receipt of an age, invalid or widow's pension, or a service pension (as distinct from a war pension) under the Repatriation Act or a tuberculosis allowance is ineligible to receive a benefit.

2. **Unemployment Benefit.**—To qualify for an unemployment benefit a person must establish that he is unemployed and that his unemployment is not due to his being a direct participant in a strike; that he is capable and willing to undertake suitable work; and that he has taken reasonable steps to obtain such work. Registration with the local Commonwealth District Employment Officer is necessary.

3. **Sickness Benefit.**—To qualify for a sickness benefit a person must establish that he is temporarily incapacitated for work by reason of sickness or accident and that he has thereby suffered a loss of salary, wages or other income.

4. **Married Women.**—A married woman is not qualified to receive a sickness benefit if it is reasonably possible for her husband to maintain her. Where her husband is able to maintain her only partially, a benefit may be paid at such rate as is considered reasonable in the circumstances. In exceptional cases a married woman may qualify for an unemployment benefit in her own right.

5. **Aboriginal Natives.**—A benefit may be paid only to those aboriginal natives of Australia who are considered suitable, by reason of character, standard of intelligence and social development.

6. **Maximum Rates of Benefits and Income.**—The maximum weekly rates of benefit payable and permissible income from 27th September, 1952, are as follows:—

MAXIMUM RATES OF BENEFITS AND INCOME.

(s. d.)

Age and Conjugal Condition.	Maximum Weekly Benefit.				Permissible Weekly Income.
	Claimant.	Dependent Spouse.	Child.	Total.	
Unmarried—					
16 years and under 17 years ..	30 0	..	..	30 0	5 0
17 " " " 18 " ..	30 0	..	..	30 0	10 0
18 " " " 21 " ..	40 0	..	..	40 0	15 0
21 years and over ..	50 0	..	..	50 0	20 0
Married	50 0	40 0	5 0	95 0	20 0

Where an unmarried claimant has the custody, care and control of a child under the age of sixteen years, the total income may be increased by 5s. per week.

Additional benefit of up to £2 per week may be paid in respect of a claimant's housekeeper where no such benefit is payable in respect of his wife, provided there are one or more children under 16 years of age in the home and the woman is substantially dependent on the claimant but is not employed by him.

7. **Means Test.**—Any income in excess of the permissible income shown in the previous table is deducted from the rate of benefit. For unemployment benefit purposes, the incomes of the claimant and his spouse are taken into account, but where the claimant and his spouse are permanently separated any income received by the spouse may be disregarded. "Income" does not include child endowment, or other payments in respect of children, the Commonwealth hospital benefits and pharmaceutical benefits, or a tuberculosis allowance or an amount paid in reimbursement of medical, dental or similar expenses actually paid.

For sickness benefit purposes, there is disregarded £2 per week of any payment received from an approved friendly society or other similar approved body in respect of the incapacity for which sickness benefit is payable.

Where a person qualified for sickness benefit receives or is entitled to receive (in respect of the same period and the same incapacity for which sickness benefit is payable) any payment by way of compensation (including workers' compensation), damages, or otherwise under any law (except payments for which he has contributed), the amount of the compensation, etc., is not taken into account as income but is deducted from the rate of sickness benefit otherwise payable.

8. **Waiting Period.**—There is a waiting period of seven days in respect of which unemployment or sickness benefit is not payable.

9. **Special Benefit.**—A special benefit may be granted to a person not qualified for unemployment or sickness benefit who is not in receipt of an age, invalid or widow's pension or a service pension, if by reason of age, physical or mental disability or domestic circumstances, or for any other reason, he is unable to earn a sufficient livelihood for himself and his dependants.

10. **Rehabilitation.**—Unemployment and sickness beneficiaries are eligible to participate in the Commonwealth rehabilitation scheme under the same conditions as invalid pensioners. Payment of an unemployment or sickness benefit may be refused if the claimant or beneficiary, on being required, fails to undergo a medical examination or to receive treatment or undertake training or to do any suitable work. See Division A, § 3, para. 12, Rehabilitation.

11. **Statistics, 1951-52.**—(i) *Persons on Benefit.* At 30th June, 1952, 15,820 persons were paid benefits, comprising 8,294 unemployment, 6,378 sickness and 1,148 special benefits.

PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT 30th JUNE, 1952.

State.	Unemployment.		Sickness.		Special.(a)		Total.(a)		
	Males.	Fe-males.	Males.	Fe-males.	Males.	Fe-males.	Males.	Fe-males.	Per-sons.
New South Wales ^b	3,376	1,237	1,913	620	169	320	5,458	2,177	7,635
Victoria ..	875	258	1,207	371	75	220	2,157	849	3,006
Queensland ..	1,450	605	721	193	47	141	2,218	939	3,157
South Australia(c)	103	50	538	153	27	33	668	236	904
Western Australia	211	25	354	97	13	42	578	164	742
Tasmania ..	93	11	175	36	8	53	276	100	376
Total ..	6,108	2,186	4,908	1,470	339	809	11,355	4,465	15,820

(a) Excludes migrants receiving benefits. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (c) Includes Northern Territory.

(ii) *Number of Persons admitted to Benefit in each State.* The following table shows the number of persons in each State admitted to benefit during the year 1951-52 :—

PERSONS ADMITTED TO BENEFIT, 1951-52.

State.	Unemployment.		Sickness.		Special.(a)		Total.(a)		
	Males.	Fe-males.	Males.	Fe-males.	Males.	Fe-males.	Males.	Fe-males.	Per-sons.
New South Wales ^b	7,680	3,258	14,904	4,648	710	342	23,294	8,248	31,542
Victoria ..	2,628	573	9,151	2,687	415	347	12,194	3,607	15,801
Queensland ..	9,973	2,169	6,915	1,485	423	97	17,311	3,751	21,062
South Australia(c)	227	83	3,986	928	202	49	4,415	1,060	5,475
Western Australia	591	132	3,540	853	89	26	4,220	1,021	5,241
Tasmania ..	152	20	1,631	305	51	35	1,834	360	2,194
Total ..	21,251	6,235	40,127	10,916	1,890	896	63,268	18,047	81,315

(a) Excludes benefits granted to migrants. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (c) Includes Northern Territory.

(iii) *Benefits Paid.* The following table shows the benefits paid in respect of each class of benefit in each State during each of the years 1950-51 and 1951-52 :—

BENEFITS PAID.

(£.)

State.	Unemployment.		Sickness.		Special.(a)		Total.(a)	
	1950-51.	1951-52.	1950-51.	1951-52.	1950-51	1951-52.	1950-51.	1951-52.
New South Wales(b)	25,324	55,135	296,418	262,244	50,303	33,502	372,045	350,881
Victoria	7,731	11,215	197,719	181,117	98,529	46,608	303,979	238,940
Queensland	22,485	114,226	96,540	123,075	9,232	15,214	128,257	252,515
South Australia(c)	350	1,025	70,770	70,482	5,558	5,967	76,678	77,474
Western Australia	5,360	4,374	53,911	48,691	61,507	5,781	120,778	58,846
Tasmania	1,194	1,036	30,358	24,278	3,924	3,687	35,476	29,001
Total	62,444	187,011	745,716	709,887	229,053	110,759	1,037,213	1,007,657

(a) Includes amounts paid in respect of migrants.
(c) Includes Northern Territory.

(b) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(iv) *Summary for Years 1947-48 to 1951-52.* The following table shows the number of persons who were admitted to benefit, the number receiving benefit at the end of the year and the amount paid for each benefit for Australia during the years 1947-48 to 1951-52 :—

SUMMARY : AUSTRALIA.

Year	Number Admitted to Benefit.			Persons on Benefit at end of Year.			Amount Paid in Benefits.		
	Un-employment.	Sick-ness.	Special. (a)	Un-employment.	Sick-ness.	Special. (a)	Un-employment.	Sick-ness.	Special. (b)
1947-48	28,662	69,486	2,177	1,838	8,066	530	£ 360,629	£ 791,327	£ 56,518
1948-49	12,126	68,864	2,416	1,151	7,501	598	138,846	795,826	135,754
1949-50	161,101	63,842	4,660	1,226	7,491	908	1,266,072	816,014	424,339
1950-51	11,904	61,410	2,785	604	7,044	921	62,444	745,716	229,053
1951-52	27,486	51,043	2,786	8,294	6,378	1,148	187,011	709,887	110,759

(a) Excludes migrants.

(b) Includes payments to migrants.

§ 8. Reciprocal Agreements with Other Countries.

1. *New Zealand.*—An agreement between the Governments of Australia and New Zealand for reciprocity in social services came into operation on 1st July, 1949.

The reciprocal arrangements cover age and invalid pensions, widows' pensions, child endowment and unemployment and sickness benefits, and apply to both permanent and temporary change of residence.

Residence in one country counts as residence in the other country in relation to entitlement to benefits in which a residential qualification applies.

Persons from one country taking up permanent residence in the other country become eligible for any of the specified benefits of the new country under the same conditions (with one or two exceptions) as apply to citizens of that country.

Persons in receipt of any of the specified benefits in one country may continue to receive those benefits while temporarily absent in the other country. These payments are made on an agency basis by the appropriate authority of the country in which the person is temporarily resident.

2. **United Kingdom.**—The Governments of the United Kingdom and Australia signed a reciprocal agreement on social services in London on 8th June, 1953.

The agreement covers age and invalid pensions, widows' pensions, child endowment, and unemployment and sickness benefits. Under the agreement former residents of the United Kingdom over pension age—65 years for men and 60 years for women—and who were in the National Insurance Scheme when they left the United Kingdom will be eligible to receive Australian pensions without having to complete 20 years' residence in Australia.

Subject to the means test, these persons so entitled have any United Kingdom pensions they receive supplemented by Australia to bring the total payments in most cases to the maximum pension rate for Australians—at present £3 10s. od. per week.

Similar principles apply to widows' pensions. Australian residential requirements will be waived for these pensions, also for invalid pensions, child endowment and unemployment and sickness benefits.

With few exceptions, all these benefits will be payable to former residents of the United Kingdom at the same rates as are payable to Australian citizens.

Persons from Australia going to the United Kingdom for permanent residence will be treated in the United Kingdom as if they had been insured under the National Insurance Scheme while in Australia, so that they can qualify for various National Insurance benefits.

Families who go from one country to another will be able to qualify for child endowment, or family allowances, as soon as they arrive in their new country.

There is also provision for the safeguard of social service rights for Australians going to the United Kingdom for temporary residence, and vice versa.

The agreement came into operation in both countries on 7th January, 1954.

B. OTHER SERVICES.

§ 1. Benevolent Homes.

1. **General.**—The public provisions for the care of indigent old people have been a feature of the social development of recent years in most countries. Numerous establishments exist in Australia for the housing and protection of persons no longer able to provide for themselves. These institutions are supported by Government and municipal aid, public subscriptions, bequests, etc.; while in many cases relatives of poor and afflicted persons contribute to their maintenance.

An entirely satisfactory statistical tabulation in regard to all forms of charitable aid is especially difficult in the case of benevolent institutions, because the services provided by these institutions are not always identical.

2. **Principal Institutions.**—Particulars respecting the accommodation and the number of inmates of the principal institutions were published in earlier issues of the Official Year Book (*see* No. 22, p. 485).

3. **Revenue and Expenditure.**—Details regarding revenue and expenditure for the year 1950-51 are given in the following table.

BENEVOLENT HOMES : REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1950-51.

(£.)

Particulars.	N.S.W.(a)	Vic.(b)	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.					
Revenue—												
Government Aid	300,771	490,533	228,341	50,868	49,744	64,810	1,185,067					
Municipal Aid ..		939	..	..	..	..	939	
Public Subscriptions, Legacies	..	59,870	15,972	..	..	..	75,842		
Fees (c) ..	} 224,747	{ 75,574	103,265	20,279	56,561	38,174	754,008					
Other ..								10,104	22,136	2,351	65	752
Total ..	525,518	637,020	369,714	73,498	106,370	103,736	1,815,856					
Expenditure—												
Salaries and Wages ..	} 525,518	{ 268,387	159,127	41,945	65,681	83,015	1,917,492					
Upkeep and Repair of Buildings ..								20,623	14,123	7,739	1,309	1,249
All Other (d) ..								418,115	228,535	23,814	39,380	18,932
Total ..	525,518	707,125	401,785	73,498	106,370	103,196	1,917,492					

(a) These figures relate to the three State hospitals and homes only. (b) Year ended 31st March, 1951. (c) Includes Commonwealth Hospital Benefits and Age and Invalid Pension receipts. (d) Includes £270,729 in Victoria, £27,956 in Queensland, £4,615 in South Australia and £30 in Western Australia, covering such items as purchase of land, cost of new buildings and additions to buildings.

§ 2. Orphanages, Industrial Schools, etc.

1. **General.**—The methods of caring for orphans and neglected children differ extensively, inasmuch as some of the children are more or less segregated in orphanages and industrial schools, while others are boarded out with their mothers or female relatives or with approved foster-mothers. The children in orphanages and similar institutions may receive, in addition to primary education, some craft training. In all cases employment is found for the children on their discharge from the institution, and they remain for some time under the supervision of the proper authorities. The conditions under which orphans, neglected children and children boarded out live are subject to frequent departmental inspections.

2. **Principal Institutions.**—Particulars concerning the principal institutions in each State were published in earlier issues of the Official Year Book (see No. 22, p. 486).

3. **Transactions of State Departments.**—The following table summarizes the transactions of State Departments during 1950-51 in connexion with children under their control or supervision. In addition to neglected children, the figures include uncontrollable and convicted children who are wards of a Government authority, as well as poor children whose parents obtain assistance from the Government without giving up the legal right of custody.

CHILDREN UNDER GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY : SUMMARY, 1950-51.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.(a)	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
<i>A. Children maintained or subsidized by the State.</i>							
In State shelters, industrial schools, reformatories, etc.(b) ..	704	249	1,086	240	48	41	5,265
In licensed or approved institutions ..	704	1,480						46	453	214
Boarded out—							
With own mothers ..	5,647	2,119	3,032	34	22	..	10,854
With licensed foster-mothers, guardians, relatives and friends	1,419	457	325	1,264	293	130	3,888
Total children maintained or subsidized by the State	8,474	4,305	4,443	1,584	816	385	20,007
<i>B. Children not maintained or subsidized by the State.</i>							
In licensed or approved institutions ..	1,460	..	..	46	734	..	2,240
Boarded out ..	246	..	..	1,321	286	..	1,853
On probation (from Institutions or Children's Courts) ..	2,306	848	163	285	110	..	3,712
In service or apprenticed	96	214	283	174	104	..	871
Adopted or otherwise placed ..	387	140	16	591	76	..	1,210
Total children not maintained or subsidized by the State ..	4,495	1,202	462	2,417	1,310	..	9,886
Total children under State control or supervision ..	12,969	5,507	4,905	4,001	2,126	385	29,893
<i>Gross cost of children's relief ..</i>	£ 676,547	£ 247,115	£ 207,460	£ 179,748	£ 56,593	£ 17,832	£ 1,385,295
<i>Receipts from parents' contributions, etc. ..</i>	49,164	24,203	17,361	32,441	10,789	2,183	136,141
<i>Net Cost to State ..</i>	627,383	222,912	190,099	147,307	45,804	15,649	1,249,154

(a) Year ended 31st December, 1950.

(b) Includes inmates of hospitals.

The total expenditure on children's relief in the foregoing table shows considerable variation amongst the States owing to the different methods of treating assistance to mothers with dependent children. In South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania large amounts have been excluded from the total expenditure on this account owing to the difficulty of obtaining separate amounts for allowances made in respect of the dependent children only.

§ 3. Protection of Aborigines.

For the protection of the aboriginal Australian race there are institutions, under the supervision of Aborigines Boards, where these people are housed and encouraged to work, the children receiving elementary education. The work is usually carried on at mission stations, but many of the natives are nomadic, and receive food and

clothing when they call, whilst others but rarely come near the stations. The aboriginal native race is extinct in Tasmania. The expenditure from Consolidated Revenue in 1951-52 was as follows (figures in brackets are for year 1950-51):—New South Wales, £130,459 (£97,637); Victoria, £9,628 (£8,695); Queensland, £407,543 (£314,727); South Australia, £40,385 (£99,861); Western Australia, £164,338 (£148,035); Northern Territory, £213,260 (£125,485); Australian Capital Territory, £2,933 (£1,021); total for Australia, £969,046 (£795,461).

§ 4. Royal Life Saving Society.

In each of the State capitals, "centres" of the Royal Life Saving Society have been established, and in some States sub-centres have also been established in the larger provincial districts. In 1934 an Australian Federal Council of this Society was formed with headquarters at Melbourne, and each State centre, or branch, as it is now called, is controlled by the new organization. Saving of life from drowning and other forms of asphyxiation is the object of the Society, and its immediate aims are (a) educative and (b) remedial. The encouragement of swimming and life-saving in schools, colleges, clubs, etc., will bring about a more widespread knowledge of these necessary matters, and there is increasing provision of life-belts, reels, lines, warning provisions, and other first-aid appliances on ocean beaches, wharves and other suitable places. Numerous certificates of proficiency in various grades are issued annually after examination throughout Australia, the number for the individual States for 1951-52 being:—New South Wales, 19,718; Victoria, 7,455; Queensland, 2,656; South Australia, 261; Western Australia, 1,347; and Tasmania, 1,650.

§ 5. Royal Humane Society.

The Royal Humane Society of Australasia has as its main object the granting of awards to all who with bravery, skill and perseverance promptly risk their own lives in saving or attempting to save those of their fellow creatures. The classes of awards are (a) Gold Medal; (b) Silver Medal; (c) Bronze Medal; and (d) Certificate of Merit. The Clarke Medal is awarded for the outstanding case of the year, and the Rupert Wilks Trophy is awarded for the most outstanding bravery by a child under 13 years of age. About 75 awards are made annually.

§ 6. Other Charitable Institutions.

Owing to the variety of name and function of other charitable institutions it has been found impracticable to give detailed results. The aid given in kind—food, clothing, tools of trade, etc.—is considerable, whilst the shelter and treatment afforded range from a bed for a night for casual callers in establishments ministering minor charity to indoor treatment over long periods in those that exist for the relief of the aged and the infirm. The institutions not so particularized include homes for the deaf, dumb and blind, infant homes, homes for the destitute and aged poor, industrial colonies, night shelters, crèches, rescue homes for females, free kindergartens, auxiliary medical charities, free dispensaries, benevolent societies and nursing systems, ambulance and health societies, boys' brigades, humane and animals' protection societies, prisoners' aid associations, shipwreck relief societies, bush fire, flood and mining accident relief funds, etc.