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OF THE

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

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The Right Honorable the Treasurer

BY

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COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN.



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PREFACE.

By the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Parliament of the Commonwealth is empowered, subject to the Constitution, "to make laws for the peace, order, and good government of the Commonwealth, with respect to Census and statistics." In the exercise of the power so conferred, a "Census and Statistics Act" was passed in 1905, and in the year following the "Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics" was created. The first Official Year Book was published early in 1908. The publication here presented is the forty-eighth Official Year Book issued under the authority of the Commonwealth Government.

The Synopsis on pp. xi to xxxii following shows the general arrangement of the work. The special index (preceding the General Index) provided at the end of the volume, together with certain references given in the various chapters, will assist in tracing in previous issues special articles and other more or less important miscellaneous matter which, owing to limitations of space, have been omitted or abbreviated in the present volume. Where, in the General Index, more than one reference to a subject is given, the chief reference (or references) has been specially indicated wherever possible.

Among the new matter included and existing matter revised or rearranged in this volume, the following items may be especially mentioned.

Chapter VI.—Manufacturing Industry. Transfer of sections from Chapter XXX.—Miscellaneous—The Standards Association of Australia (pp. 156–7); Industrial Design Council of Australia (p. 157).

Chapter XII.—Labour, Wages and Prices. New section relating to Annual Leave and Long Service Leave (p. 445).

Chapter XIV.—Transport and Communication. Transfer of sections from Chapter XXX.—Miscellaneous—Australian Shipbuilding Board (p. 514); Road Safety Organizations (pp. 553–4). New sections on the Australian Stevedoring Industry Authority (p. 514); International Air Agreements between Australia and other countries (pp. 555–6).

Chapter XV.—Education and Research. The scope of the former Chapter on Education has been widened to include research, and certain sections were transferred from Chapter XXX.—Miscellaneous—Film Censorship Board (p. 626); Australian National Film Board and the Film Division (pp. 627–8); Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (pp. 628–30); Mount Stromlo Observatory (pp. 630–1); Australian Atomic Energy Commission (pp. 631–3).

Chapter XVII.—Public Health. New section giving particulars of Private Hospitals (pp. 694–5).

Chapter XX.—Private Finance. Revised and enlarged section dealing with Instalment Credit for Retail Sales (pp. 809–11); new section relating to Unit Trusts, Land Trusts and Mutual Funds (p. 814).

Chapter XXVII.—Mineral Industry. Special article contributed by the Bureau of Mineral Resources, Geology and Geophysics, dealing with Oil Exploration in Australia (pp. 1094–8).

Chapter XXXI.—Statistical Organization and Sources of Information. Detailed list of publications issued by the Deputy Commonwealth Statistician in each State (pp. 1163–65).

Appendix.—Summarized results of the 1961 Census of Population dealing with the Characteristics of the Population and of Dwellings at 30th June, 1961.

The material in the Year Book has been carefully checked throughout, but I shall be grateful to those who will be kind enough to point out defects or make suggestions.

The statistics contained in the majority of the chapters of this volume relate to the years ended June or December, 1961, and the Appendix contains a selection of the more significant data which have become available since the chapters were prepared. As with previous Year Books, the contents of this issue have already been published in separate Parts as the successive chapters or groups of chapters were printed. More detailed statistics on the subjects dealt with in the Year Book are available in the various annual printed reports issued by this Bureau. (For particulars of Year Book Parts and Annual Statistical Reports see Price List of Publications at the end of this volume.) Official Year Books published by the Deputy Commonwealth Statisticians in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia provide detailed information for their respective States.

The most recent statistics published by this Bureau are contained in the *Digest of Current Economic Statistics* (monthly), the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*, the *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics*, and in the other publications issued monthly, quarterly, half-yearly, or yearly, which are listed in § 2, Statistical Publications of Australia, Chapter XXXI.—Statistical Organization and Sources of Information, which contains also a complete list of the publications issued by the Bureau of Census and Statistics in each State.

This Preface is the first since Year Book No. 38, 1951, which has not borne the signature of my immediate predecessor, Mr. S. R. Carver. Except for two periods between 1946 and 1951, Mr. (now Sir Stanley) Carver occupied the position of Commonwealth Statistician, initially in an acting capacity, since 2nd December, 1940. He held office during a period which included years of war and years of post-war readjustment. It was a period of great development in Australian official statistics, and constituted a phase which culminated in the integration of the Commonwealth and State statistical services. This achievement stands as a monument to Sir Stanley Carver, since it was largely through his ceaseless and untiring efforts that what was first thought of only as an ideal was finally realized. Much of the work involved in this development had to be performed with insufficient resources. In consequence, severe strain was imposed on the staff of the Bureau, and on none more than its chief. Throughout this period of strain, in face of continued and urgent demands for more and better statistics, Sir Stanley Carver never compromised with his statistical principles; his insistence that the results of any new statistic should always be in keeping with his own rigorous standards did much to keep those standards alive at a time when any relaxing of them would have had the most adverse effects for years to come. To Sir Stanley the integrity of statistics was his lode-star, and although he has now gone from the Bureau, his presence will remain in the precepts he inculcated.

My thanks are tendered to the Statisticians in each State, who have collected and compiled the data on which a great part of the information given in the Official Year Book is based. Thanks are also tendered to the responsible officers of the various Commonwealth and State Departments, and to others who have kindly, and often at considerable trouble, supplied information.

I also desire to express my keen appreciation of the valuable work performed by Mr. J. M. Jones, B.A., Editor of Publications, Mr. E. H. Harry, B.A., B.Com., Mr. W. H. D. Morris, B.Com. and Mr. J. L. Melhuish, B.A., Assistant Editors, and the other officers of the Publications Division, and of the services rendered by the officers in charge of the several Branches of the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics upon whom has devolved the duty of revising the chapters relative to their respective Branches, and by the Government Printer and his staff in printing this Year Book and in assisting and advising throughout its preparation.

K. M. ARCHER,
Commonwealth Statistician.

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS,
Canberra, A.C.T., October, 1962.

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CORRIGENDA.

(i) *See* Appendix, p. 1216 (Commonwealth Parliaments and Elections, p. 66), p. 1218 (Growth of Population, p. 287, and Mean Population, p. 292), and p. 1243 (State Government Expenditure on Education, Science and Art, p. 634).

(ii) P. 851.—Total Revenue (£'000)—1959–60, Tasmania, should read 25,099.

P. 859.—Surplus Revenue per Head of Population—1959–60, should read Victoria 2s. 5d.; Queensland — 2s. 2d.; 1960–61, should read Victoria 1s. 3d., Queensland — 8s. 2d.