

CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT.

Division of
Govern-
mental
functions

Victoria is one of the six States forming the Commonwealth of Australia; and is, except as regards matters dealt with by the Federal Parliament, a self-governing colony under the British Crown. By the Victorian Constitution, the Parliament was empowered generally "to make laws in and for Victoria in all cases whatsoever"; and in addition was granted special powers to alter the Constitution, to impose customs duties, and to regulate mining and the sale and occupation of Crown lands. Such powers are merely restricted to this extent:—That certain measures are to be reserved for the Royal Assent, such, for instance, as matters inconsistent with treaty obligations, divorce, currency, military or naval discipline, imperial trade and shipping, and rights of British subjects not resident in the colony; but the Royal Assent is never withheld so long as such measures are not "repugnant to the law of England." The powers of the Victorian Parliament have been considerably curtailed by the federation of the Australian Colonies, and the transfer of various functions to the Commonwealth Parliament. Although the matters which will ultimately be dealt with by that body will abrogate from the State Parliament many of its present functions, the internal development of the State still depends upon the local Parliament; the power of taxation for State purposes (other than by Customs and Excise) is retained; Crown lands, agriculture, mining, and factory legislation also remain; neither the State railways nor the public debts have yet been touched by the Commonwealth; whilst it will probably be many years before that Parliament will be able to assume all the multifarious functions assigned to it, and which must in the interim be dealt with by the States. The Victorian Parliament has also delegated to municipal bodies certain matters of a local nature, and a complete system of municipal government has been established.

THE CONSTITUTION OF VICTORIA.

Historical
synopsis.

On the separation of the district of Port Phillip from the other part of New South Wales, in 1851, and its formation into the separate self-governing Colony of Victoria, the legislature established consisted of one chamber, a Legislative Council of thirty members, ten appointed by the Crown and twenty elected. The qualification for electors was the possession of a freehold estate of the clear value of £100 or a

leasehold of the clear annual value of £10. In December, 1852, a despatch was received from Sir John S. Pakington, then Secretary of State for the Colonies, inviting the Legislative Council to pass a Bill more nearly assimilating the form of the institutions of the colony to that prevailing in the mother country, particularly in reference to the creation of a second chamber. The suggestion was acted on, and in March, 1854, a Bill "to establish a constitution in and for the Colony of Victoria" was passed, submitted to the Lieutenant-Governor, and at once forwarded by him to the Secretary of State. The Bill was assented to by Her Majesty in Council on the 21st July, 1855; it came into force by proclamation on the 23rd November, 1855; and the first meeting of the new Parliament was held on the 21st November, 1856. Under the new constitution, which is still in force, although important amendments have from time to time been made, the widest powers of self-government were granted, the change to responsible government was made, and the bi-cameral and cabinet systems were introduced.

The first alteration made by the Victorian Parliament in the constitution was the abolition of the property qualification of members of the Legislative Assembly on 27th August, 1857, and the establishment of universal manhood suffrage on 24th November of the same year. On 17th December, 1858, the number of members of the Legislative Assembly was increased to 78, to be returned for 49 electoral districts. It was not until over ten years later, viz., on the 1st January, 1869, that another change was made, when the property qualification of members of the Legislative Council was reduced from £5,000 capital value or £500 annual value to half those amounts respectively, and that of electors from £1,000 capital value or £100 annual value to an annual value of £50, if the lands were rated to that amount in some municipal district or districts. On 2nd November, 1876, the number of members of the Legislative Assembly was increased to 86, and the districts to 55. The property qualification of members and electors of the Legislative Council was further reduced, on the 28th November, 1881, to a freehold of the annual rateable value of £100, free of all incumbrances in the case of a member, and to freehold of the annual rateable value of £10, or a leasehold originally created for not less than five years, or occupying tenancy of the rateable annual value of £25, in the case of an elector. By the same Act the number of members of the Council was increased from 30 to 42, the number of provinces from 6 to 14, whilst the tenure was reduced to six years. The final increase in the number of members was made on the 22nd December, 1888, when the number for the Council was increased to 48 and that for the Assembly to 95 for 84 districts.

Changes in
the consti-
tution.

Plural
voting
abolished.

On the 30th August, 1899, plural voting was abolished, it being provided that no person should on any one day vote in more than one electoral district at an election for the Assembly. Plural voting is still, however, permissible in elections for the Upper House, but owing to the large area of the provinces, it is improbable that the right is exercised to any extent.

Reform Act
1903.

An Act "to provide for the Reform of the Constitution of Victoria" was passed and reserved for the Royal Assent on the 7th April, 1903. After an interval of some months the Royal Assent was proclaimed on the 26th November, 1903. This Act, entitled the "Constitution Act 1903," provides for a reduction in the number of responsible Ministers from 10 to 8, and their salaries from £10,400 to £8,400; in the number of members of the Legislative Council from 48 to 35, including one special representative for the State railways and public servants; but an increase in the number of Electoral Provinces from 14 to 17, each being now represented by 2 members elected for six years—1 retiring every three years by rotation, except at a general election, when one-half of the members are to be elected for only three years. The property qualification of members of the Council was reduced from £100 to £50 as the annual value of the freehold, and that of electors qualifying as lessees or occupying tenants from an annual value of £25 to one of £15. A reduction was also made in the number of members of the Legislative Assembly from 95 to 68—including 2 to be specially elected by the railway officers, and 1 by the State public servants, and in that of the electoral districts from 84 to 65.

Both Houses were prorogued on 24th December, 1903, being several weeks after the Royal Assent to the Act had been proclaimed, Acts having been passed determining the boundaries of the new constituencies. Power is given to any Minister who is a member of the Assembly to sit in the Council—or vice versa—in order to explain the provisions of any measure connected with any department administered by him. The Council is empowered to suggest alterations in any Appropriation Bill once at each of three stages of the Bill, viz.—(a) when in Committee, (b) on the Report of the Committee, (c) on the third reading. The remedy provided to meet disagreements between the two Houses is the simultaneous dissolution of both after a Bill has been twice submitted to, and rejected by, the Council—viz., once before, and once after, a dissolution of the Assembly in consequence of such first rejection.

Voting by
post at
Elections.

To facilitate the exercise of the franchise in sparsely populated districts, the "Voting by Post Act 1900" was passed on the 17th October, 1900. This measure enables any elector,

who is resident, or is likely to be staying, on the polling day more than five miles from the nearest polling booth, or who is prevented by reason of sickness or infirmity from voting personally, to obtain a ballot paper entitling him to vote by post for any candidate in his district standing for either House of Parliament. This Act came into force on 1st December, 1900, and was to continue in force for three years, and thence until the end of the next ensuing session of Parliament. The first experience of the working of this Act was at the Commonwealth Elections held in March, 1901, at which 1,269 postal ballot papers were used in 18 out of the 19 contested districts for the House of Representatives, being about 1 per cent. of the total votes recorded. The number of electors who voted by post for the Senate throughout the whole State was 1,227 or 1 in every 114 who voted. Voting by post is also provided for in the "Commonwealth Electoral Act."

In cases where a person is entitled to become an elector and his name does not appear on the Ratepayers' or General Roll, such person could, by an Act passed in 1898, take out a Right at any time before the day of election, after giving seven days' notice, and apply to a Court of Petty Sessions for a Certificate enabling him to vote. The "Reform Act of 1903" has now, however, restricted the issue of these certificates. No certificate shall now be granted between the day of dissolution and the day of polling in the case of a Parliament dissolved before its expiry by effluxion of time; nor between thirty days before the time at which the Assembly would expire by effluxion of time, if not sooner dissolved, and the day of polling; nor between the day on which any member's seat becomes vacant and the day of polling.

Voters' Certificates.

THE REFORMED CONSTITUTION.

The Governor acts under the authority of Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, and according to Royal instructions issued by the Colonial Office. He is the official head of the Legislature, and assents in the name of the Crown to all Acts passed by the Parliament, reserving for the Royal Assent certain Bills already described. The only matters in which the exercise of any discretion is required on the part of the Governor are the assenting to or dissenting from, or reserving, of Bills passed by the Parliament; the granting or withholding of a dissolution of Parliament when requested by a Premier; or the appointment of a new Ministry.

The Governor.

When a Ministry is defeated in Parliament or at the polls, its members tender their resignations to the Governor, whose duty it is to announce his intention of accepting them.

Forming a new Ministry.

The outgoing Premier generally suggests to the Governor, as his successor, the name of the most prominent of his opponents, generally the leader of the Opposition. Thereupon the Governor "sends for" the individual suggested, who, if he feels in a position to carry on the Government, endeavours to form a Ministry. If he fails, he informs the Governor of the fact and some one else is applied to. The distribution of portfolios is first arranged by the proposed Ministers themselves, and submitted to the Governor for approval, who always adopts it, unless the list should contain the name of anyone against whom very serious objections exist, or proposes a new and revolutionary arrangement.

Granting
a dissolution.

When a Ministry finds that it is unable to carry on the affairs of the country in the manner it deems essential for the well-being of the community, or when it is defeated on a measure which it considers vital, or when it has not a proper working majority, the Premier may, instead of advising the Governor to "send for" some one else, ask for a dissolution; and the principle which decides a Governor in granting or refusing such a request is the probability of success for the Ministry in the event of its being granted. In regard to these matters, however, the instructions issued to the Governor are elaborate and definite; and it is very rarely that any personal exercise of discretion is necessary. In other matters the Governor acts on the advice of the Executive Council.

The Execu-
tive
Council.

The Executive Council consists of two classes of members, viz.:—(a) Members forming the Ministry of the day, whether salaried or honorary; (b) all ex-Ministers who have not actually resigned or vacated their seats. These Executive Councillors take no active part, as such, in the deliberations of the Ministry, the title being merely an honorary distinction. The expression "Governor in Council," occurring so frequently in Victorian Acts, means the Governor by and with the advice of such members of the Executive Council as are included in the former category mentioned above. Even in its active phase, that of the existing Ministry, the Executive Council has two shapes, the formal and the informal. The latter, which is spoken of as the "Cabinet," is the real core and essence of the Government. In its private meetings at the Premier's office no one is admitted but the actual Ministry of the day, no records of the meetings transpire, and no official notice is ever taken of the proceedings. The former is presided over by the Governor, and attended by the Clerk of the Council, who keeps a formal record of its proceedings and deliberations, which are frequently published, with the names of its members prefixed. Here the decisions of the Cabinet are put into official form.

The number of salaried Ministers is now limited to eight, and the salaries to £8,400; and four at least must be members of the Council or Assembly, but not more than two shall be members of the Council nor more than six of the Assembly. Upon accepting salaried office a Minister vacates his seat in Parliament, but he is re-eligible, and a subsequent change from one office to another does not necessitate his re-election. Although only four Ministers are required to be members of either House, in practice all members of a Ministry are always members. The head of the Ministry—the Premier, a merely titular distinction—almost invariably fills the office either of Treasurer or Chief Secretary, but may occupy any office. The Hon. W. H. Irvine, the last Premier, during the greater portion of the last Parliament held the position of Attorney-General and Solicitor-General.

Responsible
Ministers.

The Parliament consists of two Chambers, the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly. The general power of legislation is conferred upon "Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the said Council and Assembly." By Sec. 56 of the "Constitution Act" it was provided that—"All Bills for appropriating any part of the Revenue of Victoria, and for imposing any duty, rate, tax, rent, return, or impost shall originate in the Assembly, and may be rejected, but not altered by the Council." There was great difference of opinion as to the interpretation of this section, it being held by many that the words "all Bills for appropriating" (revenue) "and for imposing" (taxes) signified Bills having for their principal object the authorizing of payments or the granting of supply; whilst others contended that legislation which merely incidentally or consequentially authorizes the collection of money or the payment of officials may be dealt with as ordinary legislation by the Council. This matter has now been dealt with by Sec. 30 of the "Reform Act of 1903," which declares that a Bill shall not be deemed for appropriating, &c., or for imposing, &c., by reason only of its containing provisions "for the imposition or appropriation of fines or other pecuniary penalties or for the demand or payment or appropriation of fees for licences or fees for services under such Bill." In regard to the latter portion of Sec. 56, providing that money bills must originate in the Assembly, and may be rejected but not altered by the Council, the new Act provides, as in the Commonwealth Constitution, that the Council may suggest alterations as mentioned previously.

The Parlia-
ment.

It is also provided by Sec. 57 of the Constitution that Appropriation Bills must have been first recommended by a message of the Governor to the Assembly before they can be introduced. The Governor, of course, acts in this matter on the advice of the Ministry.

The Legis-
lative
Council.

The Council—called the Upper House—now consists of thirty-five members, one of whom is a representative of the State public officers and railways officers. The State is now divided into seventeen electoral provinces, each returning two members. The member in each constituency who, of the two elected, receives the highest number of votes retains his seat for six years, whilst the other member retains his seat for three years only, subject, of course, to the dissolution of both Houses in case of a deadlock, as previously described. One half of the members will thus retire every three years. To be qualified for membership, a candidate must be a male of the age of thirty years, either a natural-born subject or naturalized and resident in Victoria for ten years, and must have been beneficially entitled to a freehold estate in Victoria of the clear annual value of £50 for one year “previously to” his election. The following male persons aged twenty-one or over, if they are natural-born subjects or naturalized for three years and resident in Victoria for twelve months, are entitled to vote for the Council in that electoral division on the rolls of which their names appear:—The owner of a freehold rated at an annual value of £10; the owner of a leasehold, created originally for five years, or the occupying tenant, of land rated at £15 annual value; graduates of a British University, matriculated students of the University of Melbourne, barristers and solicitors, legally-qualified medical practitioners, duly appointed ministers of religion, certificated schoolmasters, naval and military officers, active and retired. All voters, except those claiming in respect of property, must take out electors’ rights in the division in which they reside.

The Legis-
lative
Assembly.

The Assembly, commonly called the Popular or Lower House, now consists of sixty-eight members, two of whom are special representatives of the railway officers, and one of whom is a special representative of the State Public Service proper, including the police and teachers of State schools. Officers employed under the Commonwealth and temporary officers under the State still retain the ordinary franchise. Provision is also made for the reduction of the railways representation to one member in the event of the number of officers not exceeding the quota by one-half. The quota is determined by dividing the total number of electors on the rolls for the Assembly by sixty-eight. For the other sixty-five seats single electorates are now provided. Each Assembly expires by effluxion of time at the end of three years from its first meeting, and may be sooner dissolved by the Governor. To be qualified for election to the Assembly, a candidate must be a natural-born subject or a person who has been naturalized for five years and resident in Victoria for two years. The following persons are ineligible:—Judges, ministers of religion, Government contractors, uncertificated insolvents,

holders of offices of profit under the Crown (except Ministers), and persons who have been attainted of treason, or convicted of felony or infamous offence in the British dominions. Moreover, a member vacates his seat if he resigns; is absent for a whole session without permission of the House; takes any oath or declaration of allegiance or adherence to a foreign power, or becomes a subject of a foreign State; becomes bankrupt, insolvent, or a public defaulter; is attainted of treason, or convicted of felony, &c.; becomes "non compos mentis"; or enters into a Government contract. Universal manhood suffrage is in force for the Assembly, all males over the age of twenty-one years, natural-born or naturalized, untainted by crime, being allowed a vote if they hold an elector's right and their names are on a general roll, and are resident in the State twelve months and in the district one month. If a person is on a ratepayers' roll it is unnecessary to take out an elector's right or to reside in the district, although the occupying tenant is entitled to be entered as the ratepayer in priority to the owner, and is in most cases so entered. Where a tenant finds that his landlord has paid the rates in his own name, and is consequently entered as the ratepayer in respect of the premises occupied by the tenant, an elector's right must be taken out. Even where the tenant is entered on the Ratepayers' Roll in respect of the premises occupied by him, and the property is of the capital value of £50 or the annual value of £5, the owner may take out an elector's right in respect thereof. There are consequently a large number of persons on the rolls for several districts who were formerly entitled to vote in all of such districts; but, in August, 1899, plural voting was abolished in respect of the Assembly, and now a vote is allowed in only one constituency, although the elector may, if on the roll for more than one district, choose which district he shall vote in. A member of the Assembly receives reimbursement of his expenses in relation to his attendance at the rate of £300 per annum. The Assembly is presided over by a Speaker, who is elected at the first meeting after every general election, and vacates his seat by expiry or dissolution of the House, and by death, resignation, or a removing vote of the House. When the Assembly resolves itself into a Committee of the whole House to consider the details of any measure, it is presided over by a Chairman of Committees. The Assembly cannot proceed to business unless twenty members, exclusive of the Speaker, are present; and the Speaker has a casting but no substantive vote.

By an Act (No. 1891) passed on the 24th December, 1903, it is provided that the electoral expenses (other than personal expenses of a candidate in travelling and attending election meetings) of a candidate for the Legislative Council and

Limitation
of election
expenses.

Assembly shall not exceed £400 and £150 respectively. A limitation is also placed upon the matters in respect of which such sums may be expended. No electoral expenses shall be incurred by or on behalf of a candidate except in respect of:—

- (1) The expenses of printing, advertising, publishing, issuing, and distributing addresses and notices, and purchase of rolls.
- (2) The expenses of stationery, messages, postage, and telegrams.
- (3) The expenses of holding public meetings, and hiring halls for that purpose.
- (4) The expenses of committee rooms.
- (5) One scrutineer at each polling-booth, and no more.
- (6) One agent for any electoral province or district.

STATE ELECTIONS.

At the general State elections, held on 1st October, 1902, 25 of the 95 seats were uncontested. The number of electors on the rolls for the Assembly, including voters' certificates issued by the Court, was 290,241, of whom 74,178 were in uncontested districts; and of these 141,471 voted, being 65·47 per cent. of the number entitled. The following are the proportions who voted at the last fifteen general elections of the State Lower House in districts in which the election was contested:—

PROPORTION OF VOTERS AT GENERAL ELECTIONS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1866 TO 1902.

| Year of General Election. | Proportion of Electors of Contested Districts who voted. | Year of General Election. | Proportion of Electors of Contested Districts who voted. |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | Per cent. | | Per cent. |
| 1866 | 55·10 | 1886 | 64·70 |
| 1868 | 61·59 | 1889 | 66·58 |
| 1871 | 65·02 | 1892 | 65·12 |
| 1874 | 61·00 | 1894 | 70·99 |
| 1877 | 62·29 | 1897 | 70·33 |
| 1880 (February) | 66·56 | 1900 | 63·47 |
| 1880 (July) | 65·85 | 1902 | 65·47 |
| 1883 | 64·96 | | |

STATE ACTS PASSED, 1903.

The following is a short synopsis of the Acts passed during 1903 by the Victorian Parliament:—

Act No. Date.

1814. February 5th—The *Ballarat Court House Land Act* 1902 revokes in part a Crown grant to the Ballarat municipality of certain land for market purposes, in order that a court house may be built upon it.

State
elections,
votes
polled, &c

Acts passed
during
1903.

1815. February 5th—The *Administration and Probate Act* 1903 amends, for the year 1903, the Administration and Probate Acts, by reducing the value of estates upon which duty is chargeable, to £100, and by increasing the rate per cent. on all estates, real and personal, according to a sliding scale given in a schedule. Provisions are also included dealing with refund of excess duty, additional particulars in statements, settlements, colorable gifts, joint transfers and investments, and duties payable in case of widows and children.
1816. February 6th—The *Seed Advances Act* 1903 authorizes the Minister to make advances, during 1903, not exceeding in value £65 where a mortgage is the security, or £40 where a preferable lien on crops is the security, of seed or fodder, or both, or to give an order for the same to any cultivator, for the purpose of cultivating his farm. To provide for these loans, authority is given to appropriate any loan moneys in hand up to £100,000, to be replaced by the issue of Government debentures. Four per cent. interest is to be charged on the advances.
1817. February 20th—The *Acting Victorian Railways Commissioner Act* 1903 gives the Governor-in-Council power to appoint an Acting Railways Commissioner for any period up to three months.
1818. February 27th—This Act applies £323,073 out of the consolidated revenue to the service of the year 1902-3.
1819. March 5th—The *Income Tax Act* 1903 declares the rates for 1903 of tax on taxable incomes—that is, on incomes over £125, with an exemption of £100, except in the case of companies, or of persons whose income is over £500. The rate is 4d. in the £ of the taxable amount of incomes derived from personal exertion, up to £500; 5d. on that between £500 and £1,000; 6d. on that between £1,000 and £1,500; 7d. on that between £1,500 and £2,000; and 8d. on anything over £2,000. On incomes derived from property double rates are charged. The Act also clearly sets forth the position of companies. These are taxable as persons, except mining companies, the shareholders of which pay on the dividends received. Special provision is made for the assessment and taxation of life, fire, fidelity, and guarantee assurance and insurance companies. Executors of the estates of deceased taxpayers are to make returns of such estates, or, if unable to do so, the Commissioner may make an assessment of the amount which he thinks ought to be taxed. The Income Tax Acts are continued in force until 31st December, 1903.
1820. April 6th—The *Railways Act* 1903 provides that special and deferred repairs to the extent of £60,000 may be effected in railway lines and works, and the cost thereof paid out of the Railway Accident Fund. The Railways Stores Suspense Account is not to be credited with the stores, to the value of £50,000 required for these repairs.
1821. April 6th—The *Church of England Act* 1903 places on a legal basis the first assemblies held in the dioceses of Ballarat, Bendigo, and Wangaratta, and declares that every lay representative who took part or voted at such first assembly is deemed to have been duly elected and qualified as a lay member thereof.
1822. April 6th—The *Mallee Land Account Act* 1903 authorizes the transfer before the 31st August, 1903, of the whole or any part of the sum standing to the credit of the Mallee land account, to the consolidated revenue, in the event of there being a deficit in the accounts of the year ending 30th June, 1903.

1823. April 6th—The *Income Tax Receipts Act* 1903 enacts that income tax collected in July and August shall be credited to the financial year 1902-3.
1824. April 6th—The *Patents Act* 1903 repeals the *Patents Act* 1890 in regard to setting out in the complete specification, and to a report by the Examiner, as to whether or not an invention was novel, or not already in possession of the public with the consent or allowance of the true and first inventor.
1825. April 6th—The *Victorian Railways Commissioners Act* 1903 provides for the appointment of three railways commissioners in place of one, and fixes their salaries, terms of office, and powers.
1826. April 6th—The *University Act* 1903 gives power to the University of Melbourne to grant new degrees, abolishing the restriction imposed by the Act of 1890, viz:—The granting only of degrees which can be conferred by any university in the British dominions.
1827. April 6th—The *Probate Charges Act* 1903 relates to the legal charges for obtaining probate or letters of administration. Obtaining a grant of probate of an estate of value not exceeding £600 is chargeable at £6, and for every additional £100 or part thereof up to £1,500, a further sum of 10s.; and for every addition of £500 or part thereof up to £5,000, a further charge of 10s. is added. For obtaining letters of administration of an estate of value not exceeding £1,000, the charge is £2 higher than the rates for obtaining probate; and where the property is in excess of £1,000 but below £5,000, the charge is £3 10s. higher than the probate charge. These charges do not include the cost of necessary advertising, fees, duty, or stamps, nor preparing and passing statement for duty; but for unusual work, a legal practitioner may have his bill of costs submitted to and taxed by the taxing officer.
1828. April 6th—The *Coroners Act* 1903 gives coroners and justices authority to hold inquests and inquiries without a jury. In special cases, however, provision is made for an inquest by jury.
1829. April 6th—The *Unlawful Assemblies and Processions Act* 1903 defines the boundaries within which it is illegal to hold meetings and processions in the vicinity of the State Parliament House.
1830. April 6th—The *Yea Racecourse and Public Recreation Reserve Land Act* 1903 provides for the sale of the Yea racecourse and public recreation reserve, and the purchase of other land in lieu thereof.
1831. April 6th—The *Land Act* 1903 relates to the selection and purchase of Crown land. Any unalienated land of the Crown may, before or after being classified, be made available for selection under grazing or agricultural allotment licence or grazing area lease. A provisional valuation and classification is to be made before the land is available, showing the rates of licence fee, rent, or purchase money payable therefor; and on the completion of a permanent survey the value may be determined by a classification board, and the fee, rent, and purchase money fixed to accord with the value as so determined; and these rates shall be substituted for those fixed by the *Land Act* 1901 for land of the same classification. Power is also given to the Governor-in-Council to increase the rates of fees, rent, or purchase money payable under the previous Act, for any unalienated land of the Crown.

1832. April 6th—The *Water Act* 1903 provides that holders of Crown leases within the Condah Swamp lands area for terms of twenty-one years shall be deemed to be the owners of the land for the purposes of the *Water Act*; but any petition to the Governor-in-Council by owners of land praying for the constitution of an irrigation or water supply district and the creation of a trust must be signed by owners of land, a majority of whom are freeholders.
1833. April 6th—The *Colac Market Land Act* 1903 revokes the reservation of portion of certain land in Colac as a site for a market. The land is to be dealt with as unoccupied Crown land.
1834. April 6th—The *Colac Library Act* 1903 revokes the reservation of certain land in Colac as a site for a public library and reading room, and authorizes its sale.
1835. April 6th—The *Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages Act* 1903 provides for the legitimation of illegitimate children whose parents have, or shall have, intermarried, provided there were no legal impediments to the marriage at the time of the child's birth, on production to a registrar of a statutory declaration of the parentage and marriage and non-existence of impediment. Children so legitimated are entitled to all the rights of a child born in wedlock; but accrued rights in property are not affected. To take the benefit of the Act, illegitimate children of parents married before the passing of the Act must have been registered by 6th October, 1903 (being six months after the passing of the Act), but children, whether born before or after the passing of the Act, whose parents marry after the passing of the Act, must be registered within six months after the marriage.
1836. April 6th—The *Insolvency Act* 1903, amending the law relating to insolvency, deals with fees and remuneration payable to assignees, with deeds of arrangement, distress for rent against assigned estates, and other matters.
1837. April 6th—The *Legal Profession Practice Act* 1903 removes from women any sex disability for admission to practise as barristers and solicitors of the Supreme Court.
1838. April 6th—The *Benalla Fire Brigade Station Land Act* 1903 revokes in part a proclamation of the year 1874, as a public road, of certain land in Benalla, and vests it in the Country Fire Brigades Board.
1839. April 6th—The *St. Arnaud Land Act* 1903 revokes a permanent reservation of the year 1860, of certain land at St. Arnaud as a site for a combined denominational school, and re-vests it in the Crown.
1840. April 6th—The *Dairying Companies Act* 1903 adds certain other companies to the list of companies named in the Schedule of the Act of 1900.
1841. April 6th—The *Melbourne Tramways Trust Act* 1903 restricts the transfer of debentures held by the Trust, representing the sinking fund of that body, by permitting the Trust's Secretary to endorse on the face of the document a statement that the debenture has ceased to be transferable. If it is desired to make the document again transferable and negotiable, a note to that effect is added, signed by the Secretary and two members of the Trust.

1842. April 6th—The *Mildura Irrigation Trusts Act* 1903 amends the Act of 1895. The rates which may be struck on rateable land are fixed for the different classes of land. The Commissioners of the first Mildura Irrigation Trust are empowered to make regulations for the keeping in repair of pipes and apparatus and preventing any tampering therewith, for preventing waste of water, and generally for carrying into effect the provisions of the Trusts Acts. Arrears of rates may be met by a refusal of supply, and, in certain cases, by the forfeiture of the property. There are also many other new provisions in connection with these Trusts.
1843. April 6th—The *Necropolis, Spring Vale, Act* 1903 incorporates Trustees for the institution, providing for their retirement or replacement or reappointment, giving them power to borrow up to £15,000, and fixing their fees for attendance at meetings. They are to permit poor persons to be buried without charge, upon an order signed by a justice.
1844. April 7th—This Act applies £977,416 out of the consolidated revenue for the service of the year ending 30th June, 1903, and appropriates the sums granted under this and other Supply Acts, amounting in the aggregate to £4,361,799 for the purposes of the government of the State.

2ND SESSION.

1845. May 22nd—This Act applies £903,711 out of the consolidated revenue to the service of the year 1903-4.
1846. May 22nd—The *Railway Employés Strike Act* 1903 enacts that strikers have ceased to be officers of the railway service, and have forfeited all pension rights or retiring allowances, and all legal rights previously secured to them by virtue of their position in the service. The Commissioners have power to reinstate strikers and restore their rights; also to permanently engage persons taken on during the strike, and to promote non-strikers. No action is to hold against the Commissioners for any loss or damage arising out of the strike.
1847. May 22nd—The *Treasury Bonds Act* 1903 authorizes the issue of Treasury bonds up to £5,000,000. The rate of interest is not to exceed 4 per cent. The moneys raised are to be applied only towards paying off, re-purchasing, or redeeming the debentures issued under *The Railway Loan Act* 1878.
1848. May 22nd—The *Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works Payment Act* 1903 directs the application of £233,673 6s. 11d., payable by the board to the State by an Act of 1890, towards meeting losses on the flotation and conversion into government stock, or of flotation into Treasury bonds of moneys falling due in London, or to the credit of the inscribed stock redemption fund.
1849. August 25—The *Ministers and Special and other Appropriations Retrenchment Act* 1902, which was reserved for the King's assent on 25th November, 1902, is decreed to have been in operation from the 1st August, 1902, to 30th June, 1903. It provides for the reduction of salaries of Ministers of the Crown, the Master-in-Equity, and certain other officers of the public service. Relative position and seniority in the service is not to be altered by the reductions, nor are pensions and allowances to be affected.

3RD SESSION.

1850. September 30th—This Act applies £383,212 out of the consolidated revenue to the service of the year 1903-4, and makes it available for any service voted by the Legislative Assembly in the session.
1851. October 13th—The *Dairying Companies Act* 1903 (No. 2) further adds to the companies specified in the Schedule to the Act of 1900.
1852. October 26th—This Act applies £43,992 out of the consolidated revenue to the service of the year 1902-1903.
1853. October 26th—The *Agricultural Colleges Act* 1903 empowers the Council of agricultural education to advance to the municipality of Castle Donnington £800 out of the Agricultural College fund account for the construction of a lift bridge and a punt at Pentall Island. The Council of Agriculture is also empowered to spend £200 in the construction of a punt at the access to the eastern end of the island.
1854. October 26th—The *Benalla Fire Brigade Station Land Act* 1903 alters the frontage of the land vested in the Board.
1855. October 26th—The *Joint Library Committee Act* 1903 defines the tenure of the Parliamentary Library Committee.
1856. October 28th—This Act applies £711,349 out of the consolidated revenue for the service of the year 1903-4.
1857. October 30th—The *Factories and Shops Act* 1903 continues until the end of 1905, and amends, the provisions in force regarding Wages Boards. A Court of Industrial Appeals is constituted for deciding all appeals against determinations of special boards, or for dealing with determinations of special boards referred to the Court by the Minister. The Court is to consist of a Supreme Court Judge. The principles of determinations by special boards are laid down. No determination of a special board is to apply to the children of the employer.
1858. November 12th—The *Municipal Overdrafts (Indemnity) Act* 1903, dating from 29th September, 1903, indemnifies councillors of various municipalities for borrowing moneys by overdrafts on bankers for the purposes of their municipalities if the moneys so borrowed were *bona fide* used for municipal purposes. Power is also given to the municipalities to expend funds in defraying costs incurred in combating the outbreak of swine fever.
1859. November 12th—The *Royal Agricultural Show Day Act* 1903 enacts that Show Day is a holiday in metropolitan and certain country districts, which are specified in the Schedule.
1860. November 23rd—The *Senate Elections (Times and Places) Act* 1903 empowers the Governor-in-Council to fix dates and places in connection with the election of Federal senators for Victoria.
1861. November 23rd—The *Railway Passengers' Actions Act* 1903 facilitates the settling of claims for injuries.
1862. 23rd November—The *Administration and Probate Duties Act* 1903 (No. 2) extends Act No. 1815, previously referred to, until 1st January, 1905. The rates imposed therein are continued, with the exception that estates under £500 are now duty free.

1863. November 23rd—The *Income Tax Act* 1903 (No. 2) declares the rates of income tax for the year ending 31st December, 1904, and continues the Acts in force until that date. The minimum income taxable is £150, and the exemption is £100. Incomes from personal exertion are to pay 3d. for every pound of the taxable amount up to £300; thence up to £800, 4d.; thence to £1,300, 5d.; thence to £1,800, 6d.; and over £1,800, 7d. Incomes from property are double these rates.
1864. November 26th—The *Constitution Act* 1903 has been previously explained, on page 10, *ante*.
1865. December 9th—The *Old Age Pensions Act* 1903 amends the act of 1901, more clearly defining the responsibilities of relatives, and defines the position as to property which may accrue to pensioners, the amount of pension paid being deemed a debt to the Crown, after the death of the pensioner.
1866. December 22nd—The *Health Act* 1903 orders cowkeepers and dairymen to construct proper cowyards, pigsties, etc. It also regulates the use of nightsoil, thoroughly deodorized and disinfected, upon lands or gardens.
1867. December 22nd—The *Kerang Lands Act* 1903 provides for the sale of certain land granted as a site for a racecourse near Kerang, and for the application of the proceeds to the improvement of another site.
1868. December 22nd—The *Ballarat Agricultural and Pastoral Society's Land Act* 1903 provides for the resumption of certain land at Learmonth, for the sale of a certain portion of it, and for the payment of the proceeds to the Ballarat Agricultural and Pastoral Society.
1869. December 22nd—The *Surplus Revenue Act* 1903, dating from 30th June, 1903, applies the surplus revenue of the year ended on that date to the service of the year 1903-4.
1870. December 22nd—The *Municipal Endowment Reduction Act* 1903 provides for the temporary reduction of the municipal endowment to £50,000 for the year 1903-4.
1871. December 22nd—The *Wombat Land Act* 1903 revokes the permanent reservation of certain land at Wombat for the preservation and growth of timber. The land may now be dealt with as unalienated land of the Crown.
1872. December 22nd—The *Electoral Rolls Act* 1903 relates to the preparation of rolls for the two Houses of Parliament, suspending parts of other Acts from operation.
1873. December 22nd—The *Lunacy Act* 1903 amends the law relating to lunacy. Part I. deals with administration. An Inspector-General of the Insane, who must be a legally qualified medical practitioner, is to be appointed, to hold office for five years. The officers of the Lunacy department are removed from the control of the Public Service Board to that of the Inspector-General. A pathologist may be appointed for one year. Part II. deals with the reception of patients, specifying how persons deemed to be insane are to be examined by justices, and the certificates that are to attend their commitment to an asylum. All

such examinations are to be conducted in private. Part III. deals with the detention and maintenance of patients. In addition to proclaiming hospitals for the insane, the Governor-in-Council may proclaim receiving houses or wards in public hospitals, and justices may order persons apprehended under Part II. to be conveyed thither, whence, after observation and examination, they must be discharged or transferred to an asylum. Cottages and other separate accommodation may be relegated to the sole use of paying patients, and regulations made for their management, but these patients are to be subject to the same control and periodical examination as others. The Chief Secretary is empowered to issue licences for private asylums. Hospitals and wards for the criminal insane are to be provided. Restrictions are put upon the employment of mechanical restraint and seclusion. Official visitors are to be appointed to inspect patients and asylums, to make inquiries as to the care and treatment of patients, and to examine books and documents. A Supreme Court judge may direct any patient to be visited, and a report furnished. All patients in asylums are to be examined periodically by the superintendents, and those in licensed houses by the Government medical officer. Patients may be transferred from one asylum to another, or given trial leave outside the asylums, or boarded out. Patients may be taken out of Victoria by order of the Supreme Court. The methods of effecting the discharge of patients are also set out. The various forms of orders, registers, and certificates are given in the Schedules.

- 1874. December 22nd—The *Hepburn Springs Land Act* 1903 provides for the leasing of certain lands for the purpose of working mineral springs at Hepburn.
- 1875. December 24th—The *Transfer of Land Act* 1903 amends the Act of 1890, simplifying the procedure in regard to transfer of land.
- 1876. December 24th—The *Cremation Act* 1903 regulates cremation. Trustees of cemeteries, with four exceptions, may provide for cremation, and trustees of cemeteries for cremation may be appointed. Notice of intention to erect a crematorium must be published. All cremations are to be recorded in a register, and this register, or a copy or extract therefrom, is to be received in the courts as evidence of cremation. Permission to cremate must be obtained from an officer of the trustees on production of a medical certificate as to cause of death and other circumstances.
- 1877. December 24th—The *Committee of Public Accounts Act* 1903 defines the tenure of the Committee and gives it power to take evidence on oath.
- 1878. December 24th—The *Savings Bank Act* 1903 empowers the Commissioners to alter the rate of interest payable under the Act of 1896, but so that it shall not exceed 5 per cent., to alter the limit of the total issue of mortgage bonds and debentures from £2,000,000 to £3,000,000, to raise the limit of debentures issuable, and to issue debentures in exchange for mortgage bonds.
- 1879. December 24th—The *Burrumbeet Park Railway Construction Act* 1903 authorizes the construction of a line of railway from Burrumbeet Station to Burrumbeet Park Reserve.

1880. December 24th—The *Yarrowee Channel Further Loan Act* 1903 provides for a further grant of £1,131, and loan of £3,678 by the State for the Yarrowee Channel Works at Ballarat. The municipalities interested (the City of Ballarat and the Town of Ballarat East) are each liable for one moiety of the amount lent with interest at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., repayable by forty half-yearly instalments.
1881. December 24th—The *Water Supply Loans Application Act* 1903 sanctions the issue and application of certain sums of money available under Loan Acts for water supply in country districts. The total sanctioned is £220,005, of which £132,000 is to be applied towards the construction of the Goulburn National Works, comprising a weir, channels, storage reservoir at Waranga Swamp, and channel thence to the Campaspe.
1882. December 24th—The *Public Works Loan Application Act* 1903 sanctions the issue and application of certain sums of money amounting to £152,381 available under Loan Acts for public works, the principal of which are sanitary works in the metropolitan area, State schools in various places, additional strong room accommodation at the Titles Office, and the Court and Records Offices.
1883. December 24th—The *Libraries Act* 1903 enacts that absence of a trustee of the Melbourne Public Library for four months without leave vacates office, and forbids the appointment of a new trustee when the number would thereby exceed eighteen.
1884. December 24th—The *Railway Loan Application Act* 1903 sanctions the issue and application of certain sums amounting to £305,000, available under Loan Acts for railways, principally additional rolling stock and equipment, the Woomelang to Mildura, and the Burrumbeet Park lines, and additions and improvements to ways and works.
1885. December 24th—The *South Melbourne Loan Act* 1903 authorizes the City of South Melbourne to construct and provide certain permanent works and undertakings (alteration of streets, asphaltting, &c.) in lieu of certain others, the money for the latter not being required.
1886. December 24th—The *Companies Act* 1903 amends prior Acts in regard to filing, registering, and certifying mortgages.
1887. December 24th—The *Legal Practitioners Reciprocity Act* 1903 provides for the admission of legal practitioners from other States of the Commonwealth to practise in Victoria, on terms of reciprocity, and for the establishment of a council of legal education, having power to make and alter rules regulating the admission of legal practitioners.
1888. December 24th—The *Public Service Amendment Act* 1903 permits the substitution of a new life insurance policy of an appointee to the public service, for the original policy deposited with the Public Service Commissioner.
1889. December 24th—The *Fitzroy Loan Act* 1903 enables the Fitzroy council to carry out certain works (improvement of streets and drains) with the surplus moneys in hand from the No. 6 loan.
1890. December 24th—The *Ballarat Old Colonists Association Act* 1903 gives the trustees of the land in Lydiard-street, Ballarat, granted as a site for a hall and offices for the use of the Old Colonists' Association of that city, power to borrow money on security of rents.

1891. December 24th—The *Election Expenses Limitation Act* 1903 (after giving precise definitions of electoral expenses and candidate) limits the expenses which may be incurred by candidates for the State Parliament, to a maximum of £400 and £150 for the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly respectively. The matters upon which such expenditure may be incurred are limited and defined by the Act.
1892. December 24th—This Act applies £2,263,942 out of the consolidated revenue to the service of the year 1903-4, and appropriates the supplies now and previously granted, amounting to £4,306,206, to the service of the Government.
1893. December 24th—The *Local Government Act* 1903 consolidates and amends the laws relating to local government. Its chief provisions are summarized under "Local Government," page 40, *post*.
1894. December 24th—The *Unused Roads and Water Frontages Act* 1903 provides for the licensing of unused public roads and water frontages, at the rate of £5 per cent. of the capital value of the licensed land. The proceeds of the licence fees are to form a trust fund, called "The Unused Roads and Water Frontages Fund," and are to be applied towards the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges.
- 1895 and 1896. December 24th—The *Electoral Districts Boundaries Act* 1903, and the *Electoral Provinces Boundaries Act* 1903, determine the boundaries of the Assembly electoral districts and the Council electoral provinces respectively, for the purposes of the reforms enacted by the *Constitution Act* 1903.

OFFICIAL AND PARLIAMENTARY.

A full list of the Governors of Victoria since 1839, when Mr. Charles Joseph La Trobe was appointed Superintendent of the District of Port Phillip, will be found in Part Blue Book of the Statistical Register for 1901. Sir George Sydenham Clarke, K.C.M.G., assumed office as Governor on 10th December, 1901, and was still in office at the end of 1903, he being then on leave in England, having been appointed as one of a committee of three for the purpose of advising the British Government as to the reform of the War Office. Sir George Clarke left for England on 24th November, 1903, and during his absence on leave Sir John Madden, K.C.M.G., Lieutenant-Governor, acted as Governor. It has since been cabled from England that Sir Reginald Talbot has been appointed as the new Governor of Victoria.

Governors of
Victoria.

The names of the present Governors of the States and New Zealand and the dependencies, and the dates of their

Governors
of Austral-
asian
States.

assumption of office, according to the latest available official information, are as follow:—

GOVERNORS OF AUSTRALASIAN STATES.

| | Name. | Date of Assumption of Office. |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Victoria | Major-General Hon. Sir Reginald Arthur James Talbot, K.C.B. Sir John Madden, K.C.M.G., LL.D. (Lieutenant-Governor) | 29 April, 1899 |
| New South Wales | Vice-Admiral Sir Harry Holdsworth Rawson, K.C.B. Sir Fred. M. Darley, G.C.M.G. (Lieutenant-Governor) | May, 1902 29 Oct., 1900 |
| Queensland | Major-General Sir Herbert Charles Chermide, R.E., G.C.M.G., C.B. | March, 1902 |
| South Australia | Sir George Ruthven Le Hunte, K.C.M.G. Sir Samuel J. Way, P.C. (Lieutenant-Governor) | 1 July, 1903 29 Oct., 1900 |
| Western Australia | Admiral Sir Frederick George Denham Bedford, K.C.B. | 24 March, 1903 |
| Tasmania... .. | Captain Sir Arthur Elibank Havelock, G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E. | 8 Nov., 1901 |
| New Zealand | The Right Honorable the Earl of Ranfurly, K.C.M.G. | 10 Aug., 1897 |
| Fiji | Sir Henry Moore Jackson, K.C.M.G. | 1902 |
| New Guinea (British) | Honorable Christopher Robinson (Acting Administrator) | |

Nineteenth
Parliament.

The Nineteenth Parliament was opened on 14th October, 1902, and the first session lasted until 7th April, 1903. The second opened on 13th May, 1903, and lasted until 1st June, 1903. It was specially convened to deal with the position of affairs brought about by the strike of the engine-drivers and firemen of the Victorian Railways. Repressive legislation of a drastic character was introduced, but the unconditional surrender of the men rendered it unnecessary to proceed further. The third session was opened on 8th September, and was continued until 24th December, 1903, when Parliament was dissolved. The next Parliament will be quite differently constituted to previous Parliaments, the number of members being reduced, separate representation of public servants being introduced, and other amendments of the Constitution having been made as previously described.

Duration of
Parliaments
and
sessions.

The following is a statement of the duration of each Parliament since the establishment of responsible government,

the number of days in session during each Parliament, and the percentage of the latter to the former:—

DURATION OF PARLIAMENTS AND SESSIONS, 1856 TO 1903.

| Number of Parliament. | Period. | Duration of Parliament. | Days in Session. | |
|-----------------------|---------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| | | | Number. | Percentage to Duration. |
| | | Days. | | |
| 1st | 1856-8 | 991 | 691 | 69.7 |
| 2nd | 1859-60 | 637 | 566 | 88.8 |
| 3rd | 1861-4 | 1,091 | 728 | 66.7 |
| 4th | 1864-5 | 378 | 366 | 96.8 |
| 5th | 1866-7 | 686 | 391 | 57.0 |
| 6th | 1868-70 | 1,048 | 734 | 70.0 |
| 7th | 1871-3 | 1,049 | 639 | 60.9 |
| 8th | 1874-6 | 1,072 | 700 | 65.3 |
| 9th | 1877-9 | 993 | 684 | 68.9 |
| 10th | 1880 | 49 | 46 | 93.9 |
| 11th | 1880-2 | 926 | 802 | 86.6 |
| 12th | 1883-6 | 1,088 | 543 | 49.9 |
| 13th | 1886-9 | 1,091 | 653 | 59.9 |
| 14th | 1889-92 | 1,093 | 636 | 58.2 |
| 15th | 1892-4 | 845 | 524 | 62.0 |
| 16th | 1894-7 | 1,089 | 684 | 62.8 |
| 17th | 1897-00 | 1,088 | 586 | 53.9 |
| 18th | 1900-02 | 671 | 358 | 53.4 |
| 19th | 1902-3 | 436 | 300 | 68.8 |

It will be seen that there was a greater percentage of working days during the last Parliament than any other since 1882. Excluding the last Parliament, the tendency of late years seems to be, according to the above figures, towards shorter sessions than formerly. The longest continuous sessions were—one of 376 days, from July, 1880, to August, 1881; 368 days, during the first session of the first Parliament, in 1856-7; 366 days in 1864-5; 341 days in 1859-60; 322 days in 1877-8; 321 days in 1869; 317 days in 1875-6; and 308 days in 1862-3; whilst at no time since 1880-1 has a session lasted 300 days. The longest sessions since 1881 were—295 days in 1892-3, 284 days in 1882-3 and 1895-6, and 275 in 1886; the longest since 1895-6 being 239 days in 1899-00, 188 days in 1901, 185 days in 1896, 176 days in 1898, and 175 days in 1902-3, during the last Parliament. The session of 376 days in 1880-1 was followed by another of 142 days, with only a recess of one day, thus making an almost continuous sitting extending over 518 days, or almost eighteen months. The longest recess was in 1866-7, when 230 days elapsed between the closing of the second, and the opening of the third, session of the fifth Parliament; the next longest being 220 days in 1883-4, 214 in 1878-9, 205 in 1893-4, 189 in 1897-8 and in 1898-9, 185 in 1888-9, 181 in 1896-7, 173 in 1890-1 and 1886-7, and 169 in 1871-2.

Long sessions and recesses.

The State
Ministry
and depart-
ments.

The following were the names of, and the offices held by, the members of the State Ministry at the end of 1903:—

STATE MINISTRY.

| Name. | Office. |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Irvine, William Hill | Premier and Treasurer. |
| Davies, John Mark, M.L.C. | Attorney-General, Solicitor-General. |
| Shiels, William | Minister of Railways. |
| Bent, Thomas | Commissioner of Public Works, Minister of Health, Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works. |
| Taverner, John William | Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey, Minister of Agriculture, President of the Board of Land and Works. |
| Cameron, Ewen Hugh | Minister of Mines and Water Supply. |
| Murray, John | Chief Secretary, Minister of Labour. |
| Sachse, Arthur Otto, M.L.C. | Minister of Public Instruction, Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works. |
| Pitt, William, M.L.C. | Honorary Minister. |
| McLeod, Donald | Honorary Minister. |

Changes
in the
Ministry.

Since 10th June, 1902, the date when the Irvine Ministry first assumed office, there have been several changes of portfolios, the first of which was made on 6th February, 1903, being caused by the retirements of Mr. McKenzie, then Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey and President of the Board of Land and Works, and of Mr. Robert Reid, M.L.C., then Minister of Public Instruction and of Health, the latter of whom was selected as Senator for the unexpired portion of the term rendered vacant by the death of Sir Frederick Sargood. No new Ministers were appointed from outside the ranks of the Cabinet. Mr. Taverner, then Commissioner of Public Works and Minister of Agriculture, was transferred to the department vacated by Mr. McKenzie; whilst Mr. Davies, M.L.C., then Solicitor-General, was appointed Minister of Public Instruction. Mr. Bent, then Minister of Railways, took over the Departments of Public Health and of Public Works, still retaining his position as Minister of Railways; and Mr. Irvine administered the Department of Solicitor-General in addition to that of Attorney-General. On 8th April, 1903, Mr. J. W. Kirton, an honorary member of the Ministry, resigned that position on his appointment as Chairman of the Ballarat Water Commission. The second reallocation of portfolios was on 21st July, 1903, when Mr. Irvine assumed the position of Treasurer, also retaining the positions of Attorney-General and Solicitor-General; Mr. Shiels, then Treasurer, relieving Mr. Bent of the Railway Department, which he was then administering in addition to the departments of Public Works and of Health. The third and final change was on 7th September, 1903, when Mr. A. O. Sachse, M.L.C., then an honorary member of the Ministry, was appointed Minister of Public Instruction, Mr. Davies, M.L.C., relieving Mr. Irvine of the amalgamated law departments.

The average life of a Ministry in Victoria since 1855 has been 522 days; the Irvine Ministry, which came into office on 10th June, 1902, having lasted 615 days, when Mr. Irvine retired owing to ill-health. The longest-lived Ministry was the first Turner Ministry, which assumed office on 27th September, 1894, and lasted until 5th December, 1899, thus lasting 1,895 days, or more than five years. The nearest approach to this was the McCulloch Ministry of 1863-8, which lasted 1,775 days, and the Gillies-Deakin Ministry of 1886-90, which lasted 1,722 days; the only others lasting over 1,000 days being the second Service Ministry of 1883-6, which lasted 1,078 days, and the second Berry Ministry, of 1877-80, which lasted 1,019 days. The short-lived Ministries were the first O'Shannassy Ministry of 1857, lasting 49 days; then coming the Sladen Ministry of 1868, 66 days; the first Berry Ministry of 1880-1, 74 days; and the second Turner Ministry of 1900-1, 85 days; the latter being caused by the transition of Sir George Turner from State to Federal politics.

Duration of Ministries.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Clerk of Parliament and of the Legislative Council: G. H. Jenkins, C.M.G.

Clerk Assistant: J. M. Pitts.

Usher and Accountant: R. W. V. McCall.

MEMBERS ON THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1903.

| Name of Province. | Name of Member. | Dates of Retirement.* |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Melbourne | { Sir Arthur Snowden | 1907 |
| | { John Mark Davies | 1906 |
| | { Cornelius Job Ham | 1904 |
| | { William Cain | 1908 |
| North Yarra | { Frederick Sheppard Grimwade | 1906 |
| | { Nathaniel Levi | 1904 |
| | { William Pitt | 1908 |
| | { George Godfrey | 1907 |
| South Yarra | { Edward Miller | 1906 |
| | { Thomas Luxton | 1904 |
| | { Thomas Henry Payne | 1908 |
| | { Sir Rupert Turner Havelock Clarke, Bart. | 1906 |
| Southern | { Donald Melville | 1904 |
| | { Thomas Brunton | 1908 |
| | { Sidney Austin | 1906 |
| | { Sir Henry John Wrixon, K.C.M.G., K.C. (President) | 1904 |
| Nelson | { Thomas Charles Harwood | 1908 |
| | { Steuart Gladstone Black | 1906 |
| | { Thomas Dowling | 1904 |
| | { Hans William Henry Irvine | 1908 |
| Western | { Walter Synnot Manifold | 1906 |
| | { Robert Blackwood Ritchie | 1904 |
| | { Vacant | |
| | { Joseph Major Pratt | 1907 |
| North-Western | { James Bell | 1906 |
| | { Thomas Comrie | 1904 |
| | { Richard Bloomfield Rees | 1908 |

* These are the years in which each member would have retired but for the *Reform Act*.

| Name of Province | Name of Member. | Dates of Retirement. |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Northern | { George Simmie | 1907 |
| | { Joseph Sternberg | 1906 |
| | { Joseph Henry Abbott | 1904 |
| | { William Lawrence Baillieu | 1908 |
| Wellington | { Edward Morey | 1907 |
| | { David Ham | 1906 |
| | { John Young McDonald | 1904 |
| | { Sir Henry Cuthbert, K.C.M.G., K.C. | 1908 |
| North Central | { William Blair Gray | 1906 |
| | { Dr. William Henry Embling | 1904 |
| | { Nicholas FitzGerald (Chairman of Committees) | 1908 |
| North-Eastern | { Arthur Otto Sachse | 1906 |
| | { Willis Little | 1904 |
| | { William Orr | 1908 |
| | { Joseph Hoddinott | 1907 |
| Gippsland | { William Pearson | 1906 |
| | { Edward Jolley Crooke | 1904 |
| | { Samuel Vary | 1908 |
| South-Eastern | { James Callender Campbell | 1906 |
| | { Duncan Elphinstone McBryde | 1904 |
| | { James Balfour | 1908 |

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Clerk of the Assembly : T. G. Watson.

Clerk Assistant and of Private Bills : H. H. Newton.

Clerk of the Papers and Accountant : J. H. Bowman

MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY AT THE END OF THE YEAR 1903.

| Name of Member. | Name of Electoral District. |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Andrews, Charles Leonard | Geelong |
| Anstey, Frank | East Bourke Boroughs |
| Argyle, Reginald Ivon | Kyneton |
| Ashworth, Thomas Ramsden | Ovens |
| Austin, Austin Albert | Grenville |
| Bailes, Alfred Shrapnell | Sandhurst |
| Barr, Robert | Fitzroy |
| Beazley, William David (Speaker) | Collingwood |
| Bennett, George Henry | Richmond |
| Bent, Thomas | Brighton |
| Billson, John William | Fitzroy |
| Bowser, John | Wangaratta and Rutherglen |
| Boyd, James Arthur | Melbourne |
| Bronley, Frederick Hadkinson | Carlton |
| Brown, Joseph Tilley | Shepparton and Euroa |
| Cameron, Ewen | Portland |
| Cameron, Ewen Hugh | Evelyn |
| Cameron, James | Gippsland East |
| Carlisle, John Joseph | Benalla and Yarrawonga |
| Chirnside, Captain John Percy | Grant |
| Craven, Albert William | Benambra |
| Cullen, John | Gunbower |
| Downward, Alfred | Morrongton |
| Duffus, James Francis | Port Fairy |
| Duffy, John Gavan | Kilmore, Dalhousie, and Lancefield |

| Name of Member. | Name of Electoral District. |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Duggan, Daniel Joseph ... | Dunolly |
| Elmslie, George Alexander ... | Albert Park |
| Fairbairn, George ... | Toorak |
| Field, Frederick James ... | Maryborough |
| Fink, Theodore ... | Jolimont and West Richmond |
| Fletcher, John ... | Bogong |
| Forrest, Charles Lamond ... | Polwarth |
| Gair, Mackay John Scobie ... | Bourke East |
| Gillott, Sir Samuel ... | Melbourne East |
| Glasgow, John ... | Villiers and Heytesbury |
| Graham, George ... | Numurkah and Nathalia |
| Graves, James Howlin (Chairman of Committees) | Delatite |
| Grose, Walter Bolitho ... | Creswick |
| Hamilton, Charles ... | Windermere |
| Hamilton, Walter Alfred ... | Sandhurst |
| Harris, Albert ... | Gippsland Central |
| Harris, Joseph ... | South Yarra |
| Hennessy, David Valentine ... | Carlton South |
| Holden, George Frederick ... | Warrenheip |
| Hunt, Thomas ... | Anglesey |
| Hutchinson, William ... | Borong |
| Irvine, William Hill (Premier) | Lowan |
| Keast, William Stephen ... | Dandenong and Berwick |
| Keogh, Hubert Patrick ... | Gippsland North |
| Kerr, David ... | Grenville |
| Kirkwood, Hay ... | Eaglehawk |
| Kirton, Joseph William ... | Ballarat West |
| Lancaster, Samuel ... | Rodney |
| Langdon, Thomas ... | Korong |
| Lawson, Harry Sutherland Wightman ... | Castlemaine |
| Levien, Jonas Felix ... | Barwon |
| Livingston, Thomas ... | Gippsland South |
| Mackey, John Emanuel ... | Gippsland West |
| Mackinnon, Donald ... | Prahran |
| Madden, Frank ... | Eastern Suburbs |
| Martin, George ... | Geelong |
| McBride, Peter ... | Kara Kara |
| McCutcheon, Robert George ... | St. Kilda |
| McDonald, Alexander ... | Footscray |
| McGregor, Robert ... | Ballarat East |
| McLeod, Donald ... | Daylesford |
| Menzies, Hugh ... | Stawell |
| Methven, David ... | East Bourke Boroughs |
| Mitchell, George ... | Talbot and Avoca |
| Morrissey, John ... | Rodney |
| Murray, John ... | Warrnambool |
| Oman, David Swan ... | Ripon and Hampden |
| Peacock, Sir Alexander James, K.C.M.G. | Clunes and Allandale |
| Prendergast, George Michael ... | Melbourne North |
| Ramsay, Alexander Gordon Culbert ... | Williamstown |
| Roberts, George Ernest ... | Richmond |
| Robertson, Andrew Robert ... | Bourke West |
| Sangster, George ... | Port Melbourne |
| Shiels, William ... | Normanby |
| Shopee, Charles Collett ... | Ballarat West |
| Smith, Thomas ... | Emerald Hill |
| Stanley, Robert ... | Horsham |
| Sterry, David Chaplin ... | Sandhurst South |
| Swinburne, George ... | Hawthorn |

| Name of Member. | Name of Electoral District. |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Taverner, John William (succeeded by Meldrum, James) | Donald and Swan Hill |
| Thomson, John | Dundas |
| Toutcher, Richard Frederick | Ararat |
| Tucker, John Benjamin | Melbourne South |
| Tunnecliffe, Thomas | Melbourne West |
| Wallace, William | Maldon |
| Warde, Edward Coughlan | Essendon and Flemington |
| Watt, William Alexander | Melbourne East |
| Webb, William Telford | Mandurang |
| Wilkins, Edgar | Collingwood |
| Williams, Edward David | Castlemaine |

FOREIGN CONSULS.

Return of Consuls of Foreign Countries for Victoria during the year 1903:—

| Name. | Countries Represented. |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Bonnard, Senor Enrique | San Salvador |
| Bosschart, W. L. | Netherlands |
| Lyle, M. | Colombia |
| Were, F. W. | Denmark |
| Bray, John P. | United States |
| M. Beard d' Annet | France |
| Amora, J. H. | Costa Rica |
| Amora, J. H. | Nicaragua |
| Sanders, Lewis | Liberia |
| Pollet, E. | Belgium |
| Moore, Frederick H. | Hawaii |
| Buri, Herr Paul Von | Germany |
| Tillock, Don Diego T. | Argentine Republic |
| Ryan, Dr. Charles | Turkey |
| Smith, William Lamb | Paraguay |

CONSULS.

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Pinschof, Carl A. | Austria-Hungary |
| Weindorfer, G. (Chancellor) | Austria-Hungary |
| Brahe, William Alexander | German Empire |
| Passek, N. | Russia |
| Bertola, Cav. C. | Italy |
| Martin, Charles | Swiss Confederation |
| Marks, A. | Japan |
| Langdon, Charles P. | Hawaii |
| Pfaff, Alfred | Peru |
| Jack, W. L. | Portugal |
| Bastin, Ch. | Belgium (acting) |
| Webster, A. | Chile |
| Gundersen, H. J. | Sweden and Norway |
| Abourizk, W. (Chancellor, &c.) | Turkey |
| De Possel, H. | Bolivia |
| Curtain, R. | Greece |
| Walters, H. A. | Uruguay |
| Cave, Henry | Spain |
| Oldham, J. | Servia |
| Assche, O. Van | Netherlands |
| Medina, R. | Nicaragua |

| DEPUTY CONSUL-GENERAL. | | | | Countries Represented. |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------------------------|
| Name. | | | | |
| Bill, W. W. | ... | ... | ... | United States |

| VICE CONSUL-GENERAL. | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|---------------|
| Stanford, J. W. | ... | ... | ... | United States |

| VICE-CONSULS. | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------------------------|
| Belcher, George Frederick | ... | ... | ... | Denmark |
| Holdenson, P. J. | ... | ... | ... | Denmark |
| Maistre, M. | ... | ... | ... | France |
| Monnét, M. Raphael | ... | ... | ... | France |
| Belcher, George Frederick | ... | ... | ... | Sweden and Norway |
| Moore, A. E. | ... | ... | ... | Liberia |
| Vanderkelen, F. | ... | ... | ... | Belgium |
| Drion, Mon. | ... | ... | ... | Belgium |
| Sheppard, H. A. | ... | ... | ... | Brazil, United States of |
| Behr, W. | ... | ... | ... | Russia |
| Pirandello, A. | ... | ... | ... | Italy |
| Campbell, C. C. | ... | ... | ... | United States |

PRINCIPAL PUBLIC SERVANTS.

Appended is a list of the principal officers in the Public Service of Victoria, including the judiciary, and other officers not under the provisions of "The Public Service Act." Officers in the Departments of Customs, Posts and Telegraphs, and Defence are not included, these departments having been transferred to the Commonwealth:—

JUDICIARY.

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chief Justice | ... | ... | Sir John Madden, K.C.M.G., LL.D. |
| Puisne Judges | ... | ... | Sir E. D. Holroyd, Kt., K.C. |
| | | | Thomas A'Beckett. |
| | | | H. E. A. Hodges. |
| | | | J. H. Hood. |
| Associates | ... | ... | A. Barlow, T. Pennefather, H. Pearson, |
| | | | S. E. Holroyd, E. Wanliss. |
| County Court Judges | ... | ... | H. Molesworth. |
| | | | A. W. Chomley. |
| | | | E. B. Hamilton. |
| | | | W. H. Gaunt. |
| | | | W. E. Johnston. |
| Stipendiary Police Magistrates | ... | ... | J. A. Pantom, Metropolitan. |
| | | | 18 others (1 Melbourne, 1 suburban, and 16 in country districts). |

CHIEF SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|---------------------------------------------|
| Administrative Branch | ... | ... | Under Secretary, G. C. Morrison. |
| | | | Chief Clerk, W. A. Callaway. |
| | | | Chief Electoral Inspector, H. E. Macdowell. |
| | | | Accountant, J. J. Killen. |

Sub-Branches—

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Audit Office | ... | ... | Chief Inspecting Officer and Chief Clerk, E. T. Drake. |
| Executive Council | ... | ... | Clerk of the Council, T. Brisbane. |
| Explosives, &c. | ... | ... | Chief Inspector, C. N. Hake. |
| Friendly Societies | ... | ... | Actuary, E. F. Owen. |
| Government Medical Officer | ... | ... | J. A. O'Brien. |
| Government Shorthand Writer | ... | ... | H. E. Wade. |
| Government Statist | ... | ... | W. McLean. |
| Inspection of Factories | ... | ... | Chief Inspector, H. Ord. |
| Inspection of Stores | ... | ... | Inspector, A. Roche. |
| Marine Board | ... | ... | Secretary, J. G. McKie. |
| | | | Engineer, Surveyor, and Examiner of Engineers, S. Johnson. |
| | | | Inspector, W. F. Deary. |
| Mercantile Marine | ... | ... | Superintendent, C. A. Parsons. |
| Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools | ... | ... | Secretary and Inspector, W. Davis. |
| Observatory | ... | ... | Government Astronomer, P. Baracchi. |
| Police | ... | ... | Accountant, F. Hemmy. |
| Premier's Office | ... | ... | Secretary to Premier, R. S. Rogers. |
| | | | Senior Clerk, W. C. Cave-Browne-Cave. |
| Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery | | | Chief Librarian and Secretary, E. La T. Armstrong. |
| | | | Director of National Gallery, L. B. Hall. |
| | | | Instructor in School of Design, F. McCubbin. |
| Penal and Gaols | ... | ... | Inspector-General, E. C. Connor. |
| | | | Governor of Pentridge, M. J. Cody. |
| | | | Governor of Melbourne Gaol, T. Meagher. |
| Hospitals for Insane | ... | ... | Inspector, Dr. J. V. McCreery. |
| | | | Medical Superintendents—Yarra Bend, Dr. W. L. Watkins; Kew, Senior Medical Officer, Dr. W. L. Mullen; Ararat, Dr. W. H. Barker; Ballarat, Dr. John Steel; Beechworth, Dr. H. A. Samson; Sunbury, Dr. R. W. Lethbridge. |

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Under-Treasurer | ... | ... | H. W. Meakin. |
| Accountant | ... | ... | T. W. Gaggin. |
| Chief Clerk | ... | ... | C. H. Wheatland. |
| Receiver and Paymaster, Melbourne | | | J. W. Stranger; and 16 others at country offices, and 1 relieving. |

Sub-Branches—

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|---------------------------------------|
| Inspection of Charities | ... | ... | Inspector, F. T. Short. |
| Old Age Pensions | ... | ... | Senior Clerk, A. B. Weire. |
| Tender Board | ... | ... | Secretary, M. T. Callan. |
| Income and Land Tax | ... | ... | Deputy Commissioner, V. E. Henderson. |
| Pensions Pay Office | ... | ... | Paying Officer, J. Hickey. |
| Government Printer | ... | ... | R. S. Brain. |

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Director of Education | ... | ... | Frank Tate, M.A. |
| Chief Inspector | ... | ... | S. J. Swindley. |
| Assistant Chief Inspector | ... | ... | W. Hamilton. |
| Senior Inspectors | ... | ... | J. Holland, A. C. Curlewis, W. M. Gamble, S. Summons, R. F. Russell. |
| Training College | ... | ... | Principal, John Smyth. |
| Inspector of Drawing | ... | ... | P. M. Carew Smyth. |
| Hand and Eye and Manual Training | | | John Byatt. |
| Organizer and Instructor | | | |
| Secretary | ... | ... | C. W. H. James. |
| Accountant | ... | ... | A. C. Witton (acting). |

LAW DEPARTMENT.

| | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Parliamentary Draftsman... | ... | E. Carlile, K.C. |
| Secretary ... | ... | M. Byrne. |
| Chief Clerk and Accountant | ... | Irvin Martin. |
| Crown Solicitor ... | ... | E. J. D. Guinness. |
| Master-in-Equity's Office ... | ... | Chief Clerk and Officer for Assessing Duty, J. F. Poole. |
| | | Registrar of Probates, W McDonald. |
| Prothonotary ... | ... | J. W. O'Halloran. |
| Sheriff... | ... | A. McFarland. |
| Registrar of County Court, Clerk of the Peace, and Chief Clerk in Insolvency | ... | W. S. A. Ponsford. |
| Collector of Imposts ... | ... | J. Davidson. |
| Senior Examiner of Patents and Deputy Registrar-General | ... | J. P. Holmes. |
| Chief Examiner of Titles ... | ... | D. C. Rees. |
| Examiners of Titles ... | ... | R. W. Chalmers, F. A. Bonner, G. H. Downer. |
| Registrar-General ... | ... | T. Byrne. |
| Titles Office ... | ... | Surveyor and Chief Draughtsman, G. W. Blandford. |

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY.

| | | |
|------------------------------------------------|-----|------------------|
| Secretary for Lands ... | ... | J. W. Skene. |
| Director of Botanic Gardens and Domain, &c. | ... | W. R. Guilfoyle. |
| Surveyor-General ... | ... | J. M. Reed. |

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

| | | |
|----------------------------------------------|-----|----------------|
| Inspector-General of Public Works .. | ... | W. Davidson. |
| Secretary for Public Works ... | ... | D. Martin. |
| Chief Clerk and Accountant ... | ... | R. I. Cullen. |
| Chief Architect ... | ... | J. H. Marsden. |
| Engineer Roads, Bridges, and Harbor Works | ... | C. Catani. |
| Engineer Ports and Harbors ... | ... | C. W. Maclean. |

DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND WATER SUPPLY.

| | | |
|--------------------------------------------|-----|----------------------|
| Secretary for Mines ... | ... | W. R. Anderson. |
| Chief Clerk ... | ... | P. Cohen. |
| Accountant ... | ... | M. A. Minogue. |
| Chief Draughtsman and Mining Sur- veyor | ... | G. Groube. |
| Chief Engineer of Water Supply ... | ... | S. Murray, C.E. |
| Director of Geological Survey ... | ... | J. W. Gregory, D.Sc. |

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

| | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------|
| Chairman of the Board of Public Health | ... | D. A. Gresswell, M.A., M.D. |
| Secretary of the Board of Public Health | ... | J. W. Colville. |
| Health Officer, and Superintendent Quarantine | ... | Dr. J. C. Johnston. |

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|------------------------|
| Director of Agriculture ... | ... | S. W. Wallace. |
| Secretary for Agriculture ... | ... | E. G. Duffus (acting). |
| Chemist ... | ... | F. J. Howell. |
| Entomologist ... | ... | C. French, sen. |
| Inspector of Food for Export ... | ... | Dr. A. A. Brown. |
| Government Botanist ... | ... | J. G. Leuhmann. |
| Chief Inspector of Stock ... | ... | J. R. Weir. |
| Expert and Bacteriologist ... | ... | T. Cherry, M.D., M.S. |
| Dairy Supervisor ... | ... | R. T. Archer. |
| Dairy Expert ... | ... | R. Crowe. |
| Fruit Expert ... | ... | J. Knight. |
| Vegetable Pathologist ... | ... | D. McAlpine. |
| Principal Horticultural School ... | ... | C. B. Luffman. |
| Poultry Expert ... | ... | A. Hart. |
| Tobacco Expert ... | ... | T. A. J. Smith. |

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER.

| | | |
|---------------|-----|---------------|
| Secretary ... | ... | J. D. Merson. |
|---------------|-----|---------------|

OFFICERS NOT UNDER THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER.

| | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Public Service Commissioner ... | ... | C. A. Topp. |
| Auditor-General ... | ... | F. H. Bruford. |
| Agent-General, London ... | ... | Hon. J. W. Taverner. |
| Master in Equity and Lunacy, and Commissioner of Income Tax | | Secretary, A. W. Arkill (acting). |
| Commissioner of Patents and Chief Clerk, Supreme Court | | T. P. Webb, K.C. |
| Commissioner of Titles ... | ... | G. H. Neighbour, K.C. |
| Chief Crown Prosecutor ... | ... | E. T. De Verdon, K.C. |
| Coroner ... | ... | C. B. Finlayson, K.C. |
| Analytical Chemist ... | ... | S. C. Candler. |
| Chief Hansard Reporter ... | ... | W. P. Wilkinson. |
| Parliamentary Librarian ... | ... | E. B. Loughran. |
| Police ... | ... | A. Wadsworth. |
| Curator of Estates of Deceased Persons | | Chief Commissioner, T. O'Callaghan. |
| Railways ... | ... | Inspecting Superintendent, R. Hamilton. |
| | | T. F. Bride, LL.D. |
| | | Commissioners — T. Tait (Chairman), W. Fitzpatrick, C. Hudson. |
| | | Secretary, R. G. Kent (succeeded by L. J. McClelland). |
| | | Engineer-in-Chief, M. F. Kernot (acting) |
| | | Chief Traffic Manager, R. Lochhead. |
| | | Chief Accountant, Harold Kent. |
| | | Chief Mechanical Engineer, T. H. Woodroffe. |
| | | Chief Engineer for Existing Lines, C. E. Norman. |
| | | Telegraph Superintendent, W. A. Holmes. |
| Royal Mint (under Imperial Govern- ment) | | Deputy Master, R. Barton. |
| | | Superintendent of Bullion Office, E. S. Wardell. |
| | | First Assayer, F. R. Power. |
| | | Registrar and Accountant, M. L. Bagge. |
| | | First Clerk, A. M. Le Souëf. |
| Commissioners of Land Tax ... | ... | J. M. Reed, Surveyor-General. |
| | | D. Martin, Secretary for Public Works. |
| | | C. A. Topp, Public Service Commissioner. |
| Friendly Societies ... | ... | Registrar, G. B. Vasey. |

The following is a list of Professors, Demonstrators, and Lecturers of the University of Melbourne, statistical information regarding which institution is given in Part Social Condition, post:—

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.

Return of the Professors, Lecturers, &c., of the Melbourne University during the year 1903:—

| PROFESSORS. | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|
| Office. | | Name. |
| Geology and Mineralogy ... | ... | Gregory, J. W., D.Sc. |
| Physiology and Histology ... | ... | Halford, G. B., M.D. |
| Mathematics ... | ... | Nanson, E. J., M.A. |
| History and Political Economy ... | ... | Elkington, J. S., M.A., LL.B. |
| Anatomy and Pathology ... | ... | Allen, H. B., M.D. |
| Engineering ... | ... | Kernot, W. C., M.A., M.C.E. |
| English, French, and German ... | ... | Vacant |
| Classics and Philology ... | ... | Tucker, T. G., M.A., Litt.D. |
| Chemistry ... | ... | Masson, D. O., M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S. |
| Philosophy and Logic ... | ... | Laurie, H., LL.D. |
| Biology ... | ... | Spencer, W. B., M.A., F.R.S. |
| Natural Philosophy ... | ... | Lyle, T. R., M.A. |
| Law ... | ... | Moore, W. H., B.A., LL.B. |
| Music ... | ... | Peterson, Franklin S., Mus.Bac. |
| Acting Prof. Physiology ... | ... | Martin, C. J., M.B., D.Sc., F.R.S. |

LECTURERS.

| | | |
|------------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------|
| Equity ... | ... | Mackey, J. E., M.A., LL.B. |
| Law of Contracts ... | ... | Duffy, F. G., M.A., LL.B. |
| Wrongs ... | ... | Woinarski, C. J. Z., M.A., LL.M. |
| Law of Property ... | ... | Guest, W. C., M.A., LL.B. |
| Classics and Philology ... | ... | Cornwall, W. E., M.A. |
| " " ... | ... | Allen, H. W., M.A. |
| Mathematics ... | ... | Michell, J. H., M.A. |
| French ... | ... | Carton, Maurice, F.I., M.A. |
| German ... | ... | Dichend, W. v. |
| Surgery ... | ... | Bird, F. D., M.B., M.S., F.R.C.S. |
| Theory and Practice of Medicine ... | ... | Jamieson, J., M.D. |
| Obstetrics and Diseases of Women ... | ... | Adam, G. R. W., M.B., C.M. |
| Forensic Medicine ... | ... | Neild, J. E., M.D. |
| Therapeutics, Dietetics, and Hygiene ... | ... | Springthorpe, J. W., M.A., M.D. |
| Anatomy ... | ... | Syme, G. A., M.B., M.S. |
| Bacteriology ... | ... | Cherry, T., M.D., M.S. |
| Mining ... | ... | Merrin, A. H., M.C.E. |
| Metallurgy ... | ... | Mills, A. L. |
| Architecture ... | ... | Henderson, A. M., M.C.E. |
| Hydraulic Engineering ... | ... | Smith, B. A., M.C.E. |

DEMONSTRATORS AND ASSISTANT LECTURERS.

| | Office. | | Name. |
|--------------------|---------|-----|-----------------------|
| Chemistry | ... | ... | Green, W. H., B.Sc. |
| Biology | ... | ... | Hall, T. S., M.A. |
| Natural Philosophy | ... | ... | Love, E. F. J., M.A. |
| Engineering | ... | ... | Fowler, T. W., M.C.E. |

DEMONSTRATORS.

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----|---------------------------|
| Anatomy | ... | ... | Rennie, G. C., M.B., M.S. |
| " | ... | ... | Owen, A. G., M.B., B.S. |
| Physiology | ... | ... | Fielder, W., F.R., M.S. |
| Pathology | ... | ... | Ellis, C., M.D., B.S. |
| Natural Philosophy | ... | ... | Campbell, F. H., B.A. |
| " | " | ... | Richards, E. S. |

OFFICE STAFF.

| | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----------------------|
| Registrar | ... | ... | Cornwall, W. E., M.A. |
| Librarian | ... | ... | Bromby, E. H., M.A. |

MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.

| | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|--------------------------------|
| Chairman | ... | ... | E. G. FitzGibbon, J.P., C.M.G. |
| Commissioners— | | | |
| Hon. Sir S. Gillott, M.L.A., Jas. Baxter, Sir A. Snowden, M.L.C., W. Strong, J.P., W. Cook, D. V. Hennessy, J.P., M.L.A., A. Tait, representing the City of Melbourne. | | | |
| W. J. Mountain, J.P., J. Baragwanath, J.P., J. S. White, John Sloss, representing the City of South Melbourne. | | | |
| E. Naylor, John Turner, Hon. T. Luxton, M.L.C., representing the City of Prahran. | | | |
| J. Gahan, J.P., W. Cody, J.P., representing the City of Collingwood. | | | |
| M. Gross, J.P., J. G. Yager, J.P. | " | " | Fitzroy. |
| E. Crawcour, S. J. Willis | " | " | Richmond. |
| S. Jacoby, G. Connibere, J.P. | " | " | St. Kilda. |
| F. E. Shillabeer | " | " | Footscray. |
| W. Cowper, J.P. | " | " | Hawthorn. |
| T. Wilson, J.P. | " | " | Town of Brighton. |
| J. W. Fleming, J.P. | " | " | Brunswick. |
| W. J. C. Riddell | " | " | Caulfield. |
| W. J. Mountain, jun. | " | " | Essendon. |
| Alex. Cameron | " | " | Malvern. |
| Chas. Mitchell | " | " | Northcote. |
| G. Carter | " | " | North Melbourne. |
| J. K. B. Plummer | " | " | Port Melbourne. |
| W. H. Treganowan | " | " | Williamstown. |
| Jas. Raisbeck, representing the Borough of Flemington and Kensington. | | | |
| E. E. Atkins | " | " | Kew. |
| E. Dillon, J.P. | " | " | Shire of Boroondara. |
| A. Voice, J.P. | " | " | Coburg. |
| A. Ford, J.P. | " | " | Heidelberg. |
| C. T. Crispe, J.P. | " | " | Preston. |
| Secretary | ... | ... | G. A. Gibbs. |
| Treasurer | ... | ... | R. Richardson. |
| Engineer-in-Chief | ... | ... | W. Thwaites. |
| Superintending Engineer of Sewerage | ... | ... | C. E. Oliver. |
| " " Water Supply | ... | ... | W. Dowden. |
| Designing Engineer | ... | ... | C. Kussmaul. |

MELBOURNE HARBOR TRUST.

Commissioners appointed by—

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Governor-in-Council ... | ... | J. S. White; Hon. W. Pitt, M.L.C. (Chairman); J. B. Tucker, M.L.A.; Hon. D. Melville, M.L.C.; W. Methven, M.L.A. |
| Corporation of Melbourne ... | ... | W. Strong, T. J. Davey. |
| Municipality of South Melbourne | ... | W. J. Mountain. |
| " Port Melbourne | ... | T. N. Tarver. |
| " Williamstown ... | ... | W. H. Treganowan. |
| " Footscray ... | ... | J. Stewart. |
| Shipowners registered at Mel- | ... | W. Cowper. |
| bourne | ... | H. C. Pigott. |
| | ... | W. Siddeley. |
| Merchants of Melbourne | ... | C. Duckett. |
| | ... | G. Lush. |
| | ... | W. M. McPherson. |
| Secretary ... | ... | C. J. Clark. |
| Treasurer ... | ... | R. P. Rudd. |
| Engineer ... | ... | John Halliday. |
| Harbor Master and Inspector of | ... | Thos. Sanderson. |
| Dredging | ... | |

BOARD OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Chairman and Medical Inspector ... | ... | D. A. Gresswell, M.D., M.R.C.S. |
| Members ... | ... | W. Burton, City of Melbourne. |
| | ... | J. L. Dangerfield, J.P., North Yarra Group. |
| | ... | F. G. Wood, J.P., South Yarra Group. |
| | ... | J. H. Gearing, Eastern Country Boroughs. |
| | ... | C. C. Shoppee, J.P., M.L.A., Western Country Boroughs. |
| | ... | A. H. Smith, J.P., Eastern Shires. |
| | ... | H. A. Austin, J.P., Western Shires. |
| Health Officers ... | ... | H. R. Maclean, M.B., Port of Melbourne. |
| | ... | H. Howard, M.B., Port of Melbourne. |
| | ... | W. B. Docker, M.B., Port of Portland. |
| | ... | W. H. Orchard, M.B., Port of Port Fairy. |
| | ... | T. J. M. Kennedy, M.B., Port of Geelong. |
| | ... | T. J. Fleetwood, M.B., Port of Warrnambool. |

MARINE BOARD, MELBOURNE.

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| President ... | ... | Archibald Currie. |
| Vice-President ... | ... | W. D. Garside. |
| Members ... | ... | C. W. Maclean, A. Agnew, R. Dickins, W. Cowper, D. Y. Syme, C. F. Orr, J. McK. Corby, G. W. Lilley, J. G. Little, H. Belfrage. |
| Examiner in Navigation and Sea- | ... | R. D. Espinasse. |
| manship | ... | |
| Examiner in Pilotage ... | ... | G. Bevis. |
| Counsel ... | ... | E. J. D. Guinness. |

COURT OF MARINE ENQUIRY.

| | | |
|---------------------|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| President ... | ... | Senior Police Magistrate presiding. |
| Skilled Members ... | ... | J. A. Roberts, J. Thompson, A. Dunbar, V. E. E. Gotch, J. Garson, G. Bevis. A. McCowan, D. Elder, J. Tozer, W. H. Panter. |

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

Municipal-
ties, &c.

Municipal or local government is almost universal throughout Victoria, all but about $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. of its whole area being divided into urban or rural municipal districts. The former are called cities, towns, and boroughs, and the latter shires. The laws relating to Local Government have lately been amended and consolidated by the "Local Government Act 1903," passed on 24th December last. The councils of municipalities have power to levy rates, which, together with license fees, subsidies received from the State, market dues, rents, and sanitary charges, form their chief sources of income. Their principal functions are to make, maintain, and control all streets, roads, bridges, ferries, culverts, sewers, drains, water-courses, and jetties within their respective boundaries; also, under proper by-laws, to regulate the markets, pounds, abattoirs, baths, places of recreation, charitable institutions, and the arrangements for sewerage, lighting, water supply, and carrying on of noxious trades, and to act as local Boards of Health.

Cities,
towns,
boroughs,
and shires.

Any portion of Victoria, not exceeding in area nine square miles, and having no point in such area distant more than six miles from any other point therein, which contains at least 500 householders and rateable property capable of yielding £300 upon a rate of one shilling in the pound, may be constituted a borough. Any borough having during the preceding financial year a revenue of £10,000 may be declared a town; or, having a revenue of £20,000, may be declared a city. Any portion of Victoria containing rateable property capable of yielding £1,500 on a rate of one shilling in the pound may be constituted a shire. There are 60 cities, towns, and boroughs in Victoria, and 148 shires. The Governor-in-Council may unite any two or more boroughs which form one contiguous area so as to form one borough, notwithstanding that the area would exceed the limits above specified; may unite any number of municipalities, one of which is a shire, which form one contiguous area, so as to form one shire; and may sever any portion of a municipal district and attach it to another, annex an outlying district, subdivide any municipal district into any number of divisions not exceeding eight, alter the boundaries, or abolish the subdivisions.

Townships.

On petition by twenty-five ratepayers resident in any portion, not exceeding three square miles in extent, of any shire, and distant more than ten miles from the City of Melbourne, the Governor-in-Council may proclaim such portion a township.

Each municipality existing at the commencement of the original Act—now incorporated in the Act of 1903—is allowed the number of councillors then assigned to it; but in other cases the number must be some multiple of three, not less than six nor more than twenty-four. The number is usually nine. If the district is subdivided, the number of councillors is three for each subdivision. If at any time in any municipality there is no council or not enough councillors to form a quorum, a commissioner may be appointed by the Governor-in-Council to exercise the powers of the council. Male persons liable to be rated in respect of property in the municipal district of the rateable annual value of £20 at least, whether consisting of one or more tenements, are qualified to hold the office of councillor; but uncertificated and undischarged bankrupts or insolvents, persons attainted of treason or convicted of felony or perjury or any infamous crime, or being of unsound mind, or holding any office under the council, or concerned in any way with any contract with, or work done under, the council, are disqualified from a position in the council; but certain exceptions are made from the latter provision. The election of councillors takes place annually. One-third of the councillors retire each year by rotation, but retiring councillors may be re-elected. The councillors elect their own chairman, who, in the case of cities, towns, and boroughs, is called the mayor; in the case of shires, the president.

Municipal
councillors.

Every person (male or female) 21 years of age or upwards, liable to be rated in respect of property within a municipal district, in respect of which all rates, made before 10th March of the year, have been paid, shall be entitled to be enrolled as a voter. Plurality of votes is allowed upon the following scale:—

Municipal
electors.

IN CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHES.

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|--------------|
| Properties rated at an annual value of under £50 | ... | ... | One vote. |
| " " " " £50 to £100 | ... | ... | Two votes. |
| " " " " £100 and upwards | ... | ... | Three votes. |

IN SHIRES.

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|--------------|
| Properties rated at an annual value of under £25 | ... | ... | One vote. |
| " " " " £25 to £75 | ... | ... | Two votes. |
| " " " " £75 and upwards | ... | ... | Three votes. |

No person may be enrolled in respect of property rated under £5 a year, unless there is a house on the property, and he resides there. The occupier and the owner are not to be both enrolled in respect of the one property, the former having the prior right to enrolment. Corporations liable to be rated may nominate not more than three persons to be enrolled in their stead, and joint-occupiers and owners, not exceeding three, are each entitled to be enrolled. If there be more than

three, then the three standing first on the last rate valuation or return are so entitled. The "Voting by Post Act 1900" may be made applicable to the elections for any municipality on the petition of the councillors.

Rateable
property.

All land situated in a municipal district is rateable property except the following:—Crown lands; land used exclusively for commons, mines, public worship, mechanics' institutes, public libraries, cemeteries, primary free schools, and charitable purposes; land vested in or held by or in trust for any municipality, local governing body, or commissioners under the Water Acts; land vested in fee in the Railway Commissioners, Minister of Public Instruction, Board of Land and Works, Harbor Trust Commissioners, and Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works. The expression land includes, of course, all buildings and improvements thereon.

Rates—
general,
separate,
&c.

Rates levied in municipal districts are of three kinds, viz.:—General, extra, and separate rates. General rates are levied at least once in every year by the council of every municipality, and shall not exceed in any one year 2s. 6d. in the pound of the net annual value, or be less than 6d. in the pound of such value. Every general rate is made and levied on the occupier of the property rated, or if there be no occupier, or the occupier be the Crown or public or local body, then upon the owner of the property. Extra rates may be levied in any one or more subdivisions of a district, on requisition by not less than two-thirds of the councillors for the subdivision, provided that both rates together in any subdivision do not exceed 2s. 6d. in the pound. Extra rates are levied on all properties alike in the subdivision; but where any works or undertakings are for the special benefit of any particular portion of the municipal district, "a separate rate" may be levied, with the consent of a majority of the occupiers, and of one-third at least of the owners of the properties affected. The rates to be levied may be differential according to the benefits to be received by different properties, and the amount of the rate must be such as will, in the opinion of the council, suffice to provide for the payment of interest, and periodical repayments of, or sinking fund for, the loan raised on the security of such rate.

Improve-
ment
charge.

Where under any Act a council is empowered to execute any work at the cost of the owners, or to require such owners to do so, a special improvement charge may be made on the properties affected, on the security of which money may be borrowed for the carrying out of such work.

Incorporation
of
Melbourne
and
Geelong.

Melbourne and Geelong, the latter of which was for many years of second importance in the colony, having been incorporated under special statutes prior to the establishment

of municipal government on a large scale throughout the colony, are not subject to the Local Government Acts, except in a few comparatively unimportant particulars. Melbourne was incorporated as a town in 1842, and was ordained a city in 1847. Geelong was incorporated as a town in 1849.

Other functions of a special character have been delegated to boards or trusts, of which the following are the more important:—Melbourne Harbor Trust, constituted to provide for the maintenance and improvement of the Port of Melbourne; Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, for the water supply and sewerage of the metropolis; Melbourne Tramways Trust, for the construction, on behalf of the municipalities, of cable and other tramways in Melbourne and suburbs, which have been leased to a company for a term of years; two fire brigade boards; and Irrigation and Water Supply Trusts, for the conservation, distribution, and supply of water in country districts.

THE COMMONWEALTH.

A full account of the movement leading up to the Federation of the Australian Colonies was given in the issues of this work for 1895-8 and for 1902.

COMMONWEALTH CONSTITUTION.—LEADING FEATURES.

The following are the leading features of the "Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act," passed by the Imperial Parliament:—

Leading features of the Commonwealth Constitution.

Constitution indissoluble, and to come in force by Imperial Proclamation.

The Parliament is to consist of the Queen, a Senate, and a House of Representatives. Governor-General appointed to act for the Queen.

Parliament.

Senate to consist of six members from each State; number may be increased or diminished, but so that equal representation of the States be maintained. Qualification of electors of Senate and of Senators to be same as that of House of Representatives. Each elector shall vote only once.

Senate.

House of Representatives shall have twice the number of members of the Senate; and the number of members for each State shall be in proportion to population, but not less than five for any State. Qualification of electors to be that of the more numerous House in each State. Each elector to vote only once. Qualifications of a member—(a) 21 years of age, (b) to be an elector or entitled so to be, (c) resident three years, (d) natural born or naturalized five years.

House of Representatives.

The general powers of the Parliament are 39 in number, the principal of which are to make laws for trade, taxation, bounties, borrowing, postal services, naval and military, statistics, currency, banking, insolvency, corporations, divorce, marriage, old age pensions, immigration and emigration, railways, &c. Exclusive powers in regard to the seat of Government, State departments transferred, other matters declared by the Constitution to be within the exclusive power of the Parliament.

Powers of Parliament.

Money Bills not to originate in, nor to be amended by the Senate, which House may, however, return the Bill requesting any omission or amendment. Equal power in all other matters. Tacking Bills prohibited.

Money Bills.

Dead-locks. Provision for dead-locks.—Joint dissolution, and if again passed in lower House and rejected in Senate a joint sitting to be held, and if passed by an absolute majority of the total members of both Houses, disputed Bill to become law.

A Bill having passed both Houses the Governor-General shall either assent, withhold assent, reserve the Bill or return it, and recommend amendments.

Executive. Executive power vested in Queen and exercisable by Governor-General in Council who may appoint Ministers of State.

Departments transferred State departments of Customs and Excise transferred to Commonwealth on its establishment. Departments of posts, naval and military, defence, light-houses, &c., and quarantine, on a date or dates to be proclaimed.

Judicature. High Court of Australia established; appellate and original jurisdiction.

Finance and Trade. Collection of Customs to pass. Custom and Excise duties to be uniform, and intercolonial free-trade established within two years after the establishment of the Commonwealth, after which the Federal Government shall have exclusive power to levy such duties as well as bounties in the production or export of goods.

Of the net revenue from Customs and Excise not more than one-fourth to be applied by Commonwealth towards its expenditure. This provision is liable to variation or repeal after 10 years from the establishment of the Commonwealth.

Water rights. Right of States to reasonable use of river waters for conservation or irrigation reserved.

Interstate Commission. Interstate Commission appointed to regulate trade and commerce, and prevent discriminations being made by any State which may be deemed unreasonable or unjust to any other State.

State Debts. Constitutions, powers, and laws of States protected. State Debts may be taken over.

Protection to States. Admission of new States provided for. Commonwealth to protect States against invasion or domestic violence.

Federal Capital. Seat of Government to be fixed by the Parliament at some place in New South Wales, but at least 100 miles from Sydney, and to be federal territory.

Alteration of Constitution. Constitution may be altered by an absolute majority of both Houses, or of one House if passed twice successively with three months interval; subject to the approval of a majority of the electors voting in a majority of the States, and in the whole Commonwealth.

Governor-General and Proclamation of Commonwealth. The Right Hon. the Earl of Hopetoun, P.C., K.T., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.S., was on the 29th October, 1900, appointed Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Commonwealth, and arrived at Sydney on the 16th December. The Proclamation of the Commonwealth and the swearing-in of the Governor-General took place at Sydney on the 1st day of January, 1901, in the presence of representatives of most of the principal countries of the world, and of a vast assemblage from all parts of the Commonwealth and elsewhere. The Governor-General continued in office until the 9th May, 1902, when he was, at his own request, recalled. On 17th July, 1902, the Right Hon. Hallam, Baron Tennyson, K.C.M.G., was appointed Acting Governor-General; and on 16th January, 1903, he was appointed as Lord Hopetoun's

successor. Lord Tennyson retired on 21st January, 1904, and was succeeded by the Right Hon. Henry Stafford, Baron Northcote, C.B.

THE COMMONWEALTH MINISTRY.

At the Proclamation ceremony the members of the first Commonwealth Ministry were sworn in. The following were their names and the respective offices filled by them:—

Prime Minister and Minister for External Affairs: The Right Hon. Edmund Barton, P.C.

Attorney-General: The Hon. Alfred Deakin.

Treasurer: The Right Hon. Sir George Turner, P.C., K.C.M.G.

Minister for Home Affairs: The Hon. Sir William John Lyne, K.C.M.G.

Minister for Trade and Customs: The Right Hon. Charles Cameron Kingston, P.C., Q.C.

Minister for Defence: The Hon. Sir James Robert Dickson, K.C.M.G. Died January, 1901, succeeded by Sir John Forrest.

Postmaster-General: The Right Hon. Sir John Forrest, P.C., G.C.M.G. Succeeded in January, 1901, by Hon. J. G. Drake (re-arrangement of portfolios).

Honorary Ministers: Richard Edward O'Connor, Esq., Q.C.; The Honorable Neil Elliott Lewis, succeeded by the Hon. Sir Philip Fysh, K.C.M.G.

Consequent upon the resignation of the Right Hon. C. C. Kingston from the Ministry, and the subsequent appointment of the Right Hon. Sir Edmund Barton, P.C., and Mr. R. E. O'Connor, K.C., to the bench of the newly-constituted High Court of Australia, several changes have been made in the Ministry. The following were the members of the Ministry at the beginning of the first session of the second Commonwealth Parliament, in 1904:—

Minister of External Affairs: The Hon. Alfred Deakin.

Minister of Trade and Customs: The Hon. Sir William John Lyne, K.C.M.G.

Treasurer: The Right Hon. Sir George Turner, P.C., K.C.M.G.

Minister of Home Affairs: The Right Hon. Sir John Forrest, P.C., G.C.M.G.

Attorney-General: The Hon. James George Drake.

Postmaster-General: The Hon. Sir Philip Oakley Fysh, K.C.M.G.

Minister of Defence: The Hon. Austin Chapman.

Vice-President of the Executive Council: The Hon. Thomas Playford.

The first elections to the Commonwealth Parliament were held in March, 1901. For the House of Representatives 4 of the 23 Victorian electorates were uncontested. The proportion of the electors entitled to vote who availed themselves of the franchise was 56 per cent., against 63·5 at the State

First Commonwealth Ministry.

Changes in the Ministry.

First Commonwealth Elections

general elections held in November, 1900. The following table gives particulars of the elections in each State:—

FIRST COMMONWEALTH ELECTIONS, MARCH, 1901.

| State. | Number of Members. | | Number of Electors. | | Electors who Voted. | | Percentage of Electors who Voted. | |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | Senate. | House of Representatives. | Total. | In contested Districts for House of Representatives. | Senate* | House of Representatives. † | Senate. | House of Representatives. |
| Victoria .. | 6 | 23 | 280,661 | 233,051 | 149,012 | 130,610 | 53.09 | 56.04 |
| New South Wales .. | 6 | 26 | 331,765 | 317,902 | 218,456 | 211,035 | 65.81 | 66.38 |
| Queensland .. | 6 | 9 | 103,806 | 103,806 | 51,336 | 62,656 | 49.45 | 60.35 |
| South Australia .. | 6 | 7 | 154,281 | 154,281 | 62,952 | 62,892 | 40.80 | 40.76 |
| Western Australia .. | 6 | 5 | 87,920 | 70,230 | 28,733 | 25,945 | 32.68 | 36.95 |
| Tasmania .. | 6 | 5 | 39,528 | 39,528 | 18,822 | 18,572 | 47.62 | 46.99 |
| Commonwealth | 36 | 75 | 997,961 | 918,798 | 529,311 | 511,710 | 53.04 | 55.69 |

Opening of
the first
Common-
wealth
Parliament

The first Parliament of the Commonwealth was opened in Melbourne on the 9th May, 1901, by His Royal Highness the Duke of Cornwall and York, K.G., K.T., K.P., G.C.V.S., who was authorized as His Majesty's High Commissioner by letters patent. Besides the Duke and Duchess and suite, the Governor-General, and Members of Parliament, there were present at this memorable function an assemblage of 12,000 people—embracing official representatives from other British Colonies, the Foreign Consuls, Admirals and Captains of visiting war ships (British and Foreign), Commonwealth and State Government officials, representatives of Provincial Bodies, Societies, and Institutions, as well as leading Australian citizens and visitors.

COMMONWEALTH ELECTIONS, 1903.

The Commonwealth Elections, held on 16th December, 1903, are notable by reason of the fact that female franchise was, on that occasion, universal throughout the Commonwealth.

Franchise

All persons 21 years of age, male or female, who have lived in Australia for six months continuously, are natural-born or naturalized subjects, and whose names are on the roll for any division, are entitled to vote at the election of members of the Senate and the House of Representatives. No person of unsound mind, or attainted of treason, or convicted and under sentence or subject to be under sentence for any offence punishable by imprisonment for one year or longer, shall be entitled to vote. No aboriginal native of Australia, Asia, Africa, or the Islands of the Pacific, except New Zealand, shall be enrolled, unless he is entitled to vote

* Including informal voters as follow :—8,769 in Victoria, 38,674 in New South Wales, 3,371 in Queensland, 1,478 in South Australia, 5,793 in Western Australia, and 419 in Tasmania.

† Including informal voters as follow :—1,051 in Victoria, 4,070 in New South Wales, 1,575 in Queensland, 985 in South Australia, 525 in Western Australia, and 533 in Tasmania.

for the more numerous House of the Parliament of a State. No person is allowed to vote more than once at the same election. The following is a statement of the number of electors, votes polled, and percentage of the latter to the former, for the Senate and the House of Representatives:—

ELECTORS ENROLLED AND VOTES POLLED.

| State. | Number of Electors. | | Electors who Voted. | | Percentage of Electors who voted. | |
|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | Total. | In contested districts for House of Representatives. | Senate. | House of Representatives. | Senate. | House of Representatives. |
| Victoria ... | 612,472 | 488,223 | 313,487 | 262,789 | 51·18 | 53·83 |
| New South Wales... | 687,049 | 578,017 | 324,364 | 282,514 | 47·21 | 48·88 |
| Queensland ... | 227,080 | 202,925 | 124,507 | 115,731 | 54·83 | 57·03 |
| South Australia ... | 167,775 | 49,645 | 54,785 | 20,122 | 32·65 | 40·53 |
| Western Australia... | 116,942 | 69,824 | 33,148 | 21,233 | 28·35 | 30·41 |
| Tasmania ... | 82,268 | 82,268 | 37,021 | 37,013 | 45·00 | 44·99 |
| Commonwealth | 1,893,586 | 1,470,902 | 887,312 | 739,402 | 46·86 | 50·26 |

It will be seen that the greatest activity was displayed by voters in Queensland and Victoria, which were the only two States in which more than half the votes were polled; but in Western Australia the polling was abnormally low, less than one-third of the votes being polled. At the first Commonwealth elections, held in March, 1901, the polling was higher in every State, the percentage of electors who voted in contested districts for the House of Representatives being 66·38 in New South Wales, 60·35 in Queensland, 56·04 in Victoria, 46·99 in Tasmania, 40·76 in South Australia, and 36·95 in Western Australia.

The following is a statement of the male and female electors enrolled, votes recorded, and percentage of votes to electors at the Senate elections of December, 1903:—

Males and females—votes recorded.

SENATE ELECTIONS, 1903.—MALE AND FEMALE ELECTORS, AND VOTES RECORDED.

| State. | Electors Enrolled. | | Votes Recorded. | | Percentage of Votes to Electors. | |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------|-----------------|----------|----------------------------------|----------|
| | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. |
| Victoria ... | 302,069 | 310,403 | 171,839 | 141,648 | 56·89 | 45·63 |
| New South Wales | 360,285 | 326,764 | 189,877 | 134,487 | 52·70 | 41·16 |
| Queensland ... | 127,914 | 99,166 | 79,938 | 44,569 | 62·49 | 44·94 |
| South Australia ... | 85,947 | 81,828 | 35,736 | 19,049 | 41·58 | 23·28 |
| Western Australia | 74,754 | 42,188 | 26,878 | 6,270 | 35·96 | 14·86 |
| Tasmania ... | 43,515 | 38,753 | 23,729 | 13,292 | 54·53 | 34·30 |
| Commonwealth | 994,484 | 899,102 | 527,997 | 359,315 | 53·08 | 39·96 |

It will be seen, by comparing the percentage of males who voted with the percentage who voted in State elections previously given, that a greater amount of interest is aroused in State elections than in elections for the Commonwealth, the percentage of votes recorded in the former fluctuating from 60 to 70 per cent. at various times. The above figures show that the female vote was exercised to a greater extent in Victoria and Queensland than in the other States, New South Wales being next in this respect; but only about one female in every seven entitled to vote in Western Australia, took the trouble to do so.

Female franchise is in force in New Zealand, and in all the Australian States except Victoria and Queensland for the State as well as the Commonwealth elections. At the last general elections in New Zealand, held in 1902, 74.52 per cent. of the females enrolled exercised the franchise; and at the last State elections of South Australia, held in 1902, 50.72 per cent. of the females entitled to vote availed themselves of the privilege. At the last State elections of Western Australia, held in 1901, 56 per cent. of the females enrolled voted, whereas at the Commonwealth elections in the same State less than 15 per cent. of the females voted. Comparing these figures with those in the preceding table, it is seen that in New Zealand the females exercise the franchise to a far greater extent than in Australia, and that in those two States in Australia where female franchise has been exercised for both Commonwealth and State elections, the right is exercised to a much greater extent in respect of the latter.

Informal votes are included in the votes recorded set out in the two preceding tables. The following were the number and percentage of votes which were informal for both Houses of the Commonwealth Parliament:—

INFORMAL VOTES, COMMONWEALTH ELECTIONS, 1903.

| State. | Senate. | | House of Representatives. | |
|-----------------------|---------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Number. | Percentage of Votes Recorded. | Number. | Percentage of Votes Recorded. |
| Victoria ... | 7,003 | 2.23 | 4,818 | 1.83 |
| New South Wales ... | 15,796 | 4.87 | 7,834 | 2.77 |
| Queensland ... | 4,612 | 3.70 | 3,057 | 2.64 |
| South Australia ... | 1,208 | 2.20 | 542 | 2.69 |
| Western Australia ... | 2,001 | 6.03 | 1,251 | 5.89 |
| Tasmania ... | 1,441 | 3.89 | 1,164 | 3.15 |
| Commonwealth ... | 32,061 | 3.61 | 18,666 | 2.52 |

MEMBERS OF THE SECOND COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENT, 1904.

THE SENATE.

The Senate.

President: The Hon. Sir Richard Chaffey Baker, K.C.M.G., K.C.

Victoria—

Best, Hon. Robert Wallace
Findley, Edward
Fraser, Hon. Simon
Styles, James
Trenwith, Hon. William Arthur
Zeal, Hon. Sir William Austin,
K.C.M.G.

New South Wales—

Gould, Lt.-Col. Hon. Albert John
Gray, John Proctor
Millen, Edward Davis
Nield, Lt.-Col. John Cash
Pulsford, Edward
Walker, James Thomas

Queensland—

Dawson, Anderson
Drake, Hon. James George
Givens, Thomas
Higgs, William Guy
Stewart, James Charles
Turley, Henry

South Australia—

Baker, Hon. Sir Richard Chaffey,
K.C.M.G., K.C.
Guthrie, Robert Storrie
McGregor, Gregor
Playford, Hon. Thomas
Story, William Harrison
Symon, Sir Josiah Henry, K.C.M.G.,
K.C.

Western Australia—

Croft, John William
de Largie, Hugh
Henderson, George
Matheson, Alexander Perceval
Pearce, George Foster
Smith, Miles Staniforth Cater

Tasmania—

Clemons, John Singleton
Dobson, Hon. Henry
Keating, John Henry
Macfarlane, James
Mulcahy, Hon. Edward
O'Keefe, David John

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Speaker: The Hon. Sir Frederick William Holder, K.C.M.G.

The House
of Repre-
sentatives

Victoria.

| Member. | District. | Member. | District. |
|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Cook, J. N. H. | Bourke | Maloney, Wm. | Melbourne |
| Crouch, R. A. | Corio | McLean, Hon. A. | Gippsland |
| Deakin, Hon. A. | Ballarat | Phillips, Hon. P. | Wimmera |
| Gibb, James | Flinders | Quick, Sir J. | Bendigo |
| Harper, R. | Mernda | Robinson, A. | Wannon |
| Higgins, H. B., K.C. | Northern Melb. | Ronald, Rev. J. B. | Southern Melb. |
| Isaacs, Hon. I. A., K.C. | Indi | Salmon, Hon. C. C. | Laanecoorie |
| Kennedy, Thos. | Moir | Skene, Thos. | Grampians |
| Knox, Wm. | Kooyong | Tudor, F. G. | Yarra |
| Mauger, S. | Melb. Ports | Turner, Rt. Hon. Sir G., P.C., K.C.M.G. | Balaclava |
| McCay, Hon. J. W. | Corinella | Wilson, J. G. | Corangamite |
| McColl, Hon. J. H. | Echuca | | |

New South Wales.

| | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Vacant | ... Riverina | Lyne, Hon. Sir W. J., K.C.M.G. | Hume |
| Brown, Thomas | ... Canobolas | Reid, Rt. Hon. G. H., P.C., K.C. | East Sydney |
| Chapman, Hon. A. | ... Eden-Monaro | Smith, Bruce, K.C. | ... Parkes |
| Conroy, A. H. ... | ... Werriwa | Smith, Hon. S. ... | ... Macquarie |
| Cook, Joseph ... | ... Parramatta | Spence, W. G. ... | ... Darling |
| Edwards, G. B. ... | ... South Sydney | Thomas, J. ... | ... Barrier |
| Ewing, T. T. ... | ... Richmond | Thomson, Dugald | ... North Sydney |
| Fuller, G. W. ... | ... Illawarra | Watkins, D. ... | ... Newcastle |
| Hughes, W. M. ... | ... West Sydney | Watson, J. C. ... | ... Bland |
| Johnson, W. E. ... | ... Lang | Webster, W. ... | ... Gwydir |
| Kelly, W. H. ... | ... Wentworth | Wilks, W. H. ... | ... Dalley |
| Lee, H. W. ... | ... Cowper | Willis, H. ... | ... Robertson |
| Liddell, F. ... | ... Hunter | | |
| Lonsdale, E. ... | ... New England | | |

Queensland.

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Bamford, F. W. ... | Herbert | McDonald, C. ... | Kennedy |
| Culpin, M. ... | Brisbane | Page, James ... | Maranoa |
| Edwards, R. ... | Oxley | Thomson, D. A. ... | Capricornia |
| Fisher, A. ... | Wide Bay | Wilkinson, J. ... | Moreton |
| Groom, L. E. ... | Darling Downs | | |

South Australia.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Batchelor, E. L. ... | Boothby | Hutchison, J. ... | Hindmarsh |
| Bonython, Sir J. L. ... | Barker | Kingston, Rt. Hon C. C., | |
| Glyn, P. McM. ... | Angas | P.C., K.C. ... | Adelaide |
| Holder, Hon. Sir F. W., Wakefield | | Poynton, A. ... | Grey |
| K.C.M.G. | | | |

Western Australia.

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|------------|
| Carpenter, W. H. ... | Fremantle | Fowler, J. M. ... | Perth |
| Forrest, Rt. Hon. Sir John, Swan | | Frazer, C. E. ... | Kalgoorlie |
| P.C., G.C.M.G. | | Mahon, H. ... | Coolgardie |

Tasmania.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------|-----------------------|----------|
| D. N. Cameron | Wilmut | McWilliams, W. J. ... | Franklin |
| Fysh, Hon. Sir P. O., | Denison | O'Malley, King | Darwin |
| K.C.M.G. | | Storrer, D. ... | Bass |

Parliamentary Officers.

Senate.—E. G. Blackmore, G.M.G., Clerk of the Parliaments; C. B. Boydell, Clerk Assistant; G. E. Upward, Usher of the Black Rod.
House of Representatives.—C. G. Duffy, Clerk; W. A. Gale, Clerk Assistant; T. Woollard, Sergeant-at-Arms.
Reporting Staff.—B. H. Friend, Principal Parliamentary Reporter; D. F. Lumsden, Second Reporter.

COMMONWEALTH ACTS PASSED, 1901.

- No. 1. 25th June.—This Act grants and applies out of the consolidated revenue fund the sum of £491,882 to the service of the period ending 30th June, 1901.
- No. 2. 12th July.—The *Acts Interpretation Act* 1901 details the methods of interpreting Acts of Parliament, and of shortening their language.
- No. 3. 12th July.—This Act grants and applies out of the consolidated revenue the sum of £1,010,732 for the service of the year ending 30th June, 1902.
- No. 4. 7th August.—The *Audit Act* 1901 makes provision for the collection and payment of the public moneys, the audit of the public accounts, and the protection and recovery of public property.
- No. 5. 5th September.—The *State Laws and Records Recognition Act* 1901 provides for the recognition throughout the Commonwealth of the laws, the public acts and records, and the judicial proceedings of the States.
- No. 6. 3rd October.—The *Customs Act* 1901 regulates the customs, and deals with the importation, exportation, and warehousing of goods, the administration and control of the customs, duties and drawbacks, ships' stores, the coasting trade, agents and officers, forfeitures and penalties, prosecutions and settlement of cases by the Minister. This is a machinery Act, and does not impose any duties.

- No. 7. 5th October.—The *Beer Excise Act* 1901 regulates the excise on beer, the licensing of brewers and regulation of breweries, excise supervision, duty stamps, computation and payment of duty and refunds, removal of beer from breweries, powers of officers, and prohibition and penalties. The Act does not impose the rate of duty.
- No. 8. 5th October.—The *Distillation Act* 1901 regulates distillation, stills, licences, vigneron, excise supervision, removal of spirits, computation and payment of duty, powers of officers, and prohibitions and penalties.
- No. 9. 5th October.—The *Excise Act* 1901 regulates excise generally, and deals with administration, producers, and dealers, licensing of manufacturers and regulation and supervision of factories, payment of duty and excise control, drawbacks, officers, disputes, prohibitions and penalties.
- No. 10. 12th October.—This Act grants and applies £928,322 out of the consolidated revenue to the service of the year 1901-2.
- No. 11. 16th October.—The *Service and Execution of Process Act* 1901 provides for the service and execution throughout the Commonwealth of the civil and criminal process, and the judgments of the courts of the States and of other parts of the Commonwealth, and matters connected therewith.
- No. 12. 16th November.—The *Post and Telegraph Act* 1901 relates to the postal and telegraphic services of the Commonwealth, which were transferred from the States on 1st March, 1901, and deals with the appointment, powers, and privileges of officers, arrangements and contracts for the carriage of mails, newspapers, and packets, arrangements for money orders and postal notes, the control of telegraphs and protection of telegraph lines, prohibitions and penalties, legal proceedings, and notice of limitation of actions.
- No. 13. 12th December.—The *Property for Public Purposes Acquisition Act* 1901 provides for the acquisition of property for public purposes, for dealing with property so acquired, and for other matters connected therewith.
- No. 14. 17th December.—The *Punishment of Offences Act* 1901 makes provision for the punishment of offences against the laws of the Commonwealth, by enacting that the laws of each State respecting the arrest and custody of offenders, and the procedure for their summary conviction, or for their examination and commitment for trial on indictment or information, and for holding accused persons to bail, shall apply generally to persons charged with offences committed within that State against the Commonwealth laws.
- No. 15. 17th December.—This Act grants and applies £410,767 out of the consolidated revenue to the service of the year 1901-2.
- No. 16. 17th December.—The *Pacific Island Labourers Act* 1901 provides for the regulation, restriction, and prohibition of the introduction into the Commonwealth of labourers from the Pacific Islands. No Pacific Islander is to enter Australia after 31st March, 1904, nor, except under a licence, before that date.

- No. 3. 30th July.—*Sugar Rebate Abolition Act* 1903 abolishes, as from the date of this Act, the rebate of excise on sugar, provided for in the Schedule to the *Excise Tariff Act* 1902.
- No. 4. 30th July.—*Sugar Bounty Act* 1903 provides for a bounty to every grower of sugar-cane or beet in the production of which white labour only has been employed, at the rate of 4s. per ton on cane giving 10 per cent. of sugar, or in the case of beet, at the rate of 40s. per ton on the sugar-giving contents of the beet. Ancillary provisions are included, and regulations may be made by the Governor-in-Council.
- No. 5. 30th July.—*Supply Act* (No. 2) 1903-4 applies £595,659 for the services of the year 1903-4.
- No. 6. 26th August.—*Judiciary Act* 1903 provides for the establishment of the High Court of Australia, to consist of a Chief Justice and two other justices, to be appointed by commission. The seat of Government shall be the principal seat of the Court, but district registries may be established in each State, where the Court shall sit when required. Chamber business, interlocutory proceedings, &c., may be dealt with by a Judge of the High Court, and (except in matters within the exclusive jurisdiction of the High Court) by a Judge of the Supreme Court of a State. Provision is made for a Full Court to hear appeals, and to grant appeals to the Privy Council. The jurisdiction, original and appellate, is fully defined and regulated. Provision is made for officers of the Court, and in regard to barristers and solicitors, those of any State being entitled to practise in any Federal Court. Suits by and against the Commonwealth and the States are regulated; and the criminal jurisdiction in regard to offences against the laws of the Commonwealth is fully regulated.
- No. 7. 28th August.—*High Court Procedure Act* 1903 relates to the procedure of the High Court, and formulates rules.
- No. 8. 28th August.—*Naval Agreement Act* 1903 ratifies an agreement entered into between the British Admiralty and the Governments of the Commonwealth and New Zealand relating to the naval force on the Australian station. The Commonwealth is to pay the Imperial Government five-twelfths and New Zealand is to pay one-twelfth of the total annual cost of maintaining the naval force on the Australian station, not to exceed £200,000 and £40,000 respectively in any year.
- No. 9. 11th September.—*Electoral Divisions Act* 1903 retains the electoral divisions determined under the State laws for the first elections.
- No. 10. 29th September.—*Supply Act* (No. 3) 1903-4 applies £658,500 to the services of the year 1903-4.
- No. 11. 13th October.—*Naturalization Act* 1903. Any resident of the Commonwealth, not being a British subject, and not being an aboriginal native of Asia, Africa, or the Islands of the Pacific, who intends to settle in the Commonwealth, has resided there continuously for the preceding two years, or has been naturalized in the United Kingdom, may, at the discretion of the Governor-in-Council, be naturalized. Provision is also made as to the naturalization of women by marriage, and of children of naturalized persons; and for the recognition of persons previously naturalized under State laws; and as to the exclusive power of the Commonwealth in regard to naturalization.

- No. 11. 26th July.—The *Excise Tariff* 1902 declares the time of the imposition of uniform duties of excise, and validates the collections made under tariff proposals, and imposes the rates of excise duty on beer, spirits, starch, sugar, and tobacco.
- No. 12. 8th September.—The *Royal Commissions Act* 1902 empowers Commissions issued by the Governor-General under the Great Seal of the Commonwealth to summon any person to attend for examination on oath, and to send for books and documents.
- No. 13. 9th September.—The *Post and Telegraph Rates Act* 1902 enacts that government telegrams and letters are to be subject to the rates in force, and declares the rates for newspapers and telegrams.
- No. 14. 16th September.—The *Customs Tariff* 1902 declares the time of the imposition of uniform duties of customs, and validates the collections made under tariff proposals, and declares the rates of duties on imports.
- No. 15. 29th September.—This Act grants and applies £1,365,597 out of the consolidated revenue to the service of the year 1902-3.
- No. 16. 10th October.—This Act grants and applies £52,497 out of the consolidated revenue to the service of the year 1901-2, and appropriates the supplies granted for the year in that session of Parliament, amounting to £4,211,348.
- No. 17. 10th October.—The *Appropriation Act* 1902-3 grants and applies £2,621,197 out of the consolidated revenue to the service of the year 1902-3, and appropriates the supplies granted for the year in that session of Parliament amounting to £3,986,794.
- No. 18. 10th October.—The *Appropriation (Works and Buildings) Act* 1902-3 grants and applies £406,092 out of the consolidated revenue to the service of the year 1902-3 for the purposes of additions, new works, and buildings.
- No. 19. 10th October.—The *Commonwealth Electoral Act* 1902 regulates Parliamentary elections, dealing with the appointment and duties of electoral officers, the partition of each of the States into electoral divisions, the fixing of polling places, the preparation of electoral rolls, the constitution and jurisdiction of special courts of revision, the issue and return of the writs, nomination of candidates, voting by post, elections, scrutiny, limitation of electoral expenses, offences and punishments, and disputed returns.
- No. 20. 10th October.—The *Parliamentary Allowances Act* 1902 fixes the dates from which the allowances of Members of Parliament are to commence.
- No. 21. 10th October.—The *Claims Against the Commonwealth Act* 1902 makes temporary provision for enforcing claims against the Commonwealth.

COMMONWEALTH ACTS PASSED DURING 1903.

- No. 1. 4th July.—*Supply Act* (No. 1) 1903-1904 provides for an advance to the Treasurer of £75,000.
- No. 2. 15th July.—*Senate Elections Act* 1903 provides that the election of Senators to fill periodical and casual vacancies shall be conducted as one election, and for a casting vote by the Commonwealth electoral officer of the State in the case of an equal number of votes. The powers of the Court of Disputed Returns are added to, and other formal matters dealt with.

- No. 3. 30th July.—*Sugar Rebate Abolition Act* 1903 abolishes, as from the date of this Act, the rebate of excise on sugar, provided for in the Schedule to the *Excise Tariff Act* 1902.
- No. 4. 30th July.—*Sugar Bounty Act* 1903 provides for a bounty to every grower of sugar-cane or beet in the production of which white labour only has been employed, at the rate of 4s. per ton on cane giving 10 per cent. of sugar, or in the case of beet, at the rate of 40s. per ton on the sugar-giving contents of the beet. Ancillary provisions are included, and regulations may be made by the Governor-in-Council.
- No. 5. 30th July.—*Supply Act* (No. 2) 1903-4 applies £595,659 for the services of the year 1903-4.
- No. 6. 26th August.—*Judiciary Act* 1903 provides for the establishment of the High Court of Australia, to consist of a Chief Justice and two other justices, to be appointed by commission. The seat of Government shall be the principal seat of the Court, but district registries may be established in each State, where the Court shall sit when required. Chamber business, interlocutory proceedings, &c., may be dealt with by a Judge of the High Court, and (except in matters within the exclusive jurisdiction of the High Court) by a Judge of the Supreme Court of a State. Provision is made for a Full Court to hear appeals, and to grant appeals to the Privy Council. The jurisdiction, original and appellate, is fully defined and regulated. Provision is made for officers of the Court, and in regard to barristers and solicitors, those of any State being entitled to practise in any Federal Court. Suits by and against the Commonwealth and the States are regulated; and the criminal jurisdiction in regard to offences against the laws of the Commonwealth is fully regulated.
- No. 7. 28th August.—*High Court Procedure Act* 1903 relates to the procedure of the High Court, and formulates rules.
- No. 8. 28th August.—*Naval Agreement Act* 1903 ratifies an agreement entered into between the British Admiralty and the Governments of the Commonwealth and New Zealand relating to the naval force on the Australian station. The Commonwealth is to pay the Imperial Government five-twelfths and New Zealand is to pay one-twelfth of the total annual cost of maintaining the naval force on the Australian station, not to exceed £200,000 and £40,000 respectively in any year.
- No. 9. 11th September.—*Electoral Divisions Act* 1903 retains the electoral divisions determined under the State laws for the first elections.
- No. 10. 29th September.—*Supply Act* (No. 3) 1903-4 applies £658,500 to the services of the year 1903-4.
- No. 11. 13th October.—*Naturalization Act* 1903. Any resident of the Commonwealth, not being a British subject, and not being an aboriginal native of Asia, Africa, or the Islands of the Pacific, who intends to settle in the Commonwealth, has resided there continuously for the preceding two years, or has been naturalized in the United Kingdom, may, at the discretion of the Governor-in-Council, be naturalized. Provision is also made as to the naturalization of women by marriage, and of children of naturalized persons; and for the recognition of persons previously naturalized under State laws; and as to the exclusive power of the Commonwealth in regard to naturalization.

- No. 12. 21st October.—*Extradition Act* 1903 relates to the extradition of criminals from the Commonwealth and from Foreign States.
- No. 13. 21st October.—*High Court Procedure Amendment Act* 1903 relates to the transfer of applications to a registry where the court is sitting.
- No. 14. 22nd October.—*Appropriation Act* 1903-4 issues and applies towards supply £2,648,437. This and other previous supplies granted are appropriated to the expenditure of the year 1903-4.
- No. 15. 22nd October.—*Supplementary Appropriation Act* 1901-2 and 1902-3 authorizes and applies for services previously rendered £6,968 for 1901-2, and £107,997 for 1902-3.
- No. 16. 22nd October.—*Appropriation (Works and Buildings) Act* 1903-4 applies and appropriates £422,283 for additions, new works, and buildings for 1903-4.
- No. 17. 22nd October.—*Supplementary Appropriation (Works and Buildings) Act* 1901-2 and 1902-3 applies and appropriates £1,004 and £2,635 respectively for these two years.
- No. 18. 22nd October.—*Rules Publication Act* 1903. This Act regulates the manner in which any rules authorized to be made under any Statute, shall be made and published.
- No. 19. 22nd October.—*Commonwealth Public Service Amendment Act* 1903 extends the time within which persons who have passed the entrance examination may be appointed to fill subsequent vacancies arising from nine to eighteen months.
- No. 20. 22nd October.—*Defence Act* 1903. For the purposes of administration the Governor-General in Council may appoint a General Officer Commanding the Military Forces of the Commonwealth, a similar Naval Officer, and Commanding Officers of Districts, apportion the forces amongst the districts and sub-districts, and generally appoint and promote officers, and issue commissions. The powers, duties, and tenure of certain officers is provided for; and also seniority, promotion, and reserves. A Naval and Military College may be established to impart education in the various branches of naval and military science. The defence force is to consist of the permanent and citizen forces, the latter of which is divided into Militia Volunteer Forces and Reserve Forces, and provision is made for the raising of the force. The permanent forces are at all times liable to be employed on active service, and the citizen forces may be called out in time of war by proclamation. The military forces are not liable to serve beyond the Commonwealth, but the naval forces are. Where the Governor of a State proclaims that domestic violence exists therein, the permanent forces may be called out. All male inhabitants (except persons specially exempt from service), aged 18 to 60 years, who are British subjects and resident six months, shall, in time of war, be liable to serve in the Militia forces. Other general provisions of a comprehensive character are also included.
- No. 21. 22nd October.—*Patents Act* 1903 provides for the transfer of the administration of the State Patent Acts and for the establishment of a new system, with the saving of rights accrued under State Acts. State patents in existence may be extended to the Commonwealth. A Commissioner of Patents is to be appointed, and a Patent Office established, and the mode of registration and procedure is fully dealt with.