

SOCIAL CONDITION.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.

The University of Melbourne was incorporated and endowed by an Act of the Governor and Legislative Council of Victoria, to which the Royal assent was given on 22nd January, 1853. The University buildings, together with those of the affiliated colleges, are situated on 106 acres of land in the southern part of Carlton. The University consists of a Council and Senate, and is incorporated and made a body politic with perpetual succession. It has power to grant degrees, diplomas, certificates, and licences in all faculties except divinity. The Council consists of twenty members elected by the Senate for a term of five years, together with three members appointed by the Governor in Council. It elects two of its members to be Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor respectively. The Senate consists of all persons who have graduated doctor or master in the University. It elects a Warden annually from its members. Control and management are in the hands of the Council. Council and Senate conjointly make statutes and regulations. There is no religious test for admission. By Royal letters patent of 14th March, 1859, it is declared that the degrees of the University of Melbourne shall be as fully recognized as those of any University in the United Kingdom. Scholarships, exhibitions, and prizes are provided in all the principal subjects, the cost being defrayed partly out of University funds and partly by private bequests. In the matter of endowment by private persons the Melbourne University does not compare favorably with others. Still, the investments at present held as the result of private benefactions, together with donations which have been expended on buildings and equipment, amount to about £200,000. The Act of 1853 (now incorporated in the *University Act* 1915) provides for an endowment of £9,000 annually for maintenance and management. Additional grants have been voted annually by Parliament for maintenance, and from time to time for building purposes. These amounted to £17,912 in 1915-16. Since 1853, the amount received from the Government has been £1,100,382—£222,922 for building and apparatus, £686,500 endowment under "Special Appropriation Act," 16 Vic. 34, and £190,960 additional endowment by annual votes of the Legislature. In addition to grants from the Government the Council derives income from the fees paid by students for lectures, examinations, certificates, and diplomas. These are charged as follows:—

For the degree of Bachelor of Arts, £12 12s. per annum.

For the degree of Bachelor of Science, £21 per annum.

For the degree of Bachelor of Laws, £12 12s. for each of the 1st and 2nd years; and £25 4s. for each of the 3rd and 4th years.

For the degree of Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery, £22 per annum.

- For the degrees of Bachelor of Civil Engineering, Bachelor of Electrical Engineering, Bachelor of Mining Engineering, and Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering, £18 18s. for the 1st year, £21 for the 2nd year, and £25 4s. for each of the 3rd and 4th years.
- For the degree of Bachelor of Music and Diploma in Music, £12 12s. per annum.
- For the degree of Bachelor of Agriculture, £21 per annum.
- For the degree of Bachelor of Veterinary Science £22 for the 1st year, and £25 for each of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th years.
- For the Licence in Veterinary Science, £22 for the 1st year, and £25 for each of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th years.
- For the degree of Bachelor of Dental Science, fees are paid to the Australian College of Dentistry.
- For the course for Diploma of Education, £6 6s. per annum for students of the Education Department. For other Students, the fees are those of the course taken during the first two years, and £12 12s. for the 3rd year.
- For the Diploma of Agriculture, £21 per annum.
- For the Diplomas in Mining and in Metallurgy, £18 18s. for the 1st year, £21 for the 2nd year, and £25 4s. for the 3rd year.
- For the Diploma of Architecture, £12 12s. per annum.
- For single subjects, special fees are charged, ranging from £2 2s. each annually to £21, the latter fee being chargeable for Science subjects in which laboratory work plays a great part.
- For admission to degrees, £7 7s. is payable by bachelors (except Dentistry, £3 3s.), and £10 10s. by masters and doctors.
- For any diploma, £3 3s. is the fee.
- For the Licence in Veterinary Science, £5 5s.
- For certificates of matriculation, attendance upon lectures, &c., special small fees are charged.

Examinations. In May, 1906, the last matriculation examination was held, and the system of junior and senior public and commercial examinations was introduced in December, 1906. Under the regulations, the rights of all candidates who had passed any subject at any previous matriculation examination were reserved. The appended table gives the results of the public examinations conducted by the University during 1916 :—

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS CONDUCTED BY THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1916.

	Number who attempted to Pass fully.	Number who Passed fully.	
		Total.	Percentage.
Examination—			
Junior, Public	3,249	1,369	42·13
„ Commercial	74	22	29·73
Senior, Public	900	411	45·66
Matriculation	1	1	100 00

No candidate attempted to pass fully in the Senior Commercial examination.

Degrees. The number of degrees taken in 1916 was 304, 302 of which were direct and 2 *ad eundem*, as against a total of 1,372 for the preceding five years, or an average of 274 per annum for that period. During those five years 1,351 persons obtained direct and 21 *ad eundem* degrees. Of the total number of 6,359 degrees granted

since the establishment of the University, 660 have been conferred on women, 654 of which were direct and 6 *ad eundem*. These were apportioned as follows:—297 Bachelor of Arts, 129 Master of Arts, 70 Bachelor of Medicine, 6 Doctor of Medicine, 68 Bachelor of Surgery, 11 Bachelor of Laws, 1 Master of Laws, 4 Doctor of Science, 45 Bachelor of Science, 18 Master of Science, 6 Bachelor of Music, and 5 Bachelor of Dental Science. The following table shows the number of degrees conferred at the University between the date of its first opening and the end of 1916—the particulars for the years 1915 and 1916 being given separately:—

DEGREES CONFERRED.

Degrees.	Prior to 1915.			During 1915.			During 1916.			Total.		
	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem</i> .	Total.	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem</i> .	Total.	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem</i> .	Total.	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem</i> .	Total.
Bachelor of Arts ...	1144	118	1262	74	...	74	45	...	45	1263	118	1381
Master of Arts ...	604	176	780	14	6	20	17	2	19	635	184	819
Doctor of Letters ...	1	1	2	1	...	1	1	...	1	3	1	4
Bachelor of Medicine	1066	15	1081	84	...	84	72	...	72	1222	15	1237
Doctor of Medicine	202	107	309	1	...	1	2	...	2	205	107	312
Bachelor of Surgery	995	4	999	84	...	84	72	...	72	1151	4	1155
Master of Surgery ...	23	...	23	1	...	1	2	...	2	26	...	26
Bachelor of Laws ...	431	12	443	24	...	24	17	...	17	472	12	484
Master of Laws ...	80	3	83	3	...	3	1	...	1	84	3	87
Doctor of Laws ...	16	22	38	...	1	1	...	...	...	16	23	39
Bachelor of Civil Engineering ...	178	2	180	8	...	8	5	...	5	191	2	193
Bachelor of Mining Engineering ...	30	...	30	1	...	1	4	...	4	35	...	35
Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering ...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
Bachelor of Electrical Engineering ...	...	...	...	1	...	1	3	...	3	4	...	4
Master of Engineering	77	...	77	1	...	1	3	...	3	81	...	81
Bachelor of Science	138	5	143	13	...	13	10	...	10	161	5	166
Master of Science ...	60	2	62	8	...	8	2	...	2	70	2	72
Doctor of Science ...	18	20	38	2	...	2	3	...	3	23	20	43
Bachelor of Music ...	12	2	14	2	...	2	2	...	2	16	2	18
Doctor of Music ...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
Bachelor of Dental Science ...	75	...	75	19	...	19	30	...	30	124	...	124
Doctor of Dental Science ...	9	...	9	1	...	1	1	...	1	11	...	11
Bachelor of Veterinary Science ...	30	...	30	3	...	3	7	...	7	40	...	40
Doctor of Veterinary Science ...	4	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	4
Bachelor of Agricultural Science ...	15	...	15	2	...	2	3	...	3	20	...	20
Total ...	5210	491	5701	347	7	354	302	2	304	5859	500	6359

Students attending lectures, and under-graduates admitted.

The number of persons attending lectures has greatly increased during the past ten years, the total in 1916 having been 1,297 as compared with 860 in 1906, thus showing an advance of 51 per cent. To some extent this is due to the inclusion of new subjects in University teaching, principally Education, Agriculture, Metallurgy, Mining, Dentistry, and the Veterinary courses; but, apart from these, the increase is very large. A great improvement is also shown in the admission of undergraduates, the number having increased by 85 per cent. in the period mentioned.

PERSONS ADMITTED AS UNDERGRADUATES AND STUDENTS ATTENDING LECTURES, 1912 to 1916.

Year.	Number of Persons Matriculated and Admitted as Undergraduates.			Number of Students Attending Lectures.		
	Males	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1912 ...	243	72	315	1,009	310	1,319
1913 ...	205	82	287	1,015	315	1,330
1914 ...	283	81	364	1,089	300	1,389
1915 ...	234	82	316	955	396	1,351
1916 ...	264	100	364	852	445	1,297

Of the number attending lectures in 1916—1,297—388 were students in Arts and Education, 43 in Laws, 51 in Engineering, 453 in Medicine, 79 in Science, 160 in Music, 61 in Dentistry, 5 in Agriculture, 27 in Veterinary Science, and 22 in Architecture, and 8 were doing Science Research Work.

Prior to 1911, it was the practice to publish under the heading of University Finance the transactions relating to the General Account only, but of late years other funds have become so important that, in order to prevent misleading comparisons, it is thought desirable to show the receipts and expenditure in all departments of the University. This has been done in the subjoined statement:—

University finance.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1916.

	General Account.		Other Accounts.		All Departments.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Receipts—						
Government Grants ..	22,000	0 0	5,818	0 0	27,818	0 0
Lecture, Degree, Examination, and other Fees ..	29,193	10 10	8,600	13 10	37,794	4 8
Other sources ..	1,986	9 7	8,065	12 0	10,052	1 7
Total ..	53,180	0 5	22,484	5 10	75,664	6 3
Expenditure ..	50,261	18 3	19,418	19 2	69,680	17 5

In addition, the University received the sum of £2,267 from private benefactors, to be held in trust for scholarships and other purposes.

AFFILIATED COLLEGES.

The permission accorded by the "University Act of Incorporation" for the establishment of affiliated colleges has been taken advantage of by the clergy and people of the Church of England, and of the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches of Victoria. Large residential colleges have been built upon the sites reserved for this purpose, which are situated in the northern portion of the University grounds fronting Sydney-road and College-crescent, Carlton. These colleges, which admit students without regard to their religious beliefs, maintain efficient staffs of tutors and lecturers for the teaching of the principal subjects in each of the University courses. They also provide training for the ministers of their respective denominations. The Roman Catholic body has collected a large sum of money and has commenced the erection of a college upon its site in Madeline-street. In 1906, the Australian College of Dentistry was formally affiliated with the University, which obtained certain rights of supervision and control, and in return undertook to recognize the professional teaching of the College in connexion with the Degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery.

Trinity College.

The Anglican Church was the first to avail itself of the right to establish an affiliated college. In 1869, Bishop Perry (then Lord Bishop of Melbourne) assisted by Professor Wilson, Sir William Stawell, Dean Macartney, and others, undertook to raise the funds required for the college buildings. Their efforts were crowned with success, and the building of Trinity was commenced in the following year. Its progress was remarkably rapid, and, in 1877, it was found necessary to increase the accommodation for students. In 1883, the Clarke buildings were erected by Sir W. J. and Mr. Joseph Clarke, and additions have been repeatedly made since that time. In 1886, Trinity College Hostel, for resident women students of the college, was established by the present Warden, and was carried on until 1890 in houses rented by him. In 1890, mainly through the munificence of the late Janet Lady Clarke, the Hostel was supplied with permanent buildings erected within the College precincts, and named "The Janet Clarke Buildings." The Hostel forms an integral part of Trinity College, and the women students of the college consequently enjoy all its educational advantages. The Hostel, like the College itself, is open to students of all religious denominations. The college buildings consist of a chapel, dining hall, chemical and biological laboratories, lecture-room, libraries, billiard-room, and students' common-room, in addition to apartments for the Warden, tutors, and students. A handsome new chapel has been completed, at a cost of over £12,000, which was presented to the college by the late Mr. J. S. Horsfall, of Orrong, Toorak. The warden of the college is Dr. Alex. Leeper, M.A., LL.D., late of Trinity College, Dublin, and of St. John's College, Oxford, who is assisted by a staff of tutors and lecturers. The college holds annually, in the month of November, an examination

for open scholarships and exhibitions. Prospectuses may be obtained on application to the Warden.

**Ormond
College.**

In 1877, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria appointed a committee to take charge of the site assigned to it. It was decided to obtain the Crown grant for the land, and to proceed with the erection of a college so soon as the necessary funds should be raised. When £6,000 had been subscribed, Mr. Francis Ormond offered to subscribe £10,000 if an equal amount were first obtained from other sources. In less than a year this condition had been satisfied, and the buildings were commenced. The college was opened in March, 1881, under the mastership of Mr. J. H. MacFarland, M.A. (Cantab.); it bears the name of Mr. Ormond. It was then announced that Mr. Ormond would bear the whole expense of the structural work, leaving the rest of the funds for fittings, equipment, etc. In 1883 the buildings were enlarged; and in 1887 Mr. Ormond added the Victoria Wing, naming it in honour of the Jubilee of Queen Victoria's reign. The Dining Hall and the Master's Lodge, both of which are special features of the College architecture, were built in 1893. Mr. Ormond's benefactions, which amounted to £41,780 in his life-time, were increased under a bequest to a sum which will ultimately amount to more than £100,000. The college is a residential college for students of the University of Melbourne (without restriction as to religious denomination). It has a staff of lecturers and tutors from whom the students receive all the assistance they require in their University work; non-resident students are also admitted to the college classes. The work of the Theological Hall of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria is carried on in the Victoria Wing; there is an independent staff of professors and lecturers for this work. Theological students may reside in the college if they are matriculated students of the University. At the north end of the college grounds is the Wyselaskie building, comprising the Wyselaskie Hall and two professors' residences. The first master (Dr. J. H. MacFarland, present Vice-Chancellor of the University of Melbourne) retired at the end of 1914, and Professor D. K. Picken, M.A. (Camb. and Glasg.), professor of Pure and Applied Mathematics in Victoria University College, Wellington, N.Z., was appointed to succeed him. In 1915, Mr. H. W. Allen, M.A. (Melbourne), senior tutor of the college, was appointed vice-master, an office formerly held by Mr. Darnley Naylor, now professor of Classics in the University of Adelaide. The first chairman of the College Council was Dr. Alex. Morrison, Principal of Scotch College; the present chairman is the Rev. John Mathew, M.A., B.D.

**Queen's
College.**

The Conference of the Methodist Church of Victoria, in 1878, appointed a committee to arrange for the building of a college. A request for donations met with a generous response, the first donor being Sir William McArthur, who made a gift of £1,000. The work of erecting the college was not, however, commenced until

1887. It was formally opened in March, 1888. The strenuous efforts of the Rev. W. A. Quick, in the establishment of the college, entitle him to the honour of being regarded as its founder. In 1889, large additions were made to the buildings, which now comprise fully equipped lecture-rooms, laboratories, library, reading-rooms, and apartments for the master, tutors, and students. Further additions were made in 1905, and the "coming of age" of the college was celebrated in 1909 by the enlargement of the building so as to provide a larger library and common-room, with the result that the college is now capable of accommodating about 70 students in residence. Its lectures are open to non-resident, as well as to resident, students. The master is the Rev. E. H. Sugden, M.A., B.Sc., Litt.D.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

The system of local lectures and classes, known as **University extension.** University Extension, which has been in vogue in England for about 50 years, and has more lately been introduced into other countries of Europe and the United States, was organized in Victoria in 1891, under a Board appointed by the Melbourne University. The system aims at bringing teaching of the scope and standard of that given at the University itself within the reach of the numerous and constantly growing class of people whose position in life prevents them from attending lectures there, but who wish to devote their leisure to systematic reading and study. To these, material assistance is given by formal lectures, illustrated, where the subject requires it, by demonstrations and experiments, by informal classes and discussions, and by the examination and criticism of written essays. By thus systematizing the knowledge of the extension students, guiding their reading, and suggesting new methods and new directions of inquiry, the University imparts to them the higher education. The lectures are not of the ordinary popular kind. Their primary object is education, they seek to instruct and stimulate rather than to entertain; at the same time they endeavour to avoid pedantry and dullness. The lectures are delivered in courses, and thus fairly wide subjects may be treated with some approach to thoroughness. The movement is under the control of the University Extension Board, which consists of eighteen members, of whom not more than five may be non-graduates. This Board acts in conjunction with the local committees of the several centres scattered throughout the suburbs and country towns. The Board supplies a list of suitable courses of lectures by competent and approved lecturers, and the local committee chooses the lecturer and subject.

Tutorial Classes have been organized by a Joint Committee consisting of representatives from the Extension Board and the Workers' Educational Association respectively.

The Honorary Secretary of the Extension Board and the Joint Committee for Tutorial Classes is Dr. J. McKellar Stewart, The University, Melbourne.

THE STATE EDUCATION SYSTEM.

The
educational
system of
Victoria.

The present system of "free, compulsory, and secular" education came into operation on 1st January, 1873, the Act which introduced it having been passed in the previous year. Subsequently, this Act and two amending Acts passed in 1876 and 1889, were consolidated in the *Education Act* 1890, which in turn has been amended by Act No. 1777 passed in December, 1901, Act No. 2205 passed in December, 1905, Act No. 2301 passed in December, 1910, and Act No. 2330 passed in October, 1911, and is now, with its amendments, incorporated in the *Education Act* 1915, No. 2644. Before the inception of the present method several different systems were tried. Prior to 1848, education was left to private enterprise; but in that year a denominational system was introduced and administered by a Board, a subsidy being granted by the State. Under that system, religious as well as secular instruction was imparted by the teachers—the former being given according to the principles of the denomination to which the school was attached, the clergy of which also exercised control over the instruction imparted. On the separation of Port Phillip district from New South Wales in 1851, a Board of National Education was established in the new Colony of Victoria "for the formation and management of schools to be conducted under Lord Stanley's National system of Education, and for administering the funds in connexion therewith." There were thus two systems of education under separate boards in operation at the same time, the duplicate system continuing in force until 1862, when it was abolished as being cumbrous and costly. The *Common Schools Act* 1862 transferred the powers of both boards to a single Board of Education, provided a minimum distance which must exist between new schools established, and fixed a minimum of scholars a school must have in order to entitle it to State aid; it prescribed, moreover, that four hours each day should be set apart for secular instruction, and that no child should be refused admission to any school on account of its religious persuasion. Although this Act caused some improvement, it was not such as to wholly abolish denominationalism, nor did it reduce the number of small schools in the towns to any appreciable extent. It continued in force, however, for ten years, when it was repealed by the Act of 1872. Under these systems, a fee ranging from 6d. to 2s. 6d. weekly was charged to all children except those whose parents were in destitute circumstances. Under the Act of 1872, education was made free to all willing to accept it; compulsory, in the sense that, whether they attend or do not attend State schools, evidence must be produced that all children are educated up to a certain standard; and secular, no teacher being allowed to give other than secular instruction in any State school building. Facilities are, however, afforded to persons other than State school teachers to give religious instruction, on one or two days each week, to the children of the parents who desire that their children shall receive such instruction. In each school four hours a

least are set apart during each school day for secular instruction, two hours of which are to be before, and two hours after, noon.

In December, 1910, an Act of Parliament of a most comprehensive and far-reaching character was passed. It marks a most important epoch in the history of education in Victoria, and lays the foundation of a complete national system from the infant school to the highest educational institutions in the State. Power is given in this Act for the establishment of higher elementary schools, and of secondary and technical schools of various types, the aim being to create a co-ordinated system of public education, leading through elementary schools and evening continuation classes to trade and technical schools on the one hand, or through elementary schools and high schools to the University or to higher technical schools on the other. Provision is also made for evening continuation classes, in which the education of children who have left the day school at fourteen years of age may be continued till they are seventeen years of age. Power is given to make attendance at evening continuation classes compulsory in any district proclaimed for this purpose. Education is made compulsory in the case of deaf and dumb, blind, or physically or mentally defective children between seven and sixteen years of age.

In order to provide for the due co-ordination of all branches of public education a Council of Public Education has been created, representative of the various educational and industrial interests of the State. This body, which consists of 20 members presided over by the Director of Education, reports annually to Parliament on the development of public education in Victoria and elsewhere.

Parents and custodians of children not less than six nor more than fourteen years of age are required to cause such children (unless there is a "reasonable excuse") to attend a State school on every school half-day in each week. Non-attendance may be excused for any of the five following reasons:—(1) If the child is receiving efficient instruction in some other manner, and is complying with the prescribed conditions as to regularity of attendance; or (2) has been prevented from attending by sickness, reasonable fear of infection, temporary or permanent infirmity, or any unavoidable cause; or (3) has been excused by a general or particular order of the Minister; or (4) is at least thirteen years of age, and has obtained a certificate of merit as prescribed; or (5) that there is no State school within 1, 2, 2½, or 3 miles in the case of children under seven, between seven and nine, between nine and eleven, and over eleven years of age respectively. Parents and custodians who fail to make a child attend as provided may be summoned and fined not less than 2s., nor more than 10s., for each such offence, or, in default, may be imprisoned for any term not exceeding three days; and truant officers are appointed to see that the compulsory provisions are carried out.

Conveyance allowance.

In cases where schools are closed through low average attendance, or where, though there is no school, the number

of children would warrant the Department in establishing a school, allowances are made by the Department for the conveyance of children to the nearest school. The amount of the allowance is 3d. per day for children over six and under eleven who reside between $2\frac{1}{2}$ and 3 miles from the nearest school, or 4d. per day for children over six and under fourteen who reside 4 miles or over from the nearest school.

Under Act No. 2301 Boards of Advice were abolished and a School Committee of not more than seven persons for each school or group of schools was substituted. The members of School Committees shall be such persons as are nominated for the purpose by the parents of children attending the school or group of schools for which the Committee is to be appointed. The main duties of such Committees are:—(a) to exercise a general oversight over the buildings and grounds, and to report to the Minister on their condition when necessary; (b) to carry out any necessary work referred to the Committee in connexion with maintenance or repair of or additions to buildings; (c) to promote the beautifying and improvement of school grounds, the establishment and maintenance of school gardens and agricultural plots, the decoration of the schoolroom, and the formation of a school library and museum; (d) to provide for the necessary cleansing and for the sanitary services of the school; (e) to visit the school from time to time; (f) to use every endeavour to induce parents to send their children to school; and (g) to arrange, where necessary, for suitable board and lodging at reasonable rates for the accommodation of teachers (especially women teachers) appointed to the school.

The following are the subjects in which instruction is absolutely free:—Reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, history, drill, singing, drawing, elementary science, manual training, gymnastics, and swimming where practicable; lessons on the laws of health and on temperance; needlework, and, where practicable, cookery and domestic economy for girls. Pupils buy their own books and material.

The programme of instruction in force contains provisions to secure a more realistic treatment than formerly of the essential subjects of school education, and a larger share of attention to the training of the hand and eye through manual instruction in various forms. The requirements from teachers of infants are also such as to secure methods of teaching in accord with the principles enunciated by Froebel, the founder of the kindergarten system. Great activity has been displayed in the training of teachers for their work. During the past few years a large number of teachers have taken the course at the Teachers' College and the Melbourne University, and, in addition, hundreds have been instructed (especially in those subjects the method of teaching which has undergone modification recently) in special classes held in the evenings and on Saturdays at centres of population, and, on a larger scale still, during the Christmas vacations, at what are called "Summer Schools." Much

attention has been given to the beautifying and improvement of school grounds by the planting of trees and shrubs, and by the establishment of school gardens. One day in each year—termed Arbor Day—is specially set apart for tree-planting, and for the giving of lessons on the value of trees. The teaching of elementary agriculture is warmly encouraged by both the Department of Education and the Department of Agriculture, and the subject is being dealt with in a very practical way.

**Drill,
swimming,
school
gardens, &c.**

There were, on 30th June, 1916, 57 Sloyd centres in operation, having accommodation for about 11,500 boys; and 63 cookery centres, with an attendance of 5,846 girls, also one laundry centre with 200 girls in attendance. In addition, woodwork is being taught in 67 country schools by the head teacher as one of the ordinary subjects. Swimming is taught in schools that have the necessary facilities, the children being formed into swimming clubs, which hold annual competitions at various centres. Drill is taught in all schools. During 1912 the system of physical training approved of by the Commonwealth military authorities was introduced. Nearly every State school now has its garden, and some of the school gardens are among the beauty spots of their districts.

**Special
days.**

In addition to Arbor Day, three other special days—Empire Day, Discovery Day, and Bird Day—call for mention. The observance of the first promotes the growth of an intelligent patriotism, and is world-wide; but nowhere is the day more enthusiastically celebrated than in Victoria. The special lessons given on Discovery Day serve to foster the desire for fuller acquaintance with the history of Australia—a highly desirable result to secure, as Australia is the native land of almost all the children in the elementary schools of Victoria. Bird Day has for its object the protection of native birds and their eggs. On that day lessons are given on bird life and, where possible, bird-observing excursions are made. About 50,000 of the older scholars have joined the "Gould League of Bird Lovers," which has been established under the auspices of the Australasian Ornithologists' Union and the Bird Observers' Club, for the protection of bird life.

**Patriotic
Fund.**

The teachers and children in the State schools, with the aid of departmental officers, school committees, and parents, have been instrumental in raising a sum of £215,000 for the Department's war relief fund. In addition to assisting our own kin, portion of the sum raised has been forwarded to the sufferers in France, Belgium, Serbia, Poland, Montenegro, and Russia. Towards the erection, equipment, and maintenance of the military hospital at Caulfield £10,000 was allotted. In addition to the contributions in money, 400,000 articles of comfort, in the shape of warm garments, hospital foods, sick-room aids, materials for games and amusements, books, magazines, writing tablets and the like, have been sent oversea and to the front.

**Medical
inspection.**

The need for the medical inspection of school children has received widespread recognition, and the Victorian Education Department has followed the lead of progressive countries by appointing four medical inspectors. They devote their whole time to investigating the hygienic condition of school premises and the physical and mental condition of the pupils, and to giving instruction to teachers.

**Teachers'
remuneration
and
classification.**

Under the provisions of Act No. 2713, male teachers are divided into six and female teachers into five classes, there being no female teachers in the first class. The salaries for males, excluding junior teachers, range from £120 to £500, and those for females, excluding junior teachers and sewing mistresses, from £80 to £250. In addition to the head and assistant teachers, there are four classes of junior teachers, with salaries ranging from £30 to £60. Sewing mistresses receive £40 yearly.

**State
schools,
teachers,
and scholars,
1872 to 1916.**

The following statement shows the progress as regards State schools, teachers, and scholars since 1872. The figures relating to the number of schools and teachers refer to 30th June, and those relating to the number of scholars to the financial year ended 30th June, for the last fifteen years; the reference is to 31st December and the years ended on that date respectively for all previous returns:—

**STATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE,
1872 TO 1915-16.**

Year.	Number of Schools at end of year.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Scholars.		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In average Attendance.	Distinct Children (estimated).
1872	1,049	2,416	136,055	68,456	113,197
1880	1,810	4,215	229,723	119,520	195,736
1890	2,170	4,708	250,097	133,768	213,886
1900	1,948	4,977	243,667	147,020	218,240
1901-2	2,041	5,066	257,355	150,939	228,241
1902-3	1,988	5,037	251,655	150,268	224,178
1903-4	1,928	4,797	241,145	145,500	214,822
1904-5	1,935	4,689	234,614	143,362	210,200
1905-6	1,953	4,598	229,179	142,216	203,119
1906-7	1,974	4,721	231,759	147,270	203,782
1907-8	2,017	4,665	233,893	143,551	205,541
1908-9	2,035	4,808	233,337	146,106	205,278
1909-10	2,036	4,957	235,042	145,968	206,263
1910-11	2,059	5,087	234,766	146,464	204,086
1911-12	2,093	5,533	238,111	151,247	205,695
1912-13	2,127	5,683	241,042	152,600	209,172
1913-14	2,175	5,710	246,447	158,213	214,986
1914-15	2,227	6,085	250,264	160,885	218,427
1915-16	2,225	6,194*	257,726	161,632	221,777

* In addition to these teachers, 510 were temporarily employed on 30th June, 1916.

Children's attendance at school, 1872 and 1915. In 1872, before attendance at school was free and compulsory, each child on the average attended 58 out of every 100 days the school was open; now each child attends 73 out of every 100 school days.

Ages of State school scholars. The following table shows the number and percentage of distinct children attending State schools, below, at, and above the school age (6 and under 14), during the year 1915-16:—

AGES OF STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS.

Ages.	Distinct Children Attending—					
	Day Schools.		Night Schools.		Total.	
	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.
Under 6 years ...	13,823	6·2	...	...	13,823	6·2
6 to 14 ,, ...	184,729	83·4	12	9·0	184,741	83·3
14 years and upwards ...	23,092	10·4	121	91·0	23,213	10·5
Total ...	221,644	100·0	133	100·0	221,777	100·0

Children of school age receiving instruction. The estimated number of children in the State at school age (6 to 14 years) on 30th June, 1916, was 224,020, and of these 222,172 were being instructed in State and private schools. The number of children not being instructed in schools was, therefore, 1,848, and, if allowance be made for those being taught at home, for others who, having obtained certificates of exemption, have left school, and for those bodily or mentally afflicted, it would appear that the number of children whose education is being wholly neglected is very small.

Net enrolment in Australia and New Zealand. The following comparative statement, which relates to the year 1915, shows, for the various States of the Commonwealth and for New Zealand, the net enrolment of children in State and private schools and the percentage of such enrolment to the population. The percentage in the Commonwealth is 18·56 (15·26 per cent. in State, and 3·30 in private schools), and in New Zealand, 19·48 (16·67 per cent. in State, and 2·81 in private, schools). The highest enrolment in proportion to the population in State and private schools is in New Zealand, 19·48 per cent., New

South Wales coming next with 19·02 per cent., and Victoria following with 18·95 per cent.

NET ENROLMENT OF SCHOLARS IN STATE AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND, 1915.

State.	Net Enrolment of Scholars —all Ages.			Percentage of Population.		
	State Schools.	Private Schools.	Total.	State Schools.	Private Schools.	Total.
Victoria	218,427	52,638	271,065	15·27	3·68	18·95
New South Wales	288,276	67,221	355,497	15·42	3·60	19·02
Queensland	110,776	15,978	126,754	16·13	2·32	18·45
South Australia	62,600	10,730	73,330	14·24	2·44	16·68
Western Australia	45,956	10,942	56,898	14·26	3·39	17·65
Tasmania	28,954	5,944	34,898	14·53	2·98	17·51
Northern Territory*	164	62	226	4·37	1·65	6·02
Federal Territory*	318	..	318	12·02	..	12·02
Total Australia	755,471	163,515	918,986	15·26	3·30	18·56
Dominion of New Zealand..	183,214	30,929	214,143	16·67	2·81	19·48

* Figures for 1914.

The cost of State school instruction, including the expenditure on buildings, in the Commonwealth and in New Zealand for the year 1915, is set out below. The average cost per scholar in Australia is £7 18s. 9d., and in New Zealand, £9 1s. 3d.

COST OF STATE SCHOOL INSTRUCTION IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, 1915.

State.	Scholars in Average Attend- ance.	State Expenditure—				Per Head of Scholars in Average Attendance.	
		On Admin- istration and Main- tenance.	On Build- ings and Rent.	Total.	Including Buildings and Rent.		
					£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Victoria	166,407	1,107,856	315,869	1,423,725	8 11 1	6 13 2	
New South Wales	194,244	1,466,971	219,911	1,686,882	8 13 8	7 11 1	
Queensland	85,108	432,001	83,159	515,160	6 1 1	5 1 6	
South Australia	48,512	271,064	34,497	305,561	6 6 0	5 11 9	
Western Australia	39,970	304,895	53,654	358,549	8 19 5	7 12 7	
Tasmania	22,904	110,981	20,639	131,620	5 14 11	4 16 11	
Northern Territory*	99	1,580	..	1,580	15 19 2	15 19 2	
Total Australia	557,244	3,695,348	727,729	4,423,077	7 18 9	6 12 8	
Dominion of New Zealand ..	163,092	1,294,466	183,534	1,478,000	9 1 3	7 18 9	

* Figures for 1914.

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

REGISTRATION OF TEACHERS AND SCHOOLS.

Registration of teachers and schools. By Act No. 2013, passed in 1905, all private schools and teachers of private schools had to be registered by the Teachers and Schools Registration Board. This Board consisted of three representatives of the Education Department, four of non-State schools, two of the University, and one of State-aided technical schools. Its chief functions were to see (1) that only qualified persons were employed in private schools; and (2) that private schools met requirements in hygienic matters. Under the provisions of Act No. 2301, passed in December, 1910, the Teachers and Schools Registration Board was abolished and its duties were taken over by the Council of Public Education.

Registered schools, 1872 to 1915-16. The number of registered schools, instructors in same, and individual scholars in attendance for 1872, the year before the adoption of the present secular system, for a number of subsequent years, and for the latest year available, were:—

REGISTERED SCHOOLS AND ATTENDANCE, 1872 TO 1915-16.

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Individual Scholars.
1872	888	1,841	24,781
1880	643	1,516	28,134
1890	791	2,037	40,181
1900	884	2,348	48,483
1901-2	872	2,379	43,182
1902-3	798	2,369	42,695
1903-4	787	2,360	42,214
1904-5	771	2,289	43,014
1905-6*	757	2,397	48,732
1906-7	751	2,313	49,803
1907-8	696	2,188	50,058
1908-9	678	2,178	49,145
1909-10	641	2,067	49,964
1910-11	587	1,975	51,495
1911-12	548	1,856	48,391
1912-13	519	1,846	49,549
1913-14	512	1,844	50,480
1914-15	509	1,879	52,638
1915-16	495	1,909	57,400

* In this year the *Registration of Teachers and Schools Act* came into operation.

Scholars attending State and registered schools.

On comparing the number of scholars with the number attending schools, it is seen that 21 per cent. of the scholars during 1915-16 attended registered schools, and the balance, 79 per cent., attended State primary and secondary schools.

THE TRAINING OF TEACHERS.

Teachers'
College.

In recent years the training of teachers for the State Department has been much modified and altered. Formerly, young people who had completed the State School course of education were employed as pupil teachers to teach the whole of each day, and during their three or four years' course they received instruction, usually in the mornings or in the late afternoons, from the head masters and other qualified teachers of the staff. Now such young persons enter one or other of the High Schools throughout the State, where they stay for at least two years, receiving the groundwork of a good secondary education, and also receiving instruction in certain subjects which are considered essential for a teacher. If at the end of two years they choose to enter the Service, they are appointed as Junior Teachers, and in the course of a few years they can possess second class and first class certificates, and be enrolled as fully qualified teachers. The more ambitious of the intending teachers remain at the High Schools for at least three years, when they pass the Leaving Certificate examination. In some cases they remain a year longer in order to qualify themselves to enter for the course of training for Secondary Teachers. Intending teachers who wish to get higher certificates and to receive the best course of training available enter the Teachers' College. This is situated in a corner of the University Grounds, Carlton, and is at the present time in close connexion with the University.

Here there are three full courses of training. The first, for Kindergarten or Infant Teachers, is open to any young teacher of the Education Department who has passed the Intermediate examination and who has taught for two years; and is also open, on payment of a fee of £10 10s. per annum, to non-Departmental students who are at least seventeen years of age, and who have passed the Intermediate examination. This course, which is for two years, gives a thorough training in the work of such institutions as Free Kindergartens, the Primary Department of private schools and the Infant Department of State Schools, and imparts the necessary instruction in all subjects connected with Kindergarten work. Students of this course, who pass all the tests in Theory and Practice, are awarded the Trained Kindergarten and Infant Teacher's Certificate.

The second course—for Primary Teachers—is open to any young teachers of the Education Department who have passed an examination entitling them to matriculate, and who have spent at least two years in practical teaching; and is open on payment of a fee of £10 10s. per annum to any non-Departmental student who is seventeen years of age and who has passed the matriculation examination. This course, which is for two years, imparts the necessary skill for teaching classes in the Primary department of a private or State school. One of the years, either before or after the year spent in the College, must be given exclusively to practical work. The students of the course who pass all its tests are awarded a Trained Primary Teacher's Certificate.

This course is open to non-Departmental students who are 17 years of age, who have passed the Intermediate examination and wish to be registered under the Council of Education; but who do not desire to have the Trained Primary Teacher's Certificate.

The third course—for Secondary Teachers—is open to any young teachers of the Education Department who have passed the Leaving Certificate examination, and who have taught for at least one year in a school, or to candidates who have won Government Exhibitions, or who have already passed in two years in any Degree Course of the Melbourne University. This course, which is for three years, is almost wholly under the University of Melbourne, and gives at the end the Diploma of Education of that University. The Course is open to any student of the University qualifying to sit for that Diploma.

Certificates are granted at the end of these courses according to the standards set by the Council of Education for teachers of Registered Schools. The regulations of the Teachers' College have recently been widened so as to permit students who have been trained in private schools to enter the College. At the end of their course the Department will classify them and immediately find them positions. A selection Committee meets at the beginning of each year, and determines the number of students for each course, and the course that each candidate for admission will be allowed to take.

Recently the work in the Kindergarten Department has been extended. A Diploma in Kindergarten and Infant Room work will now be granted to all students who, having gained the Trained Infant Teacher's certificate and having taught for some four or five years afterwards, spend four years further in the study of Kindergarten and Infant Room methods. It is hoped that this course, which is open to State and private students, will be instrumental in causing Kindergarten teachers to introduce experimental methods in their work. In connexion with the Infant Teacher's Certificate the Teachers' College carries on a large correspondence class, by means of which some 100 Infant teachers scattered over the State are assisted to pass the examinations for this certificate.

Students of the Domestic Arts Hostel receive their instruction in Science, English, Drawing, and Education at the Teachers' College.

What is termed the Short Course of Training—an intensive course extending over six months—has been instituted in order to provide a steady supply of teachers for the more remote schools of the State. Students taking this course spend about half their time in attendance at lectures in education, hygiene, voice culture, English and history, and at classes in drawing and other manual arts, and spend their remaining time in getting an insight into the organization and management of the rural school. Students, while in training, are paid an allowance at the rate of £40 per annum, and at the end of their course they receive appointments in rural schools.

All Departmental students are entitled to free instruction, and either to reside at the College, or to receive an allowance of £18 per annum if they live at home. The students who reside at the College must, after they leave, repay to the Department a sum of £12 for every year spent at the College. All Departmental students receive an allowance of £12 per annum towards personal expenses. Every "State" student is required to enter into an agreement, by himself and an approved surety, not to relinquish his course of training without the permission of the Minister, and for four years (three years in the case of women students resigning on account of marriage) after the termination of his studentship to teach in any school to which he may be appointed. Successful State students receive appointments as sixth class teachers, the salary for males being from £140 to £170, and for females from £80 to £130 a year, according as they are appointed assistants or head teachers; or, if they hold the Secondary Teacher's Certificate, they may be appointed at higher salaries to High Schools or Elementary High Schools. During 1916 there were in all 410 students in training at the Teachers' College or in classes connected with it, of whom 158 were taking portion of their work at the University. Sixty-four of the students are in residence.

DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOLS AND AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOLS.

District High Schools. The Education Act of 1910 authorized the establishment of these schools in order to open a broad highway, at little or no cost to the parents of the pupils, leading from the elementary schools to the technical schools and to the University. A further important function of these institutions is to train teachers for the primary schools. Under the scheme of training now in operation aspirants for the teaching profession are expected during the period spent at a district high school to complete their preliminary studies. Any pupil who has satisfactorily completed the work of grade VI. in an elementary school is qualified for admission to a high school. The course of study lasts for four years in the case of pupils who enter from the sixth grade of the elementary school after obtaining the qualifying certificate, or for two or three years in the case of those who enter from the eighth grade after completing the course of the elementary school. At the end of that time they begin their work as teachers. Winners of Government scholarships are also trained at these schools, but parents are at liberty to select an approved secondary school for the education of their boys and girls. Besides the day classes there are formed at a few of the district high schools evening classes for the instruction of teachers living in the vicinity, and correspondence classes for those residing at a distance. Provision is made at the agricultural high schools also for the education of holders of scholarships and for the training of junior teachers. There are district high schools at Ararat, Bairnsdale, Benalla, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Coburg,

Echuca, Essendon, Geelong, Hamilton, Horsham, Kyneton, Maryborough, Melbourne (two), St. Arnaud, Stawell, and Williamstown, and district high schools, which are also equipped as agricultural high schools, at Ballarat, Colac, Leongatha, Mansfield, Mildura, Sale, Shepparton, Wangaratta, Warragul, and Warrnambool. During the term ended 30th June, 1916, there were in attendance at these schools 5,177 pupils, of whom 2,660 were boys and 2,517 were girls. Education is free up to the age of fourteen years, after which a fee of £6 per annum is charged. Travelling expenses (up to £5 per annum) are provided for children living beyond 3 miles from the school if the parents' income does not exceed £150 per annum. In special cases the department has power to make grants in aid of school requisites up to £2 per annum, and of the cost of maintenance up to £26 per annum, to enable pupils to continue their studies at district high schools and higher elementary schools.

For the practical part of the work of training secondary **University High School.** teachers the institution now known as the University High School was opened in a State building in 1910, and this school was specially staffed by lecturers in methods of teaching, in addition to the teachers of the ordinary form subjects of secondary schools. The practical training in teaching received at this school is part of what is prescribed for the course for the Diploma of Education at the Melbourne University. Opened with 40 boys and 40 girls in 1910, the school has since grown until there is an attendance of 180 pupils taking the full six years' course, which extends from the standard of the sixth grade in the elementary school to that of the Senior Public Honours examination. The number of diploma (University) students admitted for teaching practice during 1916 was 44, and there has been an average total attendance weekly at criticism lessons of 19 students. During the year 7 students from the Training College relinquished their course, and undertook voluntarily to fill up vacancies in the high schools owing to the shortage of teachers due to the enlistments of members of the staff. In its management of the school the Department is aided by an advisory committee from the Faculty of Arts of the University. The University supplements the salaries paid to the method staff by an annual grant for lectures given at the University.

HIGHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Higher Elementary Schools and Classes. There are now fifteen higher elementary schools at Beechworth, Casterton, Charlton, Clunes, Daylesford, Donald, Inglewood, Kerang, Kyabram, Nhill, Orbost, Portland, Rutherglen, Traralgon, and Warracknabeal. During the term ended 30th June, 1916, there were in attendance at these schools 1,524 pupils, of whom 774 were boys and 750 were girls. Education in the higher elementary schools is free throughout the course, which extends over two or four years.

There are also eleven schools—four in the metropolitan area, two in urban centres, and five in country districts—in which higher

elementary classes are held, and these were attended by 1,261 pupils in 1916.

The purpose of the district high school and the higher elementary school is to provide the essentials of a good general education for pupils who have completed the work of the sixth grade in elementary schools, and are likely to profit by a further course of study, and to give them, in the third and fourth years, a specialized training that will help to prepare them for their several careers in life. These schools will thus form a link between the elementary school and technical institutions, or the University, or vocations that may be followed by pupils upon the completion of the course of study.

SCHOLARSHIPS.

The Minister of Public Instruction may annually award scholarships in the manner and on the conditions hereafter mentioned :—

Junior scholarships. One hundred junior scholarships or any less number may be awarded annually in three divisions as follows :—

- (a) Fifty open to pupils in attendance at State elementary schools.
- (b) Thirty open to pupils in attendance at higher elementary schools or district high schools.
- (c) Twenty open to pupils in attendance at registered schools.

The fifty junior scholarships open to State elementary schools are grouped in two divisions :—

1. Those open to pupils attending schools with a monthly average attendance of 150 or over.
2. Those open to pupils attending schools with a monthly average attendance of less than 150.

No junior scholarship will be awarded to any candidate whose age, as attested by a certificate of birth, exceeds 14½ years on the 1st January immediately succeeding the examination. A scholarship is tenable for four years at an approved district high school or approved registered secondary school, or alternatively at an approved higher elementary school for two years and thereafter during its currency at an approved district high school or approved registered secondary school. A scholarship holder must obtain satisfactory reports as to attendance, conduct, and progress from the head teacher, and must be recommended annually by an inspector of schools for a continuance of his scholarship.

Senior Scholarships. Forty senior scholarships or any less number are to be awarded annually on competitive examination, of which—

- (a) Twenty are open to holders of junior scholarships.
- (b) Twenty are open either to holders of junior scholarships or to pupils of district high schools or registered schools who satisfy the conditions relating to age and educational qualifications.

Candidates for senior scholarships under clause (a) must have been holders of junior scholarships for at least three years and must, previous to the competitive examination, have passed the Junior Public examination of the Melbourne University or an approved equivalent examination. Candidates for senior scholarships under clause (b) must, previous to the competitive examination, have passed the Junior Public examination, or an approved equivalent examination, and, for the two years immediately preceding the competitive examination, must have been in regular attendance at a district high school or a registered secondary school. No senior scholarship will be awarded to a candidate whose age exceeds 18½ years on the 1st January immediately succeeding the examination. Senior scholarships are of the annual value of £40, tenable for four or five (and in special cases for six) years at the Melbourne University.

**Scholarships
for candidate
teachers.**

Sixty scholarships or any less number are to be awarded annually for the preliminary training of candidate teachers intending to enter the service of the Education Department. These scholarships are tenable for three years under conditions relating to schools to be attended and reports as to conduct similar to those which are in force for junior scholarships, also with the provision that the course of study is approved by the Director of Education. No scholarship will be awarded to a candidate less than fourteen years or more than seventeen years of age on the 1st January immediately succeeding the examination. Every holder of a teaching scholarship is required to enter into an agreement by himself and an approved surety not to relinquish his scholarship without the permission of the Minister and for three years after the termination of his scholarship to teach in any school to which he may be appointed.

**Junior
technical
scholarships.**

Fifty junior technical scholarships are to be awarded annually on competitive examination in two divisions, viz. :—

- (a) Forty open to pupils in attendance at State schools.
- (b) Ten open to pupils in attendance at registered schools.

These scholarships are tenable for two years at a junior technical school, or in the industrial course at a higher elementary school, or a district high school. An allowance of £4 per annum towards expenses of books, workshop and laboratory, and other material will be made. The scholar must obtain at the end of each year a satisfactory report as to attendance, conduct, and progress from the head teacher, and be recommended by the inspector of schools for the continuance of his scholarship. Scholarships are not open to candidates whose age exceeds fourteen years on the 1st January immediately succeeding the examination.

**Senior
technical
scholarships.**

Fifty-five senior technical scholarships or any less number are to be allotted annually to candidates who have been in regular attendance for at least two years at junior technical schools, technical schools, evening continuation classes,

central schools, higher elementary classes, higher elementary schools, district high schools, or registered secondary schools, as under :—

Twenty are open to boys, and tenable for the full length of approved day courses in technical schools, and entitle the holders to free tuition and an allowance of £30 per annum.

Ten are open to girls, and tenable for the full length of approved courses in domestic arts, and entitle the holders to free tuition and an allowance of £30 per annum.

Twenty are open to boys in employment, and tenable for the full length of approved evening courses, and entitle the holders to free tuition and an allowance of £10 per annum.

Five are open to girls in employment, and tenable for the full length of approved evening courses, and entitle the holders to free tuition and an allowance of £10 per annum.

Applications for senior technical scholarships are to be made before the 1st November each year, and will be dealt with by a Board consisting of the Chief Inspector of Technical Schools, the Art Inspector, and a third person nominated by the Minister. If the Board consider it necessary a competitive examination may be held. No scholarship will be awarded to a candidate whose age exceeds sixteen years on 1st January in the year immediately succeeding the year in which the application is made.

Travelling scholarships. On the recommendation of a Board consisting of the Director, the Public Service Commissioner, and a member of the teaching staff of the University, one travelling scholarship, tenable for one year, for the purpose of enabling the holder to pursue such studies and investigations outside Victoria as may be approved by the Minister, will be awarded annually in rotation to the following classes of officers :—

- (a) An inspector of schools.
- (b) A lecturer in the Teachers' College, or a teacher in a technical school.
- (c) A teacher in a higher elementary school, or in a district high school.
- (d) A teacher in an elementary school.

The value of the scholarship is full pay during the absence of the holder from Victoria, and, if the salary does not exceed £250 per annum, an additional allowance up to £50.

On the recommendation of the Board mentioned above, the following travelling scholarships are also to be awarded :—

To an officer of the Education Department annually for the purpose of allowing him to undertake such studies as may be approved by the Minister. The value of this scholarship is £150 per annum, together with an allowance, and it will be tenable for one or two years as may be determined.

To teachers of modern languages in the service of the Education Department who are also graduates in arts and in education and who have obtained final honours in the School of Modern Languages at the Melbourne University. This scholarship, which is given biennially, is valued at £150, and is tenable in countries outside Australia for courses of study approved by the Minister.

To exit-students or to teachers in technical schools annually to enable the holders to undertake such duties as may be approved by the Minister. This scholarship is tenable for one year, and entitles the holder to an allowance of £150 with an allowance for travelling expenses.

For all travelling scholarships, except the last-mentioned, the holder is required to enter into an agreement by himself and an approved surety not to relinquish his scholarship and for three years after its termination to remain in the service of the Department.

Nominated courses in agricultural, mining, and veterinary science.

In accordance with the provisions of the University Act No. 1926, twenty nominations or any less number are to be made annually for the purpose of enabling students to proceed to a degree or a diploma in agriculture, mining, or in veterinary science at the Melbourne University.

Applications for nominated courses are to be made before the 1st November each year, and preference will be given to holders of scholarships for proficiency in agriculture, mining, and veterinary subjects, and to applicants qualified for matriculation at the Melbourne University who have undergone a course in agriculture at an agricultural high school or in science at a technical school.

Every nominated student will be required to enter into an agreement by himself and an approved surety not to transfer to any other course at the University without the approval of the Minister, and also in the event of such approval being granted to repay all fees and allowances the benefits of which he has received as a result of the nomination. If the circumstances warrant it a subsistence allowance of £26 per annum may be granted, but in every case the special circumstances must be specifically set forth.

General conditions. Where the holder of a junior scholarship or a teaching scholarship attends a higher elementary school or a district high school, he will receive free tuition and an allowance of £4 per annum for school requisites, and, where he attends an approved registered secondary school, he will be granted an allowance of £12 towards expenses of tuition and school requisites.

Where the holder respectively of a junior scholarship, teaching scholarship, or junior technical scholarship does not reside within five miles of a school at which his scholarship is tenable, an allowance up to £5 per annum may be made to cover the cost of transit to and

from school; and, if it is necessary that he shall reside apart from his parents or guardians, he may be given, in lieu of the cost of transit, an allowance of £26 per annum.

In special cases, where the parents are in necessitous circumstances, the Department may make allowances for school requisites up to £2 per annum, for maintenance up to £26 per annum, and for transit up to £5 per annum, in order to enable pupils to continue their studies at district high schools and higher elementary schools.

A scholarship may be cancelled if the prescribed conditions of tenure are not complied with; if the conduct of the scholar has been idle, disorderly, or immoral; or if it is shown on the report of the inspector that the scholar has failed to make satisfactory progress.

STANDARD OF EDUCATION.

The proportion of either sex, who showed their want of elementary education by signing the marriage register with a mark instead of in writing, is given in the following table for each fifth year from 1875 to 1910, and for each of the last five years:—

SIGNING THE MARRIAGE REGISTER WITH MARKS, 1875 TO 1916.

Year.	Men.	Women.	Mean.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
1875	5·48	9·43	7·46
1880	4·18	4·09	4·13
1885	2·56	2·62	2·59
1890	1·50	1·53	1·52
1895	·89	·67	·78
1900	·66	·85	·76
1905	·50	·38	·44
1910	·29	·30	·29
1912	·24	·32	·28
1913	·19	·15	·17
1914	·22	·16	·19
1915	·09	·12	·11
1916	·23	·12	·17

In 1916 the number of marriages celebrated was 11,341, and 26 men and 14 women signed the marriage register with marks. In two marriages both contracting parties were illiterate persons.

Compared with England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland, where the proportions per cent. signing with marks in the latest year available were ·87, ·86, and 4·04 respectively, the elementary educational standard is very high in this State, which, in this respect, occupies the highest position in Australasia.

The *Year-Book* for 1915-1916 contains a table showing the number of persons in every hundred marriages who have signed the marriage register with marks in England and Wales since 1841 and in Victoria since 1853. The information is given for five year periods to 1905 and for single years thereafter.

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

Technical schools.

The whole of the Technical Schools in the State, prior to 1910, were under the control of local Councils. Act 2301, passed in that year, provided for the schools being under the control of the Minister of Public Instruction. The Education Department, in all cases, retains the general direction of technical education. Regulations are issued defining the powers of the Councils, allotting the Government grants, and providing for the instruction and examination of the students. The number of Technical Schools receiving aid from the State on 30th June, 1916, was 24.

The former lack of any organized method for preparing pupils for courses in Technical Schools largely neutralized the efforts of the instructors in such institutions. In order to overcome this difficulty, junior or preparatory technical schools have been established in connexion with the higher technical schools at Bendigo, Ballarat, Swinburne Technical College, Sunshine, Geelong, Melbourne, Warrnambool, and Collingwood. These schools offer a course of two years' instruction for boys between the ages of twelve and a half and fifteen years. The course has been very popular, and the accommodation has not been sufficient for the number of students coming forward.

The aim of the Victorian technical schools is to provide vocational courses of training in industrial subjects. The various branches of Engineering and its subdivisions, Mining, Metallurgy, Technical and Agricultural Chemistry, subjects connected with the building and other trades, applied art, commercial subjects and those connected with household economy are included in their syllabuses. Trade courses correspond to the period of apprenticeship, which extends over five years.

The larger technical schools, such as the Working Men's College, and the Ballarat and Bendigo Schools of Mines, have an extensive curriculum embracing the most important industrial subjects. The smaller schools in some country districts have courses for mining, metallurgy, and engineering subjects as well as courses in drawing and applied art work, while in a few schools the subjects taught are mainly drawing and art work. The only technical school for women's industries is the College of Domestic Economy.

The fees per term range from 10s. per subject per annum to £35 per course of subjects per annum.

The following is a statement showing the Government expenditure on each technical school during the last five years. The expenditure

in 1915-16 was greater than for any corresponding period since technical schools were established :—

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON SCHOOLS OF MINES AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, 1911-12 TO 1915-16.

Name.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.
	£	£	£	£	£
Bairnsdale	750	913	2,019	1,280	1,276
Ballarat	9,936	4,475	6,019	10,847	8,393
Beechworth	975	1,065	689	711	864
Bendigo	3,280	5,447	7,605	5,061	5,033
Brunswick .. .. .	..	..	..	132	9,850
Castlemaine	550	816	3,358	1,428	1,758
Collingwood	945	5,379	3,662	3,092	5,571
Daylesford	350	416	900	2,238	850
Echuca	300	300	861	449	475
Footscray .. .. .	..	..	..	..	8,288
Geelong	1,001	1,895	5,865	3,594	3,898
Glenferrie	1,000	5,062	4,244	6,458	8,443
Horsham	350	416	555	487	425
Kyneton	250	271	252	250	225
Maryborough	750	1,754	1,076	1,054	1,190
Melbourne	10,309	11,354	19,148	23,402	14,578
Melbourne Junior Technical School	2,485	4,391	7,073	6,929	6,573
Nhill	215	239	254	265	199
Prahran	100	100	213	1,756	4,926
Sale	411	400	455	400	400
Stawell (with Ararat Branch) ..	775	910	1,349	1,272	1,205
Sunshine Technical School ..	4,638	380	2,167	1,778	1,664
Warrnambool	150	163	2,557	1,439	1,892
College of Domestic Economy ..	802	948	901	970	904
Miscellaneous	2,214	2,044	2,432	2,560	1,315
Total	42,536	49,138	73,654	77,852	90,195

THE AUSTRALIAN COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY.

The foundation of the Australian College of Dentistry was decided on in the year 1897 by a unanimous vote of dentists assembled at a meeting held to discuss this question on 10th June in that year. The College was opened on the 4th July following for the purpose of providing instruction and training in the art, science, and practice of dentistry, and was affiliated with the Melbourne Dental Hospital, which had been founded and opened in the month of September, 1890.

The curriculum then set forth was further enlarged by the amending Dental Act of 1898, which gave the Dental Board of Victoria plenary powers to frame a full course of study and practice, and also to grant diplomas. The registerable Diploma of Licentiate of Dental Surgery of Victoria (L.D.S., Vic.) signifies the completion of a four years' course of teaching and training.

The old rented building in Lonsdale-street soon proved to be far too small to accommodate the students who were studying the subjects required for the Board's diploma, and, when affiliation with

the University of Melbourne was sought for the more complete instruction in the medical and surgical requirements of the curriculum, one of the conditions of affiliation was that more adequate provision should be made for the teaching and training in the dental subjects of the curriculum. To accomplish this result the present Melbourne Dental Hospital and Australian College of Dentistry was built, and was opened by His Excellency the Governor-General of Australia (Lord Northcote) on the 4th November, 1907.

It is satisfactory to note that the usefulness of the combined institutions has been demonstrated by the teaching and practice imparted to students as well as by the relief afforded to the poor when suffering from dental troubles and their attendant ailments.

The land is freehold. The building, erected by the Trustees and Council of the College and Hospital, is gradually being freed from liability. The financial obligation was successfully arranged without any appeal whatever to, or aid from, the State Government. The Council, nevertheless, thankfully recognises the contributions given by the Hospital Sunday Fund, the Trustees of the Edward Wilson Estate, and the Walter and Eliza Hall Trust, by various municipalities, and by those private and generous donors who have helped the institution.

The Council (elected annually by and from the life governors and subscribers of the institution) claims that it is fulfilling a very important public duty with respect to the care of the teeth; also that more public interest therein has been aroused through its action in this regard.

In 1917 there were 51 students on the College roll going through the prescribed four years' course. The College Council may legitimately claim that the functions, both of college and hospital, are carried out in such a manner as to reflect credit not only on itself but also on the University of Melbourne, with which the institutions are affiliated.

The receipts of the College of Dentistry for 1916-17 amounted to £2,281 and the expenditure to £2,188, while the Dental Hospital received £2,361 and expended £2,195 during the same period.

MELBOURNE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.

Melbourne College of Pharmacy. The Melbourne College of Pharmacy was established in 1880 for the purpose of providing instruction in the subjects prescribed in the compulsory curriculum set out in section 95 of the *Medical Act* 1915, Part III., for persons desirous of qualifying as pharmaceutical chemists in Victoria. In 1882, the old County Court, in Swanston-street, was purchased from the Government, and since then a large amount has been spent in the erection of laboratories, lecture-rooms, library, &c. During the year 1913 additions were made to the buildings costing over £1,000. These comprised new class rooms, an optometry and microscopic room, and pharmaceutical research laboratories. The College is under the control of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia, by which

it was established, and it is recognised by the Pharmacy Board of Victoria as a school of pharmacy providing instruction in accordance with the provisions of section 95 of the *Medical Act 1915*. The land upon which the College is erected is a reservation by the Crown for educational purposes, and is vested in the Pharmacy Board and Pharmaceutical Society. An annual grant of £500 is paid by the Government towards the maintenance of the College.

The College of Pharmacy, in addition to providing instruction for pharmaceutical students in chemistry, practical chemistry, materia medica, botany, and practical pharmacy, is affiliated to the Melbourne University, and gives instruction in materia medica and practical pharmacy to third-year medical students. It is represented on the Faculty of Medicine by a member of the teaching staff. The syllabus makes provision for students entering the College at any date, and pursuing an independent course of study, according to the object in view. Dental students undergoing the curriculum prescribed by the Dentists Act receive instruction at the College in theoretical and practical chemistry. In 1906, evening post-graduate classes in bacteriology and urine analysis were established. Provision is made in the laboratory for students desirous of acquiring a knowledge of chemistry in its application to medicine, manufactures, toxicology, brewing, analysis, or original research. In 1912 evening classes were established for the study of optometry, and were largely availed of by students desiring instruction in this subject. At the end of 1913 it was decided to establish evening tutorial classes for students who wished to receive additional instruction in the pharmaceutical course. The lectures in this course are accepted by all the Australian States, New Zealand and Great Britain. The Royal Commission on Technical Education in 1901, after full inquiry into its scope and objects, reported that the functions of the College were manifestly those of a high-class technical school.

Appended are the details of the work from 1st January, 1880, to 31st December, 1916:—

Number of Students who have attended the College.

Pharmaceutical students	833
Medical students, Melbourne University ..	1,256
Dental students	515
Extra Laboratory students	744
Bacteriological students	106
Urine Analysis students	18
Analytical and Applied Chemistry students ..	96
Veterinary students, Melbourne University ..	33
Optical students	119
First-Aid Students	32
Students attending Tutorial Classes	66
Special Pharmacy Class	60
Total	3,878

Number of Candidates Examined.

Preliminary examination	3,594
Intermediate examination	1,759
Modified examination	164
Final qualifying examination	1,325
Medical students	1,155
Dental students	490
Bacteriological students	78
Urine Analysis students	11
Analytical and Applied Chemistry students ..	60
Veterinary students	33
Optical students	94
First-Aid Students	20
Total	8,783

Finance.

(1880-1916).

Revenue—	Total.	Per £1 of Revenue.		
	£	£	s.	d.
Grants from Government ..	20,250	0	7	5
Fees received from students ..	27,625	0	10	1
Aids from Pharmaceutical Society	6,836	0	2	6
Total Revenue. ..	54,711	1	0	0

Expenditure—

On buildings and general maintenance, £55,179.

Bank overdraft, 31st Decr., 1916, £468.

Average yearly expenditure (37 years), £1,491.

THE WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, MELBOURNE.

Working
Men's
College,
Melbourne.

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

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

themselves for examination, provided they have made the necessary attendances.

Fees Payable.

Full Day Courses.					Fee.
Mechanical, Electrical, Municipal, Marine, and Mining Engineering—Diploma Courses—					
First year ...	...	...	...	...	£ s. 3 10 per term
Second year ...	...	...	...	...	4 0 "
Third year ...	...	...	...	...	4 10 "
Metallurgy—Diploma Course—					
First year ...	...	..	...	...	3 10 "
Second year ...	...	...	...	...	4 0 "
Third year ...	...	...	...	...	4 10 "
Applied Chemistry—Diploma Course—					
First year ...	...	...	...	...	3 10 "
Second year ...	...	...	...	...	4 0 "
Third year ...	...	...	...	...	4 10 "
Fourth year ...	...	...	...	...	5 0 "
Woolsorting ...	...	...	...	...	5 0 "
Full Art Course ...	...	...	...	...	1 10 "

Evening Classes.

Arithmetic	} Various amounts ranging from 5s. upwards per term.
Algebra ...	...	...	...	...
Geometry ...	...	...	...	...
Trigonometry ...	...	...	...	...
Practical Geometry ...	...	...	...	...
Full Art Course ...	...	...	...	...
Freehand Drawing ...	...	...	...	...
Painting ...	...	...	...	...
Modelling ...	...	...	...	...
Applied Mechanics ...	...	...	...	...
Applied Electricity ...	...	...	...	...
Architecture ...	...	...	...	...
Building Construction ...	...	...	...	...
Surveying ...	...	...	...	...
Hydraulics ...	...	...	...	...
Chemistry ...	...	...	...	...
Assaying ...	...	...	...	...
Metallurgy ...	...	...	...	...
Engineering Drawing ...	...	...	...	...
Telephone Mechanics ...	...	...	...	...
Science, Art, Trade, Commercial, and Mining, and numerous other Subjects ...	...	...	...	...
Evening Courses for Experts' Certificates	From 15s. per term.

Special prizes are awarded to students annually. There is a prize to the best student in each year of the day courses, and to the best student in each of the evening classes. The Magee prize, of the annual value of £3, is awarded to the student who obtains highest marks at examination in the work of the senior mechanical drawing class. The Sir George Verdon prize, which is of an annual value equal to the interest on the amount of the donor's endowment of £210, is awarded for excellence of design and workmanship in the technical or trade subject selected by the Council at the beginning of each year.

The Turri prizes, awarded for original inventions of students, consist of two prizes of £5 5s., and four prizes of £1 ls. each. The Royal Victorian Institute of Architects awards prizes in the architecture and building construction classes, and the Wiley Russell Manufacturing Company awards a set of stocks and dies to the best student in fitting and turning.

The Beazley Bequest Scholarships, of which there are twenty-eight, of the value of £810 are awarded annually for trade subjects. The following scholarships cover four years' free instruction in the Day Courses :—The Danks (2), The Arnot, The Lady Gillott, and The Colin Thompson.

The receipts from the Government, in 1916, amounted to £17,623.

Over 160 classes are held in the following departments :—Commercial, Elocution and Music, Mathematics, Engineering, Architecture, Chemistry, Mining and Metallurgy, Art and Applied Art, Rural Industries, and Trade Courses. The work is divided into—(1) day courses, and (2) evening courses and classes. In the day school students are prepared for the higher positions of industrial life, in the following complete courses :—(1) Mechanical Engineering, (2) Electrical Engineering, (3) Municipal Engineering, (4) Marine Engineering, (5) Mining Engineering, (6) Metallurgy, and (7) Applied Chemistry. To students who complete any of the above courses, pass the necessary examinations, and produce evidence of having obtained twelve months' approved practical experience, the Diploma of "Associateship" of the College is issued.

In the evening school, the following courses for certificates are in operation :—Assayers, geologists, electricians, municipal engineers, traction engineers, marine engineers, telephone artificers, mechanical draughtsmen, public analysts, architects, carpenters, printers, sign-writers and house decorators, plumbers, coach builders, and motor car body makers. There are also courses for marine engineers, and for naval artificers, both fitters and wood workers. The following figures give an indication of the comparative amount of work done at the College during the years 1912 to 1916 :—

STUDENTS AT WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, 1912 TO 1916.

—	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Students enrolled—					
Average per term	2,209	2,341	2,318	2,360	2,312
Males over 21	477	574	614	497	424
„ under 21—Apprentices	690	701	734	818	878
„ „ Others	741	748	739	768	708
Females	301	318	231	277	302
Fees received during the year £	6,589	7,213	7,315	7,547	7,167
Average fee per student ..	59s. 8d.	61s. 5d.	63s. 0d.	63s. 4d.	61s. 0d.
Number of classes	176	160	163	164	168
„ instructors	87	85	86	87	89
Salaries paid instructors £	11,297	12,267	13,499	14,853	15,206

LIBRARIES.

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF VICTORIA.

Public
Library of
Victoria.

The buildings of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of Victoria cost £325,346. The funds were provided by the Government, as also were further moneys expended on maintenance (including salaries) and amounting, with the sum just named, to a total of £1,528,729 at the end of 1916. At that date the Reference Library contained 245,455 volumes. It is open to the public without payment on week days (Christmas Day and Good Friday excepted), between the hours of 10 a.m. and 10 p.m., and was visited during the year 1916 by about 450,000 persons. The Library consists of three distinct sections, viz. :—The Reference Library, the Lending Library, and the Country Lending Library. In regard to the Reference Library, the librarian reports that 6,354 volumes were purchased, 1,908 volumes presented, 342 volumes obtained under the "Copyright Act," and 48,130 newspapers added to the Library during the year. The Lending Branch, which is also free to the public, issued 119,468 volumes during 1916, and the number of persons to whom the books were lent was 7,341. Of these volumes 39·9 per cent. related to fiction, 18·5 to history, 9·5 to general literature, 14·3 to religion, philosophy, natural science, and art, 9·9 to arts and trades, and 7·7 per cent. to social science. The number of volumes in the Lending Library at the end of 1916 was 34,472, of which 1,517 were added during the year.

In 1907 Parliament agreed to place upon the estimates the first instalment of a sum of £75,000 for the erection of a new library building on modern lines for the purposes of reading and store rooms. This structure was completed and opened in November, 1913. A description of it is given in the *Year-Book* for 1915-16.

Following on the establishment of the Melbourne Public Library, libraries were founded in many of the larger towns. The attention of the original trustees of the Melbourne Library was directed to these institutions, and to the vast number of people whom distance prevented from reaching their building. They, therefore, initiated a scheme by which the larger country centres should have the benefit of their collection, and forwarded cases of books on loan for fixed periods. To the country towns of less importance cases were also sent, and in many instances the nucleus of a local library was thus formed. This travelling library system, as it is called, greatly stimulated the library movement in those places where it had begun, and inaugurated it in many places to which it had not previously extended. At the present time loans are made up to 300 volumes at a time to the committees of free libraries and mechanics' institutes, and to the councils of municipalities, for a period of one year, with a further extension of time if required. The books are selected with a view to meeting the special requirements of the district to which they are to be forwarded. Many of the local libraries are now in a position to supply all the wants of their patrons without having recourse to these loans.

**National
Gallery.**

The National Gallery at the end of 1916 contained 19,374 works of art, viz., 584 oil paintings, 4,683 objects of art, statuary, &c., and 14,107 water colour drawings, engravings, photographs, &c. It is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily on week days (Christmas Day and Good Friday excepted), and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. The school of painting in connexion with the institution was attended in the year by 8 male and 13 female students, and the school of drawing by 30 male and 52 female students. The students are encouraged to paint original works, by which means it is hoped the foundation will be laid of a school of art dealing with purely Australian subjects. Every three years a Travelling Scholarship is open for competition amongst the students of painting. Its money value is £150 per annum, and it is awarded with the object of enabling promising students to travel and complete their art studies in England and on the Continent. The Trustees also award a prize of £20 for the best painting from life shown at the annual exhibition of students' work, and numerous other prizes (ranging from £15 to £3) for distinction in the different branches of the drawing and painting schools. The average annual income from the Felton bequest amounts to £8,000, which is expended on paintings, statuary, and other works of art.

**Industrial
Museum.**

The Industrial and Technological Museum occupies the whole of the first floor front of the institution. At the end of 1916, it contained nearly 9,000 exhibits.

**National
Museum.**

The collection in the National Museum, formerly kept in a building situated on the grounds of the Melbourne University, is now located in the Public Library Buildings. It comprises natural history, geology, and ethnology. The National Museum is open to the public free of charge on all week days throughout the year, except Thursdays, Christmas Day, and Good Friday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. In 1916 the expenditure on specimens, furniture, materials, &c., was £560. The payments for salaries and wages during the year amounted to £2,621.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES.**Patent
Office
Library.**

The free library attached to the Commonwealth Department of Patents, Railway Offices, Flinders-street, Melbourne, contains over 10,000 volumes, including the Patents Acts, Rules, and official Gazettes of the principal countries of the world, and the printed specifications of Great Britain, France, Germany, Norway, Denmark, and Japan, also the official gazette of the United States Patent Office and the Canadian Patent Office Record, both of which contain illustrated abridgments of patent specifications. The whole of the classified illustrated abridgments of British specifications for the period 1855 to 1914 have been collated and bound, and by means of these any member of the public may make a quick and accurate search through the whole of the records of inventions published in Great Britain during this period. The value of the books donated

by the countries referred to is very great, and additions of several hundred volumes are made annually. The library also contains the principal journals of mechanical science and numerous encyclopædies and scientific text-books, to which frequent additions are made by purchase. A class catalogue, founded on the Dewey system, of publications contained in the library has been printed, and, as the library deals mainly with the history of science and manufactures, all books are arranged in chronological order. In October, 1906, the printing *in extenso* of all specifications accepted and open to public inspection was commenced, and it has been completed from No. 1 of 1904 to No. 20,336 of 1910. A second series of numbers was commenced in 1911, and all accepted cases and specifications open to public inspection have been printed as notified weekly in the official journal. A third series of numbers was commenced at the beginning of 1916. Specifications are printed, and on sale at the Government Printing Office, Melbourne, two weeks after notification of acceptance. The printing of the subject-matter of specifications of letters patent granted under State Patent Acts is in progress, and the first 4,250 have already been completed. Each specification is designed to contain the whole of the subject-matter of similar applications in other Australian States, the State of Victoria being taken as the basic State. The specifications are arranged in two separate files for free public perusal, one classified chronologically and numerically, the other according to the subjects of the inventions. Complete sets are sent weekly to the branch patent offices and public libraries in the State capitals, and to other public libraries in various foreign States and countries. A recently revised edition of the numerical subject list of inventions arranged thematically in groups and classes, with definitions or limitations of their scope, and directions for searching in related classes, has been published for the convenience of the public. Commencing in 1916, a file of illustrated notes as issued in the Official Journal is being maintained for public inspection, together with a numerical list of classified specifications. The library is open to the public on each week day, except Saturday, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4.30 p.m., and on Saturday from 9 a.m. until noon.

Supreme
Court
Library.

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

OTHER LIBRARIES.

Free
libraries.

Most of the suburban and country libraries receive Government aid—the amount granted in 1916 being £3,298. Of these libraries 498 furnished returns in 1916, which show that they possessed 893,045 volumes, and received £48,159 in revenue, that the total expenditure was £47,534—£7,522 on books,

&c., and £40,012 on maintenance—and that 2,562,257 visits were paid to the 436 institutions which kept records of the attendances of visitors. As to the class of literature in general use, it appears, from particulars received from a number of the institutions, that works of fiction are in much greater demand than any other class. Next come general literature, history, and travel, in that order.

EXHIBITION BUILDINGS.

Exhibition
Buildings,
Aquarium,
and Museum.

The Exhibition Buildings, which are situated in the Carlton Gardens, Melbourne, when first opened, in October, 1880, occupied a total space of 907,400 square feet. The original cost of the permanent structure was £132,951; of the temporary annexes, £83,111; gardens, £18,481; machinery, £5,715; and organ, £5,560; there was also miscellaneous expenditure, £547—making a total of £246,365. After the close of the exhibition, on 30th April, 1881, the annexes were removed, and the permanent building was vested in trustees. Another exhibition was opened in the building on 1st August, 1888, to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the first Australian Colony. On this occasion, a further sum of £125,178 was expended upon the re-erection of the annexes; £30,986 upon additions to and alterations and decorations of the permanent building; £4,854 upon the gardens; £16,471 upon machinery; £77,128 upon electric lighting; and £8,337 upon gas and gas fittings—making a total of £262,954. At the close of the exhibition, there was realized from the sale of various materials, including temporary annexes, a sum of £56,904.

The property again reverted to the trustees, in whose report for the year 1916 it is stated that all the buildings are in good and substantial condition, the gardens well maintained, and the aquarium and insectarium museums extremely useful, both from educational and scientific points of view. An efficient and up-to-date fire service has been provided in the buildings, and the employes are trained in the use of the fire appliances. The receipts for the year amounted to £3,815, consisting of rents, £1,390, and aquarium and other receipts, £2,425. The expenditure totalled £4,529, viz., £1,743 for expenses of the aquarium; and £2,786 for maintenance, improvement of the building and gardens, insurance, and sundry expenses. The deposits and balances in banks to the credit of the trust amount to £1,751.

THE MELBOURNE BOTANIC GARDEN.

Botanic
Garden.

The Melbourne Botanic Garden is situated on the south side of the River Yarra, and is at a distance of about a mile and a half from the city. The area of the garden proper, including lawns, groups, &c., is 88 acres, whilst that of the lake, including the added elbow, or bend of the River Yarra, amounts to 12 acres in addition. This now historic garden, together with the Government House grounds (62 acres), and the Domain (150 acres), extends over a total area of 312 acres. The facts as to the commencement and progress of

the establishment, compiled from the most reliable sources, are to be found in the profusely illustrated edition of the "Descriptive Guide to the Botanic Gardens," published by the Government Printer in 1908, at a price of 1s.

Mr. J. Cronin has been curator of the gardens since 1910.

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

A large conservatory, which is situated on the eastern side of the grounds, contains a large and varied collection of tropical plants, including many rare orchids, ferns, palms, and other handsome foliaged and flowering species. The conservatory is open daily, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

In 1873, about 2,500 species of plants were growing in the Garden, and, these having been constantly added to, it now contains about 16,000 species and varieties of plants. Many of the most valuable additions are large palms in great variety, and arborescent and other ferns, such as are found in and around the rather extensive fern-gully in the centre of the garden. This gully has a thousand feet of winding pathway running through its area. Many hundreds of rare ornamental and utilitarian plants, and a large collection of medicinal herbs, have been added of late years.

An extensive "System or Classification Pavilion" is situated in the south-western part of the garden. The plants, all in large pots, are classified in their natural orders, and, like the various collections in the outer grounds, conservatory, &c., have labels attached—giving both their scientific and common names, their orders, native countries, &c.

A similar system of labelling the vast majority of plants throughout the entire garden is adopted, for the general information and educational advantage of visitors.

The "Museum of Botany and Plant Products" contains many thousands of fully-named herbarium specimens; seeds in their seed vessels (or pods), fibres, and woods; also products of food, medicinal, and other plants. Both the pavilion and the museum are open to the public on Tuesdays and Fridays from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and are freely visited by students connected with botanical classes in the various colleges and schools in and around Melbourne.

A large area in the low-lying portion of the grounds is devoted to a lake about 10 acres in extent. In addition, a Water-lily lake may be found in the valley immediately above the head of the fern gully on the south side of the garden.

Special groupings and plantations of Roses, Azaleas, Camellias, Magnolias, Cannas, Rhododendrons, Bulbs, Ericas, Dahlias, Chrysanthemums, and other similar plants are disposed in various parts of the grounds, for floral display in their seasons.

The tea houses, including a "Pavilion," "Kiosk," and "Chalêt," which occupy the site on the south side of the lake where the propagating houses and nurseries were formerly located (since removed to the west side of the grounds), are well maintained, and are largely patronized by visitors.

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

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

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

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

The Melbourne Botanic Garden has now had an existence of over 70 years, and, as a favorite resort, has become increasingly popular of late years. Many thousands of people, including students, and tourists from other States and countries, visit the garden on the week days, while on Sundays and holidays large crowds of visitors are attracted to the place.

**Royal
Zoological
and Acclimatisation
Gardens.**

The gardens of the Royal Zoological and Acclimatisation Society of Victoria are situated in the centre of Royal Park, on the northern side of the city, nearly 2 miles distant from the Post Office, and can be reached by the tramcars starting every few minutes from the lower end of Elizabeth-street, or by rail. The ground enclosed contains 50 acres, rather more than half of which is laid out as a Zoological garden and the rest in deer paddocks. Most of the large animals of the world are exhibited here, such as the hippopotamus, giraffe, Indian elephant, &c., as well as many native animals. The Patron of the Society is His Excellency the State Governor, and the Director is Mr. W. H. D. Le Souëf, C.M.Z.S., &c., &c.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA.

The initiation and progress of horticultural interests in this State may justly be considered as due to the efforts of this society, which, as the Horticultural Society of Victoria, was started in the year 1849. Some few years after its establishment, the society undertook the responsibility of forming and maintaining experimental gardens at Burnley, and Mr. Clarson was intrusted with the direction of the work, acting for many years as honorary director. Upon his resignation in 1882, Mr. George Neilson took charge as curator and remained in that position until his death.

In 1891, the Government of the day undertook the establishment of a School of Horticulture, and the balance due to debenture-holders on the handsome show pavilion erected in the gardens having been paid by the Government, the estate was handed over to the management of the Department of Agriculture, Mr. Neilson continuing as curator under the direction of a Board of Horticultural Advice, to whose *personnel* the Government appointed three, and the society three, with the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture as Chairman. This arrangement worked with the utmost satisfaction until the death of the curator. Some years after that event, the Minister made a new departure by dissolving the board and placing the School of Horticulture under the sole control of the Department.

Conferences on special matters are held from time to time under the society's auspices, at which delegates from the provinces and other States attend, the Daffodil Conference being now an annual fixture.

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

Owing to the altered state of circumstances brought about by the present war, the Society for a period ceased active operations, remaining quiescent, and only claiming public recognition by its efforts in the cause of charity and patriotism. Its efforts to this end at its well-known and appreciated displays have been eminently successful. In

the year 1916, at the request and in the interests of members of the Society, the monthly meetings were resumed and they are now continued with marked success.

The members' monthly meeting is held on the second Thursday of each month.

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

The business of the society is vested in a committee, consisting of the president, four vice-presidents (two amateur and two professional), an honorary treasurer, and twenty members (ten amateurs and ten professionals), the administrative work being conducted by the secretary, Mr. F. W. Soden, 325 Collins-street, Melbourne (Tel., Central 10,459).

There are 39 other horticultural societies in the State, situated at Ballarat, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Kyneton, Mildura, Terang, Traralgon, and other centres. The Government provided £488 in aid of these associations during the year ended 30th June, 1916.

Other societies.

METROPOLITAN PUBLIC RESERVES.

Public reserves, Greater Melbourne.

Greater Melbourne is amply supplied with public reserves and parks, the total area devoted to such purposes having been 6,118½ acres in 1916. The following list of these reserves, together with a statement of their respective areas, has been supplied by the Lands Department:—

AREA OF RESERVES, PARKS, AND GARDENS IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS, 1916.

Municipality.	Name of Reserve.	Area.
Melbourne City	Royal Park	Acres. 425
"	Yarra "	155
"	Prince's "	97
"	Fawkner "	102
"	Flinders "	8
"	Henley Lawn	3
"	Alexandra Park	46
"	Snowden Gardens	2
"	Alexandra Gardens	3
"	Public Park (Oak-street)	28
"	Botanic Garden and Domain	188
"	Queen Victoria Memorial Statue and Garden	8
"	Zoological Gardens	55
"	Carlton "	63
"	Fitzroy "	64
"	Treasury "	14
"	Flagstaff "	18
"	Argyle Square	3½
"	Curtain "	3½
"	Darling "	2

AREA OF RESERVES, PARKS, AND GARDENS IN MELBOURNE AND
SUBURBS, 1916—continued.

Municipality.	Name of Reserve.	Area.
		Acres.
Melbourne City	Lincoln Square	3½
"	Macarthur "	1
"	Murchison "	1
"	University "	3½
"	University Grounds	106
"	Amateur Sports and Children's Playground	25
"	Industrial Schools and Board of Health Depot	47
"	Melbourne Cricket Ground	9½
"	East Richmond Cricket Ground	7
"	Carlton " (old)	5
"	Parliament Reserve	10
"	Ornamental Plantations	26
"	General Cemetery	101
"	Old Cemetery	8½
"	Powlett-street Reserve	5
"	Recreation (Brown's Hill)	7½
"	Recreation (North Melbourne)	9½
"	Clayton Reserve	1½
"	Race-course (Flemington)	297
"	Recreation (Kensington)	5½
Fitzroy City	Edinburgh Park	34
"	Recreation	7
"	Ornamental Plantations	3
Collingwood City	Mayor's Park	6
"	Recreation	7
"	Darling Gardens	16
"	Victoria Park	10
"	Park and Recreation (Merri Creek Bank)	23
"	Ornamental Plantation and Recreation	13
"	Gaban Reserve	2½
"	Children's Playground	¾
"	Ornamental Plantations	4
Richmond City	Richmond Park	157
"	Horticultural Gardens	33½
"	Barkly Square	7
"	Public Purposes	2
"	Municipal Reserve	8½
Northcote City	Jika Park	6
"	Park and Gardens	3½
"	Recreation	7
South Melbourne City	Albert Park (part of)	464
"	St. Vincent Gardens	7½
"	Ornamental Plantations	5
"	Albert Reserve (St. Kilda-road)	8
"	Foreshore Reserve	12
Port Melbourne Town	Cricket Ground	7½
"	Park and Garden	58
"	"	2
"	Ornamental Plantations	17
"	"	2
Prahran City	Brookville Gardens	8
"	Fairbairn-road Children's Playground	1½
"	Gladstone Park	2½
"	Malvern-road Gardens	10½
"	Orong Park	2½
"	Prahran Reserve	2½

AREA OF RESERVES, PARKS, AND GARDENS IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS, 1916—continued.

Municipality.	Name of Reserve.	Area.
		Acres.
Prahran City	Rockley Gardens	2
"	Toorak Park	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Victoria Gardens	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	St. Kilda Gardens	16
St. Kilda City	Albert Park (part of)	108
"	Recreation (Point Ormond)	58
"	Orange Grove	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Children's Playground	1
"	Reserve (Blessington-street)	11
"	Ornamental Reserves	6
"	Recreation (Beach Reserves)	50
"	" (Alma Park)	22 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Town Hall Gardens	3
"	Cemetery	20
Brighton Town	Elsternwick Park	90
"	Beach Park	67
"	Cricketer Ground	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Moorabbin Beach Park (part of)	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Hurlingham Park	10
"	Landcox Park	10
"	Recreation Reserve	2
"	Children's Playground	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Brighton Beach Gardens	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Brunswick City	Brunswick Park	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Fleming Park	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Methven Park	3
"	Temple Park	3
"	North Park	1
Essendon City	Recreation	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Agricultural Society's Yards	44
"	Queen's Park	19 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Park and Recreation Reserve	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	" " "	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Hawthorn City	City Sports Ground	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Central Gardens	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Auburn Reserve	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Harcourt-street Reserve	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Smart-street Reserve	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Mason-street Reserve	1
"	Creswick-street Reserve	2
"	Eastern Reserve	14
"	Lynch Gardens	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	West Hawthorn Reserve	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Recreation Reserve (Yarra Bank)	3
"	Children's Playground	2
Kew Town	Studley Park	203
"	Lunatic Asylum	384
"	Cemetery	31
"	Recreation (Victoria Park)	16
"	Alexandra Gardens	3
"	Fitzwilliam street Reserve	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Eglinton-street Reserve	2
"	Park Hill-road Reserve	1 $\frac{1}{2}$

AREA OF RESERVES, PARKS, AND GARDENS IN MELBOURNE AND
SUBURBS, 1916—*continued.*

Municipality.	Name of Reserve.	Area.
		Acres.
Footscray City	Yarraville Gardens	10½
"	Napier Gardens	2½
"	Cricket Ground, and Western Reserve	15
"	Footscray Park	38
"	Recreation (Yarraville)	5½
"	"	11
"	Children's Playground	2
"	Railway Reserve	5
"	Cumming's Reserve	1
Williamstown Town	Park (Newport)	7
"	" (Power-street)	2
"	Williamstown Gardens	20
"	Beach Reserve	20
"	Cemetery	28
"	Rifle Range	332
"	Cricket Ground	6½
"	Public Garden (Lyons-street)	3½
"	Park and Garden (Newport)	4½
"	" " "	10
"	Recreation (Spotswood)	7
Malvern City	Tooronga Municipal Reserve	16
"	Malvern Gardens	8
"	Recreation Reserve	4½
"	Closer Settlement Reserve	2
"	Kooyong Gardens	1
"	Union Gardens	2
"	Central Park	18½
"	Eastern Park and Gardens	15½
"	Hedgeley Dene Reserve	8½
"	High-street Reserve	2
"	Ornamental Reserve	3
Caulfield City	Race-course, Recreation and Park	144
"	Caulfield Park	62
"	Warrien Reserve	13½
"	Recreation " (East Caulfield)	13
"	Garden Avenue (Glen Huntly)	1½
"	Brighton Cemetery	29
"	Hopetoun Gardens	5
"	Greenmeadows Gardens	3½
"	Koornang Park	14½
"	Murrumbeena Park	11½
"	Elsternwick Station Reserve	1
"	Ornamental Reserve (Dandenong-road)	7
Oakleigh Borough	Recreation	8
"	Park and Garden	30
"	Park and Recreation	5
"	Cemetery	6
Camberwell City	Camberwell Sports Ground	8
"	Highfield Park	15
"	Burwood Recreation Reserve	8
"	Balwyn Park	9
"	Canterbury Sports Ground	6
"	Camberwell Gardens	7

AREA OF RESERVES, PARKS, AND GARDENS IN MELBOURNE AND
SUBURBS, 1916—*continued.*

Municipality.	Name of Reserve.	Area.
Camberwell City ...	Broadway Gardens	2½
" ..	Boroondara Park	5
" ..	Riversdale Park	13½
" ..	Canterbury Gardens	5½
" ..	Surrey Gardens	3
" ..	Belmont Park	5½
" ..	Glén Iris Park	2
Coburg Town ...	Recreation	5
" ..	"	3
" ..	Cricket Ground	5
" ..	New Recreation Reserve	16
" ..	Moreland Reserve	1
" ..	Lake Reserve	17
Outside urban muni- } cipalities }	Yarra Bend Asylum	350
	Williamstown Race-course	190
	Heidelberg Park and Recreation Reserve	26
	Fairfield " " " "	16½
	" " Public Purposes	1½
	Tramway Park (Burwood)	135
	Surrey Park (Box Hill)	40
	Total	6,118½

Public reserves in country towns.

Many other towns throughout the State possess public gardens, parks, and reserves for recreation purposes.

The following table contains particulars respecting the reserves in the largest of these towns:—

NUMBER AND AREA OF PARKS AND GARDENS IN
COUNTRY TOWNS IN VICTORIA, 1916.

Town.	Number of Reserves.	Area.
Ararat	4	36½
Ballarat	7	1,056
Ballarat East	14	188½
Bendigo	12	176
Castlemaine	4	484
Colac	5	111
Daylesford	5	330
Echuca	4	336
Geelong	11	279
Hamilton	8	78½
Horsham	4	145½
Maryborough	3	142
Sale	8	191
St. Arnaud	4	28½
Stawell	3	71½
Wangaratta	5	157
Warrnambool	10	458

At the end of 1916, there were in the State 3,102 regular churches and chapels, and 1,957 other buildings, where religious services were held—a total of 5,059 places of public worship—and these were attended by 2,035 regular clergymen. The following statement contains particulars in regard to the different denominations:—

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS, 1916.

Denominations.	Number of Clergy, Ministers, &c.	Buildings used for Public Worship.		
		Churches and Chapels.	Other Buildings.	Total.
Protestant Churches—				
Church of England ...	420	696	646	1,342
Presbyterian Church of Victoria ...	278	584	525	1,109
Free Presbyterian ...	2	9	3	12
Methodist ...	280	844	466	1,310
Independent or Congregational ...	51	84	8	92
Baptist ...	67	102	70	172
Lutheran ...	21	45	11	56
Salvation Army ...	487	111	33	144
Church of Christ ...	75	79	10	89
Church for Deaf Mutes ...	2	1	...	1
Other Protestant ...	13	23	22	45
Roman Catholic Church ...	310	510	156	666
New Church (or Swedenborgian) ...	2	3	1	4
Catholic Apostolic Church ...	15	1	...	1
Greek Orthodox Church ...	1	1	...	1
Jews ...	6	6	4	10
Re-organized Church of Latter-Day Saints ...	5	3	2	5
Total ...	2,035	3,102	1,957	5,059

The Sunday Schools of the various religious bodies numbered 2,943, and the teachers 23,250; the number of scholars on the rolls was 226,690—100,765 males and 125,925 females.

Religions of the people.

The following table shows the principal religions of the people as ascertained at the census of 1911 :—

RELIGIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF VICTORIA AT THE CENSUS OF 1911.

Religion.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per cent. of Population.
Protestant Churches—				
Church of England	225,601	225,486	451,087	85.14
Protestant so stated	18,370	10,740	24,116	1.88
Presbyterian	116,653	117,900	234,553	18.27
Methodist	84,376	92,286	176,662	13.76
Independent or Congregational	7,624	8,860	16,484	1.28
Baptist	14,134	17,110	31,244	2.43
Lutheran	7,025	4,657	11,682	.91
Salvation Army	3,409	4,300	7,709	.61
Unitarian	314	193	512	.04
Church of Christ	7,356	9,155	16,511	1.29
Seventh Day Adventists	551	892	1,443	.11
Other Protestant Churches	8,811	4,243	8,054	.63
Total	484,230	495,917	980,147	76.35
Roman Catholic Church	139,174	147,259	286,433	22.31
Other Denominations—				
Greek Orthodox Church	385	88	473	.04
Jews	8,214	3,056	6,270	.49
Other Religions	3,081	669	3,750	.29
Sceptics, &c.	4,780	1,907	6,687	.52
Total specified	634,864	648,896	1,283,760	100.00
„ unspecified	20,727	11,064	31,791	..
Grand Total	655,591	659,960	1,315,551	..

Religions per cent. of population 1861 to 1911.

The next table shows the principal religions of the people per 100 of the population in the last six census years :—

RELIGIONS OF THE PEOPLE PER 100 OF THE POPULATION, 1861 TO 1911.

Religion.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.
Protestant Churches—						
Church of England (including Protestant so stated)	40.60	36.01	36.74	37.33	36.52	37.02
Presbyterian	16.67	15.78	15.65	14.94	16.16	18.27
Methodist	8.90	13.16	13.58	14.14	15.21	13.76
Independent or Congregational	2.45	2.54	2.35	1.98	1.45	1.29
Baptist	1.72	2.28	2.40	2.50	2.75	2.43
Lutheran	1.92	1.47	1.32	1.39	1.18	.91
Salvation Army .. ..	..	..	..	1.21	.74	.61
Church of Christ .. ..	..	.50	.57	.74	.90	1.29
Other Protestant Churches .. ..	.59	.51	.37	.66	1.45	.78
Total Protestant Churches	72.85	72.25	72.98	74.89	76.36	76.35
Roman Catholic Church	21.02	23.83	24.02	22.24	22.26	22.31
Jews .. ..	.56	.50	.51	.58	.50	.49
Others	5.57	3.42	2.49	2.29	.88	.85
Total specified	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

* Included with "Other Protestant Churches."

**Protestants
and Roman
Catholics.**

The total number of Protestants of all denominations in 1911 was 980,147, as against 904,934 in 1901. The Roman Catholics numbered 236,433 in 1911, and 263,710 in 1901. The rate of increase of each of these bodies in the ten years was, therefore, about the same as that of the population.

**Protestant
Sects.**

The members of the Church of England and the Presbyterians had improved their positions relatively to the total population between 1901 and 1911, but the Independents had decreased from 17,141 to 16,484, and the adherents of the Salvation Army from 8,830 to 7,799.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.**Legislation.**

Friendly societies seem to have been established in Victoria very soon after the first settlement of the territory, but it was not until after the passing of the 1855 Act that any steps were taken for their registration as institutions recognised by law. That statute consolidated and amended the laws then in force relating to friendly societies, and was the first Act passed in this connexion by the Victorian Legislature after the separation of Victoria from New South Wales in 1851. It was assented to on 12th June, 1855, and provided for the appointment of a registrar, and also a certifying barrister, to whom the rules of a society had to be submitted for examination, and whose certificate, that these rules were in accordance with the law, was necessary before registration could be effected. It also provided that the table of contributions had to be certified to by an actuary of an assurance company, or "some person" appointed by the registrar before the latter could register the rules of the society.

Registration was not, however, made compulsory, and the actuarial certificate given by the actuary appointed by the registrar, under the provisions of the Act, for this purpose, was only of a provisional nature, issued under the condition that the tables were to be submitted to him for approval after a certain period had elapsed. This temporary certificate was given because there were no data then available in Australia on which to calculate the amount necessary to provide the sickness benefits. As there was nothing in the Act to compel a society to apply to the actuary for a renewal of the provisional certificate when the time covered by that certificate had expired, the registration of these institutions was unfortunately permanently effected at what afterwards proved to be, in almost every instance, inadequate rates of contribution. The control exercised over friendly societies as a result of this legislation was very slight.

No further serious attention was given by the Government to friendly societies until 1875, when a Commission was appointed to inquire into "the working of the Friendly Societies Statute, the position and

operations of the societies registered under it, and what amendment, if any, is desirable in the existing law." The outcome of this Commission was the 1877 Act, which provided (*inter alia*) for the appointment of a fully qualified barrister as registrar, and also that each society should furnish returns annually to the Government Statist, and once at least in every five years should either have its assets and liabilities valued by a valuer appointed by the society or send such particulars to the Government Statist as would enable him to have the valuation made. The fees for valuation were purposely fixed at a low rate, and average not more than threepence per member, the result being that, although it is competent for the societies to employ outside valuers, should they so desire, as a matter of fact they have rarely done so, and nearly all the valuations have been made by the Government Actuary. The passing of this Act had the effect of considerably increasing the control exercised by the Government over the operations of friendly societies.

In accordance with its provisions, an actuary was appointed under the Government Statist in 1881, whose chief duty was to make periodical valuations of the assets and liabilities of societies, and the result of these valuations disclosed the fact that, in almost every instance, the rates then being paid by the members were insufficient to provide the benefits which the societies had by their rules agreed to pay. The Act gave no power to enforce payment of adequate rates of contribution, and the actuary could not therefore compel a society to take such steps as would enable it to meet its liabilities, but could only give advice as to the best means to be adopted to secure that end. It is only just to the managing bodies of these institutions, however, to state that most of the principal societies made a serious effort to carry out the suggestions of the actuary. Several of them passed rules requiring future members to pay adequate rates of contribution, and in nearly every case some effort was made to improve the financial position.

It was not until 1907 that registration of societies was made compulsory, and that they were required to adopt adequate rates of contribution in respect of all members, existing as well as new members. An Act which was passed in that year embodied these provisions, the penalty for failure to adopt adequate rates of contribution being cancellation of registration. The operation of the Act, in so far as it related to the scale of contributions payable, was, however, limited to a period of eighteen months. This was a serious defect, as contributions which are sufficient at one time may at a future date become inadequate, owing to fluctuations in interest, sickness, or mortality rates or faulty management. To remedy this defect an amending Act was passed in the year 1911. This Act provides that, if a society receives two successive notifications from the Government Statist that its rates are inadequate, it must adopt adequate rates within twelve months of the second notification, otherwise its registration will be cancelled. There

must be an interval of at least three years between the two notifications. It is expected that a society on receiving the first notification will take such steps to improve its position as will obviate the necessity for the second being issued.

The legislation which has been referred to has had a very beneficial effect on societies. Of sixteen societies having a membership of over 500 each, nine have assets whose ratio to liabilities exceeds, or closely approximates, to 20s. in the £1, and only one society (whose membership is under 500) has a lower ratio than 17s. in the £1. In Victoria the societies have received no subvention from the State.

If, on an actuarial valuation being made, a surplus is found to exist in any one fund of a society, the Government Statist may authorize the utilization of the whole or a portion of such surplus for the purposes of the same or any other fund.

The *Friendly Societies Act* 1915 consolidates all Acts passed up to 1914 inclusive. An Act passed in 1915—the *Friendly Societies Act* 1915 (No. 2)—gives power to societies to reinsure with the Government or with an approved life assurance company their liabilities to members who are engaged on active naval or military service in connexion with the present war. The terms and conditions of reinsurance are to be approved by the Government Statist, and the fulfilment of every contract is guaranteed by the Government of Victoria, which will pay out of consolidated revenue the amounts required to meet the liabilities under the reinsurance contracts, in so far as the contributions received from the societies are insufficient to provide for these. The arrangement in regard to reinsurance is to cease on the termination of the war, when the Government will pay to the societies the amounts required to discharge outstanding liabilities, and will return to them any surplus moneys in its possession.

Up to the end of September, 1917, 14 societies had taken advantage of the reinsurance scheme, or had notified their intention of doing so. The number of enlisted members in these societies at the date mentioned was about 18,301.

The societies decided at an early stage of the war to pay all contributions necessary to keep good on the books those of their members who had enlisted. The amount of such contributions which had been paid up to August, 1917, was about £68,473.

Registered societies must not contract to pay more than 40s. per week in sickness, and the practice now obtaining in Victoria is to pay a maximum of only 20s. per week. Central bodies are empowered by statute to appoint auditors to audit and inspect the accounts and securities of branches at such time as the central body

may direct. Every trustee, treasurer, secretary, chairman or member of the committee of management who takes any money or valuable thing in consideration of any benefit received or to be received by any member of an unregistered society shall be liable to a penalty of £50. Trade unions are exempted from registration. The investment of funds on leasehold property is now illegal, but the power to invest is extended to any securities on which a trustee is under any Act authorized to invest any trust funds in his hands. All loans on freehold property must be on first mortgage only, and are not to exceed three-fifths of the value as certified by a practical surveyor or valuer. The trustees are prohibited from investing on mortgage if the fee-simple of the property has been in the possession of a trustee or his wife during the previous five years. An Act passed in 1910 created a new stock for the special benefit of friendly societies. Interest is payable at 4 per cent., and investment is optional, but the societies are taking advantage of it to an increasing extent. The amount invested in the stock at the end of 1916 was £374,222. Prior to the year 1907, it was not lawful for a friendly societies' dispensary to sell patent or other medicines to members of friendly societies or their relatives, but this restriction has been amended so that all benefit members who have paid the full subscription to the dispensary, and the full amount payable to the society for medicines and medical appliances, may now be supplied with medicines for which payment is required.

**Benefits of
friendly
societies.**

The societies perform a function which cannot be carried out with the same success by other means—that of providing for the loss which would otherwise be sustained by the wage-earners of the community and those dependent on them through illness or death. Their organization enables them to keep in touch with their members, to guard against malingering, and to perform satisfactorily a work which, on account of its peculiar nature, could not be attended to satisfactorily by institutions organized on the lines of the ordinary insurance company. Their main objects are to afford relief in sickness, and to provide a sufficient sum to cover funeral expenses on the death of a member or his wife. The usual sickness benefits payable are 20s. per week during the first six months' sickness, 10s. per week during the second six months, and 5s. per week thereafter so long as the sickness continues. The member has also the benefit of medical attendance and medicine for himself and his near relatives. A sum of £20 is usually payable on the death of the member, and of £10 on the death of his wife should she predecease him. The benefits coming under the heading of medical attendance and medicine extend usually to the whole family, embracing in the general case member, wife, and children under eighteen years of age, widowed mother of unmarried member, and also widow and family after the death of member on payment of medical fees.

The funds of the societies are divided into two portions—the sick and funeral fund, out of which are payable the sickness and death benefits, and the medical and management fund, from which are taken the payments for medical attendance, medicines, and management expenses. The weekly contribution to the sick and funeral fund varies with the age at entry, and for the benefits above mentioned usually ranges from 6d. to 1s. per week. The contribution to the other fund generally remains uniform throughout life, the usual charge being from 6d. to 8d. per week, according to the cost incurred in providing medical benefits. The total sum payable by each member thus ranges from about 1s. to 1s. 8d. per week. There are in addition small initiation fees, and, in some instances, registration fees for second wives.

The growth of Victorian friendly societies in recent years is worthy of note. The total membership increased from 108,570 in 1904, to 157,889 at the close of 1916—an increase during the twelve years of 49,319 members; 2,461 members were added in 1914, but there was a decrease of 1,991 in 1915. This decrease was to be expected, as many young men who were eligible for membership were serving at the front, and a number of members of friendly societies who were on active service had been killed or had died from wounds or disease during 1915. In 1916 the membership of ordinary male societies decreased by 565, the reason for the decrease being the same as in the previous year, but there was an increase of 704 in female and other societies. The number of members at the end of 1916 was, therefore, 139 more than at the beginning of the year. The funds increased during the twelve-year period, 1904-16, from £1,549,919 to £2,912,178—an addition of £1,362,259. These are well invested, the return from the sick and funeral fund averaging $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for the year 1916. There is a number of female societies, the particulars for which are included above. At the end of 1916 these had a membership of 12,849 and funds amounting to £55,754.

A table is appended showing the membership, revenue, expenditure, and total funds of friendly societies in Victoria during the years 1912-1916:—

Year.			Membership.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Funds.
				£	£	£
1912	...	...	153,921	580,371	465,303	2,361,464
1913	...	...	157,280	606,785	477,292	2,490,957
1914	...	...	159,741	620,765	487,506	2,644,216
1915	...	...	157,750	634,649	503,078	2,775,787
1916	...	...	157,889	672,650	536,259	2,912,178

The following is a more detailed statement in regard to the societies for the five years, 1912 to 1916 :—

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES, 1912 TO 1916.

(Including Female Societies.)

—	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Number of societies ...	47	47	46	45	46
Number of branches ...	1,505	1,501	1,524	1,533	1,522
Average number of members	151,262	155,601	158,511	158,746	157,819
Number of members sick	28,656	27,434	29,014	28,784	28,189
Weeks for which sick pay was allowed	225,409	220,462	230,979	239,134	261,077
Deaths of members ...	1,288	1,287	1,348	1,703	1,909
Deaths of registered wives	477	464	495	472	502
	£	£	£	£	£
Income of sick and funeral fund	314,848	327,829	342,294	347,795	361,380
Income of incidental fund	238,114	255,445	253,341	257,880	282,955
Other Income ...	27,409	23,511	25,130	28,974	28,315
Total Income ...	580,371	606,785	620,765	634,649	672,650
Expenditure of sick and funeral fund	201,658	196,382	194,873	213,775	246,712
Expenditure of incidental fund	234,450	252,028	250,199	259,713	265,508
Other Expenditure ...	29,195	28,882	22,434	29,590	24,039
Total Expenditure...	465,303	477,292	467,506	503,078	536,259
Amount to credit of sick and funeral fund	2,206,718	2,338,165	2,485,586	2,619,606	2,734,274
Amount to credit of incidental fund	86,594	90,011	93,153	91,320	108,767
Amount invested—sick and funeral fund	2,140,626	2,263,693	2,407,557	2,532,817	2,650,796
Amount invested—incidental fund	75,669	77,859	83,635	84,143	98,299
Amount invested—other funds	60,719	57,989	61,521	61,859	64,786
Total invested ...	2,277,014	2,399,541	2,552,713	2,678,819	2,813,881
,, funds ...	2,361,464	2,490,957	2,644,216	2,775,787	2,912,178

NOTE.—There are juvenile branches connected with some of the societies, but the information in regard to these has not been considered of sufficient importance to be included in the above table.

Societies lost 7 per cent. of their members in 1916 through secession. This is an improvement as compared with 1915, in which year the secession rate was 8 per cent. of the mean membership. Most of the secessions are those of new members who allow their membership to lapse before they have time to appreciate its value. In this respect the experience is similar to that which prevails in life assurance companies. Expenses of management absorbed slightly less than 17 per cent. of the contributions to all funds during 1916. This ratio is very similar to that prevailing in well-managed life assurance companies, and is

considerably below the rate in industrial assurance business. When it is remembered that the lodge element is an essential feature of friendly societies, and that a considerable outlay is unavoidable in connexion with the lodges, it would appear that the rate of expense is very moderate.

Sickness and
Mortality
Experience
1903-7.

An investigation was made into the sickness and mortality experience of three of the largest Victorian friendly societies for the period 1903-07. This relates to male lives only. Tables containing rates of sickness and mortality obtained by the investigation are given in the *Year-Book* for 1913-14.

CONDITIONS OF LABOUR IN FACTORIES AND SHOPS.

Labour
legislation.

The earliest attempt at regulating the conditions of labour in Victoria was made by the passing of an Act dated 11th November, 1873, forbidding the employment of any female for more than eight hours in any day in a factory. The same Act defined "factory" to be a place where not less than ten persons were working.

This small provision was administered by the Board of Public Health, and was followed, in 1885, by a much larger statute, providing for the registration of factories, their sanitation, fire escape, and guarding of machinery, and regulating the conditions of work generally to a much greater extent than formerly, besides providing for the closing of shops at fixed hours. These latter provisions were designed to give some relief to the employees, who could previously be kept at work in shops as long as their employers chose.

From that time onwards, further legislative provisions have been passed at frequent intervals, and gradually the community has come to recognize the necessity of securing the health, comfort, and reasonable ease of the workers. The opposition, which was at first very strong, has gradually disappeared, until now it is safe to say that all sections of the community realize the humanitarian aspects of the movement, and have accepted the principle that the rights of work-people shall be conserved by law.

The interests of the factory worker as regards wages, personal safety, and health now receive a large amount of attention. Government inspectors prosecute employers wherever underpayment is found. They take proceedings also to carry out all the provisions of the factories laws. No one can occupy a factory unless the place is properly lighted, ventilated, has ample means of escape in case of fire, has all its machinery fenced and guarded, and has proper sanitary arrangements provided for both sexes. The closing time of shops is carefully regulated. The hours of shop employees are also restricted, and they must be given a half holiday every week.

**Wages
Boards.**

The Wages Board system of fixing wages and settling the conditions of employment had its origin in Victoria. It was introduced into an Act of Parliament in 1895 by Sir Alexander Peacock, the present Premier. The principle embodied in the British jury system that a man can only be tried by his peers is the essence of the Victorian Wages Board scheme. The Boards are composed of equal numbers of employers and employees. The representatives are carefully chosen, so that every shade of interest in the trade shall be represented as fully as possible on the Board. The Board thus becomes a jury of trade experts, all of whom are versed in the requirements and intricacies of the trade they are dealing with.

An application for a Board in any trade which has not been brought under the Wages Board system can be made either by a Union or by a meeting of employees. Upon receipt of such an application the Minister usually orders the collection of figures to show the rates of wages, the average number of hours worked, the number of persons employed in the trade, and so on. If he finds that there is good reason he introduces into Parliament a resolution in favour of the appointment of a Special Board. After this resolution has been passed by both Houses of Parliament, the Governor in Council may, if he thinks fit, appoint a Special Board and define the scope of its operations. The Board consists of from four to ten members (half elected by employers and half by employees), who are to nominate some outside person as chairman; or, if no agreement can be arrived at as to such nomination, then the Governor in Council appoints the chairman. The Board may fix the rates of payment either by piece-work or wages, or both; the maximum number of hours per week for which such rates shall be paid; a higher rate for work done in excess of such maximum number of hours; the times of beginning and ending work, including the hours of each shift; a higher rate for work done outside such times; special rates for casual work, or for work done on Sundays and public holidays, and for time occupied in travelling to and from work; the number of and also the rates of pay to apprentices and improvers who may be employed. Casual work is now defined in the Act as work or labour during any week for not more than one-half of the maximum number of hours fixed by the Special Board appointed to fix rates for the work in question.

Resolutions in favour of appointing one new Special Board (the Hospital Attendants Board) were carried in both Houses of the Legislature during 1916.

On 31st December, 1916, there were 147 Special Boards existent or authorized, affecting about 150,000 employees. Two of these Boards have not been constituted, viz., the Slaughtering for Export Board and Felt Hatters Board.

The following is a list of Boards existent or authorized :—

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. Aerated Water Trade | 36. Clothing (Waterproof) |
| 2. Aerated Water Carters | 37. Coal and Coke |
| 3. Agricultural Implements | 38. Confectioners |
| 4. Agricultural Implements
(Country) | 39. Coopers |
| 5. AsphALTERS | 40. Cordage |
| 6. Bagmakers | 41. Cycle Trade |
| 7. Bedsteadmakers | 42. Drapers |
| 8. Bill Posters | 43. Dressmakers |
| 9. Biscuit | 44. Dyers and Clothes Cleaners |
| 10. Boiler Makers | 45. Electrical Installation |
| 11. Boot | 46. Electrical Supply |
| 12. Boot Dealers | 47. Electroplaters |
| 13. Brassworkers | 48. Engine-drivers (Factory) |
| 14. Bread | 49. Engine-drivers (Mining) |
| 15. Bread (Country) | 50. Engineering |
| 16. Bread (Provincial) | 51. Engravers |
| 17. Bread Carters | 52. Farriers |
| 18. Brewers | 53. Fellmongers |
| 19. Bricklayers | 54. Fish and Poultry |
| 20. Brick Trade | 55. Flour |
| 21. Brushmakers | 56. Flour (Country) |
| 22. Builders' Labourers | 57. Fuel and Fodder |
| 23. Butchers | 58. Fuel and Fodder (Country) |
| 24. Butchers (Country) | 59. Furniture |
| 25. Butchers (Provincial) | 60. Furniture Dealers |
| 26. Butter | 61. Gardeners |
| 27. Candlemakers | 62. Gas Meter |
| 28. Cardboard Box Trade | 63. Glass Workers |
| 29. Carpenters | 64. Grocers |
| 30. Carriage | 65. Grocers' Sundries |
| 31. Carters | 66. Grocers (Wholesale) |
| 32. Chaffcutters | 67. Hairdressefs |
| 33. Cigar Trade | 68. Ham and Bacon Curers |
| 34. Clerks (Commercial) | 69. Hardware |
| 35. Clothing (Manufacturing
Men's) | 70. Hats (Straw) |
| | 71. Hatters (Felt) |
| | 72. Horsehair |

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 73. Hospital Attendants | 111. Polish |
| 74. Hotel Employees | 112. Pottery Trade |
| 75. Ice | 113. Printers |
| 76. Ironmoulders | 114. Printers (Country) |
| 77. Jam Trade | 115. Printers (Provincial) |
| 78. Jewellers | 116. Process Engravers |
| 79. Knitters | 117. Quarry |
| 80. Leather Goods | 118. Rubber Trade |
| 81. Lift | 119. Saddlery |
| 82. Livery Stable | 120. Saddlery (Country) |
| 83. Malt | 121. Sewer Builders |
| 84. Manure (Animal) | 122. Shirt |
| 85. Manure (Artificial) | 123. Shop Assistants (Country) |
| 86. Marine Store | 124. Slaters and Tilers |
| 87. Meat Preservers | 125. Slaughtering for Export |
| 88. Men's Clothing | 126. Soap and Soda |
| 89. Millet Broom | 127. Starch |
| 90. Milliners | 128. Stationery |
| 91. Miners (Coal) | 129. Stone Cutters |
| 92. Miners (Gold) | 130. Storemen, Packers, and
Sorters |
| 93. Motor Drivers | 131. Tanners |
| 94. Nailmakers | 132. Tea Packing |
| 95. Night Watchmen's | 133. Tentmakers |
| 96. Office Cleaners | 134. Tiemakers |
| 97. Opticians | 135. Tilelayers |
| 98. Organ | 136. Timber Fellers |
| 99. Ovenmakers | 137. Tinsmiths |
| 100. Painters | 138. Tramway |
| 101. Paper | 139. Tuckpointers |
| 102. Paper Bag Trade | 140. Underclothing |
| 103. Pastrycooks | 141. Undertakers |
| 104. Perambulator | 142. Watchmakers |
| 105. Photographers | 143. Wicker |
| 106. Picture Frame | 144. Wireworkers |
| 107. Plasterers | 145. Woodworkers |
| 108. Plasterers (Fibrous) | 146. Woodworkers (Country) |
| 109. Plate Glass | 147. Woollen Trade |
| 110. Plumbers | |

A Wages Board, having been constituted, meets as often as it chooses usually once a week, at the Factories Office. An officer of the Factories Department acts as secretary. The members of the Board are paid 10s. a sitting, with the addition of necessary out-of-pocket expenses. The Chairman receives £1 per sitting. After a Determination has been arrived at it is sent to the Minister of Labour and gazetted, and it thereupon becomes law. It is then the duty of the officers of the Factories Department to enforce it. Where the Minister considers that any breach of the law is trivial, or has occurred through a mistake, he administers a warning; in more serious cases he orders a prosecution. The prosecutions are carried out by the officers of the Factories Department, without expense to the worker, and on a conviction being obtained the Court may order that any arrears of wages that may be due be paid. It is, however, open to any worker, if he has made demand in writing on the employers within two months from the date same became due, to sue in a civil court for the amount of wages owing to him. Employers must pay all wages due at least once in every fortnight.

Appeals. Provision has been made in the law for the constitution of a Court of Industrial Appeals for deciding all appeals against a Determination of a Special Board, and for dealing with any Determination of a Special Board referred to the Court by the Minister. The Court has been asked to make or alter twenty-four Determinations. Since 1st January, 1915, the Court has consisted of a President and two other persons. The President, who must be a Judge of the Supreme Court, holds such office for such period as the Governor in Council thinks fit, and must sit in every Court of Industrial Appeals. The Honorable Mr. Justice H. E. A. Hodges has been appointed President. The other members can only act in the Court for which they are appointed, and one must be a representative of employers and the other a representative of employees. Each must be nominated in writing by the side which he represents, and must have been *bonâ fide* and actually engaged in the trade concerned for at least six months during the three years immediately preceding his nomination. Subject to the Act a majority decides every reference to the Court. Since its re-constitution in 1915 the Court has dealt with ten cases.

Rise in earnings. According to the Chief Inspector of Factories' report for the year 1916, determinations made by 139 Boards appointed under the Act were in force. The figures show an increase in average earnings consequent thereon. Some instances of the increases are given below :—

Trade.	Average Weekly Wage Paid to all Employes.		Increase.
	Before Determination was made.	In 1916.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Aerated Water	1 6 7	2 3 11	0 17 4
Agricultural Implements	1 19 5	2 14 9	0 15 4
Asphalters	2 2 10	2 17 3	0 14 5
Bedsteadmakers	1 12 2	2 14 5	1 2 3
Boot	1 3 2	2 4 9	1 1 7
Boot Dealers	1 6 11	1 18 2	0 11 3
Bread	1 12 6	3 4 1	1 11 7
Brewers	1 14 4	2 17 4	1 3 0
Brushmakers	1 3 1	2 3 8	1 0 7
Butchers	1 17 8	2 15 0	0 17 4
Candlemakers	1 4 8	1 16 3	0 11 7
Carpenters	2 7 6	3 9 5	1 1 11
Clothing	1 0 0	1 11 3	0 11 3
" Waterproof.. ..	1 2 3	1 12 6	0 10 3
Commercial Clerks	1 10 7	2 9 1	0 18 6
Coopers	1 15 7	3 13 7	1 18 0
Engravers	1 16 11	1 18 0	0 1 1
Farriers	1 15 2	2 12 9	0 17 7
Furniture Trade—			
(a) European (Cabinet making, &c).	1 9 1	2 7 11	0 18 10
(b) European (Mantelpieces)			
Glassworkers	1 13 6	2 15 0	1 1 6
Grocers	1 14 11	3 0 3	1 5 4
Hairdressers	1 7 4	2 6 4	0 19 0
Ice	1 2 9	2 2 6	0 19 9
Jewellers	2 10 3	3 15 3	1 5 0
Lift Attendants	1 13 10	2 14 1	1 0 3
Malt	1 5 0	2 7 10	1 2 10
Marine Store	2 1 1	2 13 8	0 12 7
Men's Clothing	1 5 7	2 13 1	1 7 6
Millet Broom	1 18 4	2 11 7	0 13 3
Milliners	1 7 11	2 5 3	0 17 4
Painters	0 10 11	0 19 1	0 8 2
Picture Frame	2 0 9	2 19 3	0 18 6
Plate Glass	1 3 11	2 2 2	0 18 3
Plumbers	1 7 6	2 10 2	1 2 8
Pottery	1 12 8	3 5 5	1 12 9
Saddlery	1 8 1	2 5 4	0 17 3
" Country	1 7 1	2 10 8	1 3 7
Slaters and Tilers	1 10 7	1 18 7	0 8 0
Starch	2 0 8	3 8 8	1 8 0
Stonecutters	1 0 9	2 10 10	1 10 1
Tanners	1 15 11	3 1 10	1 5 11
Watchmakers	1 11 9	2 13 2	1 1 5
Wicker	1 14 2	2 17 8	1 3 6
Woodworkers	1 2 11	2 6 8	1 3 9
" Country	1 13 2	2 14 7	1 1 5
"	2 9 0	2 19 10	0 10 10

Apprentices.

The wages of apprentices in Victoria are fixed by the Wages Boards in each trade. These Boards also prescribe the form of indenture and the term of apprenticeship. Once a boy is indentured, it becomes the duty of the Factories Department on the one hand to see that he is taught his trade properly, and on the other to enforce his proper attendance at his work, and generally to protect both parties and see that they carry out the agreement.

Factory legislation.

The Factories and Shops Acts were consolidated during the year 1915 by the *Factories and Shops Act* 1915, No. 2650. No changes were effected in the law by this measure. The existing Acts were merely consolidated.

On 20th October, 1914, the *Apprentices Act* 1914, No. 2540, came into operation, and it will remain in force until six months after the publication in the *Government Gazette* of a proclamation that a state of war or danger of war no longer exists. The effect of this Act is that an employer may, on obtaining a permit from the Minister of Labour, employ his apprentices for the same number of hours in each week as his adult employees are employed, and pay them *pro rata*.

**Shops.
Metropolitan
District.**

Shortly stated, in the Metropolitan District, as defined in the *Factories and Shops Act* 1915, the hours for closing shops are as follows:—Hairdressers' shops must be closed on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 8 p.m.; and on Wednesday or Saturday at 1 p.m. If the shop be closed on Saturday at 1 p.m., it must be closed on Wednesday at 8 p.m., and may be kept open until 10 p.m. on Friday; if it be closed at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, it may be kept open till 11 p.m. on Saturday. Bicycle shops, dairy produce shops, flower shops, and pawnbrokers' shops (so far only as giving in or taking out pledges are concerned) are now required to close at 8 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, at 10 p.m. on Friday, and at 1 p.m. on Saturday. Butchers' shops are required to close at 5 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, at 8 p.m. on Friday, and at 1 p.m. on Saturday. All other shops (except Fourth Schedule shops) must be closed at 6 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. On Friday the closing hour is 10 p.m., and on Saturday 1 p.m.

The Fourth Schedule shops are:—

Booksellers' and news agents' shops.

Chemists' shops.

Coffee-houses.

Confectioners.

Cooked meat (other than tinned meat) shops.

Eating-houses.

Fish and oyster shops.
Fruit and vegetable shops.
Restaurants.
Tobacconists' shops.

The hours for closing such shops are not fixed by the Act, but may be fixed by regulation. Under a Regulation chemists' shops have to be closed at 10 p.m. on Friday, and 8 p.m. on other week days, and cooked meat shops are required to close at 10 p.m. on Friday, 11 p.m. on Saturday, and 8 p.m. on other week days.

Under the provisions of the *Factories and Shops Act 1915* the Minister can grant permission to certain shopkeepers, who would ordinarily be required to close their shops at 6 p.m., to keep open till 8 p.m. Such permission can only be granted to widows and old people, or in cases of great hardship, and only applies to the Metropolitan District.

Provision is also made under the Acts for overtime and tea money for shop employees.

Outside the Metropolitan District. The shops provisions of the Acts now apply to the whole State. Previous to 1st January, 1915, they did not apply to shires or portions of shires unless the shopkeepers therein had petitioned for them to be extended, and there was little uniformity throughout the Country Districts either as to the hours of closing shops or the observance of a weekly half-holiday. A universal Saturday half-holiday was legalized by Act No. 2558, passed in November, 1914, the shops being allowed to remain open till 10 p.m. on Fridays, and the Country Districts were thus brought into line with the Metropolitan District, in which the Saturday half-holiday had been observed for years. In certain cases an exemption may be petitioned for and the half-holiday fixed for a day other than Saturday.

The hours of closing *on other days* outside the Metropolitan District are fixed at 7 p.m., but, if a petition be received from a majority of any class of shopkeepers, they may be fixed earlier or later. The hours have been altered in accordance with this provision in a few municipalities. Hairdressers may choose either Wednesday or Saturday as the day on which they will observe the half-holiday, but, if they choose Wednesday, they are required to close at 7 p.m. on Fridays. Fourth Schedule shops are not affected by these provisions. Petrol may be sold at any hour to travellers to enable them to continue their journey.

Registration of shops became compulsory as from 1st March, 1915, the registration fee ranging from 2s. 6d. to 63s., according to the number

of persons employed. During the year 1916 25,635 shops employing 25,741 persons were registered.

Factories. A factory is defined to mean any place in which four or more persons, other than a Chinese, or in which one or more Chinese are employed in any handicraft, or in preparing articles for trade or sale; or any place in which one or more are employed, if motive power be used in the preparation of such articles, or where furniture is made, or where bread or pastry is made or baked for sale, or in which electricity is generated for the supply of heat or light, or power, or in which coal gas is made; and also any clay pit or quarry worked in connexion with and occupied by the occupier of any pottery or brickyard. The expression "handicraft" includes any work done in a laundry or in dyeworks. Provision is made for the registration of factories, and inspectors are appointed to inspect and examine them in order to insure that the health requirements and other provisions of the Acts are complied with. The employment of males under 14 and females under 15 years of age is debarred, but a provision is made by which a girl of 14 can receive permission to work in a factory if it be shown that the parents are poor, and that the best interests of the girl will be served. A strict limitation is placed on the hours of employment of all females and of males under sixteen. There are special provisions to guard against accidents, and persons in charge of engines and boilers must hold certificates of competency of service. The working hours of Chinese are specially restricted, with the view of preventing or lessening unfair competition. Every employee in a factory must be paid at least 2s. 6d. per week, this provision being, of course, intended as a protection for juvenile workers. All wages must be paid at least once in every fortnight. There were registered in 1886 only 1,949 factories with 39,506 employees, whereas in 1916 the figures were 7,618 factories with 92,320 employees.

GOVERNMENT LABOUR BUREAU.

**Government
Labour
Bureau.**

Prior to 1st October, 1900, two labour bureaus were administered by the Railway Department. One registered men in search of work, and distributed all Government work, each Department paying the cost. The other was a Railway Staff Office, regulating and distributing all temporary and casual railway employment. Both these are now administered by a bureau under the control of the Lands Department, where applicants are registered for temporary or casual employment principally as artisans and labourers on Government works, including railways. Men are supplied, when work is available, according to their order of registration, subject to fitness. This bureau also undertakes to supply

workmen for private employment, and advances railway tickets to deserving applicants who may themselves have obtained employment in country districts, which they would be otherwise unable to reach, these advances being subject to orders for repayment out of earnings.

The following is a summary of the operations of the bureau for the year 1916 in respect to registrations and applicants sent to employment:—

GOVERNMENT LABOUR BUREAU.

Year and Month.	Number of Applicants for Work as Registered at the end of each Month in the Metropolis.	Number of Men for whom Employment was Obtained.
1916—January	1,489	363
February	1,193	206
March	1,146	471
April	891	364
May	789	401
June	1,319	134
July	1,048	552
August	958	432
September	886	155
October	895	171
November	804	430
December	934	277

In the next table particulars are given of the operations of the bureau during the last five years:—

Year.	Registrations Effected.		Engagements Effected.
	In the City.	In the Country.	
1912	20,230	4,169	7,229
1913	22,858	6,185	7,441
1914	33,878	11,274	8,302
1915	26,369	7,914	7,884
1916	13,483	2,847	3,956

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

During the year 1916, the number of railway tickets advanced was 3,315, valued at £2,063, of which £1,568 has been refunded. During the past sixteen years 28,541 railway tickets have been advanced, of the value of £21,537, of which £12,450 has been refunded.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT 1915.

An Act which was passed in February, 1914, entitled the *Workers' Compensation Act 1914* (now the *Workers' Compensation Act 1915* No. 2750), provides for compensation being paid by an employer to an employee or his representatives in the event of the employee being killed or personal injury being caused to him by an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment.

The following are a few of its main features :—

Interpretation. "Accident insurance" means insurance against liability in relation to workers' compensation to which employers are subject under this or any other Act or at common law or otherwise.

"Certifying medical practitioner" means a legally qualified medical practitioner—

(a) appointed under the Act by the Governor in Council, or

(b) appointed or acting as a certifying medical practitioner under the *Factories and Shops Act 1912*.

"Employer" includes any body of persons corporate or unincorporate and the legal personal representative of a deceased employer.

"Insurer" means the Insurance Commissioner or any company approved by the Governor in Council as an insurer for the purposes of the Act.

“ Worker ” embraces all employees with the following exceptions :—

- (a) a person employed otherwise than by way of manual labour whose remuneration exceeds £250 a year ;
- (b) a person whose employment is of a casual nature and who is employed otherwise than for the purposes of the employer’s trade or business ;
- (c) a member of the police force appointed before the 25th November, 1902 ;
- (d) an outworker ;
- (e) a member of the employer’s family dwelling in his house.

“ Outworker ” means a person to whom articles or materials are given out to be made up, cleaned, &c., in his own home or in other premises not under the control or management of the person who gave out the materials or articles.

Liability of employer.

An employer is liable under the Act for a personal injury caused to a worker by an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment. There are certain provisos which include the following :—

- (a) The employer is not liable unless the incapacity lasts for a week.
- (b) Where the injury was caused by the personal negligence or wilful act of the employer the civil liability of the employer is not affected by the Act. In such case the worker may at his option claim compensation under the Act or take proceedings independently of it, but the employer shall not be liable to pay compensation independently of and also under the Act.
- (c) If it is proved that the injury to a worker is attributable to his serious and wilful misconduct, any compensation claimed shall be disallowed unless the injury results in death or serious and permanent disablement.

For certain injuries, such as the loss of eyes, arms, legs, &c., the compensation is according to a scale given in the Fourth Schedule, the amount of compensation varying from 100 per cent. of the full compensation for total incapacity in the case of the loss of two eyes or two hands, and certain other injuries, to 5 per cent. of such compensation in the case of the loss of a toe.

Compensation under the Act is absolutely inalienable.

Proceedings. Notice of an accident must be given as soon as practicable after the happening thereof and before the worker has voluntarily left the employment in which he was injured, and the claim for compensation with respect to such accident must be made within four months from its occurrence, or, in case of death, within four months from the time of death.

Schemes of compensation. If a Judge of County Courts specially appointed by the Governor in Council for the purpose, after taking steps to ascertain the views of the employer and workers, and the Government Statist, certifies—

- (a) that any scheme of compensation, benefit, or insurance for the workers of any employer provides scales of compensation not less favourable to these workers and their dependants than the corresponding scales contained in the Act; and
- (b) that where the scheme provides for contributions by the workers it confers benefits at least equivalent to such contributions in addition to the benefits to which the workers would have been entitled under the Act; and
- (c) that a majority (to be ascertained by ballot) of the workers to whom the scheme is applicable are in favour of it—

the employer may, whilst the certificate is in force, contract with any of his workers that the provisions of the scheme shall be substituted for the provisions of the Act.

Contractors and Sub-contractors. When a contractor in the course of his business arranges that work undertaken by him shall be carried out by a sub-contractor, the former is liable to pay any compensation under the Act which he would have been liable to pay if the workers employed in the execution of the work had been immediately employed by him.

Persons who jointly enter into a contract for work in a gold or coal mine and personally engage in the work shall be deemed not contractors, but workers, and the person with whom they enter into the contract shall be deemed to be an employer within the meaning of the Act.

Insolvency of employer. If an employer who has entered into a contract with an insurer in respect of his liability under the Act becomes insolvent, the rights of the employer against the insurers are transferred to the worker, and upon such transfer the insurers have the same rights and remedies and are subject to the same liabilities as if they were the employer.

Liability of person other than employer. Where there is a legal liability in some person other than the employer to pay damages in respect of an injury, the worker may take proceedings both against that person to recover damages and against any person liable to pay compensation under the Act for such compensation, but he is not entitled to recover both damages and compensation.

A person by whom compensation has been paid under these circumstances is entitled to be indemnified by the person who is liable to pay damages.

Seamen. The Act applies in respect of an accident happening to a seaman employed on a Victorian ship if the accident arises out of and in the course of his employment and happens within the State or within the jurisdiction of the State.

When the Act is applied to accidents happening to seamen its provisions are subject to certain modifications.

Where—

Industrial diseases. (1) the certifying medical practitioner for the district in which a worker was employed certifies that the worker is suffering from a disease mentioned in the Fifth Schedule and is thereby disabled from earning full wages at the work at which he was employed ; or

(2) the death of the worker is caused by any such disease, and the disease is due to the nature of any employment in which the worker was employed within the twelve months previous to the date of the disablement, whether under one or more employers, the worker or his dependants are entitled to compensation under the Act as if the disease were a personal injury by accident arising out of and in the course of that employment and the disablement is to be treated as the happening of an accident.

Returns. Every employer in any industry which may be specified in regulations issued by the Governor in Council must submit annually a return specifying the number of injuries in respect of which compensation has been paid during the previous year, the amount of such compensation, and such other particulars as the Minister may direct.

Insurance policies. Insurance policies are to contain only such provisions as are in accordance with regulations made by the Governor in Council.

State accident insurance office. A State Accident Insurance Office is to be constituted, every policy issued by which is to be guaranteed by the Government. The office is to be managed by an Insurance Commissioner.

Insurance compulsory. Except where there is a scheme of compensation approved in accordance with the Act, it is obligatory for every employer to obtain either from the Insurance Commissioner or from an insurer approved by the Governor in Council a policy of accident insurance for the full amount of his liability under the Act.

Malingering. Persons attempting by malingering to obtain any benefit under the Act are guilty of an offence and are liable to a penalty not exceeding £20.

Schedules. There are five schedules attached to the Act.

The first of these repeals the Act of 1914.

The second schedule gives the scale of compensation and the conditions attaching thereto. The amount of compensation payable under the Act is as follows :—

In Case of Death.			In Case of Total or Partial Disablement.
Where there are Total Dependants.	Where there are only Partial Dependants.	Where there are no Dependants.	
<p>A sum equal to deceased's earnings for three years preceding the injury or £200, whichever is the larger, but not exceeding £500. If not employed three years, then 156 times his average actual weekly earnings is basis of calculation.</p> <p>*Aged workers and those suffering from physical or mental infirmity or other incapacity—If death occurs and there are dependants, not less than £50.</p>	<p>A sum, not exceeding the amount payable to total dependants, as may be agreed upon or determined to be reasonable.</p>	<p>The medical and funeral expenses not exceeding £50.</p>	<p>A weekly payment during incapacity not exceeding half his average weekly earnings during the previous twelve months. Such weekly payments not to exceed 30s. per week, and the total liability of the employer not to exceed £500.</p> <p>Workers under 21 years of age—If under 21 years at date of injury and average weekly earnings are less than £1, the worker is entitled to 100 per cent. of these earnings, the weekly payment not to exceed 10s.</p> <p>*Aged workers and those suffering from physical or mental infirmity or other incapacity—A weekly payment during incapacity after the first week of not less than 5s., or a quarter of the average weekly earnings, whichever of these is the larger, and a total liability of £50.</p>

SCHEDULES—*continued.*

In Case of Death.			In Case of Total or Partial Disablement.
Where there are Total Dependants.	Where there are only Partial Dependants.	Where there are no Dependants.	
			<p>In fixing the amount of the weekly payment consideration is given to any payment, allowance, or benefit which the worker may receive from the employer during the period of his incapacity.</p> <p>In the case of partial incapacity the weekly payment is not to exceed the difference between the amount of the average weekly earnings of the worker before the accident and the average amount which he can earn in some suitable employment after the accident, but is to bear such relation to the amount of the difference as under the circumstances may seem proper.</p>

Rules are given for the computation of "earnings" and "average weekly earnings."

* A reduction in the compensation payable to an aged or infirm worker is inoperative unless a certificate has been obtained from a certifying medical practitioner to the effect that his age or infirmity renders him specially liable to accident, or will cause the result of an accident to him to be specially serious, and unless an agreement in writing has been entered into between the employer and employee, limiting the amount of compensation payable.

The third schedule contains a statement of the provisions which are to apply when any matter arising under the Act is to be settled by arbitration.

The fourth schedule has already been referred to. It contains a list of injuries, such as loss of two eyes, loss of one leg, loss of a finger, &c., which entitle a worker to compensation of a specific amount.

The fifth schedule, which has also been referred to, contains a list of diseases, disablement or death from which entitles a worker to compensation in the same way as if an accident had occurred, provided the disease is due to the nature of any employment in which

the worker was engaged during the preceding twelve months. The following are the diseases :—

Anthrax

Lead poisoning or its sequelæ

Mercury poisoning or its sequelæ

Phosphorus poisoning or its sequelæ

Arsenic poisoning or its sequelæ

Septic poisoning arising from the handling of meat or meat products or its sequelæ.

STATE ACCIDENT INSURANCE OFFICE.

A State Accident Insurance Office was established shortly after the passing of the Act for the purpose of enabling employers to obtain from the State policies of insurance indemnifying them against their liability in relation to workers' compensation. It commenced business on the day on which the Act came into operation—7th November, 1914.

For the financial year 1916-17 the premiums paid and outstanding, less reinsurance premiums and refunds, amounted to £26,249 7s. 4d., as compared with £25,646 12s. 7d. in the previous year. The number of claims settled and in course of settlement was 1,198, and a sum of £10,933 10s. 8d. had actually been paid away in settlement of claims and progress payments, this being the net sum after deduction of an amount for which provision had been made in the accounts of the previous year. It was estimated that a further sum of £3,043 2s. would be required to provide for the outstanding liability in respect of the unsettled claims.

Included in the amount quoted above as having been actually paid away there is a sum of £2,740 11s. 3d., representing nine death claims. There is also included a sum of £1,323 1s. 8d. paid in respect of 19 separate claims which entitled the sufferers to compensation under the Fourth Schedule of the Act.

As a result of the operations of the Office to the 30th June, 1917, there was at that date a credit balance of £22,255 13s. 2d., of which £14,750 represented a general reserve fund and £7,505 13s. 2d. was set aside as a special provision for bonuses.

The Revenue Account and Profit and Loss Account of the Office for the year ended 30th June, 1917, and the balance-sheet as at that date, are given on a subsequent page.

Compared with the figures for the previous year it will be noted that the premium income had increased, though the actual profit was not so large owing to the fact that claims had been much heavier, while some 300 rates had been reduced in the interest of employers generally. Further, an interim distribution of bonus had already been made to certain policyholders based on their claims experience, and wage sheets.

Whilst the present tendency of taxation is to increase owing to the war, the Department has not only been instrumental in reducing premiums charged to employers, but has also arranged to pay bonuses

to persons who have effected insurances with it. The amount standing to the credit of the Bonus Reserve Fund, namely, £7,500 odd, is now in course of distribution to policyholders, who must appreciate receiving from the Government a cash distribution, which in effect assists them in paying the amount of their taxation.

The following table contains a statement of the premium income, the claims paid, and the accumulated funds for each year since the establishment of the office :—

PREMIUMS RECEIVED, CLAIMS PAID, AND ACCUMULATED FUNDS OF THE STATE ACCIDENT INSURANCE OFFICE, 1914-15 to 1916-17.

Year.	Premiums received, less Reinsurances, Rebates, &c.	Claims (including those outstanding).	Accumulated Funds.	
			General Reserve.	Bonus Reserve.
	£	£	£	£
1914-15* ...	27,502	3,006	2,750	1,494
1915-16 ...	25,647	12,370	9,750	5,459
1916-17 ...	28,249	13,977	14,750	7,506

* Refers to a period of eight months only (7th November, 1914, to 30th June, 1915). Insurance was not compulsory until 7th May, 1915.

Compulsory Insurance. It is obligatory on every employer to obtain from the State Accident Insurance Office or from an insurance company approved by the Governor in Council a policy of accident insurance for the full amount of his liability to pay compensation under the Act.

The number of insurance companies approved by the Governor in Council as at 31st August, 1917, was 48. One of the conditions of approval was that the company should deposit with the Treasurer a sum of not less than £6,000 (except in the case of subsidiary or acquired companies, where provision has been made for a smaller deposit), which sum was to be held in trust to insure the due fulfilment of policy obligations. The total amount lodged by all the companies which had been approved at the date mentioned was £278,500.

The amount quoted above as the minimum deposit required from insurance companies was based on the assumption that each company would charge the same rates of premium as were payable to the State Accident Insurance Office. It was quite at liberty to charge lower rates, but it seemed necessary to provide that, in the event of its doing so, the deposit lodged should be increased so that the interests of the policy-holders might be fully protected.

Schemes of Compensation. Up to the present (September, 1917) one scheme of compensation has been certified by a Judge of County Courts in accordance with Section 13 of the Act.

STATE ACCIDENT INSURANCE OFFICE.

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REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1917.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Claims				13,050	1	1			
Less claims recovered and provision for unadjusted claims as at 30th June, 1916	1,951	5	6						
				2,116	10	5			
Provision for unearned premiums							10,933	10	8
Provision for unadjusted claims							13,142	0	0
Net Revenue, carried down							3,043	2	0
							11,790	14	8
Total							£38,909	7	4

Premiums for year	29,291	11	10						
Less reinsurances and rebates	3,042	4	6						
Provision for unearned premiums, 30th June, 1916							26,249	7	4
							12,660	0	0
Total							£38,909	7	4

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1917.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Administration Expenses				604	1	5
Agents' Expenses and Commission				1,174	13	7
Expenses of Management, including Salaries				3,638	10	7
Net Profit				7,046	10	0
Total				£12,463	15	7

Net Revenue, brought down				11,790	14	8
Interest on funds at Treasury				873	0	11
Total				£12,463	15	7

BALANCE-SHEET AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1917.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
<i>Liabilities.</i>						
Unearned Premiums				13,142	0	0
Outstanding Claims				3,043	2	0
Agents' Balances				153	11	5
Sundry Accounts unpaid				47	7	6
Bonus Reserve				5,459	3	2
General Reserve				9,750	0	0
Balance of Profit appropriated—						
General Reserve	5,000	0	0			
Bonus Reserve	2,046	10	0			
				7,046	10	0
Total				£38,641	14	1

	£	s.	d.
<i>Assets.</i>			
Amount of Funds at Treasury	23,233	12	9
Premiums due		12	10
Treasury Interest Accrued		186	7
General Reserve Fund	9,750	0	0
Bonus Reserve Fund	5,459	3	2
Total	£38,641	14	1

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.

The total number of organizations throughout the State which administered charitable relief, or were of a reformatory character, and which forwarded returns to the Government Statist for the year 1916, was 238. The total receipts of all the institutions were £1,910,286, of which £1,492,236 was contributed by the Government, and £418,050 was received from all other sources. The total expenditure amounted to £1,911,660. The daily average number under care indoors throughout the year was 15,491, and there were no less than 154,807 distinct cases of outdoor relief. With regard to the outdoor relief, it has been ascertained that in some institutions the "distinct cases treated" represent the actual number of persons treated; in others, they represent the actual cases of illness, accident, or disease; in these latter cases, unfortunately, the books of the institutions do not furnish the necessary particulars as to the number of distinct persons. Again, it is considered probable that some obtained relief at more than one establishment, and that some, in the course of the year, became inmates of one or other of the institutions. There is no available information upon which an estimate of the number of these duplications can be based.

The following table gives in summarized form full particulars of all these charitable and reformatory institutions, and shows the number in each class, the daily average number of persons under care in the institutions, and the total number of distinct cases receiving outdoor relief, together with the receipts and expenditure:—

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS— INMATES, RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, 1915-16.

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Daily Average Indoors.	Outdoor Relief Distinct Cases.	Receipts.			Expenditure (including Building Expenses for Year).
				From Government.	From Other Sources.	Total.	
HOSPITALS.							
General Hospitals	50	2,200	59,542	£ 65,954	£ 190,128	£ 256,082	£ 259,049
Women's Hospital	1	152	2,576	5,056	22,543	27,599	24,350
Children's Hospital	1	163	13,143	2,500	18,802	21,302	17,476
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	1	26	3,113	..	2,383	2,383	2,703
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	1	94	..	4,048	710	4,758	4,758
Heatherton Sanatorium	1	83	..	2,445	2,668	5,113	5,113
Convalescent Homes	2	33	..	370	1,966	2,336	2,255
Deaf and Dumb, Blind, and Eye and Ear Institutions	4	325	9,567	3,550	18,295	21,845	15,827
Hospitals for Insane, Idiot Asylum, and Receiving House	12	5,834	..	226,359	21,848	248,207	248,207
Foundling Hospitals	2	270	..	4,023	3,757	7,780	7,740
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	1	210	..	7,831	9,777	17,608	22,761
Total	76	9,390	87,941	322,136	292,877	615,013	610,239

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS—INMATES, RECEIPTS,
AND EXPENDITURE, 1915-16—continued.

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Daily Average Indoors.	Outdoor Relief Distinct Cases.	Receipts.			Expenditure (including Building Expenses for Year).
				From Government.	From Other Sources.	Total.	
				£	£	£	£
BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS AND SOCIETIES.							
Benevolent Asylums	8	2,017	928	20,281	23,827	44,108	40,124
Old Colonists' Association	1	69	..	..	4,681	4,681	3,637
Freemasons' Homes	1	18	..	..	1,561	1,561	787
Benevolent Societies	88	..	14,280	13,078	20,870	33,948	33,161
Orphan Asylums	10	1,642	..	4,475	26,810	31,285	32,258
Total	108	3,746	15,208	37,834	77,699	115,533	118,912
REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.							
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	13	492	9,986	160,120	7,870	167,990	167,990
Lara Inebriates' Institution	1	28	..	1,737	925	2,662	2,662
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	1	24	..	500	1,639	2,139	1,763
Female Refuges	10	707	..	2,005	24,465	26,470	30,457
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	5	166	..	400	5,760	6,160	5,995
Prison Association of Victoria	1	..	417	350	502	852	830
Goals and Penal Establishments	18	853	..	58,395	..	58,395	58,395
Total	49	2,270	10,403	223,507	41,161	264,668	268,092
MISCELLANEOUS.							
Old-age and Invalid Pensioners .. ..	..	..	35,315	908,159	..	908,159	908,159
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	1	85	..	606	2,911	3,511	3,204
Night Shelter (Dr. Singleton's)	1	..	..	..	64	64	36
Charity Organization Society	1	..	749	..	2,636	2,636	2,226
Free Dispensaries	2	..	5,191	..	702	702	792
Total	5	85	41,255	908,759	6,313	915,072	914,417
Grand Total	233	15,491	154,807	1,492,236	4 8,050	1,910,286	1,911,660

Charitable institutions—accommodation. Particulars relating to the accommodation in the most important of the various classes of charitable institutions in the State are given below. The information relates to the year ended 30th June, 1916, except in the case of the Hospitals for the Insane, the Idiot Asylum, and the Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, where it relates to the calendar year 1916. Of the general hospitals, six are in Melbourne, and the remainder in country towns, eight of the latter being also benevolent asylums. The accommodation available for indoor patients was as follows:—

AMOUNT OF ACCOMMODATION, 1915-16.

Description of Institution.	Number of Institutions.	Dormitories.		Number of Beds for Inmates.	Number of Cubic Feet to each Bed.
		Number.	Capacity in Cubic Feet.		
General Hospitals ...	50	423	4,627,744	3,404	1,360.
Women's Hospital ...	1	27	229,970	177	1,299
Children's Hospital ...	1	17	151,855	142	1,069
Eye and Ear Hospital ...	1	14	78,092	84	930
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	1	4	25,720	28	919
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	1	4	97,597	164	595
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows)	1	7	47,005	128	367
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	1	5	17,208	41	420
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	1	13	58,582	100	586
Heatherton Sanatorium ...	1	10	99,728	92	1,094
Receiving Houses for the Insane	2	22	63,782	65	981
Hospitals for the Insane ...	9	1,410	3,652,349	4,817	758
Idiot Asylum ...	1	20	114,288	321	356
Benevolent Asylums ...	8	175	1,933,237	2,453	788
Convalescent Homes ...	2	30	68,790	61	1,123
Blind Asylums ...	2	11	93,200	93	1,002
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ...	1	5	87,604	90	973
Orphan Asylums ...	10	89	879,744	1,613	545
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	13	58	271,420	604	449
Female Refuges ...	10	167	620,600	813	763
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	5	25	115,086	196	587
Lara Inebriates' Institution	1	11	46,796	50	936
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	1	39	46,151	55	839
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	1	20	70,669	66	1,071
Total ...	125	2,606	13,497,217	15,657	863

Charitable
institutions
—inmates
and deaths.

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

INMATES AND DEATHS, 1915-16.

Description of Institution.	Number of Inmates.		Number of Deaths.	Proportion of Deaths to Total Number of Inmates.
	Total during the Year.	Daily Average.		
				Per cent.
General Hospitals	31,966	2,200	3,143	9·8
Women's Hospital	4,146	152	88	2·1
Children's Hospital	2,658	163	448	16·9
Eye and Ear Hospital	1,251	64	10	·8
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	313	26	9	2·9
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	3,254	210	141	4·3
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows)	233	95	3	1·3
Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	253	175	5	2·0
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	424	94	14	3·3
Heatherton Sanatorium	273	83	78	28·6
Receiving Houses for the Insane	811	51	15	1·8
Hospitals for the Insane	6,452	5,447	431	6·7
Idiot Asylum	369	336	23	6·2
Benevolent Asylums	3,414	2,017	467	13·7
Convalescent Homes	814	33	1	·1
Blind Asylums	200	158	...	...
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	125	103	...	...
Orphan Asylums	2,101	1,642	4	·2
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	12,141	10,478	161	1·3
Female Refuges	1,095	707	12	1·1
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	963	166	4	·4
Old Colonists' Association	82	69	11	13·4
Lara Inebriates' Institution	159	28	...	...
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	62	24	1	1·6
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	108	85	1	·9
Freemasons' Home	19	18	1	5·3
Total	73,636	24,624	5,071	6·9

In addition to the inmates shown in the above table, there were 108 mothers of infants in the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home, 147 infants in the Female Refuges, and 164 infants in Salvation Army Homes during the year.

The receipts of all charitable institutions for the year 1915-16 amounted to £943,732, of which £525,682, or 56 per cent., was contributed by Government, and the expenditure amounted to £945,106. Of the Government contribution, £394,709 was expended on the Receiving House for the Insane, Hospitals for the Insane, the Idiot Asylum, the Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, the Greenvale and Heatherton

Charitable
institutions
—receipts and
expenditure.

Sanatoria for Consumptives, and the Lara Inebriates' Institution, which are Government institutions. Particulars are given below:—

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1915-16.

Description of Institution.	Receipts.			Expenditure.
	From Government.	From other Sources.	Total.	
	£	£	£	
General Hospitals	65,954	190,128	256,082	259,049
Women's Hospital	5,056	22,543	27,599	24,350
Children's Hospital	2,500	18,802	21,302	17,476
Eye and Ear Hospital	950	6,309	7,259	6,124
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children ... ..	...	2,383	2,383	2,703
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	7,831	9,777	17,608	22,761
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows)	800	1,529	2,329	2,357
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	3,223	2,228	5,451	5,383
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	4,048	710	4,758	4,758
Heatherton Sanatorium	2,445	2,668	5,113	5,113
Receiving House for Insane Hospitals for the Insane }	226,359	21,848	248,207	248,207
Idiot Asylum				
Benevolent Asylums	20,281	23,827	44,108	49,124
Convalescent Homes	370	1,966	2,336	2,255
Blind Asylums	1,700	6,912	8,612	5,472
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	900	5,074	5,974	4,231
Orphan Asylums	4,475	26,810	31,285	32,253
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	160,120	7,870	167,990	167,990
Female Refuges	2,005	24,465	26,470	30,457
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	400	5,760	6,160	5,995
Old Colonists' Association ... ..	...	4,631	4,631	3,637
Freemasons' Home ... ..	...	1,561	1,561	737
Prison Association of Victoria	350	502	852	830
Charity Organization Society ... ..	...	2,636	2,636	2,226
Benevolent Societies	13,078	20,870	33,948	33,161
Free Dispensaries ... ..	...	702	702	792
Dr. Singleton's Night Shelter ... ..	...	64	64	36
Lara Inebriates' Institution	1,737	925	2,662	2,662
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	500	1,639	2,139	1,763
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	600	2,911	3,511	3,204
Total	525,682	418,050	943,732	945,106

Charities
Receipts and
Expenditure,
1907-1916.

The expenditure of charitable institutions has considerably increased during the past ten years. In 1907 it was £602,845, and it had increased to £945,106 in 1916. This is equivalent to an advance of about 57 per cent. The aid from Government increased by 45 per cent., and that from other sources by 67 per cent. in the period mentioned. Information in

regard to the receipts and expenditure in each year of the period is given in the accompanying table:—

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, 1907 TO 1916.

Year ended 30th June.	Receipts.			Expenditure.			
	Government aid.	Other.	Total.	Building and extra-ordinary Repairs.	Main-tenance.	Other.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1907 ..	361,498	260,760	612,258	122,950	474,061	5,834	602,845
1908 ..	383,086	267,264	650,350	118,642	515,038	4,162	637,842
1909 ..	378,164	264,770	642,934	131,066	542,481	3,128	676,675
1910 ..	335,467	295,741	631,208	93,879	564,033	4,465	662,377
1911 ..	436,859	314,665	751,524	147,387	580,488	4,215	732,090
1912 ..	446,332	384,722	831,054	192,712	614,705	3,143	810,560
1913 ..	468,588	347,963	816,551	179,514	668,084	4,484	852,082
1914 ..	485,018	347,053	832,071	154,565	705,768	6,529	866,362
1915 ..	541,668	349,421	891,089	137,589	774,873	6,685	919,147
1916 ..	525,632	418,050	943,732	89,904	846,339	8,863	945,106

Charitable Institutions—average cost per inmate.

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

COST OF MAINTENANCE, 1915-16.

Description of Institution.	Daily average Number of Inmates.	Total Cost of Maintenance.	Average cost of each Inmate.
		£	£ s. d.
General Hospitals	2,200	201,413	91 11 0
Women's Hospital	152	14,384	94 12 8
Children's Hospital	163	14,349	88 0 7
Eye and Ear Hospital	64	6,109	95 9 1
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	26	2,330	89 12 4
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	210	17,617	83 17 10
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows) ..	95	1,891	19 18 1
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	175	5,050	28 17 2
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	94	4,753	50 12 4
Heatherton Sanatorium	83	5,051	60 17 1
Receiving Houses for the Insane			
Hospitals for the Insane	5,834	236,237	40 9 10
Idiot Asylum			
Benevolent Asylums	2,017	47,913	23 15 1
Convalescent Homes	33	2,056	62 6 1
Blind Asylums	158	4,689	29 13 7
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	103	3,716	36 1 7
Orphan Asylums	1,642	28,072	17 1 11
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	10,478	167,799	16 0 3
Female Refuges	707	28,309	40 0 10
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	166	5,995	36 2 3
Old Colonists' Association	69	3,626	52 11 0
Lara Inebriates' Institution	28	2,662	95 1 5
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	24	1,712	71 6 8
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	85	2,893	34 0 9
Freemasons' Home	18	714	39 13 4
Total	24,624	809,345	32 17 4

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

The institutions showing the lowest average cost per inmate are the Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, the Orphan Asylums, the Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows), and the Benevolent Asylums. As many of the wards of the Neglected Children's and Reformatory Department cost the State nothing—maintaining themselves at service or being supported by relatives—the cost of maintenance per head shown above is not a correct indication of the burden on the public, the true cost per head of those supported by the State being somewhat higher. The average cost per inmate of the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home, Female Refuges, and Salvation Army Homes would be reduced if allowance were made for mothers of infants in the first-named institution, and for infants in the two latter groups of institutions.

HOSPITALS.

Melbourne Hospital. The origin of this institution belongs to the very earliest days of Melbourne. The *Year Book* for 1915-16 contains a statement of the circumstances associated with its foundation.

The foundation stone of the building was laid on the same day as that of the original Prince's-bridge. Early in 1848, it was ready for occupation, and a staff was appointed, and in March of that year two patients were admitted and four out-patients treated. By July, 1848, all the beds, 21 in number, were occupied; even at that early date applications for admission exceeded the available accommodation, and additions had therefore to be made. From that time up to the present day continual additions and alterations have been made in order to meet the growing demands of an increasing population, and equip the institution for the position it has held as the principal general hospital of Victoria, and the chief medical training school for University students. The wards now contain 327 beds, in which 6,661 in-patients were treated in 1915-16. In the out-patients' department, 31,103 persons were treated last year, including 15,040 casualty cases. The aggregate number of attendances was 138,106.

The usefulness of the Melbourne Hospital since its inauguration may be judged from the work carried out. The in-patients treated to 30th June, 1916, numbered 251,970; the out-patients, 1,059,525.

In 1915-16 the Government grant for maintenance amounted to £10,500, and the re-building fund to £10,000; the revenue derived from municipal grants was £814; private contributions amounted to £3,959; bequests to £33,895; Hospital Sunday collections to £4,380; payments and contributions by in-door patients to £3,607; and

out-patients' fees to £1,648; interest yielded a revenue of £7,088; and £4,079 was received from all other sources. The receipts for the twelve months reached a total of £79,970. The expenditure was £90,978—£36,761 for buildings, £52,508 for maintenance, and £1,709 miscellaneous items.

In the year 1907 an offer of £120,000 was made by the trustees of the Edward Wilson estate towards the erection of a new hospital, and in addition to this sum they have since given £20,000, making a total donation of £140,000. The original donation was added to by the trustees of the Sumner estate to the extent of £20,000, and by gifts of £1,000 each from Mrs. Aubrey Bowen and Mr. S. Miller, and a donation of fittings valued at £500 and the machinery necessary to equip the hospital laundry in a thorough up-to-date manner from Mr. A. T. Danks. The Government, in 1912, promised to contribute £25,000, and by public subscription £36,000 was raised. It was decided to re-build on the present site, and one of the architects for the committee (the late Mr. J. J. Clark) made a visit to Great Britain, the Continent, and America, with the object of studying modern hospital architecture before preparing the plans for the new structure. On Mr. Clark's return to Melbourne certain matters of detail had to be arranged, the most important of which had reference to the number of beds. The committee decided to provide 400, but the number to be used will depend on the amount available for maintenance. The plans having been prepared, the building operations were commenced on 3rd November, 1910. The work has now been practically completed, the out-patient department, the casualty department, the special departments and the wards being in use. The new Pathological Department has been completed, and an agreement has been entered into with the "Walter and Eliza Hall" Trustees, whereby the Trustees are providing funds to maintain the department as an Institute of Research in Pathology and Medicine. Although Research work has commenced, it is not expected that the Institute will be in thorough working order until after the termination of the war.

**Alfred
Hospital.**

For many years before the establishment of this institution the necessity for a second general hospital in Melbourne was recognised. It was not, however, until 1868 that it was finally resolved that a charitable institution should be erected as a memorial of the providential escape of H.R.H. Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, from assassination during his visit to Sydney. A site of 13 acres within the municipality of Prahran was secured, and the foundation stone was laid in March, 1869, by His Royal Highness, after whom the hospital was named. In May, 1871, the establishment was opened, and additions were made in 1885. In 1888 a fire occurred, which entirely destroyed a portion of the original buildings. This portion was replaced and during the year 1901-2 further additions were made. Extensive alterations and additions, including a new

laundry and plant and a new kitchen block, have recently been completed. The hospital is recognised by the Melbourne University as a clinical school for medical students, and, in addition, a training school for nurses was established in 1880, the term of instruction decided upon being one year, which term was subsequently increased to three years. The pupils in the latter school are of one grade, and pay an entrance fee of £5 5s., receiving a small and progressive salary after six months.

For the year ended 30th June, 1916, the daily average number of in-patients was 175. The total number of patients for the year ended 30th June, 1916, was 11,704. The average cost per occupied bed was £97 14s. 3d. The total revenue from all sources was £22,161, including—Government grant, £5,033; municipal grants, £570; private contributions, £2,258; legacies, bequests, &c., £3,728; Hospital Saturday and Sunday and church collections, £1,515; interest on endowment fund, £113; other interest, £856; in-patients—from or on account of, £2,172; out-patients' contributions, £1,945; Defence Department, £3,591; and other sources, £380. The year's expenditure was £19,536, made up as follows:—Provisions, £5,076; surgery and dispensary, £2,580; domestic, £2,372; establishment charges, £484; salaries and wages, £6,042; miscellaneous, £292; administration, £1,575; buildings and repairs, £1,115.

In view of the alarming epidemic of cerebro-spinal fever (meningitis) that prevailed throughout the State in 1915, and the fact that over 350 cases were treated in this Hospital up to 30th July, 1916, it was decided to more fully equip, and maintain at the highest state of efficiency, the Hospital Laboratory, so that by the prompt bacteriological examination of swabs, &c., meningitis, and other infectious diseases, might be quickly diagnosed and treated. This has involved a considerable increase both in capital and working expenses, but the result should more than compensate for this by restricting the spread of disease and lessening mortality.

This institution was first established in 1869 as a **Homoeopathic Hospital.** dispensary, in Spring-street, Melbourne. In 1876 the buildings were enlarged, and converted into a hospital for the treatment of both in and out-patients. In 1881, owing to annually increasing demands for the treatment of in-patients, it was decided to remove the institution to its present site on St. Kilda-road, and the northern wing and administrative quarters were then erected. In 1890, the southern wing, which is reserved for surgical cases, was added, the cost being met by a gift of £9,000 made by Mr. James S. Hosie, of Melbourne. From the date of the opening of the institution to 30th June, 1916, 245,744 patients received treatment. During the year ended on that date, 13,505 patients were treated, comprising 1,449 in-patients, and 12,056 out-patients. The average stay of in-patients was 21 days. The operations performed by the visiting honorary surgeons numbered 961, and 3,500 casualty cases were

attended to. The general death rate for 1915-16 was 6.34 per 100 persons admitted. The establishment has attached to it a school for training nurses, who have to serve a period of three years, and pass prescribed examinations. Visitors are admitted on Sundays and Wednesdays, between the hours of 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. The income for the year was £8,674—made up of £1,400 Government grant; £374 municipal grants; £45 proceeds of entertainments; £1,545 private contributions; £1,255 legacies, bequests, &c.; £805 Hospital Sunday collections; £1,165 contributions by in-door, and £885 by out-door patients; £605 visitors' contributions; £533 interest; and £62 from all other sources. The expenditure was £7,263—£66 for buildings; and £7,197 for maintenance. The average cost per bed per annum in 1915-16 was £62.

The institution has accommodation for 102 patients. On 30th June, 1916, there were remaining under care 46 men and 49 women. The operating theatre is equipped with all the latest modern instruments and appliances. There is a separate building in the grounds which contains two large wards, and provides accommodation for 28 children. There are also connected with the institution a building for nurses' accommodation, a laundry containing the latest modern machinery, mortuary buildings, and out-patients' waiting-rooms.

This hospital for incurables, the only one of its kind in Victoria, is situated on a block of 17 acres at Heidelberg. Its origin belongs to the year 1880, when Mrs. Thomas Austin, of Barwon Park, Winchelsea, offered £6,000 for the purposes of the institution. Mrs. Austin died on 2nd September, 1910, aged 89 years, and a colonist of 69 years' standing. Other donations quickly followed that given by her, and the Government of the day granted the present site. The hospital was opened in August, 1882, and provided accommodation for 66 patients. In 1884, a wing, containing sixteen beds for the reception of cancer patients, was opened, and in 1900 another wing was added for consumptives, containing 41 beds. Alterations in 1897 increased by eight the accommodation for cancer patients. The Nurses' Home, with accommodation for 30 nurses and women servants, was erected and furnished in 1897. This building was enlarged in 1906 so as to increase the accommodation for nurses and women servants to 45 beds. In 1901 the children's wing was erected, and a laundry has since been added. In 1905 an additional wing for consumptives, capable of containing 60 patients, was opened. Of the total cost (about £6,000) of the erection of the building, £5,110 was provided by Mr. Joseph Kronheimer, of Melbourne. At the request of the Government additional accommodation has been provided for cancer and consumptive patients. A building for the accommodation of nurses, presented fully equipped by the late William Drummond, at a cost of over £9,000, in memory of his deceased wife, is now in occupation. The sanitary arrangements of the institution have been entirely remodelled, the whole of the waste material (sewage, &c.) being treated by the septic tank system. Up to 30th June, 1916,

**Austin
Hospital for
Incurables.**

4,765 patients were admitted; of this number 3,381 died in the institution, 1,163 were discharged, and 221 were at the date mentioned occupying beds in the various wards. The patients treated have been of the one class, *i.e.*, chronic or incurable, many of them reaching the hospital in a dying condition. Amongst the number set out as having been discharged, a fair percentage, say, 25 per cent., have benefited very considerably from the treatment received in the institution, the remaining 75 per cent. having left of their own accord, many of them preferring to die amongst their friends and relatives. Practically no cures have been effected. The patients treated during the year 1915-16 numbered 468, of whom 253 were new admissions, and the daily average was 218.1. The institution is fairly well supported by the public. Of the total expenditure for 1915-16—£12,659—£647 was spent on buildings, and £12,012 related to maintenance and other expenses. The revenue was £14,513, made up of £3,650 Government grant; £317 municipal grants; £4,027 private contributions; £73 proceeds of entertainments; £3,214 legacies and bequests; £1,148 Hospital Sunday collections; £744 contributions from in-door patients; £1,140 interest; and £200 miscellaneous contributions. The institution now contains 30 dormitories with 230 beds. There were 129 males and 92 females under care on 30th June, 1916.

This hospital was founded in 1893, and is conducted by the Sisters of Charity. Though associated with the Roman Catholic Church, the work of the institution is carried on upon entirely unsectarian lines. The present building in Victoria-parade, Fitzroy, forms only the rear portion of the proposed completed structure, and contains 138 beds. That the work of the institution conforms in every way to the most modern requirements is evidenced by the fact that the Faculty of Medicine of the Melbourne University recommended the hospital for recognition as a clinical school, and the University Council accepted the recommendation. The necessary addition to the hospital buildings was made, and fully equipped, and the work of the clinical school has been carried out with highly satisfactory results. The new out-patients' wing was in full working order during the year 1915-16, and has proved a great comfort to patients and to the members of the medical staff. The Refreshment Stall, from which patients may obtain tea, coffee, &c., or a light meal, has fully justified the hope of those by whom it was founded. The popularity was immediate, and the demands upon its accommodation increased daily, showing that it supplies a real want to patients who have to come some distance from their homes to await attention. To commemorate the centenary of the Order of the Sisters of Charity a project has been launched to add 150 beds to the hospital. To provide funds for this purpose a body has been formed called "The League of the Million Shillings," and a promising start has been made in the collection of the £50,000 required for the Centenary Memorial. During the year ended 30th June, 1916, 2,754 patients were treated in the institution; and the number of out-patients who received treatment was 21,728 (including

St. Vincent's
Hospital,
Melbourne.

4,421 casualty and 1,216 dental cases), the total number of patients for the year being 24,482. The number of surgical operations performed on patients was 3,159; of these patients 55 died, the death rate after operations thus being under 2 per cent. The receipts totalled £16,753, made up of £3,600 Government grant; £294 from municipalities; £3,374 private contributions; £1,042 proceeds of entertainments; £2,307 bequests; £1,475 Hospital Sunday fund; £3,825 patients' contributions; and £833 from other sources. The expenditure was £21,154, of which £3,916 was spent on buildings and repairs, and £17,233 on maintenance, &c.

**Women's
Hospital.**

The necessity for establishing an institution of this kind forced itself upon the attention of the benevolent ladies of Melbourne sixty-one years ago. In 1856 it was definitely founded, its original title being the Melbourne Lying-in Hospital and Infirmary for Diseases of Women and Children, and it was the first institution of this special nature erected in Australia. The work was first carried on in Collins-street, Eastern Hill, but a permanent site was eventually granted by the Government in Madeline-street, Carlton, where the hospital was opened in 1858, its title being altered in 1868 to Women's Hospital, the name it now bears. Important and improved additions have since been made, including the Genevieve Ward wing, constituting the largest portion of the midwifery department, nurses' quarters, and the infirmary and midwifery operating theatres. The management has also caused to be erected an up-to-date pathological block, an eclamptic ward, a new out-patients' department, fresh quarters for nurses, an infirmary wing, and a septic ward. A contract for £13,000 has been let for the addition of a new wing to the midwifery department. These buildings are part of a complete scheme for a new Women's Hospital.

The institution, early in its career, attained a high reputation for the efficient help it afforded, and the accommodation had to be augmented from time to time to meet increasing demands. A special appeal was recently made to the women of Victoria for funds to provide a pre-maternity ward, to which patients requiring special observation and treatment might be admitted before the time of labour. This ward has now been completed. Through lack of accommodation of this nature, it is feared that lives of mothers and infants have been lost which otherwise might have been saved to the State.

The institution is a special training school in gynæcology and midwifery for medical men and nurses, and the excellent work carried on is fully recognized.

Up to 30th June, 1916, the number of patients received into the hospital was 71,732, of whom 49,309 were admitted for confinements, and the attendances of out-patients reached a total of 223,107. During the year ended on that date, 2,457 midwifery and 1,527 gynæcological patients were admitted, which, together with 162 remaining at the close of the previous year, gave a total of 4,146 treated. There were also in the same period 4,967 attendances of

2,295 out-patients. There is now accommodation in the institution for 177 in-patients, each bed having the most liberal allowance of space. It is governed by a committee of 15 ladies and 6 gentlemen on whom falls the responsibility of the effective working of the whole establishment. The professional work devolves chiefly on an honorary staff. The receipts amounted to £27,599, made up of £5,056 Government grant; £394 municipal grants; £1,019 private contributions; £12,169 bequests and donations; £1,556 Hospital Sunday collections; £4,032 from patients; £1,351 from medical students and pupil nurses; and £2,022 from other sources. The expenditure on maintenance, &c., was £14,548; on buildings, £9,802—a total of £24,350. Every patient who passes through the wards is seen and spoken to by some lady or ladies of the committee—many before admission, but all before leaving. No patient is discharged without inquiries being made as to her home, &c., and, where possible, the wants of needy patients are supplied. To prevent abuse of the charitable trust, certain ladies each week give much of their time to interviewing applicants for admission, with the view of inquiring into their circumstances.

Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital for Women and Children. In this establishment 27 patients remained under care on 1st July, 1915. During the year 1915-16, 286 were admitted, making a total of 313 treated; 267 were cured or relieved; 13 were discharged at their own request or on other grounds; and 9 died, leaving 24 in the hospital on 30th June, 1916. The daily average was 25·9. As regards out-patients, the total number of distinct cases treated was 3,113, and the attendances numbered 10,568. The income for 1915-16 was £2,383, made up as follows:—Municipal grant, £152; private contributions, £248; legacies, bequests, &c., £762; Hospital Sunday collections, £288; out-patients' contributions, £467; in-patients' fees, £310; interest, £26; and miscellaneous receipts, £130. The expenditure was £2,703.

Children's Hospital. The Children's Hospital, Melbourne, was founded in 1870, when a small cottage was rented in Stephen-street, Melbourne. The present buildings cover over two acres of land in Drummond, Pelham, and Rathdown streets, Carlton, and the institution ranks amongst the foremost Children's Hospitals in the world. The honorary medical staff numbers 39, and a Pediatric Society in connexion with the hospital meets monthly, when most interesting cases are shown and diseases peculiar to children are discussed. At the out-patients' department the largest portion of the hospital work is done. During the year ended 30th June, 1916, there were 2,513 patients admitted, which, with 145 in the hospital on 1st July, 1915, made a total of 2,658 in-patients treated during the year, of whom 2,028 were discharged relieved, 448 died, and 182 were in the institution on 30th June, 1916. The total in-door patients treated from the commencement number 42,980. In the out-door patients' department during the year 1915-16, 13,143 children attended

86,931 times, and since the foundation of the hospital there have been 1,983,247 attendances of 370,397 out-patients. The cost of maintenance last year was £14,413, which, with £3,063 expended on building, gave a total expenditure of £17,476. The revenue was £21,302, made up of £2,500 Government grant; £444 municipal grants; £6,071 private contributions; £653 proceeds of entertainments; £6,310 bequests, &c.; £2,001 Hospital Sunday and church collections; £2,572 contributions by patients; £525 interest; and £226 miscellaneous revenue.

Eye and Ear Hospital. The Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital deals not only with diseases which, as the name of the institution implies, are peculiar to the eye and ear, but also with diseases in parts adjacent to those organs, viz., the nose, pharynx, naso-pharynx, and larynx. Thus, classes of ailments are treated in the institution, which are not only the cause of extreme suffering in themselves, but are also, when unchecked, the means of producing much helplessness and poverty, arising from deafness, blindness, &c., and of entailing a heavy burden on the community. It places within the reach of all persons, without distinction of creed or country, every attainable means for the relief or cure of diseases of the eye and ear, provided they are unable to pay for private treatment. The patients treated are distributed throughout the whole of the Commonwealth, New Zealand also contributing its quota.

The patients admitted during 1916 numbered 1,186, making with 65 in the institution at the commencement of the year a total of 1,251 treated. The patients discharged numbered 1,191, of whom 1,152 were stated to be cured or relieved, 21 were incurable, 8 left at their own request, and 10 died. Besides these, there were 9,567 out-patients treated, of whom 108 were from the other States and New Zealand, 105 were from the various charitable institutions in Victoria, and 86 were wards of the State. The total number of attendances was 40,478, and of operations 1,963, the latter number not including minor operations in the out-patients' surgery.

The hospital buildings are situated on a fine site in Victoria-parade, opposite the Central Fire Station at East Melbourne. The hospital is bounded on three sides by Gisborne and Brunswick streets and Victoria-parade, and the buildings include considerable additions made since their first erection. The accommodation for the out-patient department requires to be enlarged so that the, at present, alternate clinics may be conducted simultaneously to the greater convenience of the patients. The total number of beds available for in-door patients, at present, is 84, but, with the addition of the—now nearing completion—Isolation and Observation Block for doubtful cases there will be accommodation for approximately 90 patients. The hospital is the largest of its kind in Australasia.

The total of the receipts for the year 1915-16 from all sources and on all accounts was £7,259, made up of £950 Government grant; £320 from municipalities; £524 private contributions; £1,684 legacies, bequests, &c.; £1,446 out-patients' fees; £881 in-patients' fees; £691 from Hospital Sunday and church collections; and £763 from other sources. The total expenditure on all accounts was £6,124.

**Royal
Victorian
Institute for
the Blind.**

The Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind occupies a site in St. Kilda-road, Melbourne. The institute is strictly undenominational in its character, and its objects are to give a suitable scholastic and religious education to the young blind of the State, and to teach them trades or professions by means of which they may earn an independent livelihood. It is further intended to train and employ suitable adult blind persons so as to enable them to become self-supporting. The institute is not in any sense a benevolent asylum for the indigent blind, who can not only be maintained cheaper, but can also be better cared for in the ordinary institutions for the assistance of the destitute. Its programme of scholastic education is similar to that of the State schools, and it is carried out under the supervision of the State Education Department. Under the Education Act of 1910 (now incorporated in the Education Act 1915, No. 2,644), the education of blind children between the ages of seven and sixteen years is compulsory, and the institute provides all the necessary facilities for carrying out the provisions of the Act. Education is free, but, where parents are able to do so, they are required to contribute towards the cost of pupils' maintenance. In cases where this is not possible, the whole cost is borne by the institute. Music is an important part of the education of the blind; those who display exceptional talent are trained for the musical profession, or as piano-tuners. During the earlier period of their trade training, pupils may be admitted to reside at the institute, or, if residing at home, they may be allowed wages based on those fixed by the wages logs of their various trades. Adults receive a minimum wage, and, when they gain skill, they are paid piece wages at a higher rate than the ordinary trade standards, which are also supplemented by bonus additions, married workers receiving special consideration.

Non-resident workers are assisted in times of sickness by "The Blind Workers' Sick Benefit Society," the funds of which are maintained by weekly contributions from its members, subsidized by a grant from the board of management of the institute equal to the amount of the members' contributions. The society is managed by a committee of its members, assisted by the principal of the institution and the accountant, who acts as honorary treasurer.

The institution contains four dormitories with 76 beds. There were under care on the 1st July, 1915, 137 persons; 28 were admitted during 1915-16, and 17 were discharged, leaving 148 under care at the end of the financial year.

The sales of manufactured goods realized £13,858. Other receipts in 1915-16 reached a total of £6,963, comprising £1,700 Government grant; £198 municipal grants; £2,296 private contributions; £1,096 interest, &c.; £1,486 bequests; and £187 from all other sources. The total expenditure was £4,048.

The Victorian Deaf and Dumb Institution occupies a site in St. Kilda-road, Melbourne, and is a home and school combined for deaf children from all parts of the State, irrespective of creed or nationality. On 1st July, 1915, there were 111 pupils on the roll. During the year ended 30th June, 1916, 14 new pupils were admitted, and 27 discharged, leaving 98 on the roll. A total of 607 pupils have been educated at the institution, and the great majority of these are not only able to earn their own living, but are useful members of the community.

The combined oral and manual teaching, which is used in the majority of similar institutions throughout the world, is also used here, with very gratifying results. In addition to the ordinary school subjects, the boys are instructed in carpentering, bootmaking, gardening, and useful hobbies of educational advantage. The girls are taught dressmaking, plain and fancy needlework, and all kinds of domestic duties. They have also worked unceasingly in making useful articles for our soldiers. The religious needs of the pupils are not overlooked, and special training in gymnastics and sports for the boys and girls is given. A great amount of careful training is carried out under conditions of exceptional difficulty, and at the annual inspection made by Inspector Gates and Dr. Leach, they stated that the school had passed very creditably. A medical examination is periodically made by the medical officers of the Education Department. Although the education of the deaf is now compulsory, unfortunately there are many deaf children in various parts of the State who are not receiving any instruction. The receipts for the year amounted to £5,974, made up of £900 Government grant; £243 municipal grants; £1,799 private contributions; £1,444 legacies, bequests, &c.; £454 payments and contributions for pupils; £1,044 interest; and £90 from other sources. The expenditure for maintenance, buildings, and improvements was £4,231.

BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS AND SOCIETIES.

In addition to the eight Benevolent Asylums connected with general hospitals, there are eight other of these institutions in the State; two are situated in Ballarat, and one each in Bendigo, Beechworth, and Castlemaine, the remaining three being in Melbourne. The number of inmates on 1st July, 1915, was 2,054; the number admitted during the year was 1,360; and the total number discharged cured, relieved, or otherwise, and who died was 1,399, leaving under care on 30th June, 1916, in all the institutions,

2,015. The Government grant in aid for the year 1915-16 was £20,281; from municipalities a sum of £891 was received; private contributions amounted to £4,014; proceeds of entertainments to £1,517; legacies, bequests, and special donations to £3,396; Hospital Sunday collections to £1,365; and payments by patients to £10,000; interest was £1,855; and from all other sources £789 was received, making a total income of £44,108. The expenditure was £49,124, of which £775 was spent on buildings.

Benevolent Societies.

Eighty-eight benevolent or philanthropic societies furnished returns for the year ended 30th June, 1916. These associations are for the relief of distressed or indigent persons, and are generally managed by ladies. The names of two of the societies indicate their connexion with the Jewish body, but no distinctive denomination is perceptible in the titles of any of the others, with the exception of the Central Methodist Mission and Scots' Church Mission. The distinct adult individuals relieved during the year numbered about 14,280; the receipts amounted to £33,948, of which £13,078 was from Government, £1,789 from municipalities, and £19,081 from private sources; the expenditure was £33,161.

ORPHAN ASYLUMS.

Orphan Asylums.

There are ten of these establishments in the State, situated in Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, and Melbourne. The number of children under care on 1st July, 1915, was 1,663; the number admitted during the twelve months was 438; and the total discharged and died, 464; leaving under care on 30th June, 1916, 1,637. In two of these establishments, the Nazareth Home at Ballarat, and St. Aidan's Orphanage, Bendigo, the particulars respecting cost of maintenance, &c., cannot be furnished. In the other eight institutions, the receipts totalled £31,285—made up of £4,475 Government grant; £370 municipal grants; £6,108 private contributions; £2,175 proceeds of entertainments; £3,584 legacies and bequests; £248 Hospital Sunday contributions; £4,430 payments on account of orphans maintained; £9,119 interest; and £776 other receipts. The total expenditure was £32,253—£3,795 for buildings, and £28,458 for maintenance and other expenses.

CONSUMPTION SANATORIA.

Greenvale Consumption Sanatorium.

The Greenvale Consumption Sanatorium at Broadmeadows for incipient cases was opened for the reception of patients on 10th May, 1905. This institution was established by the Government, and is under the control of the permanent head of the Public Health Department. During the year ended 31st December, 1916, 306 patients were treated at the sanatorium, 57 of these being cases admitted during the previous year. Of this number, 121 did very well, 88 were classed as incurable, and 40 were discharged

at their own request, or for special reasons (some of these being cases sent in for a short period for educational purposes). Eight deaths occurred during the year. At the end of the period under review there were 49 patients remaining under care. The benefits of treatment and education that this institution affords to cases of consumption in the early stages have now been received by 3,531 patients. Of these, 2,429 had the disease arrested or their condition much improved; 589 were incurable; 50 died; 414 left of their own accord; and 49 remained at end of 1916. A most important function of the institution is the teaching of patients how to avoid communicating the disease to others. Immediately after the admission of a patient to the sanatorium, the house or room vacated is disinfected under the supervision of the municipal council of the district, a centre of infection being thus removed. There is now accommodation for the treatment of 100 patients.

**Amherst
and
Heatherton
Sanatoria.**

The Amherst Sanatorium, for incipient cases, is maintained by the Government and administered by the local hospital authorities under the direction of the Public Health Department. It is for the treatment of females only. At this institution there is accommodation for 60 patients. During the year 1916, 178 patients were treated, of whom 128 were discharged, their condition being much improved; 3 left, described as incurable; 1 died; and 46 remained under treatment at the end of the year. Sanatorium treatment has now been received by 1,439 patients; of these, 1,284 were discharged cured or relieved; 27 left of their own accord; 66 were incurable; 16 died; and 46 remained on 31st December, 1916.

There is a sanatorium for intermediate and advanced cases at Heatherton, near Cheltenham Benevolent Asylum, containing provision for 92 beds. There were on 1st January, 1916, 89 persons in the institution, and the number admitted during the succeeding twelve months was 195, making a total of 284 who received treatment during the year 1916. Of these, 116 were discharged, 93 died, and 75 were under care at the end of the year.

With regard to other cases of advanced consumption, 125 beds are provided at Austin Hospital, 20 of these being specially set apart for cases nominated by the Honorable the Minister of Health.

OTHER CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

**Convalescent
Homes.**

In addition to the hospitals, there are two Convalescent Homes—one for men situated at Cheltenham, and the other for women at Clayton—with accommodation for 61 inmates. The number of inmates at the beginning of the year 1915-16 was 34; 780 were admitted during the year, 792 were discharged, and 22 remained under care on 30th June, 1916. The Government grant in aid

of these institutions amounted to £370 ; and municipal grants to £111 ; the revenue from private contributions was £261 ; from legacies, bequests, &c., £825 ; from Hospital Sunday collections, &c., £351 ; from relatives, £102 ; and from interest and other sources, £316—a total of £2,336. The expenditure was £150 on buildings, &c. ; and £2,066 on maintenance, &c.—a total of £2,216.

Free Dispensaries. Two free dispensaries furnished returns for 1916—the Collingwood and Fitzroy Free Medical Dispensary, and the Richmond General Dispensary. The individuals treated during the year ended 30th June, 1916, numbered 5,191. The visits to or by these persons numbered 12,476. The receipts amounted to £702, of which £74 was from the municipalities, and £628 from other sources. The total expenditure was £792.

St. Joseph's Foundling Hospital, Broadmeadows. This hospital was established on 1st April, 1901. The original cost of the buildings was £2,200, and about £5,364 has been expended since its foundation in additions and improvements. The number of inmates on 30th June, 1915, was 91, 142 were admitted during the year, 3 died, 131 were adopted or discharged, and 99 were under care on 30th June, 1916. This institution, which contains seven dormitories with 128 beds, is managed by the Sisters of St. Joseph, whose aim is to protect infant life, procure suitable homes for the children, and afford shelter to unfortunate mothers.

The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home. The objects of the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home are the prevention of infanticide, the saving of infant life from the many evils arising from baby-farming, and the rescuing of mothers of illegitimate children from further degradation. Every child admitted must be brought by the mother or some authorized person, who must enter the child's name and the date of birth in a register kept for the purpose, and, if the child is over six months old, must undertake to contribute something towards its support. Young women are received at the institution without charge for three to six months before the birth of the infant, and can remain for six months after they return from the Women's Hospital. Those children who are naturally fed have thus every chance of surviving. While in the institution the young mothers are trained in domestic and laundry work by an efficient housekeeper, under whose supervision they do the work of the Home for the staff and inmates. On their leaving, the matron secures a situation for them, either with or without the child. In the latter case the child may be left at the Home, the mother contributing towards its support. The boarding-out system is annually on the increase, and, since foster-mothers are paid till the child reaches 14 years of age, it entails a heavy expenditure on the part of the institution. Probationers are trained as baby nurses, their course of training extending over a period of twelve months, after

which they receive certificates of efficiency, provided they pass the test examination set at the close of the course.

During the year ended 30th June, 1916, 253 children were in the care of the institution. Of these 22 were discharged to friends or relations, 31 were adopted, 133 were boarded out, 5 died, and 62 remained in the institution on 30th June, 1916. Of 98 infants admitted during the year 70 per cent. were under one month old, and three were premature by two months. Owing to special care on the part of the nursing staff, two of these three tiny ones have thriven very well. Attention should be drawn to the fact that by far the greater number of these children are illegitimate, and to the very low death rate of under 3·2 per cent. During that year 108 adults received treatment. Of these 53 were pre-maternity cases. The number of adults is accounted for as follows:—65 were discharged to friends, 20 went to service, and 23 remained in the home on 30th June, 1916. The ordinary and extraordinary receipts amounted to £5,451, of which £3,223 was received from the Government. The expenditure was £5,383, of which £1,748 was for boarding out, £3,405 for maintenance, and £230 for buildings.

In April, 1913, a purchase of a property to be utilized for a country home to be worked in connexion with the institution was effected. This property adjoins the Beaconsfield railway station. It consists of a substantially built brick house standing in well laid out grounds, and surrounded by 38 acres of arable and pastoral land watered by a running creek. The purchase of the property absorbed all the special funds available. It cost the institution £2,750, of which the Government contributed £1,000 by a special grant. The home was opened on 6th May, 1914, by Lady Stanley, and is working very well and amply justifying its acquirement. It is self-supporting in dairy and garden produce, and is beginning to furnish these commodities to the central institution. To the country home babies are drafted who, in the city, would probably succumb for lack of fresh air and other health-giving elements obtainable only away from a city, and this doubtless accounts to some extent for the low death rate.

Since 1st July, 1914, the Government has granted a subsidy at the rate of 5s. per week for each child boarded out. The total of these subsidies for the year 1915-16 was £1,679, which sum is included in the receipts given above.

At the present time these refuges are ten in number, and are all situated in or near large centres of population. The women while under care in the institutions are expected to work to the best of their ability, a suitable share of labour being allotted to each. Laundry work is the chief means of providing employment, whilst sewing, art needlework, embroidery, &c., also provide occupation to a limited extent. During the year ended 30th June, 1916, the Government subsidized the establishments to the extent of £2,005; £20,796 was obtained as the result of the labour of inmates,

Refuges for women.

and £3,669 from other sources, making the total receipts £26,470. The expenditure amounted to £30,457—made up of £1,745 spent on buildings, and £28,712 on maintenance, &c. The following statement contains particulars of the number of inmates in the separate institutions during the year 1915-16 :—

REFUGES FOR WOMEN, 1915-16.

Female Refuges.	Number Admitted.		Born in the Home.	Number Discharged.		Inmates on 30th June, 1916.	
	Women and Girls.	Infants.		Women and Girls.	Infants.	Women and Girls.	Infants.
Ballarat Refuge and Alexandra Infants' Home ...	17	2	12	21	15	22	25
Bendigo Rescue Home ...	12	4	5	13	10	6	5
Carlton Refuge ...	46	32	...	63	52	23	12
Elizabeth Fry Retreat, South Yarra ...	41	...	...	46	...	19	...
Geelong ...	8	1	3	8	6	7	3
House of Mercy, Cheltenham ...	18	...	...	18	...	26	...
Magdalen Asylum, Abbotsford ...	133	...	...	142	...	387	...
Magdalen Asylum, South Melbourne ...	41	...	...	45	...	158	...
South Yarra Home ...	20	...	...	20	...	32	...
Temporary Home, for Friendless and Fallen Women, Collingwood ...	29	15	...	35	19	4	...
Total ...	365	54	20	411	102	684	45

There are five rescue homes controlled by the Salvation Army, at Abbotsford, Ballarat, Brunswick, Fitzroy, and Geelong. The establishments contained 196 beds on 1st July, 1915, when there were under care 165 adults and 33 children. During the succeeding year 798 adults and 131 children were admitted; of the adults, 275 were placed at service or restored to friends; 451 were discharged at their own request; 43 were discharged for misconduct or otherwise; 4 died; and 23 were sent to hospitals and other institutions; of the infants, 14 were sent out to be nursed or provided with homes, 15 died and 106 went out with their mothers. The Army received £400 from the Government in aid of the institutions; £151, private contributions; £4,193, the proceeds of the labour of the inmates; and £1,416 from other sources—a total of £6,160. The total expenditure was £5,995.

Night Shelter. At Dr. Singleton's Night Shelter for Women, Collingwood, 3,499 women were accommodated during the year 1915-16. The expenses were £36, which were defrayed out of the "General Charity Fund." In addition to the amount obtained from this source, there were numerous contributions in the shape of food.

Prison Association of Victoria. Since 1872 a society has been in existence for the purpose of affording assistance to discharged prisoners, and offering them inducements to return to the paths of honesty and industry. Relief is afforded by gifts of money, clothes, blankets, and other necessaries, railway passes, and various kinds of tools of trade; and those who desire it are supplied for a time with board and lodging in Melbourne, or are provided with means to go into the interior, or to leave the State. The society also takes charge of and distributes the sums earned by the prisoners whilst under detention. The work is aided by honorary correspondents in country centres. Very valuable assistance is given in connexion with the moral reformation of the young offender. The improvement of the hardened criminal is a matter of great difficulty, but the society is a valuable help to those who have not become confirmed in careers of crime and wrong-doing, and minimizes the tendencies of drifting into the criminal class of those who have formed vicious and evil habits. The number of individuals relieved in 1915-16 was 417. The receipts amounted to £852, including grants from the Government (£350) and the Penal Department (£268), and contributions from other sources (£234); while the expenditure was £830.

St. John Ambulance Association. This association was established in Victoria in 1883. Its objects are to instruct all classes in the preliminary treatment of the sick and injured. Since the inception of the association its influence has been steadily increasing, and the number of people instructed is growing larger every day. The total number who had been trained to 30th April, 1917, was 51,771. Railway employés to the number of 7,934 have been specially educated in the work. Four motor ambulances and one horse-drawn ambulance waggon are stationed at 463 Swanston-street (Tel. Cent. 121), and two at the corner of Williams-road and High-street, Prahran (Tel. Windsor 121). The waggons attended to 8,475 calls during the year, of which 1,311 were accidents and 1,822 were charity cases, the distance travelled being 74,531 miles. First aid is rendered by trained men when necessary. The secretary is Mr. J. Harold Lord, 463 Swanston-street, Melbourne (Tel. Cent. 122).

St. John Ambulance Brigade. The Victoria district of the St. John Ambulance Brigade has done good work during the past year carrying out the objects for which it was organized, *i.e.*, rendering first aid to the sick and injured on public occasions and maintaining in readiness a body of men and women qualified so to act, also enrolling

civilians, qualified in first aid and trained in stretcher drill or nursing duties, and willing to be placed at the disposal of the military, naval, or other authorities as a supplement to the public medical services in cases of necessity either at home or abroad.

CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY.

Charity
Organization
Society.

This society has been established in Melbourne since 1887, its objects being:—(1) To encourage and organize charitable work and to promote co-operation therein; (2) To check imposture and professional mendicity, and to discourage indiscriminate alms-giving; (3) To inquire into all applications for assistance, with the view of ascertaining if and in what way each case can be helped; (4) To afford (where necessary) immediate relief during inquiry or pending arrangements with charitable institutions or aid from other sources; (5) To maintain a woodyard, or other labour test, so that the means of earning food or shelter shall be open to any applicant able and willing to work; (6) To establish a loan fund; (7) To keep records of all cases for the purpose of reference, and to maintain a Central Register of help given by all relieving agencies. All of these objects have been, or are being gradually, achieved to a greater or less extent, but the philanthropic work of the State still provides an extensive field for further efforts towards organization and co-operation. The governing body of the society is an executive committee, consisting of the honorary officers and twelve members elected by contributors, which is empowered to make rules and regulations for the conduct of its business. A link with practically all the charities of Melbourne is maintained through nominee members of the society, one of whom is elected by each charity. Nominee members have virtually the same voice in the conduct of the society as have contributing members.

The income and outgo for the year ended 30th June, 1916, were—Administration Account (for payment of all general expenses of management as well as all charges connected with the administration of the trust and relief funds)—Receipts, £1,133; expenditure, £1,146; Trust Account (being donations for special applicants and objects)—Receipts, £1,361; expenditure, £965; Emergency Relief Account—Donations and refunds, £142; expenditure, £115. The number of separate cases dealt with during the year was 1,503, of which 755 were new cases investigated. The result of investigation into these 755 cases showed that in 596 instances distress was due to misfortune, and in 153 to misconduct; while 6 cases come under other headings.

According to the Society's experience, the incidence of distress upon the community during the year 1915-16 was much lower than for several years previously. The war, however, has opened up for the Society fresh channels of usefulness, and it has been privileged to carry on, unostentatiously, a great deal of valuable work among soldiers' dependants and returned soldiers. In this connexion one special undertaking alone involved the investigation of considerably over 1,000 cases which are not included in the statistics set out above.

Special efforts are made to deal with applicants for alms on street and doorstep. The society claims to have prevented a large amount of imposture, to have relieved subscribers of the annoying feeling that their benevolence was often wasted on unworthy objects, and to an extent to have stimulated and wisely directed the flow of charity. Especially good work has been done in cases where employment has been found for those who, without the society's aid, might have degenerated into permanent burdens on public or private charity. During 1915-16, 414 temporary and 82 permanent positions were found, 114 unemployed persons being thereby substantially benefited. In many cases, also, relatives of indigent persons have been induced to recognise natural claims in a community where no legal obligation is entailed by relationship other than that of husband to wife and of parent to child.

The woodyard is a very practical part of the society's work. It affords a test of the sincerity of men who ask help on the ground that they cannot get work, and it gives temporary work to those who really need it. Last year 496 men availed themselves of the facilities provided at the woodyard on 1,620 occasions. The woodyard is, in a sense, a commercial undertaking, and disposes of firewood to its customers at current rates. It is carried on under such disabilities, however, mainly by reason of the class of men resorting to it, and the necessity for abiding by Wages Boards Determinations, that it rarely does very much more than pay its way. Last year a slight loss was incurred.

The society has consistently advocated the establishment of labour colonies. That at Leongatha was founded by its advice and with its assistance twenty-four years ago. It was also responsible, either alone or in co-operation with others, for the Children's Court Act and the Infant Life Protection Act, and for the inauguration in 1906 of the Victorian Provident Aid Society, and in 1909 of the Provident Loan Society of Victoria Limited. The former society lends money free of interest to deserving applicants, on personal security, in amounts not exceeding £25. The latter lends any amount on any approved security, and charges a reasonable rate for the accommodation. The objective in both cases is to help people in distress to maintain their independence by removing the stigma popularly associated with charitable relief.

LABOUR COLONY, LEONGATHA.

Labour
Colony,
Leongatha.

The Labour Colony at Leongatha was established by a proclamation of 26th September, 1893, which set apart and appropriated under the *Settlement on Lands Act 1893* about 800 acres in the township. By a further proclamation of 24th April, 1903, the colony was abolished, and the land resumed by

the Lands Department, although the colonists were still maintained on the land.

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

On 14th June, 1904, 462 acres of the old Labour Colony lands, including the homestead, were proclaimed a Labour Colony, and trustees were appointed to act from 1st July, 1904. Subsequently 40 acres were alienated for a gravel reserve, and 40 acres for a High School.

The present trustees are P. J. Carroll, Esq. (chairman and superintendent), J. R. Pescott, Esq., S. Whitehead, Esq., F. Johnston, Esq., and T. Keiley, Esq. Mr. W. H. Crate is the secretary, and the city address is Government Labour Bureau, corner of King and Bourke streets, Melbourne.

The object sought by its establishment was to afford temporary relief at sustenance wages to able-bodied destitute men. During the first year of its existence 1,013 men were sent to the colony, and up to the present 9,063 applicants have been afforded relief. The colonists are instructed in the general work of farming, dairying, and fruit and vegetable growing, and pig breeding is carried on extensively. The cost of maintenance, including food, wages, and management, for the last financial year, was 9s. 2d. per week per man.

When the accounts were balanced for the financial year ended 30th June, 1917, it was found that there was a credit balance of £205 in trust accounts.

The receipts from sales, &c., amounted to £2,347, as follows:—

	£
Dairy	1,080
Pigs	630
Hides, Bones, &c.	195
Wages of men working off the place	288
Prizes	17
Rent	93
Miscellaneous	44

The following are the amounts of Government grants expended each year since the establishment of the Colony:—

Year.	Amount.	Year.	Amount.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
1893-4 ...	4,213 15 2	1906-7 ...	496 9 10
1894-5 ...	3,203 8 0	1907-8 ...	449 18 7
1895-6 ...	2,473 13 1	1908-9 ...	549 19 9
1896-7 ...	2,219 14 4	1909-10 ...	550 0 0
1897-8 ...	2,729 13 2	1910-11 ...	550 0 0
1898-9 ...	4,091 8 1	1911-12 ...	400 0 0
1899-1900 ...	3,884 5 11	1912-13 ...	400 0 0
1900-1 ...	3,000 0 0	1913-14 ...	100 0 0
1901-2 ...	2,374 3 6	1914-15 ...	500 0 0
1902-3 ...	3,627 7 10	1915-16 ...	500 0 0
1903-4 ...	1,998 18 11	1916-17 ...	375 0 0
1904-5 ...	999 19 7		
1905-6 ...	499 19 9	Total ...	40,187 15 6

Although the profits from the farm are reduced owing to the restricted area, there will still be work in clearing and cultivation to enable men to be sent to Leongatha for several years. By the continuation of this colony no man need starve in the city. Every week applications are made by destitute unemployed men to be sent to the institution, a greater number applying in winter than in spring or summer. This institution enables these unfortunate individuals to tide over periods when employment is scarce. In every large community there is always a great number of human derelicts without criminal tendencies; and provision (other than gaols) where men can get work that is remunerative to the State must of necessity be made.

AUSTRALIAN HEALTH SOCIETY AND ASSOCIATION FOR THE PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS.

The "Australian Health Society" was established in Melbourne in 1875. It is supported by about 200 members, and is managed by a president, three vice-presidents, a treasurer, secretary, and sixteen members of council, nine of whom are ladies. Its objects are—(1) To create an educated public opinion with regard to sanitary matters in general, by the aid of the platform, the press, and other suitable means; (2) To induce and assist people, by personal influence, example and encouragement, to live in accordance with recognised laws whereby health is maintained and disease is prevented; (3) To seek the removal of all noxious influences deleterious to the public health, and to influence and facilitate legislation in that direction. To effect these objects (its methods being distinctly benevolent), the society prints and distributes freely pamphlets, tracts, and wall sheets bearing upon the preservation of health; maintains a lending library of specially selected works for the use of members; and arranges courses of public health lectures. The ladies' committee of the council organizes illustrated "Health Talks

Health
Society.

for Wives and Daughters" in thickly populated parts of the suburbs, thus reaching many greatly in need of sanitary enlightenment. Admission is in all cases free. In pursuance of the plan of testing the work done in the inculcation of health and temperance lessons in the State schools, an examination is held annually by the society, with the co-operation of the Education Department, of pupils of thirteen years of age and upwards. At the last examination 300 candidates presented themselves, of whom 123 passed (39 with distinction), and were awarded prizes and certificates. In the latter part of 1905 arrangements were completed by which the "Victorian Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis" and the "Women's Health Society" were amalgamated with the Australian Health Society, the view being taken that the union would avoid overlapping, tend to further the spread of hygienic knowledge, and generally promote the cause of sanitary progress. The work of educating the community in methods of preventing consumption and its spread goes on unceasingly. The society is supported by donations and subscriptions ranging from 5s. per annum upwards. The office is located in Empire Buildings, Flinders-street.

ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY OF AUSTRALASIA.

Humane
Society.

The Royal Humane Society of Australasia was established in 1874 under the name of "The Victorian Humane Society." Its objects are as follows:—(1) To bestow awards on all who promptly risk their lives to save those of their fellow-creatures; (2) To provide assistance, as far as it is in the power of the society, in all cases of apparent death occurring in any part of Australasia; (3) To restore the apparently drowned or dead, and to distinguish by awards all who, through skill and perseverance, are successful; (4) To collect and circulate information regarding the most approved methods and the best apparatus to be used for such purposes.

During the year ended 30th June, 1917, 127 applications for awards were investigated, with the result that 33 certificates, 46 bronze medals, and 10 silver medals were granted. The receipts during 1915-16 amounted to £396, and the expenditure to £380. The institution has placed and maintains 343 life-buoys at various places on the coast, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs throughout all the Australian States and Fiji. Of the honorary awards distributed in 1916-17, 71 were for deeds of bravery performed in Victoria, 1 in New South Wales, 4 in Western Australia, 5 in Tasmania, 4 in Queensland, 3 in South Australia, and 1 in New Zealand. The society has 156 honorary correspondents, residing as follows:—54 in Victoria, 35 in New South Wales, 25 in New Zealand, 28 in Queensland, 8 in Tasmania, 3 in South Australia, and 3 in Western Australia. Owing to the appointment of these gentlemen and as the awards made by the society appear to give complete satisfaction throughout the States, there is no necessity for forming local branches of the society in the other States.

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

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

Period.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1897 to 1906	1,329	262	1,591
1907 to 1916	1,186	287	1,473

A considerable reduction is shown in the last ten years, both in the actual number of persons drowned, and in the proportion to the population, the rate per 100,000 being 11 for the later decennium as against 13 for the earlier one.

Taking the ten years ended 1916, the ages of persons accidentally drowned were as follows:—

AGES OF PERSONS ACCIDENTALLY DROWNED IN VICTORIA, 1907 TO 1916.

Age.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 10 years	229	61	290
10 to 20 years	246	40	286
20 to 40 years	296	75	371
40 to 60 years	283	83	366
60 years and over	132	28	160
Total	1,186	287	1,473

ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY.

Royal Life Saving Society.

With a desire to minimize the great loss of life from drowning a society was established in Melbourne in 1904 entitled the "Royal Life Saving Society." Its objects

are:—

1. To promote technical education in life saving and resuscitation of the apparently drowned.
2. To stimulate public opinion in favour of the general adoption of swimming and life saving as a branch of instruction in schools, colleges, &c.
3. To encourage floating, diving, plunging, and such other swimming arts as would be of assistance to a person endeavouring to save life.
4. To arrange and promote public lectures, demonstrations and competitions, and to form classes of instruction, so as to bring about a widespread and thorough knowledge of the principles which underlie the art of natation.

The work done by the society has increased greatly since its inauguration, and in 1916-17 the awards granted totalled 1,021, which is the largest number in one season. Life saving classes have been formed in connexion with the Victorian police, and the consent of the authorities has been obtained to allow members of the force who have obtained awards to wear the official badge of the society on their arms. The whole of the State schools in Victoria have become affiliated to the society, and it is considered that the awards will be considerably increased as the result of this connexion.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANIMALS.

**Society for
the Protection
of Animals.**

The Victorian Society for the Protection of Animals was established on 4th July, 1871. For the first 10½ years of its existence it was known as the Victorian Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and in 1895 it was incorporated. By the enforcement of the existing laws, and the procuring of such further legislation as may be deemed expedient, it seeks to prevent wanton and unnecessary cruelty. The creation of a wholesome and enlightened public opinion is also aimed at, since it is recognised that to excite and sustain such opinion regarding man's duty to the lower animals is even of greater importance than the enforcement of the law, particularly in those classes of cases where pain and suffering may actually be caused in ignorance, and where consequently a little more knowledge of animals would result in the diminution of the unconscious practice of cruelty. To this end, papers and leaflets dealing with the proper, humane, and considerate treatment of animals are widely distributed. Honorary agents have been appointed in more than 180 different centres, and these, by disinterested service, under the supervision of and in co-operation with the secretary in Melbourne, forward the work of the institution in every portion of the State. During the year ended 30th June, 1916, 1,634 cases were dealt with by the society, of which 1,276 were connected with cruelty to horses. There were 175 prosecutions in cases of deliberate cruelty, in nearly all of which the law was vindicated by the punishment of the offenders. The receipts for the year amounted to £1,823 and the expenditure to £657.

HOSPITAL SATURDAY AND SUNDAY.

**Hospital
Saturday and
Sunday.**

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

valuable assistance in making collections. The following are the amounts collected since the movement was inaugurated:—

COLLECTIONS, 1873 TO 1916.

		£			£
1873 to 1898 ...	...	190,104	1909 ...	...	9,398
1899 ...	...	5,853	1910 ...	...	10,555
1900 ...	...	5,901	1911 ...	...	11,650
1901 ...	...	6,034	1912 ...	...	11,806
1902 ...	...	6,669	1913 ...	...	12,274
1903 ...	...	7,058	1914 ...	...	11,686
1904 ...	...	7,795	1915 ...	...	15,911
1905 ...	...	8,235	1916 ...	...	18,525
1906 ...	...	8,011			
1907 ...	...	8,813	Total ...	...	£365,424
1908 ...	...	9,146			

Distribution
of moneys
collected
on Hospital
Saturday and
Sunday.

The amounts distributed to the various charitable institutions, as well as the total sums collected, from the inception of the fund to 1915, and for the year 1916, are given below:—

DISTRIBUTION, 1873 TO 1916.

Institution.	Amount Distributed.		
	1873 to 1915.	1916.	Total.
	£	£	£
Melbourne Hospital ...	94,052	5,687	99,739
Alfred Hospital ...	41,519	2,040	43,559
Benevolent Asylum ...	27,196	1,102	28,298
Women's Hospital ...	29,277	1,484	30,761
Children's Hospital ...	38,833	1,597	40,430
Eye and Ear Hospital ...	16,255	718	16,973
Homœopathic Hospital ...	16,347	804	17,151
Victorian Homes for Aged and Infirm ...	8,754	100	8,854
Richmond Dispensary ...	2,010	50	2,060
Collingwood Dispensary ...	1,900	...	1,900
Austin Hospital for Incurables ...	21,556	1,146	22,702
Convalescent Home for Women ...	3,910	200	4,110
" " Men ...	3,395	200	3,595
Melbourne District Nursing Society ...	2,994	500	3,494
St. Vincent's Hospital ...	12,496	1,279	13,775
Sanatorium for Consumptives, Echuca and Macedon ...	3,151	...	3,151
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children ...	2,905	330	3,235
Melbourne Dental Hospital ...	764	50	814
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home ...	86	...	86
St. John Ambulance Association ...	1,263	500	1,763
Talbot Colony for Epileptics ...	809	100	909
Total distributed ...	329,472	17,887	347,359
Total collected ...	346,899	18,525	365,424

Wattle Day. In August, 1912, a movement was initiated by the ladies of Melbourne to celebrate the flowering of the wattle tree, which heralds the approach of spring, and at the same time to help children's charitable institutions in the metropolis. Ladies, attired in white costumes, sell sprays of wattle blossoms in the streets, Government offices, banking institutions, warehouses, offices, shops, and factories, leaving to the generosity of buyers the amounts to be placed by them in the collection boxes. More than 1,000 ladies annually take part in the campaign. The amounts collected are usually allotted to the children's charities. The idea is spreading in the country districts of Victoria and in other States, and Wattle Day will, doubtless, in the near future be generally observed throughout Australia. The amounts which have been raised each year are as follows :—

1912	£	800	1915	£	2,553
1913	...	...	1,935	1916	...	...	...	8,604
1914	...	...	2,115	1917	...	...	...	6,750 (approx.)

INVALID AND OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

Federal
Invalid and
Old-age
Pensions Act.

The Federal Parliament has, by an Act passed in 1908 and amending Acts, made provision for the payment of invalid and old-age pensions throughout Australia. The original maximum rate of pension was 10s. per week, but it has been increased by an amending Act, passed in October, 1916, to 12s. 6d. per week. The persons to whom pensions may be paid and the principal conditions attaching to their payment are as under :—

OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

This part of the Act came into force on 1st July, 1909.

Persons.—Every man who has attained the age of 65 years, or who, being permanently incapacitated for work, has attained the age of 60 years. Every woman who has attained the age of 60 years.

Conditions.—Residence in Australia when applying for pension, and also continuously for 20 years. Continuous residence in Australia is not to be deemed as interrupted (1) by occasional absences from Australia, not exceeding in the aggregate one-tenth of the total period of residence, or (2) by any absence in a territory then or now under the authority of the Commonwealth, or (3) if the applicant proves that during the period of absence his home was in Australia, and if married that his wife and family resided in Australia and were maintained by him.

Good character.

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

Net capital value of property (not including the home in which the pensioner permanently resides) must not exceed £310. From the maximum pension of £32 10s. per annum a deduction of £1 is made for every complete £10 by which the net capital value exceeds £50. Where, however, both husband and wife are pensioners—except where they are living apart pursuant to any decree, judgment, order or deed of separation—the exemption is £25. In the case of husband and wife, even if one of the parties only is a claimant, the net capital value of the property of each is taken to be half the total net capital value of the property of both. This rule does not apply where the parties are living apart pursuant to a decree, judgment, order or deed of separation, or where in certain cases the Commissioner directs that it shall not apply. Income is similarly treated.

Pensioner's income, together with pension, not to be more than £58 10s. per annum. Benefits received from friendly societies, trade unions, and other similar associations, and gifts or allowances from children, step-children, grand-children or adopted children are not considered as income.

The exemption of the pensioner's home from the amount of his property and of payments made by children, &c., from the amount of his income was provided for in an amending Act assented to on 24th December, 1912.

By an amending Act of October, 1916, the maximum rate of pension was increased to £32 10s. per annum and the limit of income (including pension) to £58 10s. per annum. Prior to the passing of that Act the maximum pension was £26 per annum and the limit of income £52 per annum.

Any applicant who, in order to qualify for or obtain a pension, has directly or indirectly deprived himself of property or income is not eligible.

The following persons also are not qualified to receive an old-age pension :—

Aliens ;

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

but no woman, having married one of these persons shall, in consequence only of such marriage, be or become disqualified to receive a pension.

INVALID PENSIONS.

This part of the Act came into force by proclamation dated 18th November, 1910. Pensions not exceeding 12s. 6d. a week in any case may now be granted to the persons specified below, subject to the conditions mentioned :—

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

Conditions.—Residence in Australia continuously for at least five years, with the further proviso that the applicant must have become permanently incapacitated or permanently blind whilst in Australia.

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

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

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

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

Any applicant who, in order to qualify for a pension, has directly or indirectly deprived himself of property or income is not eligible.

Persons disqualified for invalid pensions are :—

Aliens ;

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

but no woman, having married one of these persons shall, in consequence only of such marriage, be or become disqualified to receive a pension.

Under the amending Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act of October, 1916, pensions of 2s. per week are now payable to inmates of Benevolent Asylums who are or have been admitted to the Asylum at the request of the Pensions Authorities and payment for whose maintenance therein is made by the Commonwealth Government.

The number of persons in each State of Australia who were receiving old-age pensions in 1916, and in June, 1917, was as follows:—

OLD-AGE PENSIONERS IN AUSTRALIA, 1916 AND 1917.

State.	Number of Pensioners.		Pensions Granted, &c., from Inauguration of Commonwealth System to 30th June, 1917.				Claims in Course, 30th June, 1917.	Number of Old-age Pensioners, 30th June, 1917.
	30th June, 1916.	31st December, 1916.	Granted.	Rejected.	Deaths.	Cancelled.		
Victoria ...	28,446	28,382	49,194	3,553	17,644	2,486	302	29,064
New South Wales	33,249	33,261	56,806	5,945	19,871	2,994	222	33,941
Queensland ...	12,049	12,103	19,919	3,230	6,286	1,320	105	12,313
South Australia ..	9,318	9,218	14,933	956	4,775	723	23	9,435
Western Australia	4,199	4,312	6,483	754	1,775	355	49	4,353
Tasmania ...	4,522	4,548	7,467	511	2,454	447	103	4,566
Australia ...	91,783	91,824	154,802	14,949	52,805	8,325	804	93,672

Invalid pensions were made available in Australia from 15th December, 1910. The numbers granted, &c., since that date are as under:—

INVALID PENSIONERS IN AUSTRALIA, 30TH JUNE, 1917.

State.	From 15th December, 1910, to 30th June, 1917.				Claims in Course, 30th June, 1917.	Number of Invalid Pensioners, 30th June, 1917.
	Granted.	Rejected.	Deaths.	Cancelled.		
Victoria ...	11,367	2,632	2,902	544	228	7,921
New South Wales	14,225	3,133	2,714	708	142	10,803
Queensland ...	4,586	1,360	953	284	57	3,349
South Australia ...	2,792	562	719	220	9	1,853
Western Australia	1,596	474	318	78	78	1,200
Tasmania ...	2,407	429	540	212	58	1,655
Australia ...	36,973	8,590	8,146	2,046	572	26,781

Cost of Pensions, 1916-17. During the financial year ended 30th June, 1917, the expenditure for invalid and old-age pensions in Australia amounted to £3,514,043. This did not include an amount of £4,944 in respect of pensions of 2s. per week paid to inmates of Benevolent Asylums, or an amount of £35,148 paid to Benevolent Asylums for the maintenance of pensioners. The liability on account of the 93,672 old-age and 26,781 invalid pensioners on the registers at 30th June, 1917, is £3,803,436, or an average per individual of £31 11s. 6d. per annum.

Pensioners, 1901 to 1916-17. The State system of old-age pensions came into force on 18th January, 1901, and the highest number of pensioners was reached in November, 1901, when 16,300 were on the register. Alterations in the Act in the direction of compelling relatives, when in a position to do so, to support applicants for pensions had the effect of reducing the number to 10,732 in 1907. On 1st July, 1909, when the Federal Act came into operation, there were 12,368 old-age pensioners in Victoria. Thereafter the number rapidly increased, and on 30th June, 1917, it had reached a total of 29,064 (exclusive of invalid pensioners). The number of old-age and invalid pensioners at the end of each financial year from the inception of the system and the amount expended each year are as under:—

**OLD-AGE AND INVALID PENSIONERS IN VICTORIA,
1901 TO 1917.**

Financial Year	Number of Pensioners at end of Period.			Actual Amount Paid in Pensions.
	Old-Age.	Invalid.	Total.	
18th January to 30th June, 1901 (under State Act)	16,275	...	16,275	£ 129,338
1901-2	14,570	...	14,570	292,432
1902-3	12,417	...	12,417	215,973
1903-4	11,609	...	11,609	205,150
1904-5	11,209	...	11,209	200,464
1905-6	10,990	...	10,990	189,127
1906-7	10,732	...	10,732	187,793
1907-8	11,288	...	11,288	233,573
1908-9	12,368	...	12,368	270,827
1909-10 (under Federal Act)...	20,218	...	20,218	470,656
1910-11	23,722	2,272	25,994	573,699
1911-12	24,449	3,162	27,611	672,593
1912-13	25,434	3,918	29,352	715,924
1913-14	27,150	4,844	31,994	795,449
1914-15	28,365	6,054	34,419	839,718
1915-16	28,446	6,869	35,315	908,159
1916-17	29,064	7,921	36,985	1,070,386

The following table shows the estimated number of persons in Australia eligible to receive old-age pensions, viz., women aged 60 years and over and men aged 65 years and upwards, the number receiving old-age pensions in 1917, and the proportion of the latter to the former :—

PERSONS ELIGIBLE AND THOSE RECEIVING OLD-AGE PENSIONS IN AUSTRALIA, 1917.

State.	Estimated Number of Persons Eligible to receive Old-age Pensions.			Number of Persons Receiving Old-age Pensions, on 30th June, 1917.	Percentage borne by Pensioners to those Eligible on an Age Basis.
	Women aged 60 Years and over.	Men aged 65 Years and over.	Total.		
Victoria ...	54,500	37,500	92,000	29,064	31·6
New South Wales ..	55,500	43,000	98,500	33,941	34·5
Queensland ...	17,000	15,500	32,500	12,313	37·9
South Australia ...	16,600	10,500	27,100	9,435	34·8
Western Australia ...	5,700	4,600	10,300	4,353	42·3
Tasmania ...	6,275	4,140	10,415	4,566	43·9
Australia ...	155,575	115,240	270,815	93,672	34·6

In proportion to the number of persons eligible to receive old-age pensions, the greatest number is being paid in Tasmania (44 per cent.), and the lowest number in Victoria (32 per cent.). The percentage for the whole Commonwealth is 34½.

About 59 per cent. of the old-age pensioners and 52 per cent. of the invalid pensioners on 30th June, 1917, were women. The numbers in each State are as under :—

SEXES OF OLD-AGE AND INVALID PENSIONERS ON 30TH JUNE, 1917.

State.	Old-age Pensioners.			Invalid Pensioners.			Total Old-age and Invalid Pensioners.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Victoria ...	10,931	18,133	29,064	3,812	4,109	7,921	36,985
New South Wales	14,591	19,350	33,941	5,106	5,697	10,803	44,744
Queensland ...	5,514	6,799	12,313	1,798	1,551	3,349	15,662
South Australia ...	3,530	5,905	9,435	759	1,094	1,853	11,288
Western Australia	1,917	2,436	4,353	668	532	1,200	5,553
Tasmania ...	1,580	2,986	4,566	761	894	1,655	6,221
Australia ...	38,063	55,609	93,672	12,904	13,877	26,781	120,453

Cost of State old-age pension schemes. Victoria was the first State to provide old-age pensions, the Act making this provision having been passed in 1900, and the system having come into operation on 1st January, 1901. The amount paid in pensions by the State to the 30th June, 1909, was £1,924,677. The New South Wales Old-age Pensions Act operated from 1st August, 1901, and the cost to the State was £3,978,770. In Queensland, the State old-age pensions became payable from 1st July, 1908, a year prior to the enactment of the Commonwealth measure—and the total sum paid was £148,827.

MATERNITY ALLOWANCE.

Maternity Allowance. An Act was passed by the Federal Parliament in October, 1912, providing for the payment, on application, of £5 to the mother of every child born in the Commonwealth on and after 10th October, 1912. No additional sum is paid for twins, but payment is made in respect of still-born children, if they are viable. Where the child is not born alive, or dies within twelve hours after birth, a medical certificate must be furnished certifying that the child was a viable child, but, if the Commissioner is satisfied that no medical practitioner was available to attend the case, and he is satisfied by evidence that the child born was born alive, or was a viable child, he may dispense with such certificate. When the birth of a child is registered the person effecting the registration can obtain the forms of application for maternity benefit. On a claim being made and passed, a money order is sent to the mother, or to the person authorized by her in writing to receive it. No receipt is required by the Treasurer. Application must be made within three months after date of birth. The allowance is payable to women who are inhabitants of the Commonwealth, or who intend to settle therein, but not to Asiatics or aboriginal natives of Australia, Papua, or the islands of the Pacific. The penalty for false representation is a fine of £100, or one year's imprisonment. The following table shows the number of payments made in each State since 10th October, 1912. It appears that the allowance has been claimed in about 95 per cent. of the total confinements in the Commonwealth during the period stated.

MATERNITY ALLOWANCE—CLAIMS GRANTED, REJECTED, ETC., FROM 10TH OCTOBER, 1912, TO 30TH JUNE, 1917.

State.	Granted.	Rejected.	Under Consideration.	Total Claims.	Amount Paid.
Victoria	164,231	551	373	165,155	£ 821,155
New South Wales ...	241,117	1,282	207	242,606	1,205,535
Queensland	90,923	488	154	91,565	454,615
South Australia ...	56,469	265	68	56,802	282,345
Western Australia ...	40,986	239	68	41,293	204,930
Tasmania	26,952	106	26	27,084	134,760
Australia	620,678	2,931	896	624,505	3,103,390

WAR PENSIONS.

War Pensions. The pensions granted to incapacitated soldiers, dependants of deceased soldiers, and dependants of incapacitated soldiers represented on 31st August, 1917, an annual liability for the Commonwealth of nearly £2,000,000, as is shown in the following statement :—

NUMBER OF WAR PENSIONS GRANTED AND ANNUAL LIABILITY THEREUNDER ON 31ST AUGUST, 1917.

State.	Number of Pensions Granted.	Annual Liability.
		£
Victoria	19,782	652,673
New South Wales	17,251	655,706
Queensland	5,576	202,326
South Australia	5,821	185,175
Western Australia	4,855	156,029
Tasmania	2,411	81,889
Australia	55,696	1,933,798

PENSIONS IN NEW ZEALAND.

Old-age, widows', military, miners' and war pensions in New Zealand. The Dominion of New Zealand instituted the system of old-age pensions prior to any State of the Commonwealth by an Act of Parliament which was passed on 1st November, 1898. The scope of this measure has been greatly extended by subsequent legislation, the whole of which has now been consolidated in the *Pensions Act* 1913 passed in November of that year. An amendment of that Act was passed in 1914.

New Zealand Pension Statistics. The following particulars relate to pensions payable in New Zealand on 31st March, 1917 :—

OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

Number of old-age pensioners (including Maoris and those aged 60 to 64)	19,697
Annual amount payable	£482,000
Estimated number of persons in the Dominion aged 65 and upwards (at 31st March, 1917)	51,572
Proportion of those eligible on an age basis who are in receipt of pensions, and aged 65 and upwards	32%

From the initiation of the system in January, 1899, to the 31st March, 1917, the sum of £5,809,579 was expended on account of old-age pensions.

WIDOWS' PENSIONS.

Number of widow pensioners (including Maoris) ..	2,024
Annual amount payable	£39,000
Grand total paid to 31st March, 1917 ..	£157,146

MILITARY PENSIONS (payable to Veterans of Maori War).

Number of military pensioners (including Maoris) ..	1,232
Annual amount payable	£44,352
Grand total paid to 31st March, 1917 ..	£174,690

MINERS' PENSIONS.

Number	238
Annual amount payable	£10,000

WAR PENSIONS (in connexion with present war).

Number	5,230
Annual amount payable	£270,000

LUNACY DEPARTMENT.

As in 1915, a small annual increment to the total number of the registered insane appears at the end of 1916.

Furthermore, there has been a decrease of 26 in the number resident in the hospitals for the insane, of 1 in the number in the private licensed houses and of 22 in the number boarded out. An increase of 74 amongst those out on trial leave does not make for inconvenience so far as the question of accommodation is concerned, but there were 25 more voluntary boarders and 11 more military mental cases at the end of 1916. The subjoined table sets forth these changes:—

INSANE PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS OF THE LUNACY DEPARTMENT, 31st DECEMBER, 1915 AND 1916.

	On 31st December—		Increase(+). Decrease (-).
	1915.	1916.	
In State Hospitals... ..	5,131	5,105	- 26
On Trial Leave from State Hospitals	502	576	+ 74
Boarded out	134	112	- 22
In Licensed Houses	76	75	- 1
On Trial Leave from Licensed Houses	19	15	- 4
Total Number of Registered Insane ...	5,862	5,883	+ 21
In Receiving Institutions	58	51	- 7
Total	5,920	5,934	+ 14
Voluntary Boarders	21	46	+ 25
Cases of Mental Disorder in Returned Soldiers	5	16	+ 11

(Not included in other statistics).

With regard to the admissions to the State Hospitals, there has been a very definite decrease as the following table shows :—

Year.	First Admissions.			Re-admissions.			Total Admissions.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
1910	379	328	707	43	52	95	802
1911	366	315	681	66	70	136	817
1912	411	298	709	45	52	97	806
1913	461	331	792	33	33	66	858
1914	407	306	713	38	56	94	807
1915	371	315	686	63	75	138	824
1916	342	317	659	61	52	113	772

Voluntary Boarders (not included in above figures) .. 136

At the same time a slight rise in the numbers admitted to the Receiving House is to be recorded. Last year 828 were so received, one-third of whom were discharged, thereby avoiding the necessity for certification and transference to a State Hospital.

It is a difficult point to elucidate what has been the effect of the war on the production of insanity. So far, pessimistic views do not appear to be turning out correct judging by the small increments of 1915 and 1916. It is possible that our people have been under greater discipline and that there has been less self-indulgence. Up to the present it does appear that there has been less poverty and less unemployment; whether such an improved condition of affairs will long prevail is questionable; but if the reverse becomes the case we may safely anticipate an increased lunacy rate.

The proportion of insane to the total population is 1 in 237·6.

Patients in
Hospitals for
the Insane in
Australasia.

The number of patients in the Hospitals for the Insane in the different Australian States and New Zealand, and their proportion to the total population of each State on 31st December, 1915, were as follows :—

NUMBER OF INSANE PERSONS IN AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND.

State or Dominion.	Number of Insane on 31st December, 1915.	
	Total.	Per 100,000 of Population.
Victoria	5,767	407
New Zealand	4,200	381
New South Wales	7,063	378
Queensland	2,451	360
Western Australia	1,009	317
Tasmania	522	260
South Australia	1,137	259

The high proportion of insane persons in Victoria as compared with other States is accounted for by the much larger proportion of old persons contained in the population, and also by the more extensive use of the trial leave clause, which causes names to be retained much longer on the registers of the asylums than is the case in other parts of Australia.

Recoveries of
Insane persons
in Australia,
1915.

The proportionate number of recoveries of patients in the Victorian Hospitals for the Insane in 1915 was below the average of the twenty-five years ended with 1915, the ratio in that year being 3,774 per 10,000 admitted, as compared with an average of 4,184 in the period stated. The

proportions in the various Australian States for the year 1915 were as follows:—

RECOVERIES IN 1915.

—		Recoveries per 10,000 Admissions.	—		Recoveries per 10,000 Admissions.
Tasmania ... ..	...	5,893	South Australia ...	...	4,643
Queensland ... ..	...	5,847	New Zealand ... ..	...	4,080
New South Wales ...	...	5,171	Victoria ... ..	...	3,774
Western Australia ...	...	4,918			

The apparent reduction in the Victorian rate in recent years is accounted for in part by the fact that many cases are now treated successfully in the Receiving Houses which were formerly dealt with in the asylums. Also the trial leave system has been extended, and it is not possible to keep an accurate account of the recoveries among patients out on leave.

The mortality of patients was higher in Victoria in 1915 than in any other State of the Commonwealth or in New Zealand. This will be seen from the following figures:—

Deaths of
insane persons
in Australia
and New
Zealand.

DEATHS IN 1915.

—		Deaths per 10,000 Resident Patients.	—		Deaths per 10,000 Resident Patients.
Victoria ... ..	...	898	Tasmania ... ..	...	699
Queensland ... ..	...	836	New Zealand ... ..	...	683
South Australia ...	...	799	Western Australia ...	...	633
New South Wales ...	...	740			

BLIND AND DEAF AND DUMB PERSONS IN VICTORIA.

At the census of 1911 there were 1,102 blind persons (595 males and 507 females) enumerated in the State. This is an increase of 20 as compared with ten years previously. There was 1 blind person in every 1,193 of mixed sexes, or 1 blind male in every 1,102 males, and 1 blind female in every 1,302 females. Deaf mutes numbered 535 (280 males and 255 females) in 1911, as compared with 410 in 1901. There was thus 1 deaf mute in every 2,459 of the total population, or 1 in 2,341 of the males and 1 in 2,588 of the females.

Blind and
deaf and
dumb persons
in Victoria.

NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY CHILDREN.

Neglected and reformatory children. There were at the end of 1916 three industrial and six reformatory schools in the State. Two of these (one industrial and one reformatory school) are wholly maintained and managed by the Government, and are used merely as receiving and distributing depôts, the children being sent as soon as possible after admission thereto to foster homes or situations, or to other institutions for dealing with State wards. The other schools are under private management and receive a capitation allowance from the Government for those inmates who are wards of the Neglected Children's and Reformatory Department. Many of the inmates of the reformatories are either placed with friends or licensed out. The wards of the State on 31st December, 1916, numbered 10,780—10,585 neglected and 195 reformatory children—and there were 37 others free from legal control, who, being incapacitated, were maintained by the State. The following table shows the number of neglected and reformatory children under control at the end of each of the last five years:—

NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY CHILDREN, 1912 TO 1916.

Year.	NUMBER OF NEGLECTED CHILDREN AT THE END OF THE YEAR.					Total Neglected Children.
	Boarded Out.	Placed with friends on Probation.	Maintaining themselves at Service or Apprenticed.	In Institutions (including Hospitals).	Visiting Relatives, &c.	
1912 ...	5,969	673	613	336	6	7,597
1913 ...	6,786	675	566	328	7	8,362
1914 ...	7,486	741	539	370	13	9,149
1915 ...	8,040	911	625	401	7	9,984
1916 ...	8,801	788	625	365	6	10,585

Year.	NUMBER OF REFORMATORY CHILDREN AT THE END OF THE YEAR.					Total Reformatory Children.
	In Reformatory Schools.	Placed with Relatives.	Maintaining themselves at Service.	In Institutions (including Hospitals).	Visiting Relatives, &c.	
1912 ...	126	22	37	...	2	187
1913 ...	140	17	30	...	4	191
1914 ...	143	24	19	4	...	190
1915 ...	120	29	43	...	...	192
1916 ..	129	28	35	3	...	195

Children boarded out, &c. The welfare of the children boarded out is cared for by honorary committees, who send reports to the Department as to their general condition. The rate paid by the Government to persons accepting charge of these children is 10s. per week for children under 12 months, 7s. per week for children between

12 months and 2 years of age, and 6s. per week for children aged 2 years and over. Children from either industrial or reformatory schools may be placed with friends on probation, without wages, or at service.

The circumstances leading to the commitment of children committed to the care of the State, 1916.

The circumstances leading to the commitment of children to the care of the Department in 1916 were as follows:—

CHILDREN COMMITTED TO THE CARE OF THE STATE, 1916.

Cases in which Parents were held to be—	Number.
Blamable—One Parent—	
Father deserted and mother poor	542
" " " " in hospital	2
" " " " an invalid	8
" " " " in a lunatic asylum	4
" " " " weak minded	1
" " " " dead	25
" divorced and mother poor	6
" drunkard " " " "	2
" " " " " " " " " "	13
" " " " " " " " " "	64
" in gaol and mother poor	1
" " " " " " " " " "	2
" " " " " " " " " "	26
" unknown and mother poor	3
" " " " " " " " " "	3
" " " " " " " " " "	9
" " " " " " " " " "	3
Mother deserted and father poor	1
" " " " " " " " " "	2
" " " " " " " " " "	2
" divorced and father poor	2
" drunkard " " " "	2
" " " " " " " " " "	5
" " " " " " " " " "	2
" immoral " " " " " "	5
" " " " " " " " " "	3
" unknown " " " " " "	
Both parents—	
Father drunkard and mother immoral	3
" deserted and mother of bad character	1
" " " " " " " " " "	2
" " " " " " " " " "	5
" in gaol " " " " " "	5
" unknown and mother deserted	1
" " " " " " " " " "	3
" " " " " " " " " "	3
Parents bad character	14
" deserted	3
" drunkards	12
" unknown	
Total	787

CHILDREN COMMITTED TO THE CARE OF THE STATE, 1916—
continued.

Cases in which Parents were held to be—	Number.
Blameless—Both Parents—	
Father dead and mother poor	655
" " " " in lunatic asylum	1
" poor and mother an invalid	18
" " " " dead	21
" in hospital and mother poor	239
" an invalid	9
" " " " " dead	1
" blind and mother poor	37
" in lunatic asylum and mother poor	3
" mentally weak	83
Parents poor	1
" mentally weak	32
" dead	
Total	1,101
Total number of children placed under control during the year	1,888

The number of children placed under care in 1916, viz., 1,888, was 468 less than in the previous year. The great increase in the wards of the State during the last eight years is largely due to the fact that many children were during these years taken as wards and returned to their mothers, the number of such in 1916 being 1,154, as compared with 1,475 in the previous year, 1,172 in 1914, 1,231 in 1913, 1,040 in 1912, 747 in 1911, 750 in 1910, and 668 in 1909. The total number of children boarded out with their own mothers at the end of 1916 was 4,984. It is also due in part to the operation of the Infant Life Protection Act, 151 children in 1916 having come directly under the control of the Department through this legislative act, apart from those who are supervised and inspected by the officers of the Neglected Children's Department, but are maintained by their relatives.

Cost of maintenance of neglected and reformatory children.

The Governmental expenditure for the maintenance of neglected children amounted in 1916 to £157,007, and that for reformatory school children to £3,842; the expenses of administration amounted to £6,950, making a total gross expenditure of £167,799. A sum of £7,805 was received from parents for maintenance, and £65 from other sources, making the net expenditure

£159,929. The number of neglected children under supervision on 31st December, 1916, was 10,585; of this total, 8,801 were maintained in foster homes, 76 were in Government receiving depôts, 40 were in private industrial schools, 247 were in other institutions, 625 were at service earning their own living, 2 were in hospitals, 6 were on visits to friends, and 788 were with relatives and others at no cost to the State. The number of reformatory wards under supervision on 31st December, 1916, was 195. Of this number 129 were maintained in private schools, 35 were in service earning their own living, 1 was in hospital, 2 were in gaol, and 28 were with relatives at no cost to the State. The expenditure for the maintenance of neglected children has increased greatly during the past ten years, as is shown by the following tabulation:—

NET COST TO THE STATE OF NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY SCHOOL CHILDREN, 1907 TO 1916.

Year.			Net Expenditure.	Year.			Net Expenditure.
			£				£
1907	..	..	61,660	1912	..	..	103,092
1908	..	..	68,743	1913	..	..	114,264
1909	..	..	76,457	1914	..	..	122,564
1910	..	..	86,160	1915	..	..	149,324
1911	..	..	93,781	1916	..	..	159,929

Part VIII. of the *Neglected Children's Act* 1915 deals with the committal of neglected children to the care of private persons or institutions approved by the Governor in Council, and also provides for the wardship of the children, and for their transference if there be sufficient cause to the control of the Department for Neglected Children. The following return shows the societies and persons registered under the provisions

Neglected children maintained by societies or private persons.

of this part of the Act, and gives particulars respecting the children under their care during 1916 :—

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

Name of Society or Person.	Number of Children under Supervision on 31.12.15.	Admissions during 1916.			Number of Children under Supervision on 31.12.16.
		Court Committals.	Transfer of Guardianship.	Voluntary Admissions.	
Burwood Boys' Home	71	4	5	24	60
Church of England Neglected Children's Aid Society	116	9	9	28	126
Clifden Home, Wedderburn ..	20	..	..	..	16
Gordon Institute, Melbourne ..	132	8	10	4	140
Methodist Boys' Training Farm, Burwood East	54	7	5	17	53
Methodist Homes for Children ..	392	1	5	22	413
Mission Rescue and Children's Home, Ballarat East	25	3	2	12	22
Presbyterian and Scots' Church Neglected Children's Aid Society	283	8	17	21	293
Presbyterian Rescue Home, Elsternwick	34	1	11	..	36
St. Joseph's Home, Surrey Hills	175	1	25	62	179
Try Society, Surrey-road, Hawksburn	35	..	..	42	33
Victorian Neglected Children's Aid Society	151	2	2	60	155
Sutherland Home	138	6	5	61	197
Total	1,626	50	96	353	1,723

Total number of neglected and orphan children.

The number of children who were under the guardianship of the State or maintained in public institutions or by societies on 31st December, 1916, reached the large total of 14,140, viz., 10,780 under the control of the Neglected Children's Department, 1,723 under the supervision of societies registered under Part VIII. of the Neglected Children's Act, and 1,637 in Orphan Asylums.

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION ACT.

Infant Life Protection Act.

With a view generally of exercising more efficient supervision over unprotected child life, and of lessening the excessive mortality amongst boarded-out children, the State Legislature passed an Act, No. 2102 (which came into force on 31st December, 1907), to amend the Infant Life Protection Act of 1890. These Acts are now incorporated in the Infant Life Protection Act 1915 No. 2670). The principal provisions of Act No. 2102 are as follows :—

The administration of the Act is removed from the Chief Commissioner of Police to the Department for Neglected Children, and

power is given to establish maternity homes, infant asylums, and cottage homes. No male person is eligible to be registered as the occupier of a registered house. Male or female inspectors are to be appointed, who may enter and inspect any house registered under the Act, inspect any infant in the house, and examine the registered occupier as to the proper care and maintenance of the infants, and give any necessary advice or directions. The age of children who may be dealt with under the Act is raised from 2 to 5 years. For refusing to admit or obstructing an inspector, or for refusing to answer or answering falsely any questions put by the inspector, a penalty of £10 may be imposed.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

No child dying under five years of age who at the time of death, or within two months previously, was in charge of a registered person, or, if illegitimate, who has died in the house of such a person, can be buried without the authority of a coroner or justice.

It is unlawful for a registrar of births and deaths to give an undertaker or other person a certificate of the registration of the death of a child under the age of five years, to whom the provisions of this Act apply, unless authorized by a coroner or a justice.

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

On 31st December, 1916, there were 557 children under supervision in registered homes under the provisions of the Act. The deaths during the year numbered 46. In addition, 151 children became wards of the Neglected Children's Department by the operation of Section 15 of the Act. One hundred and ninety-one cases of adoption of children were notified during the year. Five female inspectors are engaged in the work of inspection.

An examination of the vital statistics of the State shows that there is pressing need for this Act for the repression of criminal negligence in the treatment of infants. In 1916 the illegitimate births numbered 1,764, and the deaths of illegitimate children under one year were 333, being equal to a rate of 18.88 deaths for 100 births as compared with 6.84 for legitimate children under one year of age. The mortality rate of illegitimate infants was thus nearly three times as great as that of children born in wedlock, which proportion coincides with the-experience of all recent years.

TRAINING SHIPS.

The *Loch Ryan*, a barque of 1,207 tons register, was purchased by the Government from the Glasgow Shipping Company for £3,000 in November, 1909, for the purpose of training boys for the Australian Navy, the mercantile marine, and kindred occupations. The name of the ship was altered to *John Murray*. The age at which boys are received is not more than 16 years, and under no circumstances are boys who have been convicted of felony or misdemeanour admitted. The sum of 10s. per week is charged for the maintenance of the boys on the ship, but the charge may be remitted by the committee in the case of parents who are unable to pay that or any lesser amount. Applications are dealt with in the order of their receipt and without regard to any consideration of payment; a parent or guardian must enter into an agreement in writing that the boy remain in the care and under the control of the committee until the expiration of the period specified in the agreement or until he attains the age of seventeen years.

An honorary committee of management numbering seven, with the Hon. J. A. Boyd as Chairman, was appointed on 23rd December, 1909, and continued to act until 3rd October, 1912, during which period 84 meetings were held. The Training Ships Act was assented to on 3rd October, 1912, and the committee of management was appointed the training ships committee, which continues to direct the institution.

The first meeting of the Committee of Management was held on 13th January, 1910, when it was decided to convert the ship from a cargo-carrier into a training ship. Estimates of the cost of conversion amounting to £6,500 were prepared, and the work was immediately proceeded with. The ceremony of declaring the ship open for the training of boys was performed by Lady Gibson-Carmichael on 7th September, 1910.

The ship has made several cruises in the bay, and has performed the feat of sailing through the Hopetoun Channel to Geelong and back again

without a tug. This has not been done by any other ship of her size, although vessels have sailed through one way. The channel is 2 miles long and about 200 feet wide. The vessel sailed for Sydney on 8th September, 1911, her absence from the home port extending over two months. The passage from Port Phillip Heads to Sydney Heads took four and a half days, and the return journey ten days. The ship behaved well, and thoroughly proved her seaworthiness in a heavy gale experienced off Gabo Island, which lasted twenty hours.

In June, 1912, the *Dart* was purchased from the Imperial Government, to be used as a tender by the *John Murray*, and she arrived in Hobson's Bay in July, having been sailed from Sydney by a crew of trainees and instructors from the *John Murray*, in charge of the captain superintendent.

The number of boys on board on June 30th, 1917, was only 80, as in view of the probable sale of the *John Murray* the committee had admitted as few and discharged as many boys as possible. Since the inception of the institution 400 boys have been admitted to the ships, 176 have been granted full discharges, 98 have been removed by their parents, 14 deserters have not been traced, 3 boys have been dismissed, and 9 returned as unfit. One hundred and thirty boys have gone into the merchant service, and 21 into the Navy. Up to June, 1917, 80 old boys were known to have enlisted in the Expeditionary Forces; 2 of these had won commissions, 8 had been listed as wounded, and 6 had unfortunately lost their lives. To assist in relieving the pressure of goods for shipment, the *Dart* is running trips to Hobart, carrying cargo both ways.

The Commonwealth Government has purchased the *John Murray* for £10,000 with an additional £8,000 to be spent on effecting repairs to the vessel. A site is to be provided on the seaboard where the boys can be taught seamanship and agriculture. The boys taking up a seafaring life will be able to make trips on the *Dart*.

RELIEF FUNDS.

VICTORIAN MINING ACCIDENT RELIEF FUND.

In December, 1882, an inrush of water in the New Australasian Company's mine, at Creswick, caused the deaths of 22 miners. Consequent on this disaster 79 persons, comprising 18 widows and 61 children, were left in destitute circumstances. Public subscriptions to the amount of £21,602 were raised throughout Victoria for the relief of the widows and orphan children of those who lost their lives. A fund

Victorian
Mining
Accident
Relief Fund.

was established, out of which the widows and children to a certain age were paid weekly allowances, and on 31st December, 1916, there remained six widows, who were receiving 15s. per week each. At that date the amount at credit was £15,718, of which £12,000 was the estimated value of freehold premises in Queen-street, Melbourne, £3,600 was in Government debentures, and £118 was cash in hand.

VICTORIAN COAL MINERS' ACCIDENTS RELIEF FUND.

Victorian Coal Miners' Accidents Relief Fund. A provision of the *Coal Mines Regulation Act 1909* (No. 2240)—now the *Coal Mines Regulation Act 1915* (No. 2630)—related to the constitution of a Fund to be called the Victorian Coal Miners' Accidents Relief Fund, to which every person employed in a coal mine is compelled to contribute 4½d. per week, the mine-owners paying an amount equal to one-half of that deducted from the miners' wages, and the Government of Victoria a sum equal to the payment by the owners. The Board held its first meeting on 4th April, 1910, and decided that the employees' contributions should commence from 2nd April, 1910. Committees were formed at the collieries (numbering 9 in 1916), their principal functions being to collect contributions, and, subject to the approval of the Board, to allot the allowances.

During 1916 the contributions from employees amounted to £1,069, and the allowances paid at the mines totalled £879. For the year ended 31st December, 1916, the total revenue was £1,838—remittances from committees at the mines amounting to £358, interest to £259, and the balance coming equally from the mine-owners (£558) and the Government (£563). The expenditure included £600 paid in allowances and £327 cost of administration. The accumulated funds amounted to £10,157—£8,700 invested in 3½ per cent. Government stock, £1,400 in 4½ per cent. Commonwealth war loan, and £57 bank balance and cash in hand. Relief was given in 261 non-fatal cases. In respect to non-fatal accidents there are eight persons on the permanently disabled list, the number of children dependent upon such persons being six. No fatal accident occurred during the year, but there are eight widows, two mothers and ten children receiving aid from the fund as the result of fatalities in previous years.

BENDIGO MINERS' ASSOCIATION—THE WATSON FUND.

The Watson Sustainment Fund. About the middle of the year 1889 the idea suggested itself to Mr. J. B. Watson of doing something for the permanently injured miners of the Bendigo District. Immediately after the occurrence of a severe mining accident he sent a letter to the Miners' Association with an offer to contribute £1,500, at the rate of £100 per year unconditionally, or to give £150

per annum for ten years, if the Association would contribute a like amount. His proposal was brought under the notice of the Committee of Management, with the result that a Select Committee was appointed to draw up a report, and at the same time to formulate a scheme. It was thought that the sum of money was not sufficient to meet the liability that would be likely to occur. It was ultimately decided to recommend the members to accept Mr. Watson's offer of £150 for ten years, and at the same time to cover it with the sum of £200 per year, to be made by levy on all members. This scheme was laid before Mr. Watson and the members, and accepted by both parties, and it was arranged that all gifts and donations that could be procured should be credited to a fund to be known as the Watson Sustentation Fund. It was decided that the collections of 1890 should be reserved strictly for revenue purposes, and that the benefits should not come into full operation until 1891, so as to give the fund a good start, and place it on a sure foundation. Payments were accordingly first made in 1891, at the rate of 5s. per week, and this rate was maintained for about two years, when the sick pay was increased to 7s. 6d. per week. Further changes were afterwards made, as necessity arose.

In the last five years the Government has made grants to the Fund, the amount of these being £348 in 1912, £457 in 1913, £941 in 1914, £1,231 in 1915, and £1,266 in 1916.

The following return shows the receipts and expenditure, from the inception of the Fund :—

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

Period.	Relieved during the Period.	On Funds at end of Period.	Deaths during the Period.	Receipts.		
				From the Founder, J. B. Watson.	Other Receipts.	Total Receipts.
1890 to 1899 ...	269*	41	42*	£ 1,500	£ 7,693	£ 9,193
1900 to 1909 ...	590	35	173	...	8,613	8,613
1910 ...	66	42	24	...	911	911
1911 ...	80	48	32	...	652	652
1912 ...	67	43	24	...	1,674†	1,674
1913 ...	89	51	21	...	1,488†	1,488
1914 ...	110	58	25	...	1,896†	1,896
1915 ...	100	71	13	...	2,115†	2,115
1916 ...	115	75	28	...	1,919†	1,919
Total ...	...	...	382	1,500	26,961	28,461

* Particulars not available from 1890 to 1894.

† Including grant from the Government.

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

Expenditure.

Period.	Sick Pay.	Donations to Members and Wives and Families of Deceased Members.	Administration.	Total Expenditure.	Balance at End of Period.
	£	£	£	£	£
1890 to 1899	5,941	903	104	6,948	2,245
1900 to 1909	8,049	923	221	9,193	1,665
1910 ...	811	80	92	983	1,593
1911 ...	744	32	31	807	1,438
1912 ...	899	98	21	1,018	2,094
1913 ...	1,162	192	31	1,385	2,197
1914 ...	1,535	303	24	1,862	2,231
1915 ...	2,250	335	21	2,606	1,740
1916 ...	2,247	82	8	2,337	1,322
Total ...	23,638	2,948	553	27,139	—

**Ballarat
Worn-out
Miners'
Sustentation
Fund.**

In 1913 a fund was established in Ballarat for the maintenance of worn-out miners. The weekly amount allowed to recipients is 12s. The revenue for the year 1916-17 amounted to £729 and the expenditure to £844. The number of persons in receipt of aid on 30th June, 1917, was 47, and the total amount of funds at the same date was £202.

QUEEN'S FUND.

Queen's Fund. This fund was inaugurated in 1887 by Lady Loch to commemorate the Jubilee of the late Queen Victoria. It is for the relief of women in distress, and it is arranged that only the interest on the capital shall be expended yearly. The number of women relieved during 1916-17 was 55, to whom £411 was allotted either by way of grant or loan, and the cost of management was £83. In addition to the ordinary receipts of the fund (£658) an amount of £420 was received from the trustees of the Walter and Elizabeth Hall Trust for distribution to governesses, nurses, and ladies in similar positions who from age or infirmity were unable to earn their living. A sum of £417 was distributed in this manner, £1 was expended on management, and £227 remained in the bank at the date of balancing. The accumulated fund on 20th June, 1917, was £14,911.

IMMIGRATION AND LABOUR BUREAU.**Immigration
Bureau.**

The Immigration Bureau, which is attached to the Department of Lands and Survey, deals with the whole matter of immigration and overseas advertising, prepares pamphlets, &c., and generally advertises the State and its resources. It is authorized to make arrangements with persons in Victoria for the nomination of friends and relatives in Great Britain for passages at reduced rates, particulars of which are set forth in schedules hereunder.

The Bureau especially seeks from Great Britain and other countries agriculturists and rural workers, and it assists in finding employment for the latter as well as in placing British lads on approved farms. Farmers and experienced farm labourers from Great Britain are charged £10 for third-class passages: in the former case a further reduction in the charge of £2 per adult is made in the form of a refund to the settler who takes up land from the Crown within twelve months of arrival in the State. Inexperienced farm labourers obtain passages at a fare of £12.

Domestic servants are charged a fare of £8, and are placed in situations on arrival. Vessels conveying assisted immigrants are met by officers of the Bureau (including a matron), who give every necessary advice to new arrivals, arranging where required for temporary accommodation and providing facilities for the inspection of lands available for settlement.

It is, however, to be noted that under present war conditions, owing to passport restrictions and shortage of shipping, practically all berths available from England are utilized for the wives, families, and near relatives of nominators.

American and Canadian immigrants may be granted an allowance of £6 per adult passage, with proportionate contribution for children, after they have taken up and entered into effective occupation of land in the State.

Nomination and guarantee forms in all cases must be filled in and forwarded to the Immigration Bureau, 555 Flinders-street, Melbourne, with the necessary deposit, after which all arrangements are made by the Bureau for the passages. Communications should be addressed to "The Officer in Charge, Immigration and Labour Bureau, 555 Flinders-street, Melbourne." Enquiries in Great Britain should be addressed to the Agent-General for Victoria, Melbourne-place, Strand, London, W.C.

NOMINATED PASSAGES FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

TABLE SHOWING TERMS OF PAYMENT OF ADULT FARES.

When the nominees are the wife, husband or family of the nominator, the payments are :—

SPECIAL FAMILY NOMINATION.	Net Passage Money.		Government Contribution.	Total Fare.
	Deposit (see footnote.)†	Balance payable by six equal monthly instal- ments.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wife	3 0 0	3 0 0	10 0 0	16 0 0
Daughters, 12 years and over* ...	3 0 0	3 0 0	10 0 0	16 0 0
Husband	5 0 0	5 0 0	6 0 0	16 0 0
Sons, 12 years and over*	5 0 0	5 0 0	6 0 0	16 0 0
Children, 3 to 12 years	1 10 0	1 10 0	5 0 0	8 0 0
One child under 3 years	Free.	Free.	Free.	Free.
Each additional child under 3 years	0 15 0	0 15 0	2 10 0	4 0 0

*These special rates do not apply to sons or daughters who may be married or who (if travelling without their parents) are over 18 years of age. The rates payable under the next table then apply.

When the nominees are friends or relatives of the nominator, the payments are :—

ORDINARY NOMINATION.	Net Passage Money.		Government Contribution.	Total Fare.
	Deposit (see footnote.)†	Balance payable by six equal monthly instal- ments.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Adults (either sex)	8 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	16 0 0
Children (3 to 12 years)	4 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	8 0 0
One child (under 3 years)... ..	Free.	Free.	Free.	Free.
Each additional child, under 3 years	2 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	4 0 0

† NOTE (applicable to both of above tables).—For accommodation in a Four-berth Cabin, £2 extra per adult for each berth, and, for accommodation in a Two-berth Cabin, £4 extra per adult for each berth and proportionately for children is payable, and must be deposited at the time of nomination or paid by the nominees in England when arranging for berths.